

# Advice on the Wisdom Project

Some Additional thoughts to those initiating a Wisdom Project:

- It's essential to get a core team of 3 or 4 people who are really enthused and willing to set the pace. These will be like "starter yeast."
- At first most people won't really know what this is about. You might want to talk with people, about several things:
  1. How they really have some valuable wisdom to pass down.
    - What valuable advice do they consider really insightful.
    - You can have them start with great quotes they think reflect deep understanding. Then they can contribute their own insights
    - Another way to start is to have them tell interesting stories.
      - If people don't like to write, you can have them dictate these stories. Newer versions of Word have a speech to text mode. Dragon makes good software. Another option is to tell the story into a digital tape recorder and send the story to India, where transcribers will put the story into written words very easily.
  2. What is important about linking the older generation to the unborn new generations.
    - *The purpose of culture is to transmit the best of one generation to the next generation*
    - How would senior residents like to be remembered? A eulogy is just not enough.  
Things like *Guiding Principles* are a great way to communicate who you are in your soul. (see [Be the Champion of Your Life - by Robert Porter Lynch](#) - last chapter)
  3. Make it fun, spirited, and exciting.
    - Stories are a good way to get started.
    - Don't be afraid to talk about failures and what you learned.
    - Some of the most humorous stories are about doing something dumb.
    - Don't be modest about achievements, but find a way to make sure it's not an ego story about me, myself, and I.
  4. Be organized
    - Decide what the work schedule is and try to keep on target
    - Divide into work teams of 2-5 people (think about how micro-economic teams work to help each other)
    - Create a culture of teamwork, mutual assistance, and sharing of information
  5. Be alert and ready when an Idea appears

- Ideas for content in the book can emerge at any moment
  - Keep a small notebook or post-it notes handy so when an idea pops into your head you can write it down.
6. Don't worry if you are not an adept writer
- Other members of the team can help edit your ideas
  - If you want to be a better writer, get a copy of Strunk & White *Elements of Style* or see George Orwell's article [Advice on Good Writing – Orwell](#)