

*Focus: Early & Mid Career*

| Topic                             | Key Takeaway/Discussion Point                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Authenticity in Interviews</b> | The core message is to <b>show up as your authentic self</b> . Don't feel the need to hide your personal life or environment during an interview. If a dog runs into the shot, or family photos are visible, that is acceptable. It is about doing what feels right for <i>you</i> to be genuine.                                           |
| <b>Professional Branding</b>      | Extend the principle of authenticity to platforms like <b>LinkedIn</b> . Avoid pretending to be someone you are not solely to get a job.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Interview Preparation</b>      | While being authentic is vital, it does not replace the need for <b>preparedness</b> . Acknowledge and commit to the amount of work required for thorough interview preparation.                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Cultural/Global Context</b>    | For LGBTQ+ professionals, showing up authentically is not always a simple choice. We must be <b>aware of our cultural background and geographical location</b> . Authenticity can sometimes be difficult and may even raise <b>safety concerns</b> outside of more accepting environments (e.g., Boston). Always be mindful of the context. |