

Networking at Conferences

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B.Eng. (chemical, 1 conference)

M.Eng. (mining and metallurgical engineering, 2 conferences*)

Ph.D. (biomedical and materials engineering, 3 conferences)

Director, Process Engineering, Calera Corporation (2 conferences)

Assistant Professor (21 conferences*)

Why are you at the conference?

(self-awareness)

(indirect message to others)

(1 minute pitch)

Who is at the conference?
What are they talking about?
(preparation)

What do you want from the conference?
(goals)

What does the conference want from you?
(their goals)

(survey)

Who are the conference organizers?

Can you participate?

(action)

(reputation)

Coffee breaks, poster sessions, mixers
(opportunity)

(ask people about themselves)

(ask people about their career trajectory)

External conference activities
(opportunity)

Creating conference activities
(asking early for time later)
(even if you are denied, you are ahead)

Internal preparation

(be yourself)

(be aware)

(be open)

Finding a good next career step is not
easy.

Be honest about your short and long term
goals, even if they are unclear.

Prepare, actively participate in the
experience, and you may build new and
useful connections.

Enjoy the unexpected conversations.