EC2020 Social Events

Throughout the conference: Scavenger Hunt (more details below). Complete challenges to vie for the prize! Whenever you have down time, stop by the Gather spaces to work on the Hunt.

Tuesday 12pm-12:30pm EDT: Junior/senior lunch. Students and postdocs are invited to join a small virtual table in the Gather Collaboration Space for an informal conversation, each hosted by a senior member of the EC community. No need to sign up, just drop by (each table can accommodate up to 8 people).

Tuesday 2:30pm-3pm EDT: Speed networking. All attendees are invited, but we can only accommodate the first 100 arrivals. Meet a new member of the EC community every two minutes, learning a bit about each other using prompted questions. Hosted in the Zoom Webinar room, accessible Gather. (Question list below).

Wednesday, 12pm-12:30pm EDT: Amazon intern panel. Join this virtual event, in a Zoom room accessible from Gather, to hear from previous Amazon interns who are now using their skills full time at Amazon to enhance our customers' experience. The event will feature opening remarks from Nikhil Devanur, Principal Applied Scientist, and a Q&A panel from former Amazon interns from Amazon Web Services and the Amazon Sponsored Products Advertising team. Be sure to RSVP for this event.

Wednesday, 2:30pm-3pm EDT: Hosted coffee chats. All attendees are invited to join a virtual table in the Gather Collaboration Space for a conversation on topics ranging from market design to social justice to jobs in industry… and more! (See below for full list.) No need to sign up, just drop by (each table can accommodate up to 8 people).

Thursday, 12-12:30pm EDT: Junior/senior lunch. Students and postdocs are invited to join a small virtual table in the Gather Collaboration Space for an informal conversation, each hosted by a senior member of the EC community. No need to sign up, just drop by (each table can accommodate up to 8 people).

Thursday, 2:30pm-3pm EDT: The EC Quiz show. Tune in for everyone's favorite game show where we learn about our colleagues' expertise on topics far outside their expertise. All are invited, no need to sign up in advance. Hosted in the Zoom Webinar room, accessible from Gather.
Scavenger Hunt Details

The hunt consists of six challenges. To “collect” a participant, you must have a video/voice chat with them in Gather during one of the EC conference breaks, and ask if you can put them down on your Scavenger Hunt form. Once you’ve finished (even if you don't complete all the Challenges), you can enter your form for a drawing for the prize (a copy of The Colossal Book of Short Puzzles and Problems by Martin Gardner) here: https://forms.gle/Do3Povo2Dzufs4AW9 . Deadline to enter is Friday, July 17, 2020, at 5pm east coast time. We’ll pick a winner at random from among those with the greatest number of challenges completed (we may check your answers or that the people you collect acknowledge meeting you). Any EC participant should appear at most once on your form (you can’t use the same person for multiple challenges). The Scavenger Hunt is open to all registered participants of EC 2020, except the Virtual Transition team and SIGecom Executive Officers.

The Challenges:

1. Collect five participants whose institutions are in five different countries (name, institution, country for each)
2. Collect a participant who received their undergraduate degree 10 years before or 10 years after you received yours. So, for example, if you received your degree in 2000, you are looking for someone who received theirs in either 1990 or 2010. ((anticipated) year and institution where you received your undergraduate degree; person, year and institution where they received their degree)
3. Collect two participants who are attending EC for the first time (name, institution for each)
4. Collect two participants who have attended EC at least five times before 2020 (name, institution for each)
5. Collect two participants who have been to Budapest, Hungary (the originally planned host city for EC 2020). (names for each)
6. Find the cat in EC’s Gather spaces. Where did you find her, and when?

Speed Networking Questions
Have these questions ready in front of you when you join the session:

1. What session are you most looking forward to and why?
2. What’s one topic you would love to learn more about?
3. (senior researchers) If you could start over as a PhD student today, what would you work on? (junior researchers) If you could have been a PhD student 20 years ago, what would you have worked on?
4. Tell me about a favorite paper you’ve read.
5. What has been the most challenging aspect of moving your teaching/learning/research life online in the past few months?
6. What has been the most rewarding aspect of moving your teaching/learning/research life online in the past few months?
7. What do you love most about EC?

Hosted Coffee Chat Topics

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