

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Workshops and Roundtables

2026 ATS Development and Institutional Advancement Program Conference *Better Together: Resources and Relationships to Support All We Do*

February 10–12, 2026 | Charlotte Marriott SouthPark | Charlotte, NC

The Development and Institutional Advancement Program (DIAP) steering committee, along with ATS staff, invites the submission of proposals for workshop or roundtable discussion sessions at the 2026 conference. The DIAP gathering is designed to support and develop administrators serving in multiple areas of development and institutional advancement including communications, fundraising, donor relations, alumni relations, and many others. At this gathering we want to focus on resources—systems, strategies, and collaborations—that strengthen and support you in your work and the relationships that make it possible.

The committee invites proposals for one-hour workshops or roundtable discussions that either address engagement in theological education broadly or focus on one specific aspect of work within development, communications and institutional advancement. We welcome individual proposals and group proposals. Potential topics might include:

- Changing landscape of faith and giving
- Inspiring gift support
- Donor relations
- Alumni relations
- Effective collaboration across the institution
- Communications strategies
- Strategic planning
- New policies that impact your work
- Building relationships internally and externally
- And so much more!

Workshops: Interactive sessions that present practical knowledge, skills, and strategies. Workshops should be designed to teach something while being interactive and giving participants an opportunity to engage in what they are learning.

Roundtables: Facilitated, dynamic discussions that encourage deep dives into pressing issues, emerging trends, and innovative practices. Here you can pose a thought-provoking question or a personal case study for the group to discuss together.

Proposals should include in an attached Word document or PDF:

- Name, institution, position, and contact (email) for each presenter
- Are you applying for a roundtable or a workshop?
- Qualifications of presenter(s) (please attach a curriculum vitae)
- Session title and 100- to 150-word abstract describing the session's focus
- Target audience (e.g. advancement, communications, alumni officers, etc.)

The deadline for submission is Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Please send proposals (and direct questions regarding format or content) to Chelsea Yarborough, ATS associate director of leadership programming, at yarborough@ats.edu, with the subject line "2026 DIAP Proposal."