International Association of Business Communicators World Conference

Session Formats

Panel Discussion Format (45 minutes)

A discussion about a specific topic featuring a number of expert panelists with different perspectives each of whom can engage and spark an audience. The panel is facilitated by a moderator who will draw out key points, questions and a summary.

Interactive Workshop (45 minutes)

A session for attendees to actively participate in sharing an experience, demonstrating a new technology or technique, by learning together. The session is facilitated by an expert who can help participants make progress, try out new ideas and share feedback.

Traditional Breakout (45 minutes)
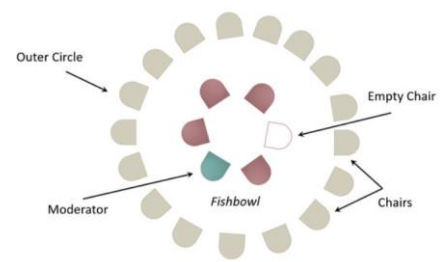
A learning session offering people new insights and the chance to discuss and debate the ideas being presented. Can feature one or more co-hosts

Dialogue Den (45 minutes)

Tech-free boutique sessions that offer participants a chance to engage in intimate, small group conversations about important topics in the industry. Dialogue Den's create the space needed to learn from our peers in an open, facilitated format. These will be tech-free and delivered in a "fireside chat" format.

Fishbowl (45 minutes)

Many variations exist; one example is 4-5 chairs are arranged in an inner circle. This is the fishbowl. The remaining chairs are arranged in concentric circles outside the fishbowl. A few participants are selected to fill the fishbowl, while the rest of the group sit on the chairs outside the fishbowl. One chair is left empty. The moderator introduces the topic and the participants start discussion. The audience outside the fishbowl listen. Any member of the audience can, at any time, occupy the empty chair. When this happens, an existing member of the fishbowl must voluntarily leave the fishbowl and free a chair.

Expert Debate (45 minutes)

A debate takes place between two or more opponents who are experts in their fields as well as being entertaining presenters. The debate topic is clearly defined in terms of a question, with one side presenting the affirmative case and the other the negative case.