

BE PREPARED

Schedule a meeting with your boss, be prepared with a plan for how your responsibilities will be managed the week that you're away from the lab/office. The ICDD faculty suggests, if possible, to attend the virtual clinic from home, away from work distractions. This is especially important on Wednesday of XRD I, we will be working with the ICDD Database and JADE software through the cloud. Firewalls and poor internet can be problematic.

Pick the Right Time to Talk About It:

- Lay the groundwork, send her or him the XRD flyer then schedule a brief in-person meeting to state your case.
- Explain the ROI on allowing you to attend the virtual clinic; i.e.: sharing what you learned with your co-workers; proper specimen preparation techniques; discussing problems encountered by other participants; etc. And that by attending the ICDD clinic you will become a more valuable asset to your company.

Be ready for your boss to object:

Boss: "Five days is a long time to be away from the lab/office."

Your response: "True, but while I'm attending the ICDD XRD clinic, I will be available during all breaks and lunch time. I'll be able to stay in touch at the same time I'm gaining useful information and techniques that will take our team's work to the next level."

SHOW WHY NETWORKING MATTERS

- Fresh ideas....
- New information....
- Advice and support....
- Building confidence....
- Gaining a different perspective...

COMMENTS FROM PAST ATTENDEES

Excellent! I feel like it was very adaptable depending on your level of expertise. I learned a lot as a user of XRD without a comprehensive materials/chemistry background.

2020 XRD I - Virtual Attendee

Enjoyed it, was very informative! Could tell presenters were very knowledgeable and passionate about XRD.

2020 XRD I - Virtual Attendee

Given the situation we have with COVID and the fact that everything must be virtual, I don't really see much to improve, you all did a fantastic job, thank you so very much.

2020 XRD I - Virtual Attendee