

# A.S.P.E.N. Section Conversation Road Map

A member engagement tool for Section Leaders

**Instructions:** A.S.P.E.N. members want resources and discussions on relevant issues and concerns. The Conversation Road map is a tool designed to help Section leaders identify topics and trends, and build discussion in the Section and on ASPENConnect. This document is designed to be a 'working document' so that your leadership team can continue to enhance your group's online community.

Work with your leadership team to populate conversation road map steps:

1. Identify topical priorities
2. Identify the supporting materials
3. Create a discussion schedule
4. Building conversation around division events
5. Assign responsibilities
6. Reaching out to the experts

**STEP 1: IDENTIFY TOPICAL PRIORITIES**

Develop a list of topical areas to focus on in your Section based on your group’s priorities or drawing from A.S.P.E.N.’s strategic plan.

*Tips:*

- *How do we deliver content that is unique?*
- *What topics are most meaningful to our members?*
- *Think about topics that are hot, can be debated, are newsworthy & can be supported by A.S.P.E.N. content.*
- *Think about what people are talking about on A.S.P.E.N. Facebook and Twitter feed or in other Sections and Chapters.*

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**STEP 2: IDENTIFY THE SUPPORTING MATERIALS.**

Develop a list of materials (e.g., documents, articles, reports) or sources (e.g., blog, websites) to draw from or reference to create content about the topics identified above.

*Tips:*

- *Think about any relevant A.S.P.E.N. practice documents, articles/features, educational materials, reports, news items.*
- *Places to consider include A.S.P.E.N. website, past CNWs, JPEN, NCP, webcasts, courses, etc.*

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### STEP 3: CREATE THE DISCUSSION SCHEDULE

<b>Identify the WHAT:</b> questions to ask, topics to write about and other things to say	<b>Identify the WHO:</b> which group members will be responsible or help	<b>Identify the HOW:</b> the way the information will be delivered	<b>Identify the WHEN:</b> List the date information will be posted/shared
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask how can we have thought-provoking conversations and ask questions that will spark lively conversation.</li> <li>• Ask how we can trigger a discussion.</li> <li>• What questions have you heard members ask for which they need answers/resources?</li> <li>• Be as specific as possible (i.e. write out the exact discussion question, type in the poll with responses, enough detail so whoever handles knows what to cover/address)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What members, session organizers and speakers can we identify to help post and answer questions.</li> <li>• Think about other groups (like other Sections and Chapters) who could add a different viewpoint and cross-fertilize the conversation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about whether the information is best served in a blog posting, discussion post or announcement.</li> <li>• Think about how that conversation can be linked to related or supporting materials.</li> <li>• Consider discussion question, blog, document library, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider timing with key events (e.g., Annual Meeting) or group activities.</li> <li>• Set a goal to have a posting or sharing weekly if possible</li> </ul>

## STEP 4: BUILDING A CONVERSATION AROUND EVENTS

Identify how we can have conversations around or in support of our events

*Tips:*

- *Think about CWN and webinars.*
- *Think about the types of discussions members will want to have before the event, during the event & after the event.*

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## STEP 5: ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES

Identify who does what on your Team and drawn in helpers your group's subscribers

*Tips:*

- *Think about who is best suited to write a blog, who can post provoking comments, who should be making announcements and who is going to be researching and identifying supporting materials.*

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**STEP 6: REACHING OUT TO THE EXPERTS**

Identify how we can reach out to those who have good content

*Tips:*

- *Think about the targets and how we can give them recognition.*
- *Think about how we can show them that your group's community activity will contribute to the knowledge sharing with other members.*

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