

Twenty-fifth International Conference on Learning

21-23 June 2018

University of Athens - Athens, Greece

Delegate Pack





The Learner

Dear Delegate,

Thank you for participating in Twenty-fifth International Conference on Learning. We are pleased you will be joining us in Athens, Greece at the University of Athens.

In preparation for the conference, we have put together some information that we hope will prove useful to you as you begin to prepare for the conference and your arrival in Athens, Greece. This packet is a starting point for your preparations. We realize you may have some additional questions after reviewing the material here. For any questions that remain please contact the conference secretariat.

We hope your planning goes well, and we look forward to seeing you in Athens, Greece!

Best wishes,
Patricija Kirvaitis
Twenty-fifth International Conference on Learning

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VENUE INFORMATION

Venue Address

Marásleio

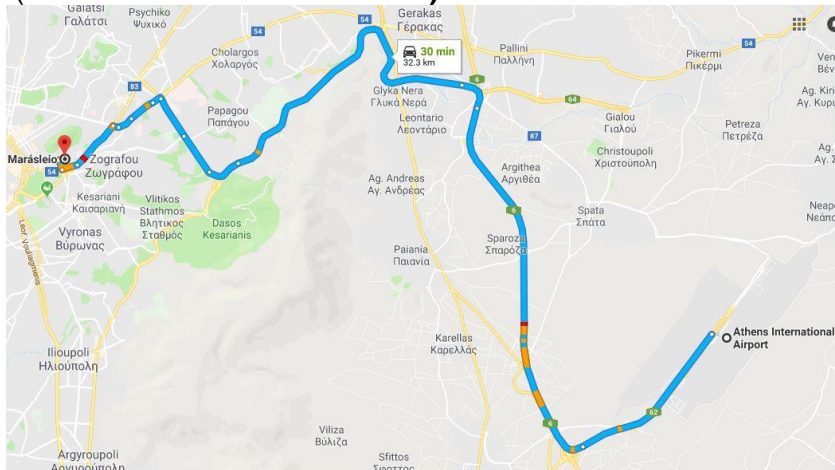
Marasli, Athina 106 76, Greece

Getting to Venue

Arriving to Venue from **Athens International Airport** in a vehicle: 30 minutes including the usual traffic. This route also has tolls, which can be anywhere between €0.70-€2.00.

- Follow Attiki Odos/A62, A6/E94 and Periferiaki imittou/A64 to Leof. Alimou Katechaki. Take exit Y1 from Periferiaki Imittou/A64
- Head southwest on Attiki Odos/A62
- Use the right 2 lanes to take exit K2 to merge onto Attiki Odos/A6/E94 toward ELEFSINA/ATHINA
- Take exit 16K for Imittos Ring
- Merge onto Periferiaki Imittou/A64
- Use the right 2 lanes to take exit Y1 toward ATHINA - CENTER/KATECHAKI AVE.
- Continue on Leof. Alimou Katechaki. Take Leof. Panagiotti Kanellopoulou, EO54 and Leof. Vasilissis Sofias to Marasli in Athina
- Merge onto Leof. Alimou Katechaki
- Continue onto Leof. Panagiotti Kanellopoulou
- Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto Leof. Mesogeion (signs for Centre)
- Merge onto Leof. Mesogeion/EO54
- Continue straight onto EO54 (signs for Center)
- Keep left to continue toward Leof. Vasilissis Sofias/EO1/EO54/EO83
- Continue onto Leof. Vasilissis Sofias/EO1/EO54/EO83
- Slight right onto Leof. Vasilissis Sofias (signs for Syntagma)
- Turn right onto Ploutarchou
- Turn right onto Patriarchou Ioakim
- Turn right onto Marasli

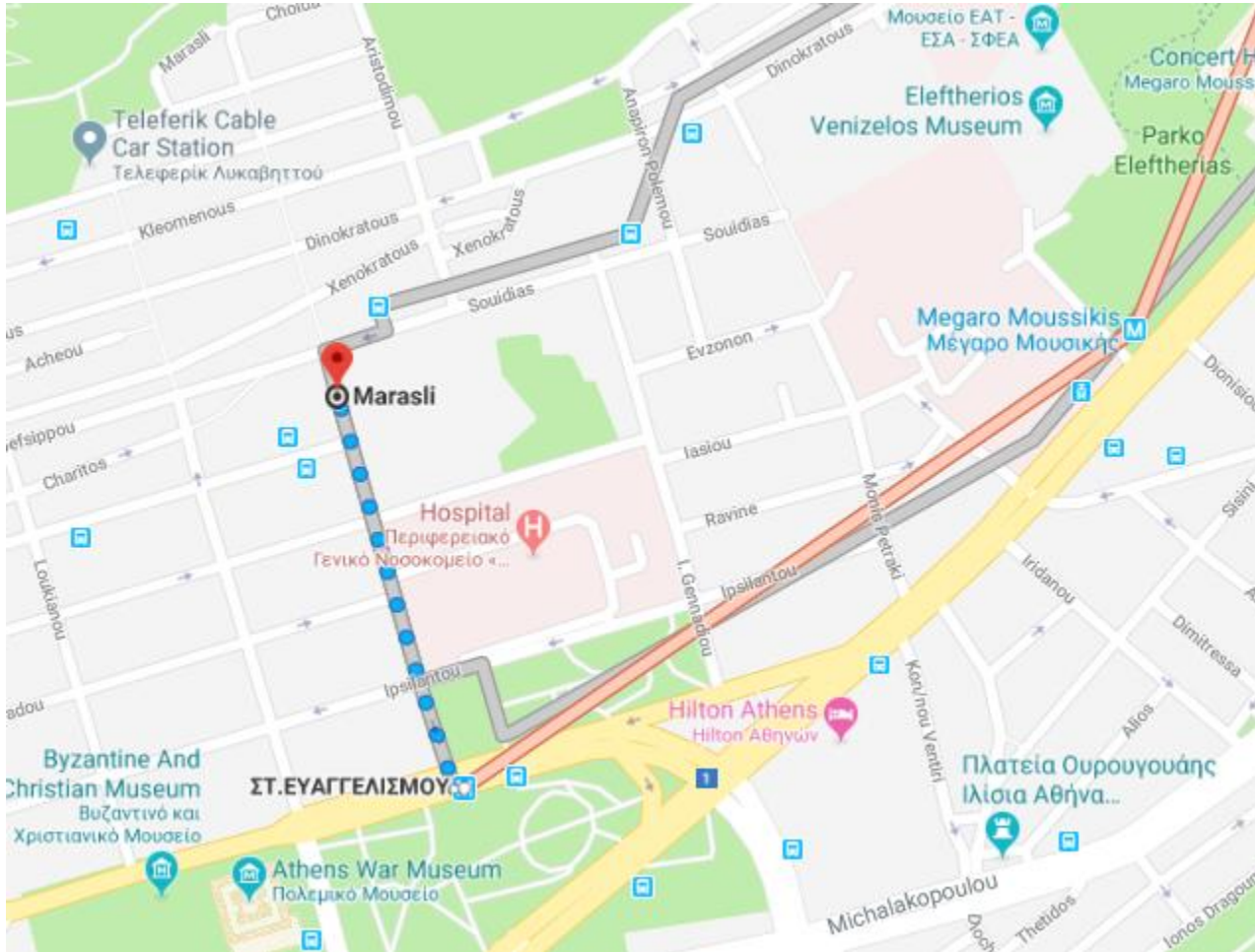
(Destination will be on the left)



Arriving to Venue from the airport via public transportation: will take about one hour.

- Leave from the metro station at the Athens airport - you will see signs pointing you in this direction.

- Take the ΣΤ.ΑΕΡΟΔΡΟΜΙΟΥ for about 38 minutes, 14 stops
- Get off at the ΣΤ.ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΥ stop
- The venue will be about five minutes away from the metro stop



There are also taxis available outside of the airport and will bring you to central Athens for a flat fee of 35 euro during the day, and 50 euro for the night.

Registration Desk Location

The registration desk will be located on the ground floor of the Marásleio, the address of the venue, [here](#).

Plenary and Parallel Session Location and Hours

The plenary sessions will take place in the Marásleio.
All parallel sessions will take place in the adjacent building.

Session Types

- Garden Conversation: Garden Conversations are informal, unstructured sessions that allow delegates a chance to meet plenary speakers and talk with them at length about the issues

arising from their presentation. When the venue and weather allow, we try to arrange for a circle of chairs to be placed outdoors.

- **Talking Circles:** Held on the first day of the conference, Talking Circles offer an early opportunity to meet other delegates with similar interests and concerns. Delegates self-select into groups based on broad thematic areas and then engage in extended discussion about the issues and concerns they feel are of utmost importance to that segment of the community. Questions like “Who are we?”, “What is our common ground?”, “What are the current challenges facing society in this area?”, “What challenges do we face in constructing knowledge and effecting meaningful change in this area?” may guide the conversation. When possible, a second Talking Circle is held on the final day of the conference, for the original group to reconvene and discuss changes in their perspectives and understandings as a result of the conference experience. Reports from the Talking Circles provide a framework for the delegates’ final discussions during the Closing Session.
- **Themed Presentation:** If you have a Paper Presentation in a Themed Session, you have been scheduled into a seventy five or one hundred-minute session with three or four other presenters. In these themed sessions, papers are grouped by similar topics or by different perspectives on a particular issue. This format allows for greater participation and enhanced discussion. In themed sessions, each presenter speaks for twenty minutes. A group discussion of all presented papers follows in the time remaining. To allow adequate time for group discussion, please limit prepared remarks to twenty minutes.
- **Workshop:** Workshop Sessions involve extensive interaction between presenters and participants around an idea or hands-on experience of a practice. These sessions may also take the form of a crafted panel, staged conversation, dialogue, or debate – all involving substantial interaction with the audience.
- **Focused Discussion:** In a Focused Discussion session each presenter is assigned to a specific circle where attendees will have the opportunity to have an in-depth discussion with presenters. On entering the room, you will see tables with 6-8 chairs in each grouping. Each session presentation will be identified with a number in the center of each circle of chairs. Please refer to the program to reference your presentation number. Focused Discussions offer unique opportunities for learning and professional exchange, are excellent venues for giving and receiving targeted feedback, promote engaging in-depth discussions, and facilitate meeting colleagues with similar interests.
- **Innovation Showcase:** Researchers and innovators present products or research and development. All presentations should be grounded in presenter’s research experience. Promotional conversations are permissible; however, products or services may not be sold at the conference venue.
- **Virtual Lightning Talk:** Virtual Lightning talks are 5-minute videos presented on our Research Network YouTube channel. Virtual talks are presented as a group, at designated times throughout the conference, and are typically displayed at stations near the conference registration desk. We highly encourage virtual presenters to include contact details (e.g. email address) at the beginning and end of the presentation, or to use a QR code to direct people to more detailed information.
- **Virtual Poster:** Virtual Posters are submitted as PDF's and are presented as a part of the in-person poster session or during a parallel session. Virtual Posters are presented as a group and are generally presented as a looped presentation. Audio components to your presentation are not supported in the virtual poster sessions. Additionally, we highly encourage virtual presenters to include contact details (e.g. email address) on their Virtual Posters, or to use a QR code to direct people to more detailed information.

Equipment

Data projectors will be provided in all session rooms. Please bring a USB thumb drive with your presentation preloaded. Alternatively, please feel free to use your personal computer. If you are a Mac user and opt to use your personal laptop computer, please be sure to bring the correct Mac VGA adapter. Also, please note that the University does not provide overhead projectors for transparencies in their classrooms.

Program

The schedule of sessions can be found at:

<http://thelearner.com/2018-conference/program>

Please be sure to check this link often leading up to the conference date as our time is actively scheduling this conference and presentation may be shifted around during the final scheduling process. In addition to this, you will receive a program booklet at the conference containing the final schedule for the plenary and parallel sessions.

Internet Access

Wireless Internet access is available to conference delegates throughout the conference venue, details of this will be provided at the conference desk upon check in.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

Hotel and Address

Periscope Hotel

Charitos 22

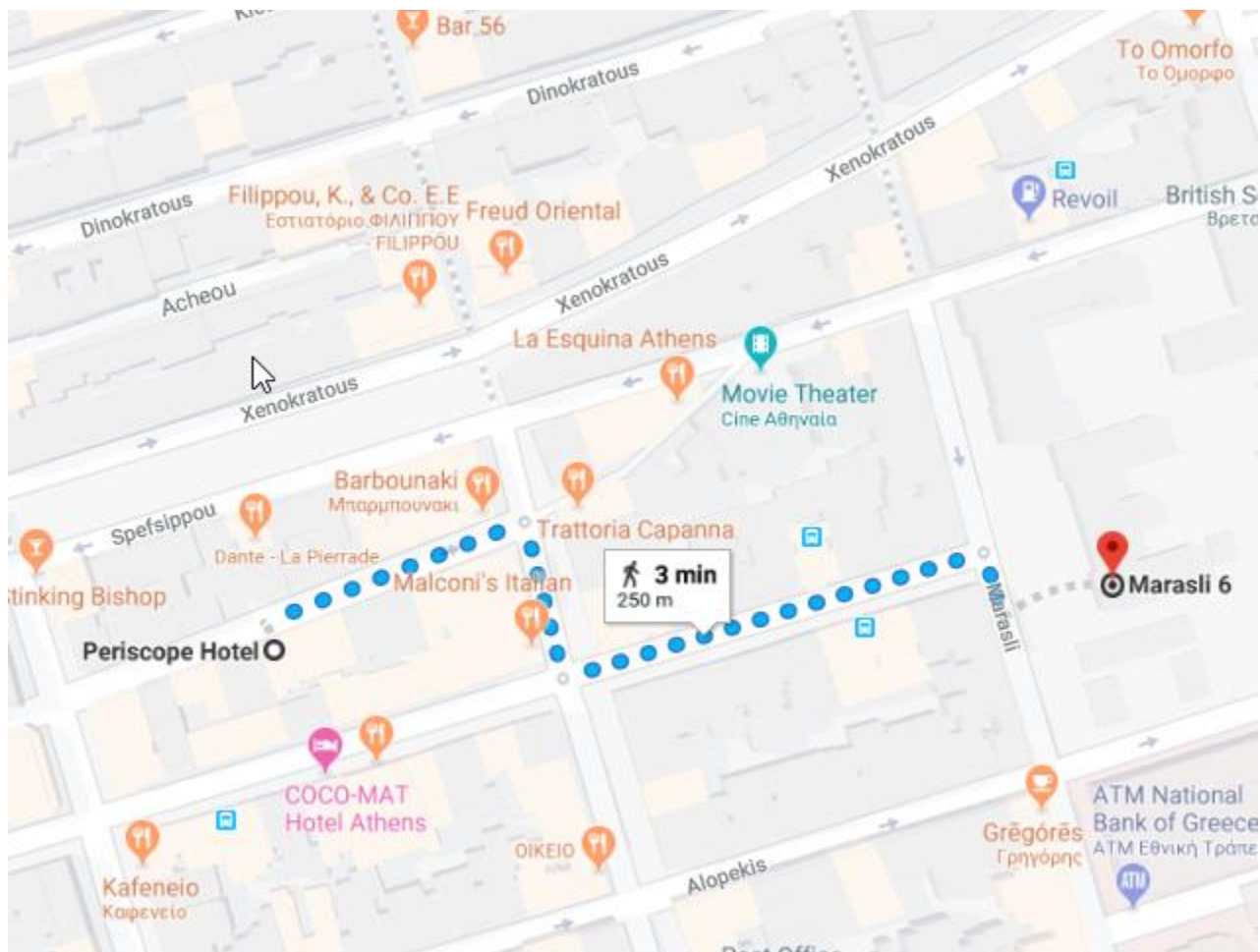
Athens, 106 75

Greece

<http://www.yeshotels.gr/hotel/periscope>

Getting to the conference venue from the Periscope Hotel is a short three minute walk:

- Take a right out of the Periscope Hotel, heading east
- Turn the next right onto Ploutarchou
- Turn the next left onto Patriarchou Ioakim
- Turn right onto Marasli



Airotel Stratos Vassilikos Hotel

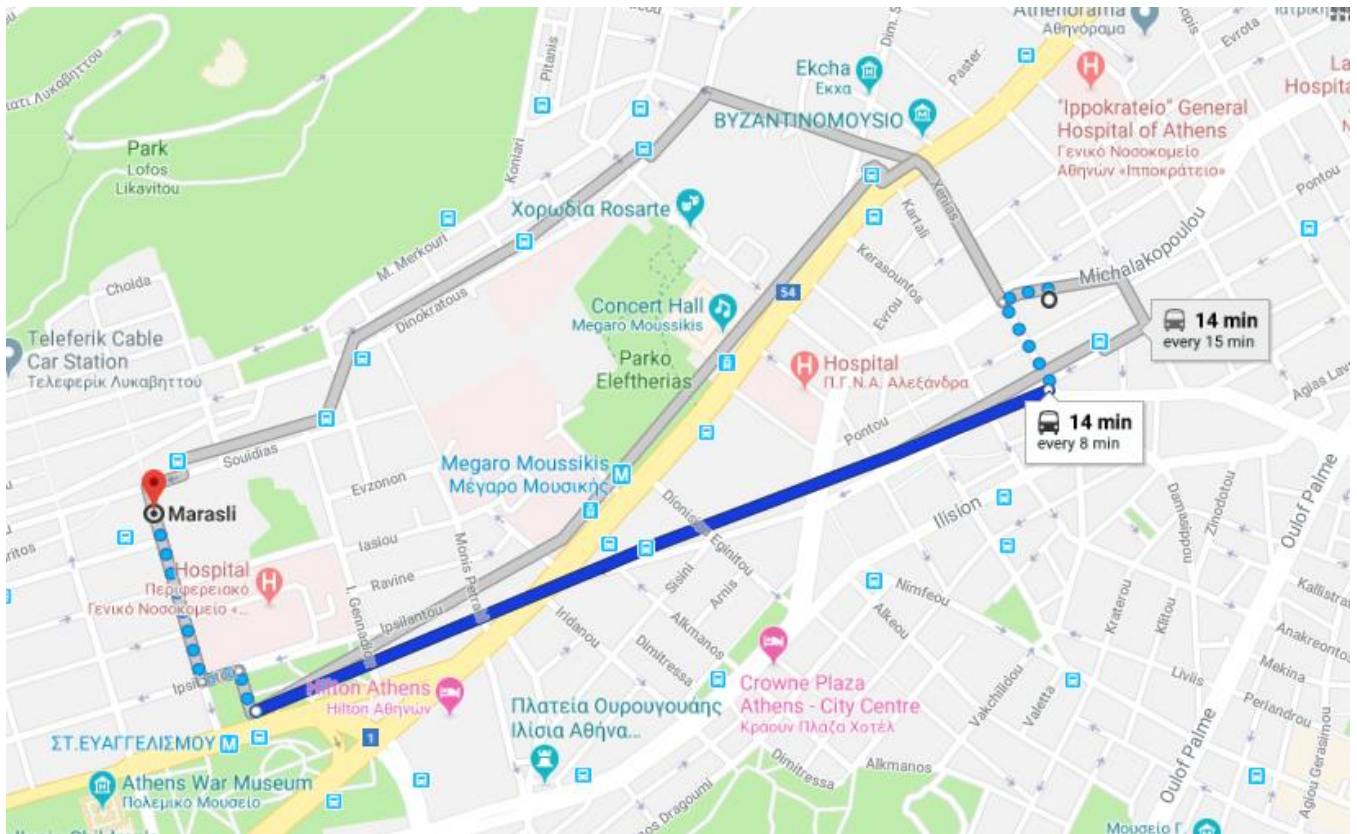
Michalakopoulou 114, Athina 115 27

Greece

<https://www.airotel.gr/en/>

Getting to the conference venue from the hotel is a 15 minute metro ride. The train will leave every 8 minutes:

- Upon leaving the hotel, head west on Michalakopoulou toward Xenias
- Go to the ΑΛΕΞ metro station
- Take ΝΕΚΡ. ΖΩΓΡΑΦΟΥ - ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑ - ΓΑΛΑΤΣΙ for 3 stops, about six minutes
- Upon disembarking, go north when exiting the metro station and take a left on Ipsilantou. Then take a right immediately onto Marasli. Your destination will be on the right.



ACTIVITIES AND EXTRAS

The Learner Conference is pleased to announce a pre-conference event, organised by the Forum on Intercultural Dialogue and Learning (Laboratory of Sociology & Education, TEEAPH, University of Patras)

Professional Narratives in Refugee Education

People are storytelling creatures. Narratives are essential feature of human nature as they define our identities, values, and worldviews. They are self-reflexive mechanisms creating a sense of internal order and security when dealing with overwhelming global experiences of mobility, dislocation and exile. This special event focuses on professional narratives from the field of Refugee Education (RE) in Greece. Particular attention will be given on professional narration and experiences draw from social workers, lawyers, doctors, educators and volunteers working with refugee children in Greece particularly after 2015 when more than 1 million refugees crossed the country. Professionals will address the following questions:

- Where do they see themselves in talking RE challenges?
- What are the required types of responsibilities/skills in the RE field?
- What are their main accomplishments?

In addition, refugees will be invited to tell us about themselves and their dislocations in searching for a new Home. These cultural narratives will unfold the challenges of dislocation, the trauma, but also the promise of a future new life.

Date: June 19th

Conference Reception

The Learner Conference and the University of Athens will be hosting a welcome reception at the Aula Amphitheater at the University of Athens. The reception will be held at 19:00 (7:00 PM) on Thursday, 21 June 2018. Join other conference delegates, our conference partners, and plenary speakers for drinks, light hor d'oeuvres, and a chance to converse.

We look forward to hosting you!

Conference Dinner

Join other conference delegates, plenary speakers, and the local university committee for the conference dinner at GH Attikos Restaurant, known as the "Greek House" back in the '70s, used to be a hotspot of the Athenian life. Several years later the name "Attikos", inspired by the cultural landscape of the surrounding area, was added to its initial name.

One generation goes and another comes, each leaving its own mark on the family business. But what has remained the same throughout the years is its traditional style, as well as our family's love for Greek food and hospitality.

Our legacy has always inspired us; however, today's new trends invite us to work in different ways too, by adopting new techniques and styles, thus enriching our customers' culinary experience.

Date: Friday, 22 June

Time: 20:30 (8:30 PM)

Cost: US\$45.00

Conference Tour

The tour starts with a visit to the "sacred rock": the Acropolis. Here you will see the Parthenon that was dedicated to goddess Athena (Parthenos), Propylea, the monumental entrance to the sacred area, the temple of Athena Nike which was dedicated to Athena Nike (Victory), the Erechtheion with its famous female figures-statues - the Caryatides, or Maidens, dedicated to both the goddess Athena and the god Poseidon. The Odeum of Herodus Atticus and the ruins of the first theatre in the whole world the Theatre of Dionysus and finally the Areopagus (Mars Hill).

The tour will continue on to the Temple of Olympian Zeus, and then to the Panathenaic or Kallimarmaro Stadium, which hosted the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. You will drive by the Prime Minister's residence (Maximou Mansion), the former Royal Palace (today the Presidential Palace), and the House of Parliament, with the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, to watch the changing of the guard. The tour will continue by driving up to the highest point of Athens, the Lycabettus Hill (the best 360 degree panoramic view of Athens). The tour will be concluded with a quick visit to the oldest and most picturesque neighborhood of Athens, Plaka.

Length: 4hrs

Date: June 20th, 2018

Departure: 8:00am

Cost: \$65.00

Pick Up: The Periscope Hotel

GENERAL TRAVEL TIPS

- *Get to know the city you are going to visit before you leave home.* Many resources are available on the Internet nowadays to help navigate the different sights and cultures abroad, and help you to more easily find your way around. Remember, the conference organizers are visitors to this beautiful city too, and although we do our best to assist our conference delegates, we may not be best qualified to offer directional or tourism information. For this, we encourage delegates to engage the many and helpful resources of a hotel's concierge desk or reference trusted travel sites and guidebooks such as www.Frommers.com, www.Fodors.com or www.TripAdvisor.com.
- *Know where you're going and how to get there.* Differences in languages can sometimes make getting around a foreign city more challenging even for the savvy traveler. It's helpful to have the addresses for both your hotel and the conference venue handy. Showing a taxi driver or ticket operator a written address is a helpful way to get you to your destination within the city when you arrive. If during your trip you will be on a schedule and need to get to places by a certain time (ie. conference check-in, presentation times, tours, dinner reservations, etc...), it's recommended that you explore and "test drive" the route you'll be taking ahead of time so that you're aware of the time it will take to get there. Taking this step also helps you know exactly where you'll be heading without the worry of getting lost. Maps, along with utilization of your hotel's concierge desk, and a little research of the local transportation systems ahead of time will also make your trip more enjoyable and run more smoothly.
- *Familiarize yourself with the transportation options available in your destination city. Knowing the best way to get around any city is key.* For instance, in many larger cities, public transportation is the preferred and often times the most economical and quickest means of transportation. These robust public transportation systems means there are often metros, subways, busses, trollies and trains available to get you from one point to another seamlessly throughout a city, many times more economically and quicker than taxi or car hires.
- *Use only certified and registered public transportation when abroad.* If using taxis, avoid using taxis that are unmarked and have no identifying company emblems. It's always a good idea to call and order a taxi from a central dispatch office to ensure safe, professional service and pricing. If you need to hail a taxi on the street, be sure to look for a familiar taxi emblem from one of the major taxi companies in town and negotiate the fare before getting into the taxi to ensure a fair and agreed upon price.
- *Make hotel reservations before you arrive at your destination.* To ensure the availability of accommodations, make sure to confirm a reservation at the conference hotel or hotel of your choosing before leaving home. Often times, and also depending on the time of year and what events are going on in your destination city, hotels fill up well ahead of the conference date, and accommodations can be very difficult to secure upon arrival. Reserving accommodations well ahead of your arrival (2-4 months prior to trip is recommended) can avoid much stress and often times can result in more economical rates versus last-minute accommodations.
- *Exchange money before you leave home.* Whether you plan on exchanging the majority of your currency when you arrive at your destination or anticipate paying mostly with credit cards, it's always a good idea to exchange a small amount of money before you leave home to have on-hand in case you can't find an exchange desk/shop right away upon arrival. Be sure to carry at least enough for transportation to your hotel and a meal or two. When exchanging money abroad, be aware of service charges noted in small print and shop around for the best exchange rates.

- *Be aware of the currency differences and familiarize yourself with the currency for the country you will be traveling to.* Having a working knowledge of the various denominations ahead of time will help you avoid common tourist pitfalls such as short-changing and over-charging.
- *Place a travel advisory on your credit and debit card accounts.* Because of all the security measures banks and credit card companies have in place today, many companies will freeze a credit or debit card account if they see unfamiliar or foreign charges come through. To avoid this inconvenience, call your bank or credit card company before you leave home and ask to place a “travel advisory” on the card(s). Provide your institution with the dates of travel and countries you will be visiting to avoid having your card service interrupted while abroad.
- *Travel with a back-up credit card or travelers cheques for emergencies.* When traveling abroad, it’s always smart to have more than one form of payment available in case your main form of payment is accidentally lost or not immediately available to you.
- *Bring country/region appropriate power adapters and voltage converters for personal electronic devices and appliances.* Standard electrical outlets and voltage amounts vary from country to country. Prior to leaving home, confirm the correct adapter type and voltage for the region and country you’ll be visiting so that you’ll be able to easily connect and use laptops, e-readers, cell phone chargers, electric shavers and hair dryers during your trip. Foreign adapters and converters can be purchased at most electronic stores and airport newsstands. Note that more powerful appliances, such as hair dryers, also require voltage converters to function properly overseas. Be sure to research and confirm what each of your devices will need in order to function safely and properly.
- *Consider purchasing travel insurance.* The savvy traveler is always prepared for the unforeseen and occasional emergency situation. Travel insurance is a smart way to make sure you’re covered in case a medical emergency arises. Contact your insurance provider to see if they have travel policies that cover you overseas. Some credit card companies also offer travel insurance that cover travelers in case they experience medical or dental emergencies while abroad.
- *Bring any personal items and medications you will need during your time abroad.* Although pharmacies and grocery stores are easily found in many major cities, be sure to bring personal items and necessary medications with you especially if you require a specific brand or prescription that can’t easily be found or filled abroad.
- *Familiarize yourself with your cell phone carrier’s roaming and international rates/charges prior to leaving home.* Often times, using personal cell phones abroad can be very costly depending on your carrier’s roaming and international rates. Some companies have temporary international plans that can be purchased during your time abroad. Contact your cell phone carrier prior to your trip to inquire about the options available to you