



CAREER CONNECTIONS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Making the Most of Conferences

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CAREER CONNECTIONS CENTER



Meet Your Facilitator



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Today's Agenda

Setting Your Conference Goals

Getting the Most Out of Your Sessions

Making Connections

Why should you attend a conference.



Networking

- Experts
- Peers
- Collaborators
- Industry partners



Learning

- Trends
- Data
- Skill development



Personal Development

- Step outside of your own focus
- Reinvigorate your interest or find new ones
- Inspiration
- Challenge yourself



Virtual Conferences

- Research attendee, sponsors, exhibitors and presenter lists beforehand
- Prep your background environment and your tools (conference app, session software)
- Dress professionally and be well groomed
- Disconnect from your work
- Take breaks
- Take notes
- Plan 1:1 “coffee chats”



Setting Your Conference Goals

- What does the agenda look like?
- Where is it located?
- Who typically attends?
- What skills and insights are you looking for?
- Are you preparing for a job search?

Getting the Most Out of Your Sessions

- Be facilitator or volunteer
- Build a diverse schedule: balance expertise of presenter, skills building, networking, topics both related and unrelated to your research agenda
- Take notes on the sessions and reach out to the presenter afterward
- Connect with presenters and panelists on Twitter or other social media
- Scan the poster areas
- Ask advice from your chair or advisor about who to connect with or what sessions you should attend

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

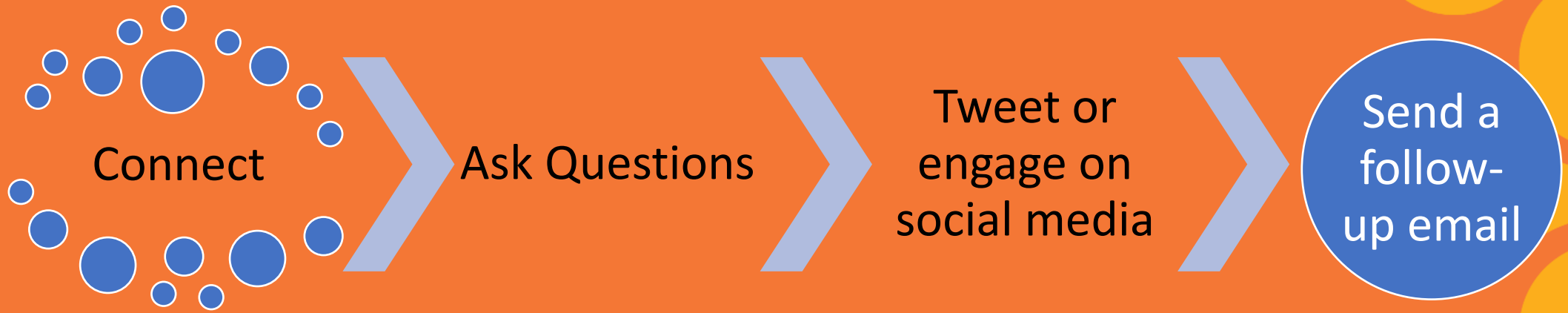
All times are in Central/New Orleans time.

More information will be provided soon and registration will open in mid-August.

CAHEP Early Career Faculty Workshop
CIHE International Students & Scholars Workshop
Research Methods Workshops
CPPHE Graduate Student Policy Seminar
CIHE Mentoring Program
Athletics Pre-Conference
CEP Mentor-Protege Program
CAHEP Mid-Career Faculty Workshop
CAHEP Academic Leaders Workshop

Sept 22, 12:00pm-4:00pm
Oct 13 & 14, 10:00am-1:00pm (both days)
Fridays in October, 11:00am-12:30pm
Oct 21, 10:00am-4:00pm
Oct 27, 11:00am-1:00pm
Nov 12, Time TBD
Nov 14, 10:00am-2:00pm
Dec 2, 12:00pm-4:00pm
Dec 3, 12:00pm-4:00pm

Making Connections



Requesting a 1:1 Template

Dear **[name]**,

My name is **[your name]**, and I am a graduate student at the University of Florida, and I am studying **[field]**. I read that you will be **[attending/presenting]** at **[conference name]**, and I am reaching out to see if you are available to meet for 15-20 minutes. I am interested in learning more about **[what you want to know from this person]**.

Thank you,

[Your name]

Conversation Starters

What was your favorite session so far?

What did you think of the keynote?

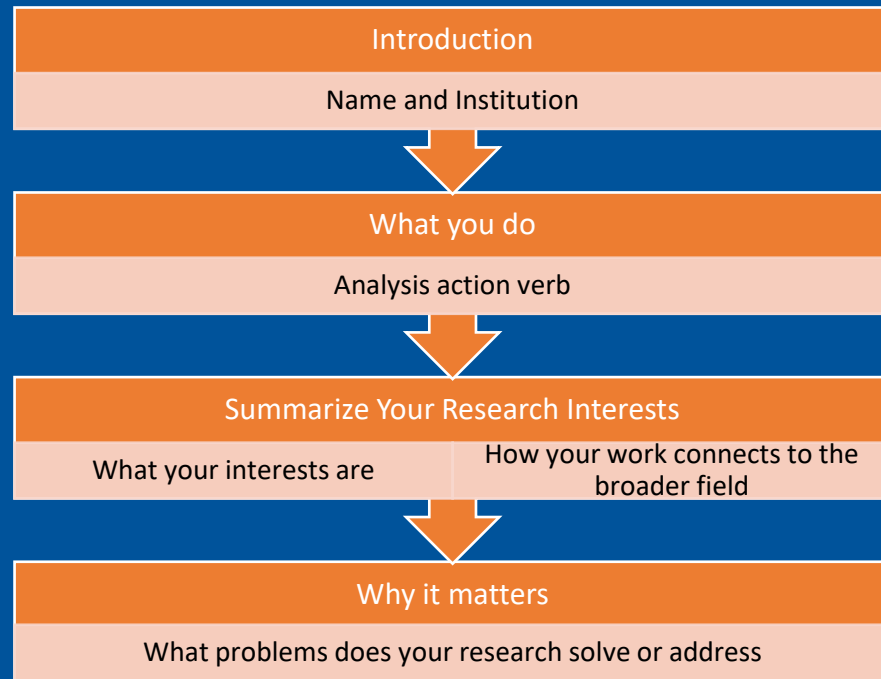
Is this your first time at this event?

What's an interesting [idea, method, or trend] you've learned about here?

Why did you choose to attend this conference?

Are you working on any exciting projects?

Prepare Your Academic Elevator Pitch



“


Hi, I am Jaime Harsell from the University of Florida, I analyze labor market outcomes for individuals who complete Career and Technical Education credentials to evaluate the equity and efficacy of federal policy interventions.

”



1:1 Coffee Chats/Informational Interview Questions

- What resources were most impactful for your job search?
- What experiences were most valuable for you in your graduate program?
- What were your biggest lessons learned early in your career?
- How do you evaluate candidates when you are on search committees? What do you wish candidates would do more/less of?
- What is the biggest challenge you face in your area of research?



Thank You. Questions?



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