



Tips for Your First NALP Conference – It's a Marathon, not a Sprint!

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NALP 2017: A Multi-Faceted Experience

- What to Know Before You Arrive
- Your Learning Experience
- Networking Opportunities
- Post-Conference
- Questions & Answers

What to Know Before You Arrive

- Conference Basics
 - Hilton Union Square
 - Registration
- Packing Tips
 - Conference attire – business casual
 - Dress in layers – room temperatures vary!
 - Bring casual attire for evenings and downtime
 - Bring business cards

What to Know Before You Arrive

- Research
 - Download the conference app
 - Visit nlp.org
 - Utilize [NALPconnect](#) and LinkedIn
- Name Badge
 - Wear your name badge at all times!
 - Entry ticket to events and required by security
 - Add appropriate ribbons, including newcomer and regional
 - Holds room key, business cards, drink tickets and the program-at-a-glance

Your Learning Experience

- Educational Programming
 - Go to the plenaries
 - Plan in advance which sessions to attend
 - Note topical pathways
 - Coordinate with colleagues and friends – divide & conquer!
 - Take notes and save handouts
 - NALPnext
 - Remember your own personal professional development
 - Consider attending Saturday sessions

Your Learning Experience

- Resource Center and Exhibit Hall
 - Open after the Open House Tuesday night through Thursday
 - Review the list of vendors in advance
 - Engage with current and potential new vendors
 - Seek out solutions for your employer's current challenges
 - Check out the exhibitor classroom schedule
 - Remember to bring business cards!

Networking Opportunities

- Attend the following NALP-sponsored social events:
 - Newcomers' Orientation & Networking Session
 - Tuesday, April 18 | 5:00pm – 6:00pm
 - NALP Open House & Welcome Reception
 - Tuesday, April 18 | 5:30pm – 7:30pm
 - Regional Business Meetings & Receptions
 - Wednesday, April 19 | 5:00pm – 6:30pm
 - Member Celebration at the California Academy of Sciences
 - Wednesday, April 19 | 7:00pm – 10:00pm
 - Diversity & Inclusion Reception
 - Thursday, April 20 | 5:00pm – 6:15pm

Networking Opportunities

- Additional formal networking opportunities
 - Attend the Annual Business Meeting
 - Go to a section meeting or luncheon
 - Newer Professionals Section meeting is Wednesday, April 19 at 12:45 p.m.
 - Yoga, Meditation and Barre
- Don't be shy about introducing yourself and meeting new people!

Networking Opportunities

- Use mealtimes and breaks to your advantage
 - Tuesday night dine-around
 - Daily breakfast and lunch provided on Wednesday and Friday
 - Make lunch plans on Thursday and dinner plans for Thursday and Friday
 - Meet people in person who you have only dealt with by phone or email
- You may be invited to additional events hosted by vendors, city groups, firms or schools

Post-Conference

- Thank your employer
- Write a memo summarizing your experience
- Share what you learned
 - Offer to make a presentation with key takeaways
- Implement what you learned
 - Write a proposal and take ownership of a new project
- Maintain new relationships
- Stay involved with NALP
 - Join [NALPconnect](#) , if you haven't already
 - Dial in to regional and section calls
 - Volunteer
 - Consider an RFP for the 2018 conference

Questions & Answers

See you in San Francisco!

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