



IRTG 1243 Discussion guidelines

Discussion Guidelines – a beginning
(started at our 1243 Customs Retreat 2016)

What makes good discussion?

First, a good talk:

- 1) that the talk was understandable, well prepared,
- 2) the speaker is authentic (in particular in answering questions –do not pretend to know the answer, be honest)

At least a few good questions,

Audience remains alert, interested,

Contributions come from both speaker and audience

Strategies for discussion/ how to find your question?

- What did I not understand?
- If you are using similar approaches, make a comment related to your work/experience.
- Method question: are there alternatives to the given method? How would the speaker proceed with further methods?
- Ask a question about a related topic (even something "outside of the box")
- What is the rationale/strategy/ justification for the given approach?
- Ask a question about translational research – is there a potential application for therapy?
- Ask the speaker to speculate.
- "Zoom" questions: either zoom in on a detail of the talk, or zoom out and ask about the big picture/global relevance.

Asking questions, or contributing to discussion, is everybody's responsibility.

It is all about discourse, exchange between speaker and audience!

to be continued ...