

Facilitator Guide

1. Introduce yourself and read the *Framing the General Education Discussion* page to the group.
2. Review Options 1, 2 and 3 based on the first page of the *Guide*.
3. Baseline Polling:
 - a. Do you currently have a ‘strong preference’ for any of the 3 options?”
Strong Preference vs. No Strong Preference (record results)
 - b. If you HAD to pick one at this point, which would you pick?” Vote on Option 1, Option 2, Options 3 (record results)
4. Start by asking the group to develop the **best** arguments for Option 1: Exploration; during group discussion keep them focused on good arguments for that specific option.
5. Give them 5 minutes to discuss with partner.
6. Give them 5 minutes to report out the group.
7. Repeat step 4-6 for options 2 and 3.
8. Frame a general discussion: remind the group to stay focused on “What would I do?” Invite them to be critical of other options, but stay focused on possible solutions.
 - a. You might prompt them with language: “It is OK to say, ‘I really like this option, except for this problem ... Would they consider ... instead?’”
 - b. As discussion develops, look for opportunities to highlight broader questions as they emerge, issues like engaged scholarship, study abroad, international or other US cultures, ethics, etc.
 - c. If one option seems to be winning the day, prompt the group to marshal the best arguments against it.
9. Harvesting: “Is there anything you have been thinking in this discussion that has not come up yet?”
10. Final Polling:
 - a. “Do you now have a ‘strong preference’ for any of the 3 options?” Strong Preference vs. No Strong Preference (record results)
 - b. “If you HAD to pick one at this point, which would you pick?” Vote on Option 1, Option 2, Options 3 (record results)
11. Visit the website: sites.psu.edu/genedatpsu and fill out the following information:
 - a. Baseline polling results.
 - b. Brief Description of ideas and themes that emerged.
 - c. Specific suggestions of note.
 - d. Final Polling.