

DIALOGUE SPARKER

THE ART OF ACADEMIC CONFERENCING

Advice for New Faculty

PREPARE

The best place to start is by talking to someone who has previously attended the conference. Ask them how people typically present (e.g., read papers, slide presentations, etc), the norms for attire, etc. Additionally, begin preparing your presentation early and practice! A little preparation will help you feel more confident when you arrive.



CONNECT

Attending academic conferences can be daunting for faculty new to a field. Conferences can even spark feelings of anxiety, lack of belonging, and imposter syndrome. Try looking through the program for familiar names, or for scholars you admire, and invite them to coffee or lunch. Doing so can build your scholarly network and your conference support system.

GET INVOLVED

Since visibility in one's field is an excellent way to get on the radar of potential external reviewers, consider ways to get involved. Join a special interest group or committee, become a program chair, or position yourself to take on a leadership role in a few years. These things count as service and also give you visibility.



CREATE BALANCE

Academic conferences provide a opportunity for faculty to experience new locales. Take advantage of what cities have to offer by building in time to sightsee, visit museums and historic sites, and, of course, to eat good food! Also, conferences can be exhausting so don't forget to prioritize time to rest and recharge.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF AN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE | THE CHRONICLE](#)

[HOW TO NAVIGATE AN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE | IHE](#)

[HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF A VIRTUAL CONFERENCE | THE CHRONICLE](#)