

SENIOR FELLOWS AND FRIENDS

Alert. Relaxed. Collegial.



Recap of 11/19/25 Over Coffee Games Facilitator Session

Dear Senior Fellows and Friends,

On November 19th, six of us met to explore the use of [Over Coffee Games®](#) as a quick new way to facilitate deeper interaction among participants in a professional setting. Since some SFF sessions have begun occurring in the afternoons, we tried meeting at 2pm EST this time. Happily, that enabled a British civil service colleague to join us in the evening from his office.

Self-introductions kicked off Senior Fellows and Friends beginning in July, 2003 over dinner in DC, and they have been a *sine qua non* ("without which, nothing") ever since. That's because I observed at every session that inviting participants to be seen and to speak at the beginning – however briefly – led them to keep engaging. That engagement, while good in itself because it fosters curiosity and enables tacit knowledge transfer, also

unlocks future possibility: I can't count how many opportunities have come to me and other participants as a result.

Since almost all the events I've ever hosted for SFF and chapters of ASPA (the American Society for Public Administration) and ATD (the Association for Talent Development) are relatively short, the self-introductions that do occur are necessarily limited and somewhat superficial. At times, it would be nice to have hip-pocket alternatives that honor the high caliber of people who are showing up and could be used to have other kinds of conversations. The first two potential use cases that have emerged are 1-Inventing a fun virtual holiday gathering of government colleagues dispersed across the UK and 2-Improving the integration of new members into a preexisting group or board.

Gena Scurry, the friendly brain behind Over Coffee Games who lives in Houston, founded Spanish Over Coffee in Austin, Texas in the year 2000. For sixteen years, she delivered innovative language training to 1000+ clients, including professionals in oil and gas, medical, construction, education, engineering, architecture, law, banking, and non-profits. According to her LinkedIn profile, she loves "discovering we have way more in common than we realize."

Participant affiliations

ASPA National Capital Area Chapter
GOV.UK Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
Old Dominion University
U.S. Department of Education/Federal Student Aid, Separated
U.S. Department of Labor, Separated
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Participants joined from London, England; Colorado Springs, CO; Spotsylvania, VA; and the DC/MD/VA Metro Area.

Sincerely,
Kitty Wooley

