Perception of Accent and Authority among Classroom instructors at Queen’s University

LET'S MOVE FORWARD!

While some believed it was the responsibility of the speaker to change their accent...

...accent is not a switch that can be turned on and off

OTHER PARTICIPANTS UNDERSTOOD ACCENT AS A STRENGTH OF THE QUEEN'S COMMUNITY

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Listening is a fundamental part of communicating with others
LISTENERS

Stay Positive: Approach interactions with accented people as an opportunity.

Gain Exposure: It helps to increase familiarity, comfort and understanding.

Make Time: Allow sufficient time for conversations to minimize frustration.

Be Patient: An open mind puts both listeners and speakers at ease.

Ask for clarification.

EDUCATORS

Educate our students, especially undergraduate, during orientation week. They need to recognize that laughing at one's accent or underestimate one's credibility due to accent is inappropriate.

Survey Participant

Queen's should ensure a greater diversity of instructors and foster a culture of celebration of this richness.

Survey Participant

DIVERSITY ENRICHES OUR COMMUNITY

INCLUSION STRENGTHENS OUR CAMPUS

GLOBAL CITIZEN ● GLOBAL ENGLISH ● GLOBAL ACCENT

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