

# So What Do I Do Tomorrow?

An Action Plan for Making the Most of Professional Development Experiences

*34th Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience*

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*Engaging in professional development activities by attending conferences, institutes, or workshops away from your campus is a significant investment – an investment of your institution's resources, as well as an investment of your time and effort.*

*The following is designed to help you think through the many ways you can act on ideas shared over the past few days. Use this as an action plan so that when you return to your office tomorrow, the mountain of work waiting on you will not eclipse what you learned.*

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## **Recognizing My Investors**

Are there individuals on my campus I should express appreciation to for making this experience possible for me?  
Who are they?

Are there co-workers or support staff who picked up extra responsibilities due to my absence from campus?  
Who are they?

Are there others for whom my absence from home had an impact and who deserve an expression of appreciation?  
Who are they?

## **Using What I Have Learned**

What new ideas and concepts did I learn at this event?

What ideas can I put into immediate practice in my work?  
How?

What other ideas will I need to consider further, but still have potential for use?  
Who can help me think through these ideas?

## **Sharing Resources**

Are there colleagues and others on my campus who came to mind during the presentations and discussion sessions?  
Who are they and what are the topics?

Who should I send a “did you know” e-mail to when I return to my campus?

Are there people on my campus who would benefit from seeing these materials?  
Identify specific handouts or materials for specific people.

Can I initiate a conversation with colleagues on my campus to share this new knowledge and these insights?  
How might I do this?

## **Maintaining Connections**

Of all the people I met at this event, who would I like to keep in contact?

Who would I like to contact that I was unable to meet?