

SCENARIOS FOR FEB 2019 Seataalk - Part1

1.1) Do what I say, not as I do: You are junior researcher on a cruise which involves many deck operations, performed by you and a senior scientist. The crew has established safety protocols for deck work, but the senior scientist dismisses them, saying "I've done this plenty of times before". You see several close calls and near accidents on deck which could have been prevented had the senior scientist been following the prescribed safety protocols. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if this is on a remote ice station away from the ship, with just you and the senior scientist?*

- *What if it's the Bosun who is making the shortcuts?*

- *You bring it to the Captain, but he/she says that's a science party issue and won't get involved.*

- *You mention it to the senior scientist, but the conversation goes badly. He/she bans you from deck and limits opportunities for you to make your measurements.*

1.2) One drink doesn't hurt anyone: You are in a field camp where drinking is allowed. The technician in charge is regularly getting drunk, even when others in camp are not drinking much. The technician is a great person whom everyone likes, and is still able to do their job (before starting to drink), but their level of drunkenness makes you feel uncomfortable. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if this happens on shore/before the cruise/camp?*

- *What if this takes place somewhere it is illegal to drink?*

- *What if it is the chief scientist who is drinking?*

- *What if the technician starts hitting on a member of the science party when they are drunk?*

- *What if they are so good at hiding it, only you know how much they are drinking - and then there's an emergency which will require them to drive, and you are sure they have had too much to drink?*

1.3) The Flu: You are in charge of a short (1-week) trip on a small ship with one room for sleeping accommodations. The day before you are set to sail, one of your science team comes down with a very very bad cold - not anything that needs medical attention, but bad enough they will be of little use for the trip and they are likely to contaminate others in the closed environment of the ship. You can do the trip without them, but only if you put everyone else on 12hr shifts. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if you have someone else on board with a compromised immune system?*

- *What if you are in a foreign port? What if they still want to come?*

- *Does your answer change if they are a junior or a senior person? What if they are mission critical?*

- *If you decide to leave them in port, will your grant cover their extra costs?*

- *What if the "illness" is a very bad hangover?*

- *How could you have planned ahead to have more options in this situation?*

1.4) Out of character

You sail on a long cruise with a set of scientists you hardly know, and are assigned to a group under someone from another institution. Initially, this scientist seems very reasonable, but as the cruise progresses you start to notice strange things about their behaviour - they miss important details such as who is sampling first from the rosette; they are sometimes rude and belligerent for no apparent reason, yet at other times, they are efficient, friendly and very polite. How do you respond to this situation?

TWISTS: - *You live with it, but you find other groups are using the confusion of your leader to gain extra wire time at the expense of your group. Thus the situation is no longer just uncomfortable, but is costing you valuable science opportunities, such as chances to take your water samples. Now what do you do?*

- *You ask the scientist what is wrong - they break down in tears and tell you they have had awful news from home, but ask you not to tell anyone. But others come to you and ask what is the problem. What do you do?*

SCENARIOS FOR FEB 2019 Seataalk - Part2

2.1) A text cry for help: One of your graduate students is away, taking samples at a remote field camp with only satellite communications. After a short while, you receive a brief message from your student by satellite text that one of the contractor's excessive drinking is making them very uncomfortable. You know that the same contractor controls access to the only satellite communications in the camp. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if you know that your student has a history of being somewhat alarmist?*

- *What if you receive a second text from your student a few days later, saying that they have been physically threatened and they are scared?*

- *What if there is no scheduled transport to and from the camp for three more weeks?*

- *What if roles are reversed, and it is your student with control of the comms and being reported drinking and threatening someone else?*

- *What if they're being reported by someone with a history of being somewhat alarmist?*

- *How could you have planned ahead to have more options in this situation?*

2.2) Getting too chummy: You are a student on a long cruise. A scientist from a different institution seems to be showing you special attention. They consistently find you during meals and down time to joke and make flirtatious comments; you are unsure if they are attempting to build camaraderie or more. One day you overhear a group of others making off-color jokes about the two of you. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if others also start questioning your role as a scientist?*

- *How would the situation change if you were a more senior scientist and felt a student was being inappropriate?*

- *How would the situation change if the advances came from a crew member?*

- *What if you were the PI and your student came to you with this situation?*

2.3) Too coward? You are the leader of a small group of scientists on a cruise with several such groups. The weather is awful, and you are hove to outside port waiting for safe enough weather to come in and offload. The ship is overdue elsewhere. The leader of the main group of scientists insists that the offload can be done by small boat, rather than wait, but you feel the weather conditions both at the ship and at the dock are too extreme for these operations. The other group leader is going around your group, telling them they have to do the offload, regardless of what you say. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *The captain speaks no english and the translator is not conveying your concerns to the Captain?*

- *They insist on doing the offload. You refuse to participate on grounds of safety. They proceed anyhow with the offload, which is dicey in the extreme, and they almost harm people or lose gear on several occasions, but somehow the worst never happens. They then move to offload your gear.*

- *What if you are not the lead, but just a member of the group, and your leader asks you to do something you think is unsafe. They laugh you when you voice your concerns. Then what?*

2.4) Calendar Girls: You are Chief Scientist on a foreign vessel that does long (2-3month) research cruises. At the start of the cruise, one female scientist comes to you. She tells you that on the previous cruise, the science team and crew got along so well that the women scientists made a calendar for the crew (who are almost all male), and she is asking your permission to organise another calendar for this cruise. She shows you the previous calendar - the photos are of the previous women scientists in swimsuits and similar clothing. What do you do?

TWISTS: - *What if you are another scientist on this cruise, and you don't want to participate in the calendar, but there is peer-pressure for you to do so?*

- *You say you will not participate, but this leads to the crew mocking you for that choice. Then what do you do?*

- *As Chief Scientist, you discuss the previous calendar with the crew. You pass on the suggestion that has been made that, to make this equal, they will do a similar calendar for the scientists with pictures of the male crew. They are appalled at this suggestion. Does that change things?*