

Guest Speaker Q & A: Question Ideas

Keep in mind we are having guest speakers not merely to acquire content knowledge but to bridge a connection to a human being who has insight to a different global perspective than us and connecting with them in a personal way is just as important as understanding what content they offer.

- 1) Understand their expertise and perspective to the extent you can. Research the field, company, country, line of work to show your investment in knowing their perspectives' value.
- 2) Ask open ended questions based on the content they provide in a genuine way. Don't challenge, ask for clarification in a curious way. "You mentioned why do you believe that, what gives you that impression."
- 3) Ask for reflection
"What were some of the unanticipated hurdles" and "What were some of the unexpected benefits?"
"Looking back at where you were when you began your career, where did you think it was going to lead you?"
- 4) Ask about their feelings regarding...
"How do you *feel* about topic x? What was it like to achieve *y*?" "What makes you really happy about working in this field/country?" to help guide the questioning.
- 5) Ask them for their own questions about you or your experience or if they have any advice for you at your stage of your life.

Questions for Post-Guest Speaker Examen:

- 1) How did their perspective contribute to your understanding of the topic at hand?
- 2) In what ways did the Guest Speaker confirm and/or challenge your perceptions about the country and topic at hand?
- 3) What was the most difficult part of the conversation and what part of the experience did you feel the most at ease?
- 4) Can you pinpoint God or the Jesuit mission in any component of their perspective or experience? How so? If not, what are you grateful for in this experience?
- 5) If you had more time, what more would you have liked to ask/talk about and why?

Last but not least, send me your thank you note ASAP so I can compile and send all together as quickly as possible.