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Who Am I? The Identity Crisis of a Researching Academic Developer

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ABSTRACT

According to social identity theory, academic developers experience role conflict. This struggle stems from responsibilities that fall into various professional categories. An academic developer is both staff and faculty; both developer and researcher. These differing identities often have contradictory purposes, leaving the academic developer conflicted. In this poster session, two researching academic developers explore the challenges and benefits of this identity crisis.

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WHO ARE WE?



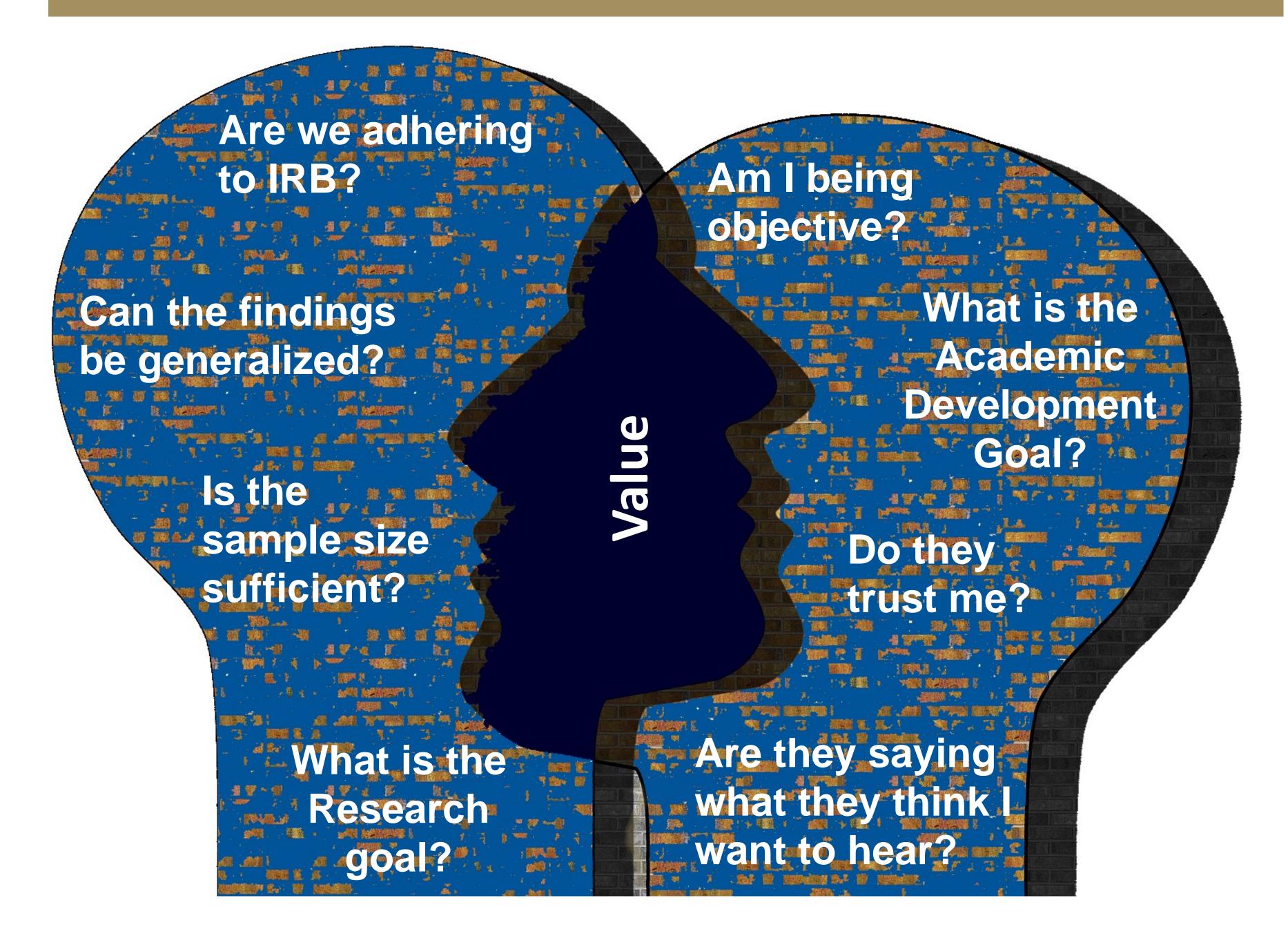
SOCIAL IDENTITY THEORY

According to social identity theory, membership in a group determines identity (Todd & Kent, 2009).

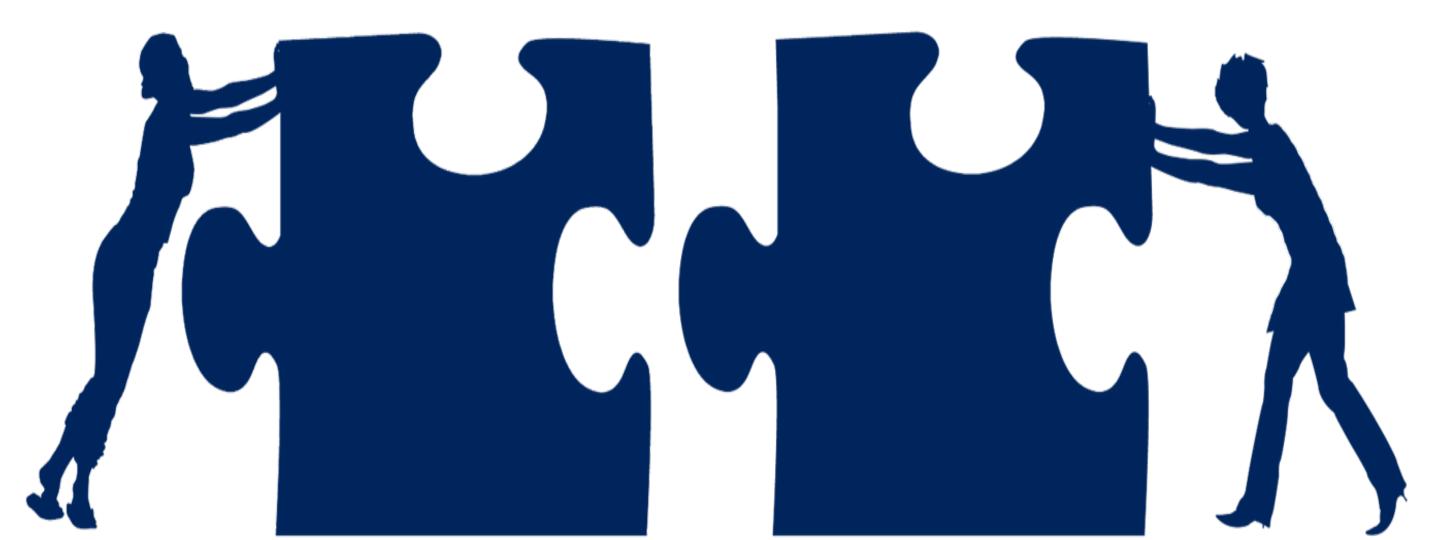


OUR CONFLICT

Academic developers experience role conflict due to their differing responsibilities in various groups (Ashforth & Mael, 1989). They can simultaneously fulfill staff and faculty, academic developer and researcher roles.



BENEFITS



The staff member offers insights to the faculty member. The researcher completes the academic developer.

The ability to leverage these various perspectives strengthens experiences and credibility.