## **COMM 218: Communicating Effectively**

## Where do you gain new insights at work?

In addition to the social banter at the water cooler, people strategize about work related things including staffing, planning and project activity. Initially, people form social networks with coworkers that they have something in common with outside of work. The result at work, however, is a cross pollination of ideas where everyone benefits. Social networks form in the workplace and serve an important need to share moods and attitudes; something that organizational charts can't capture.

"We are part of a social fabric. And our basic human nature is to pay attention to other people and to share mood and attitudes" ...Dr. Alex Pentland

## **Activity 1-2**

## Where is the water cooler in your organization?

Make notes of where the water coolers are in your organization. How has networking been a benefit to your teams and pods? If you are an entrepreneur, and work alone, where do you go to network and interact?

Share your findings in the **Discussion 1-1: Survey What is Happening at Your Work** topic in the Discussions area.