Professional Development: Tips for the Sensory Professional
Why Me?

- Have I been successful thus far, or is this to learn what not to do?
- What does successful mean?
  - # of jobs
  - Position or rank
  - # of direct reports
  - Fulfillment in where you are and where you’ve been... without too many regrets
Advice/Things to Consider

• Everyone knows everyone
• You cannot do it all
• Before you say “no”, listen and think about it
Everyone Knows Everyone

- Six-degrees of Kevin Bacon = Three-degrees of Sensory Scientists
Why is this Important?

• Looking for a job?
  – Anyone can be a casual reference
• Looking for a partner in business?
  – Your reputation can proceed you

What you did/do matters!

Kansas State University

Sensory Analysis Center
Skillful Science. Savvy Solutions.
Who Knows You?

Anyone can learn about you from...

• Your classmates/professors
• Your peers
• Your bosses
• Your employees

What is your reputation?
You Cannot Do It All

- You want to prove that you are capable
- You want to demonstrate how efficient you are
- You don’t want your success dependent on others

“A successful leader delegates”
Diversify & Delegate

• Know your strengths & weaknesses
• Surround yourself with those different from you
  – Different expertise
  – Different personalities
  – Different work styles
Foster Teamwork

• Learn the styles of your colleagues/employees - how to motivate them
• Celebrate success
• Thank them
• Reward them (if possible)
Before You Say “No” in the Workplace...Listen

- Industry has grand expectations of a sensory scientist
  - Not what can’t you do, but what can you do?
  - What is the objective?
  - Are there pieces of the puzzle you can answer?

*You are representing the entire sensory community*

*You make a lasting impression*
Before You Say “No” in your Career Path...Think About It

Seriously consider it
– New career opportunities
– New skill development
– Deviating from your career path
– A personal example

Think not only of now, but the future
Things To Consider
(One more time)

• Everyone knows everyone
• Delegate & foster teamwork
• Before you say “no”, think about it
Thank You