FAQs and Suggestions for Participants
#INGRoup2020

As INGRoup starts its first virtual conference, we want to share with you some ideas and options on how to participate in a way that helps you get what you like most out of our INGRoup conferences: meeting old friends, making new ones, having conversations with others that move your own thinking—and that of others—along new and interesting interdisciplinary paths!

We also want to use this virtual conference to take advantage of online communication across time and space as well as recreate some of the best parts of our traditional conference! And while we have some ideas of how you can get the most out of this conference, you may figure out new ways of using the Whova platform to make this a more engaging and fruitful experience. If so, please share on our discussion board (Ideas for improving the virtual conference experience) what is working well for you or how we can help meet your needs in our first virtual conference!

**Whova App**

We will be using Whova for hosting the conference. Through the Whova web and mobile apps, you can see the conference agenda, participate in synchronous sessions, view written summaries and/or video presentations of papers, contribute to discussion boards, participate in informal meetups, and connect with other conference attendees.

You can use the Whova web app on most web browsers. Just go to [https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ingro_202010/](https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ingro_202010/) for our conference.

You may also consider downloading the Whova mobile app to use on your phone or tablet. You can access these at the [Apple App Store](https://appstore.com) and the [Google Play Store](https://play.google.com).

If you have questions on how to use the Whova apps, please visit their [FAQ page](https://whova.com/faq) or send an email to [Michael Johnson](mailto:mjohan@ingroup.org), the INGRoup local arrangements chair.

**Facilitated Discussions**

We have created 9 facilitated discussions around emergent group and teams themes from the papers accepted to the 2020 INGRoup conference. These co-facilitated discussions will be synchronous and, at the discretion of the facilitators, may cover emergent topics from the associated papers, current events, or questions that the participants nominate and “upvote” before and during the discussion.

We suggest reading through the executive summaries and/or the short video presentations of the papers related to that theme. You can add your questions both before and during each session. Look on the right side of the page in the Whova web app and near the top of the page in the Whova mobile app. We recommend that you arrive at each session a few minutes early to upvote the questions you particularly want answered in the live zoom meeting.
We also strongly encourage you to start a conversation with the authors of the posted studies in a theme. There is a Q&A section available on each posted paper that you can leave questions and the authors can respond. We have heard from many other conferences that this turns into a meaningful interaction with researchers around specific topics and this is exactly the sort of interaction we want to encourage and facilitate with our INGRoupers!

We also have several suggestions for participating in the facilitated Zoom sessions. First, note that the Zoom session will be running outside the Whova platform. We have chosen this so that we can use the gallery view option during the session. Keep your video on and your microphone muted when not talking! We want to encourage you to see and be seen to get the most out of our virtual conference! We want you to feel like you are part of the “group” during the zoom meetings.

1. Mute your microphone in the main room when not talking, but keep your video on
2. Use the Gallery View option in Zoom to “see” everyone in the session.
3. Use the Q&A and chat feature in the Whova app, not the Zoom app. This will allow you to “upvote” questions you want answered as well as chat with others during the session. An assistant will be monitoring the Q&A and chats to bring these questions and comments to the facilitators’ attention.

You may need to refresh the web page after submitting a question, answer, or comment to see updates on the page.
4. In Zoom, use the raise hand feature (click Participants) if you want to answer a question or make a comment
5. Use the reactions features when you agree with ideas or comments made by others.

![Reactions](image)

6. Because the Zoom facilitated session will be hosted outside of Whova, you may want to use two screens (one with the Zoom and one with Whova) or your computer (Zoom) and your phone (Whova) to see both the session and the Q&A and chats. You can use a tablet, an Ipad or your phone for the entire session, but we have found it takes turning the tablet or phone vertically and experimenting with options to see the session and the Q&As at the same time.

**Panel Discussions**
We have included the accepted panel discussions and symposia from the 2020 INGRoup submissions. These are (or soon will be!) on our schedule. However, they are not synchronous events. They are pre-recorded videos that you can view at your leisure. You may certainly engage in these sessions during their scheduled time and perhaps interact with some of the discussants! But we also hope you participate with these sessions asynchronously throughout the entire conference!

**Social Activities**
Some of the best features of INGRoup are our social activities. While we cannot have our normal “meet a new person” Thursday night dinner or our traditional Friday night dinner and experience, we are creating several social opportunities to help you meet new folks and old friends at the conference.

During our first plenary on Oct 1 starting at 9 am EST, towards the end of this plenary we will have randomly assigned breakout rooms where you can answer predetermined questions on groups research during a pandemic or simply meet and interact with others.

Further in the middle of the conference, on October 15 we will have a purely fun pub trivia event hosted by “Geeks who Drink!” With live hosting and scoring, private discussion rooms, plus audio and visual rounds, this is the whole classic quiz experience in a one-hour online format. Grab some libations, gather up some smart friends (or likable dummies), and show off your trivia chops just like in the olden days!

If you didn’t sign up for this during the initial registration, let us know. We are limited to the first 350 participants to enroll in the pub trivia event. Some of our folks have participated in this activity before and it is a lot of fun with perhaps a little trash talking between teams!
**Meet-ups**
Do you want to meet with folks at INGRoup who share your same research interests? Look for or set up a Meet-up! This is a synchronous event in which you get to meet with other folks and discuss your current research interests or whatever you want to talk about. Please note that joining a Meet-up will add this Meet-up’s time to your Whova calendar; it does not add it to your Google or Outlook calendar, so you may have to give yourself another reminder so you can attend the meet-up.

**Selfies for the group collage**
It is traditional for INGRoup to have a group picture of all of our attendees. While that is not possible this year, we have an idea that Whova suggested for us! On the Whova phone app, there is a “Photos” section under additional resources where you can upload and vote on pictures! It can be conference-related, group related, pandemic related, or whatever you would like to do! Be creative! Or not! Whatever feels best for you! We will have a contest in which fellow participants can like your INGRoup selfie and will announce the winner at the final plenary on Oct 29th. Further, we will take all the selfies and make a collage of our attendees this year so we can have that great picture of our members for this conference, too!

**But I have something every Thursday in October!**
We know the time is not convenient for everyone. But we suggest treating this online conference like a physical conference. When we plan travel, we do have to reschedule classes or work and we hope the shortened sessions spread out over a few weeks will help you work us into your schedule! However, if you cannot attend the synchronous sessions, you can still participate in the discussion boards and meet-ups and view the asynchronous recordings.