

Tips For Newcomers To The 2017 CCCC Convention

From the Newcomers' Orientation Committee

Welcome! Here's a quick list of tips that newcomers over the years have found helpful.

For Starters...

- To facilitate meeting fellow first-timers, some newcomers find it helpful to attach one of our identifying **yellow stripes** to their nametag. These are available at the Newcomers' Welcome table throughout the conference.
- Throughout the conference, the Newcomers' Welcome table is the right place to ask questions, give suggestions, and use as a meeting point with colleagues. The table is located at the **Action Hub**.
- **WiFi access** is available in the Oregon Convention Center. Ask us for the password.
- Attend the **Newcomers' Orientation** to kick off your convention experience. **Wednesday, March 15, 5:15-6:15PM, Portland Ballroom 251.**

Resources...

- Download the **CCCC Convention App** at ncte.org/cccc/conv. Or use **Twitter hashtag #4C17** to follow trending topics, sessions, speakers, and other useful information for planning your time at the conference.
- Pick up a **printed Program Book** at the registration kiosks or access it through the App.
- Use our **Bookmark** as a handy way to see important events and your schedule.

Engage...

- Start your day at the **Newcomers' Coffee Hour, Thursday, March 16, 7:30-8:15AM, Portland Ballroom 252**.
- **The Career Quest, Thursday March 16, 10:30-11:45AM, Portland Ballroom 256**, is designed to help newcomers and early career attendees develop a plan to locate opportunities at the conference and within the organization that can play an important part in their career development.
- **Scholars for the Dream, Thursday, March 16, 6:00-7:00PM**; encourages scholarship by historically underrepresented groups. Winners of this award are newcomers, too! Please come and celebrate!
- **Lavender Rhetoric Awards Reception, Thursday, March 16, 7:00-8:00PM**. The Lavender Rhetoric and the Gloria Anzaldúa Awards honor significant scholarship in queer rhetoric and composition. Winners of Gloria Anzaldúa Award are graduate students or first-time presenters. All are welcome to attend the reception.
- Curious about the proposal process? Join **Conference Proposal Submission 101 on Friday March 17, 2:00-3:00PM**.
- Our **Think Tank** will help you plan proposals for next year. You can talk with experienced presenters and network with others who have similar interests. Join us **Friday, March 17, 3:30-4:45PM, Session K.05, Portland Ballroom 254**.
- You are invited to attend the **Annual Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, March 18, 8:00-9:15AM**. You will learn about a diverse range of issues with which we are involved: publishing, policy, national/state legislation, leadership, conference feedback, and member action items.

Mix It Up...

- **Make friends!** CCCC is a great place to meet like-minded colleagues. The opening session, receptions, exhibits, special interest groups (SIGs), caucuses, awards, and main events are all great places to connect with others.
- **Socialize!** Go out with colleagues to **feature events and parties** to enjoy all the music, food, fun, and giveaways.
- **Join in!** Participate in discussions. Stick around, introduce yourself to others, and talk to speakers following their presentations. Our speakers love meeting new colleagues and are eager to hear about your own research and ideas. □

General Tips...

- **Pace yourself.** It's okay to skip sessions and take a "time out" each day; it's not a good idea to skip meals.
- **Seek quiet spaces.** Feel comfortable leaving the conference to find places that relax your mind, body, and spirit. Within the conference center, the **Quiet Room is in C127**.
- **Stay well hydrated!** Throughout the conference, carry energy snacks, drink plenty of water, and bring your own reusable coffee cup or water bottle to reduce waste.
- Exchange contact information with those you meet. **Hold business cards in the back of your nametag lanyard.**
- With a wide variety of sessions, feel free to choose what truly interest you. If you plan to leave a session early, try to sit toward the back or near an aisle to avoid distracting others.

Plan to Come Next Year...

- Join us for **CCCC 2018** in Kansas City, Missouri, March 14-17, 2018! Submit a proposal! We can assist at these two sessions: Think Tank and Conference Proposal Submission 101: A Guide to the Process.