Transitioning into the Academic World through Professional Associations and Conferences

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Walden Alumnus Guest Panelist

Matt Glowiak, PhD, NCC, CAADC, LPC
• PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision, 2014
• Therapist and Facilitator at Counseling Speaks, LLC
• Certified Advanced Alcohol and Other Drug Counselor
• Actively engaged in professional community through publications, presentations and leadership.
Agenda: Learning Objectives

• Learn strategies from Walden faculty and alumni on building your academic reputation

• Discuss various levels of professional involvement

• Explore strategies for networking and presenting at professional conferences
What Are Professional Associations and How Do I Join?

Professional Groups & Associations

- Organized around a discipline/professional area
- Local, state, regional, national, international
  - AERA, APA, APHA, ACPA, APT, SHRE, ASHE, ACA, ACES, ICA, IAMC, NAME, EARLI, UPCEA, CAEL, ILA, IBAM, USABE, etc.

Finding and Joining

- Find their Website
- But, do your research, as not all are actually legitimate
- Dues can be in the $100s
  - Deductible business expense!
- Follow on Social Media
  - Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, even Facebook
Why Join An Association?

Professional and Academic Benefits

• Establishing your “Brand” and Reputation
• Networking & Collaboration
• Communication & Sharing
• Professional Development (learning)
• Research & Funding Opportunities
• Job Postings (for some groups)
• Publications & Newsletters
• Professional Conferences
Get Involved by Presenting

Professional Conferences

• Often held once a year
  • Some are being held virtually now.
• Calls for Proposals come out 6-9 months in advance.
  • Consider being a reviewer.

Types of Presentations

• Paper or Presentation
• Poster
• Roundtables & Panels
• Pre-conferences/Workshops
• Invited Speaker/Keynote
Get Involved by Writing

Two Key Audiences in Professional Groups

• Scholars
• Practitioners

A Variety of Outlets

• Media Boards
• Professional Journals
  • New Scholars Workshop
  • Be a reviewer
• Newsletters and Magazines
• Blogs & Social Media
Involvement with professional organizations has assisted my transition from student to professional by:

• Significantly enhancing my network.
• Keeping me close to other leaders of the field.
• Informing me of the latest news, knowledge, and trends.
• Exposing me to opportunities not offered elsewhere.
• Providing me with funding to attend major conferences, workshops, et cetera.
• Letting others know that I am serious about my work.
• Allowing me to give back to the field.
Words of Advice

- Be genuine
- Work hard
- Accept opportunities
- Take on challenges
- Do not overwhelm yourself
- Always follow through
- Build your network
- Consider first impressions
- Stay informed

- Treat each moment as though you are on an interview
- Stick to what is ethical and legal
- Be fair
- Reach out for assistance
- Take care of yourself
- Remain humble
Career Center Website

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Career Services Doctoral Webinar Series

http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/careerservices/careerwebinars/doctoralwebinarseries

- Alternative Careers for Your Doctoral Degree
- Strategies for Getting a Job in Higher Education
- Building Your Academic Reputation in Higher Education
- Using the DBA to Advance in Your Career
- Creating Your Curriculum Vita
- Strategies for Getting Published
- The Scoop on Hiring in Higher Ed
Connect with Career Services

Access Everything from Our Website:
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu

E-mail: careerservices@waldenu.edu
Final Thought

“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try.” — Brian Littrell