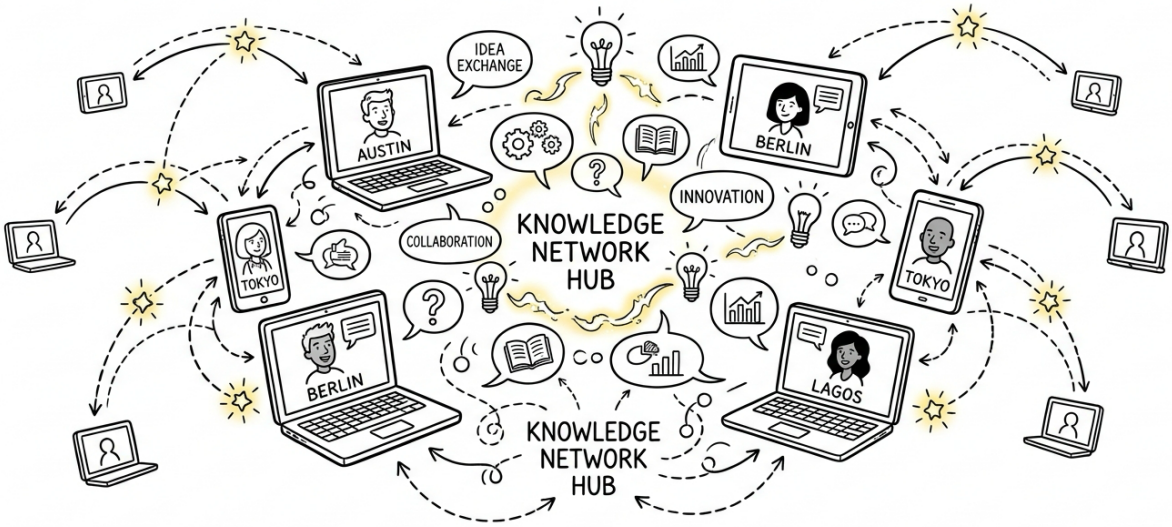
The Academic Career Now and in the Future

A Knowledge Café: Networking and Knowledge Sharing
Wednesday 25 November 2026, 14:00 to 15:30 GMT
Facilitated by David Gurteen



What is a K-Café?

A Knowledge Café (often abbreviated as a K-Café) is an effective method for informal knowledge sharing. It brings together people—frequently from diverse backgrounds—to explore a topic of mutual interest.

The event begins with a brief presentation by a facilitator to set the scene. Participants then split into small groups of 3 to 5 to share their perspectives and experiences. Designed primarily for networking and open dialogue, the goal is not to win an argument, but to listen, reflect, and learn from one another.

After three small-group rounds, everyone gathers for a final plenary session to synthesize key insights. A typical Knowledge Café lasts up to 90 minutes, structured as follows:

1. *Opening Session: 15 minutes*
2. *Small-Group Discussions: 45 minutes (three 15-minute rounds)*
3. *Plenary Discussion: Up to 30 minutes (flexible)*

If the plenary finishes early, the event may wrap up in 70 to 75 minutes.
While the term "café" is not intended to imply that coffee or refreshments are served, it reflects the relaxed, welcoming, and conversational atmosphere designed to put participants at ease.

A K-Café isn't about reaching a consensus or finding right answers. It's about exploring the questions together, challenging assumptions and hopefully leaving with some fresh perspectives.

What is this K-Café about?

The higher education landscape is evolving rapidly, reshaping what it means to build a successful university career. This 90-minute K-Café explores "The Academic Career Now and

in the Future," offering a look at how scholars can cope in an increasingly complex environment. It will examine the enduring Academic Triad of Research & Publication, Teaching & Pedagogy, and Administration & Service, and how its demands shift with emerging technologies, funding, and changing institutional priorities.

To whom this K-Café will be useful

This event is primarily aimed at early career academics but of course it will also be of interest to established academics as well as those who are contemplating taking up a career in academe.

After this event participants will:

- have a clearer idea of the challenges and opportunities offered by an academic career.
- be in a better place to evaluate their prospects of enjoying a successful academic career.
- have made contact with a worldwide academic community.

K-Café Details

Attendance is free of charge to members of The Forum at ACPI. Registration to join the Forum is also free and is accessed at https://www.academic-conferences.org/forum/
To join this event register as a member of the Forum and then book a place on the Webinar. Members book directly from https://www.academic-conferences.org/forum-upcoming-events/

Registration closes 24 hours before the event.

Event Facilitator

David Gurteen has been a leading pioneer of knowledge sharing through K-Cafés for the past 25 years, evolving this practice into the field of Conversational Leadership. He has facilitated K-Cafés globally, earning widespread acclaim for his work. In addition, he curates a veritable Aladdin's Cave of resources on knowledge and knowledge sharing at Gurteen.com.