Introduction to Bioinformatics course: IBT

Staff Training

Day 2 Part 4 – Good Facilitation Practice
Teaching vs. Facilitating

Teaching...
• lecturing from the "stage"
• providing information in one direction
• involves telling other people instead of letting people figure out from themselves
• often means answering questions yourself, instead of listening to your participants’ answers

Facilitating...
• means using practical, participatory methods
• means making sure information flows in all directions
• means encouraging and valuing different views
• means considering participants as being "equal"
• means asking instead of answering questions yourself

Check out this video: http://www.facilitating.xyz/difference-between-facilitation-teaching-lecturing-sam-killermann/

http://celemi.com/facilitating-vs-teaching/
What makes a good facilitator?

Activity (10-15 minutes):

1. Think back to training that you have been involved in as a participant...
2. What characteristics make a good facilitator?
3. Take 10 minutes to brainstorm ideas in your group (remember to select a scribe etc.)
4. Select the top 5 characteristics
5. Upload these characteristics as a post to Vula IBT STAFF -> Question and Discussion Forums -> What makes a good facilitator?
6. Don’t forget to include the name of your IBT classroom in the title of the post

PAUSE the video and do this activity now, resume video once activity complete

Look here for some inspiration:
From the Gulbenkian Training Programme in Bioinformatics, Portugal
– Train the Trainer course:
https://github.com/Pfern/TtT-in-Portugal-2016/blob/master/TtT_session_2.md#challenge2
Facilitation skills matrix

Goblet Skills matrix for trainers and facilitators (i.e. teaching assistants)
http://mygoblet.org/
‘Sage on the stage’ or ‘Guide on the side’

Not just for teaching assistants

- also important for the system administrators, and all other staff
- Facilitation skills are essentially about communication
- everyone can benefit from improved communication in their interactions.
Watch video labeled: Day 2 Part 5