ATTENDEE TIPS

Prior to the Event

• RSVP to your local Global Networking Night (GNN).
• Recruit your local Harvard friends and colleagues to attend GNN with you. Spread the word by forwarding the event web page and/or posting a link on your Facebook page. While you’re at it, RSVP to your local event on Facebook to check out who else is attending and participate in pre-event discussion.
• Take the opportunity to review and update your LinkedIn profile.
• Sign up for Crimson Compass on alumni.harvard.edu or log in and update your profile. GNN is a great occasion to strengthen your Harvard Network beyond your local event.
• Tweet your plans to attend and share interesting networking articles on Twitter using the hashtag #HarvardNetwork.
• Check out networking tips and resources at alumni.harvard.edu/globalnetworkingnight.
• Review the list of registered attendees, which will be sent via email, to see who is working in your field of interest.

On June 25

• Go to Global Networking Night! All Harvard affiliates are welcome, regardless of whether you’ve registered in advance, as long as capacity permits. On your own? Don’t miss out! Many attendees come alone.
• Bring plenty of business cards to distribute to new contacts.
• Don’t be shy! You’re there to meet people—and so is everyone else. Smile, circulate, and don’t be nervous about approaching individuals or small groups. Remember to introduce yourself and your colleagues to anyone who may join your conversation in progress.
• Don’t try to meet everyone. If you’re attending a large event, this may not be possible. Instead, focus on circulating, and spend some time with those with who some connection with you. As with all networking exercises, quality bests quantity.
• Have some fun! Live-tweet the event to share your observations with event organizers and alums in other time zones who may attend earlier or later events.

After the Event

• Follow up with new contacts by connecting with them on LinkedIn and emailing them directly.
• Follow through. Promised to make an introduction or grant an informational interview? Keep your word when your new contact follows up.
• Give before you get. Strengthen your new ties by providing introductions or sharing interesting, relevant articles or job posts. You’ll form a more solid connection in the long run if your initial follow-up benefits your new contact.
• Post your photos to the HAA Facebook page and/or your local event page—remember to tag “Harvard Alumni Association”—and share them with the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) by emailing them to clubs@harvard.edu.
• Share your thoughts with the HAA. What did you like about the event? What can we do better next time? Email clubs@harvard.edu with your feedback.
• Mark your calendar for our next event, set for June 25, 2013.