Bossy Bob: 9

Bob knew the background material extremely well, and was very passionate about our group’s project on neutrinos and dark matter. He designed a truly ingenious analysis that used a series of t-tests to estimate the gravitational constant of dark matter. We plan to feature this result in our poster and final paper. He was awarded an honorary doctorate and has been nominated for a Nobel Prize for this work. At times, I and the other group members felt that Bob wasn’t fully accepting of others’ ideas. Overall we were a stronger team with Bob on board.

Missing Melissa: 0

Melissa showed up to our first group meeting remotely (she participated via Slack, although I’m pretty sure she was doing something else at the time) and promised to do a long list of tasks. After that, we never heard from her again. I’m not totally sure that she’s still enrolled as a student at Dartmouth.

Caring Karen: 6

Karen was the glue that held our team together. She was an enthusiastic participant in all group meetings, and she followed through on everything she promised to the group. She also helped out with some of the tasks that Melissa didn’t follow through on. A memorable moment was when Karen helped to smooth over several heated arguments between me and Bossy Bob about the true nature of space and time. While I still think Bob was wrong, it was nice to have someone like Karen around to help us remind us of the Schrödinger equation when things started to get really out of hand. Karen also played an integral role in writing the Results section of our paper.

Self (Professor Jeremy): 5

Our group set out with the seemingly straightforward goal of creating a small black hole (singularity) in the geometric center of our PSYC 11 classroom (Moore 302). During my time interning with NASA and on the International Space Station, I had developed some of the requisite tools for creating the appropriate conditions. I was able to follow through on exactly what I promised my group by creating the black hole and writing part of the Methods section of our final paper, although I categorically refused to take on any of Melissa’s work.