



Communication Tips

The OONI Partner Gathering is an international, multidisciplinary event. There will be people speaking multiple languages and using terms from various fields of study. English will often be the language we are using, and people who are fluent English speakers will have an advantage over less fluent English speakers.

Together, we can make sure that we don't miss out on valuable insights from our amazing participants:

1. Speak clearly and at a moderate pace.
2. Be an active listener, and be patient with people who are speaking their second (or third, or fifth!) language.
3. Avoid jargon when possible. Assume that people don't use the same terms, and explain them.
4. Address the idea, don't attack the person.
5. Disagreements happen; it's okay to walk away from a conversation that isn't fruitful or is becoming tense.
6. If you do not like a solution someone else is proposing, explain why, and state an alternative.
7. If you aren't having success on your own, ask for help from the session facilitator if you are in a session. Remember, if someone is breaking the Code of Conduct, you can make a report.
8. Remember that any group identity is complex and includes many different groups. Don't ask anyone to represent an entire group.
9. Don't hesitate to ask questions. Whether you don't understand a term or idea, did not hear the speaker well or forgot the name – please ask. There are no questions that are not good enough to ask.