

2017 ASA Annual Meeting: Make the Most of the Meet and Greet

Before you arrive – make a plan

- Residency programs are organized by geographic region in the room
- Utilize the map provided and prioritize the program tables you would like to visit in the time you have available

Network

- Introduce yourself with a firm handshake, warm smile, and good eye contact
- Let programs get to know you by providing more details about yourself (school, year, hometown, interests, career goals)
- Be clear about your level of interest (recently applied, upcoming interview, interested in applying)

The mini interview

- Take the opportunity to get to know the program and their representatives
- Potential questions to ask:
 1. How do you determine which applicants will be successful residents in your program?
 2. How does your program set itself apart from other programs?
 3. What is the culture or morale of your program? How is it fostered?
 4. What would you consider some strengths of your program?
 5. What are areas of your program that you are working on to improve right now?
 6. What changes do you have planned for your program over the next few years?
 7. What programs exist for resident education? (lectures, grand rounds, journal clubs, informal sessions, board review courses?)
 8. Is there a formal mentoring program for residents?
 9. How is the resident feedback valued and implemented?
 10. What global/research opportunities are available for residents?
 11. What do your graduates do when they finish their program?
 - a. Percent in fellowship versus practice?
 - b. Percent in academic versus private practice?
 - c. Do they stay local or move to other geographic areas?
 12. What fellowship programs does your institution have? Do they take internal applicants only or is there a preference for external? What have been popular fellowships that residents of your program have pursued the last few years?