



Preparing for the CINF Division of the ACS National Conference

Updated by the CINF Careers Committee August 2016

About the ACS CINF Conference

General Meeting information including Registration and Housing information can be found at the ACS website at <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings.html>

C&E News has details about the general conference and technical program.

A Sunday reception and Tuesday luncheon are commonly offered. You generally need a ticket for the lunch that can be purchased during registration or from the chair at the conference (limited).

Herman Skolnik Award Symposium is usually done once a year, often in the fall.

Funding

- Ask ahead of time how you need to do reimbursements.
- Some awards can help offset travel costs. <http://www.acscinf.org/content/awards>

Where to Stay

- Housing - Close or near public transportation and cheap - share rooms if possible. How to find people to share with? Ask on the CHMINF-L mailing list.
- Book your room as soon as possible, especially if you want/need a room at a specific hotel.

Packing:

- Check the local weather at that time of year and pack appropriate professional clothing
- Prepack plenty of business cards but also have some in your carry on just in case your luggage gets lost. Remember there is no such thing as too many business cards!
- Pack comfortable shoes. You will probably do LOTS of walking.

Registration:

- Register to attend the ACS Lunch for a small charge.

Technical Program & Networking

- Look at the technical program and events on the conference website: <http://www.acs.org/Philadelphia2016> for example
- Note multiple programs and events you would like to go to even if they overlap so that you can adapt your schedule as opportunities arise (group conversations, consultations, etc.)
- Make sure to attend receptions, lunches, and dinners as you are able for invaluable networking with your peers.



- Often people make lunch and dinner appointments during breaks in the technical programs.
- Put the schedule in your calendar with locations - even if you don't know exactly where they are. Keep in mind the time differences if needed.
- Look to see if anyone from your organization is presenting or if there is an alumni reception.
- If you are wanting to get involved in Divisional planning or just learn what is happening there are often some open meetings the day before (Saturday).
- The presidential events are usually wonderful if you can fit them in.
- Also check other divisional programming: Chemical Education Division, Chemical Toxicology, Chemistry and the Law, Computers in Chemistry, Professional Relations
- It is nice to give yourself some time for sightseeing, see family, eat somewhere special.

Exhibit Hall

- Make time for the exhibit hall. Check to see which companies and organizations are exhibiting. The hall is very large so you need to be strategic. What do you want to learn? You can always ask "what's new?"
- Major exhibitors like ACS Publications, Chemical Abstracts Service, Elsevier and Wiley often have demonstrations or little programs within the exhibit hall, showing off new products.
- If you are new, it is great to walk the exhibit hall with a CINF buddy because they can introduce you to people and discuss current trends and concerns.

Getting around at the conference

- Check out transportation options, shuttle buses are often available to and from the convention center at many locations. Think about walking options and keep in mind travel time when creating your schedule.

After the Conference

Follow up with people that you met within 1-2 weeks of the conference who you would like to keep in contact with and remind them how you met. Conferences can be overwhelming and it can be hard to remember everyone's name and how you know them.

For more information:

Sue Cardinal, Chemistry Librarian, University of Rochester, scardinal@library.rochester.edu, 585 275-9007 (office)

Kiyomi Deards, Chemistry Librarian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, kdeards2@unl.edu, 402-472-2554 (office) or 626-353-3562 (during the conference)