

TAGC 2024 Community and Connections: how and where to network

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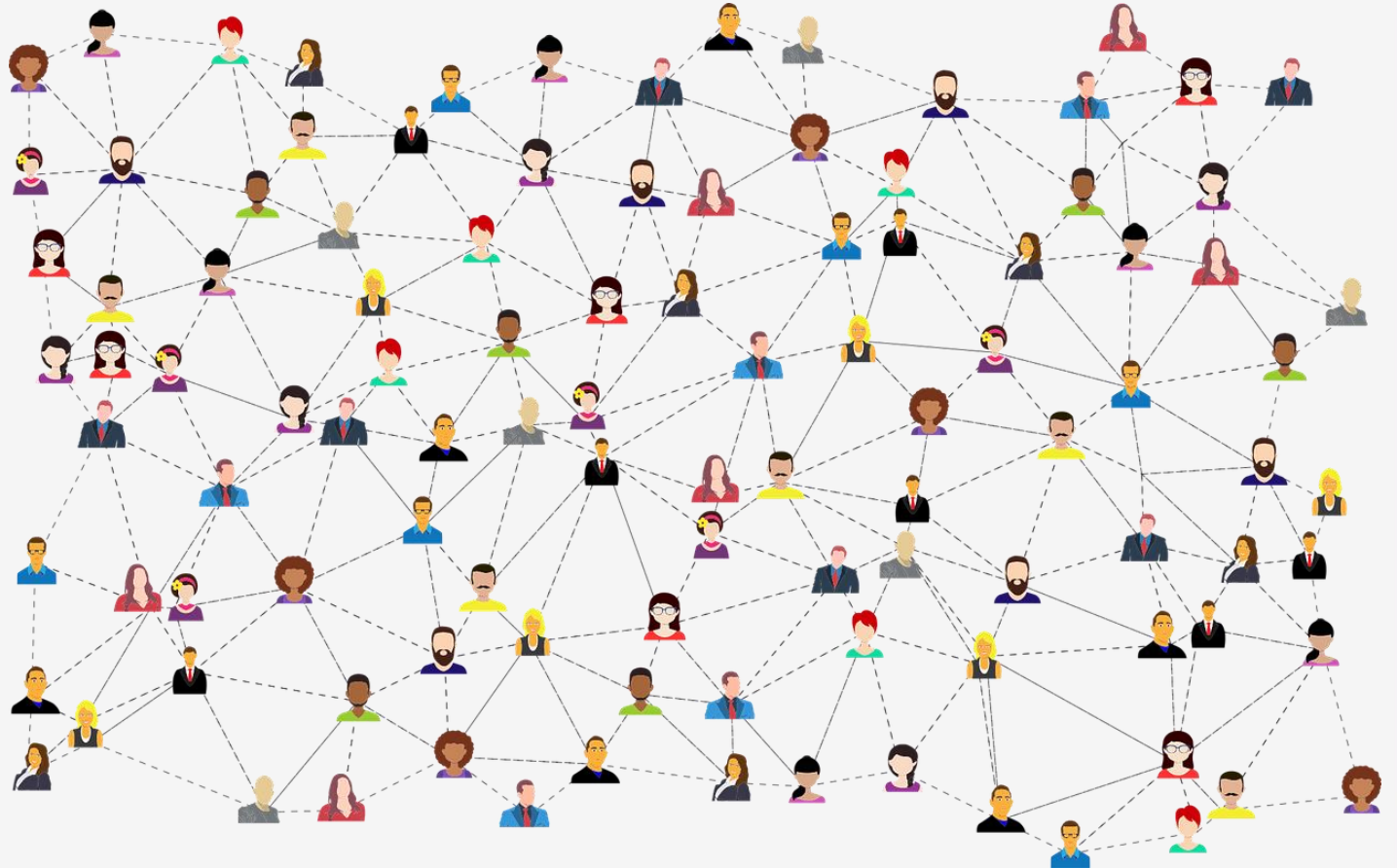


BRINGING GENETICS TOGETHER

What is networking?

Oxford Dictionary: the action or process of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

Reality: the goal of “networking” is for someone to recognize your name, **or** the name of a mutual connection.



My journey to fungi

- English degree in 2004 from the University of Texas at Austin
- EdFinancial Services from 2006-2013
- Microbiology degree in 2014 from the University of Tennessee Knoxville

Now what?!



What I didn't mention

- Made sure I gained laboratory experience
- Advocated for myself
- Had a strong support network
- Higher Education Research Experience internship at Oak Ridge National Laboratory!



Virtual vs. in-person

- The impact of COVID-19
 - Virtual thesis and defense
- GSA work was all remote

It can be done!



Action Items



BRINGING GENETICS TOGETHER

On your own

- Complete an Individual Development Plan
 - ImaginePhD
 - myIDP
 - Department-specific IDP
- Using the Conference App:
 - Search for 3-6 attendees you want to connect with
 - Send them a message through the conference app to introduce yourself
 - Ask to set up an informational interview!

At TAGC 2024

- Attend professional development panels and events
- Set a personal goal: I will connect with ## new people over a meal.
- Use the Informational Interview room
- Meet with Balint and Jessica during our open hours

Opportunities to Connect

Virtual Events

- Wednesday, March 6:
 - 2024 Graduate Career Consortium Virtual Career Expo
- Throughout TAGC 2024
 - Virtual Informational Interviews
 - StoryCorps interviews through the GSA Community!

In-Person Events

- Conference Success Tips and Welcome
- Career stage mixers
- Speed Networking
- Community, Connections, and Mentorship Lunch
- It Takes Two event
- Networking Hotspots

We are here to help you succeed!



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