

Role-Play: Saying No as a Leadership Act

Instructions: Work in pairs. One person plays the requester, the other plays the leader. Practice saying 'no' using leadership language that emphasizes strategic alignment and priorities. After each role-play, switch roles.

Scenarios:

1. A colleague asks you to join an additional committee that is outside your strategic focus.
2. A department proposes launching a new program that does not align with the institution's current priorities.

Sample Phrasing for Saying No:

- 'I appreciate the idea, but it doesn't align with our current strategic priorities.'
- 'To stay focused on our goals, we need to decline this request at this time.'
- 'This is a valuable suggestion, but our resources are committed to existing priorities.'

Your Response Practice:

Scenario	Your Response
1	
2	