

Summer 2009

Organizations & Associations: Association for Convention Operations Management (ACOM)

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The Association for Convention Operations Management (ACOM) is an opportunity for those in convention services management, the meeting industry and their supporting vendors to connect and grow through education and networking. ACOM members hold many vital roles in Convention & Visitors Bureaus, convention centers, conference centers, hotels and resorts. In addition, they often work for organizations regularly interacting with this industry, such as audio visual companies, decorator management companies, event service firms, attraction/entertainment facilities and catering companies.

Membership includes numerous benefits. Perhaps the two most exciting benefits are the Annual Conference and Summer Education Conference. The Annual Conference, hosted each January, draws exceptional speakers ready to address the most pressing issues impacting convention service professionals. The Summer Education Conference is an intensive hands-on training opportunity each June.

While ACOM does not offer local chapters, the organization does have opportunities for monthly education, networking and idea-sharing sessions. Idea Network is a monthly call that allows members to discuss designated topics related to the industry. Webinars are online presentations held monthly, with leading experts discussing topics members can put to use in their daily tasks. Both allow members to connect from the comfort of their home or office.

In addition, ACOM has launched a new local luncheon meeting program in conjunction with their Webinars and Idea Network programs in 2009. Members can stay tuned to the ACOM Web site to see if a local luncheon is added to the Show Me state or they can volunteer to host one in their area.

ACOM offers varying levels of membership, from students to service providers and meeting planners to actual representatives of convention facilities.

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