

# CONFERENCES 101

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True or False: It is a free trip. I just need to present. Before and after, I can do anything I want.

**FALSE**

Someone (perhaps yourself) spent money for you to attend the conference. The trip is not “free” - there are expectations that go along with the cost of the trip.

# Benefits Include:

1. Networking Opportunities
2. Valuable Seminars and Workshops
3. **Networking**
4. Checking out possible graduate programs, research internships, and/or employment opportunities
5. **Networking** - You are being watched by potential mentors and employers

# What if I am shy and have trouble talking to “strangers”?

- ⦿ Have a 30 second introduction speech.
- ⦿ It’s time to get out of your comfort zone.
- ⦿ It does get easier.

True or False: I'm not there to have fun...I'm there to work.

FALSE

- ⦿ It is all in the attitude.
- ⦿ Love your job.

# Agenda Tips

- ⦿ “Reception,” “Refreshments,” and/or “Networking”
  - Most likely a come-and-go session
- ⦿ “Awards Dinner” or “Dinner” and “Speaker”
  - Most likely a sit down event. Be on time.
- ⦿ Both are excellent opportunities to network.

# Other Things

## ⦿ Dress

- If all else fails - ask
- overdressed is less embarrassing and more likely to impress than underdressed

## ⦿ Make Connections

- You should have a minimum of three new contacts before you leave

## ⦿ Integrity

- Decamillionaires all have *fanatical* levels of *integrity*



... a consortium of colleges and universities in Oklahoma seeking to improve the quantity and quality of students from underserved populations.



# QUESTIONS?

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