

PREPARING THE DISCUSSIONS – I

When preparing the discussions please bear in mind a few points:

- The main objective of the discussion is to connect the individual topics with the goals of the GK
- Don't forget to ask the things YOU find interesting (in general, or directly related to your research project)
- It's tempting to let the "big guys do the talking". Try to take over by being active: The speakers can't develop a feeling for your needs, when they don't get to know you.
- The conference is organized for you – nobody else.
- Have two or three questions prepared (it's surprisingly hard to come out with good language, when you're in front of a large group, and still revolve the talk in your mind)
- Starting points for good questions may be:
 - o What study would I like to do if I had the resources and background of the guest speaker?
 - o What study would the two (or more) speakers within one block create, if they had to work together?
 - o What is a common goal vs. what clearly divides speakers?
 - o Instead of a question, you may put out a vision, or suggestions, and ask for statements.