

Psychological Safety Discussion Questions

Adapted from *The 4 Stages of Psychological Safety*

- **What situations have made you feel safe to speak up at work? Or in the cases it hasn't felt safe, what would have helped?**
- **Are questions welcome on your team?**
- **When you start working with new people, do you judge their aptitude immediately or do you suppress that impulse?**
- **How does learning from failures compare to your successes?**
- **How can you lower the barrier of learner anxiety to the point that the most inhibited and fearful member of the team will come forward and engage?**
- **Have you ever had a mentor or supervisor that had more confidence in your abilities than you did? How did that influence your motivation and effort?**
- **Inclusion safety can make all of the difference [when someone reaches out to include you at a vulnerable time]. Has this happened to you? What impact did it have on your performance? Are you paying it forward?**
- **How do you acknowledge and show sensitivity and appreciation for the cultural differences that exist on your team?**
- **Do you express any nonverbal cues that might silently marginalize others, such as remote participants in a hybrid meeting?**
- **What patterns has your team adopted from the leader?**
- **Do you see evidence of people micromanaging others, leaving them powerless? What would you like to see happen instead if you were in that situation?**
- **Do you respect only high achievers and the highly educated, or do you recognize that insight and answers can come from some of the most unlikely people?**

This material is based upon work supported by the National Center for Atmospheric Research, a major facility sponsored by the National Science Foundation and managed by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research. Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

