**Week 10: Reflection**

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PD 3

11/18/2013

In this course I have learnt several communication strategies, which have proved to be useful in my current workplace. Specifically, I can point to how I am able to pinpoint what my supervisor uses in order to establish a strong ethos while speaking, and I have been able to apply these strategies in my own presentations as well, to make myself a more effective speaker. My supervisor was able to keep everyone engaged and alert by having the audience participate in his presentation. I have made a conscious effort to plan on how I could engage the audience with interaction in presentations which I will make in the future.

One area which I would like to improve my communication skills is in interactions with my supervisor. While my supervisor is a warm and inviting individual, I still feel slightly more unease when I am approaching my supervisor as opposed to speaking with my co-workers. As well I would like to improve my ability to meet and introduce myself to other people in my nearby working vicinity. I realized this was a possible area for improvement when it was a whole month before I had met a co-op student, also from the University of Waterloo, who was sitting just on the other end of the floor.

To work on improving my ability to be comfortable around my supervisor I will focus on engaging him in the occasional casual conversation. I have learnt from the Mr. Vladek exercise that even supervisors are placed in tight spots sometimes, which require uncomfortable interactions and decisions to be made. This strategy will serve to acclimatize me to interacting with my supervisor and personify him within my mind.

In order to improve my ability to connect and communicate with my fellow co-op co-workers, I will make a specific effort to meet with other teams as soon as possible after entering a new workplace. I will either have one of my coworkers or my supervisor introduce me to people they know in other teams. This will increase my exposure to as many people as possible and allow me to connect with, not just other co-ops, but full-time employees as well. This will help me expand my network a great deal, and likely come to benefit me in later job searches.