

2012 Annual Meeting of the Society for Values in Higher Education
Drew University
Madison, NJ
August 3-7

Brief Guide to the Meeting

Because the structure of our meeting is a little different from what most scholars experience at academic meetings, we thought it might be helpful to provide a quick guide to our meeting.

Morning Groups

These groups have been the heart of the meeting for many years. When you registered for the meeting you should have signed up for one. The idea here is that really reflective and constructive conversation takes time. You can't accomplish much in a brief session of papers with five minutes of questions and answers. Morning Groups meet for four consecutive mornings for approximately 3 hours each day. Some MGs have planned readings, others have presentations, and others might be even more "free form." Folks do move from one to the other on occasion, so if you find that the MG you signed up for isn't what you expected and what you want, feel free to try out another one. We're always looking for new MGs, so if you have an interest in starting one please suggest it to me, someone on the Program Committee, or a Board member.

Working Groups

These groups are made up of scholars who are presenting papers in response to our Call for Papers focusing on issues of immigration and higher education. Papers are shared among participants, with the goal of providing substantial time and substantive feedback for the authors (again, unlike many of your typical academic conferences). ALL ATTENDEES at the SVHE meeting are invited to attend one or more sessions of the Working Groups. Papers are available at registration, though one need not read the papers before the sessions. Authors will provide brief summaries of their work during the session, then open the floor for a sustained conversation. Check out the schedule and stop by!

Interest Groups

Interest Groups meet in the afternoon and typically are one-session affairs. They focus on a wide range of topics, and everyone is invited to attend those that (yes) interest them. If you have an idea for an Interest Group at a future meeting, please let us know.

Plenaries/Panels

As with almost all academic meetings, the Program Committee arranges for a number of thought-provoking plenaries and panel discussions. These occur in the evening and focus on the theme of the conference.

Meals

Because meals are on campus and in a cafeteria setting, these tend to be informal and vibrant. Just plop your tray down at any table you like. Meals are great times to meet fellow attendees and find common interests.

Social Hours

We have a lot of social hours. Conversations, as you can imagine, range from serious to silly. Very casual.

Town Hall Meeting

SVHE is very much a membership-centered organization. The Town Hall Meeting is an opportunity for the leadership in the Society to share with Fellows important information from the past year and plans for the future. It also is a great place for newcomers to learn more about the organization. The meeting is open to all attendees.

Auction

This lively and fun event has become a great tradition at our annual meeting. There is both a silent auction and a live auction. Items range in price from a dollar to several hundred. There literally is something here for everyone. There's also plenty of time available for socializing (see "Social Hours" above).

Children

We not only encourage parents to bring their children, but we arrange for a Children's Program that moves beyond mere babysitting. Older children (15+) are encouraged to be full participants in the meeting if they like, attending Morning Groups or other sessions of interest.

On behalf of the Program Committee, the Board, and the staff of SVHE, we hope you have an enjoyable and fruitful meeting. Please do not hesitate to grab anyone who looks like they are in charge (there's a lot of us) and ask us questions if you have them.

Cheers,



Eric Bain-Selbo
Executive Director
Society for Values in Higher Education