

Network Map Exercise

Approx. 15-20min

A network map is a way that we draw connections we have to different people, departments, places and partnering institutions on campus. The goal is to help see all the relationships we are connected with and to prayerfully prioritize where to deepen them.

John 1:29-50 gives us some helpful insights into networks and how God works through them. In this text we learn that Andrew invites his brother, Peter, to come and see Jesus (v. 41). We also learn that Philip, Andrew and Peter are all from the town of Bethsaida (v. 44). Even Nathanael (a kind of skeptic) is invited through his friendship with Philip (v. 45) to come and meet Jesus.

Here are some helpful pointers as you create a network map:

- Give yourself plenty of room on your paper and try using a pencil so you can adjust if needed as you go
- Start with yourself (at the center) and think about key people, departments and institutions that you encounter regularly. It can be helpful to think through your week from the morning until evening.
- As you think of key people and institutions, write people as “spokes” and institutions and “hubs” branching off from your circle. You can see an example below.
- Think of a network map like a brainstorm. It can be helpful to do some initial drawing, take a break and then think of more. Stop when you think you’ve covered key relationships and institutions. The goal is insight, not to fully capture every relationship.

Here are a few additional questions to help you:

- Are there any study centers, churches or other places of faith and academic integration?
- What churches have faculty or university staff as members?
- Are there interdisciplinary projects or committees that connect you to other departments and faculty?
- Are there people or classes that only meet online that have connections for you to consider?

Please note that your network map will be a key resource for helping you create your **<Faculty Log> {add link}**. Ideally, key people from your Network Map will be recorded in your Faculty Log. Your Network Map is more a temporary, “back of the napkin” exercise, whereas your Faculty Log is a better long term resource for your notes.

Example network map:

