

# Professionalism

Being a professional in your chosen field means much more than wearing a coat and tie or possessing a college degree and a noted title. Professionalism also has to do with how you conduct yourself during your business affairs. True professionals possess a number of important characteristics that can apply to virtually any type of business.

Appearance.

Demeanor.

Reliability.

Competence.

Ethics.

Maintaining Your Poise.

Phone Etiquette.

Written Correspondence.

Organizational Skills.

Accountability.

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Annual [conferences](#), [educational courses](#), and other [meetings](#) draw a diverse community of individuals, yet also create a unique [environment](#) without the traditional guard rails. Unlike [events](#) held at one's home [institution](#), clear [rules](#) and [jurisdiction](#) have not been universally established. To promote the open exchange of ideas, as well as an environment conducive to the professional growth of all participants, the leading neurosurgical professional organizations joined forces to delineate the expectations for anyone who participates in sponsored events. The One Neurosurgery Summit Taskforce on Professionalism and Harassment developed a foundational policy that establishes common expectations for behavior and a unified roadmap for the prompt response to untoward events. We hope that publishing this policy will inspire other medical organizations to establish their own meeting and conference policies. More importantly, we wish to bring greater attention to everyone's responsibility for ensuring a safe and respectful space for education, scientific debate, and networking during organized events <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Air EL, Orrico KO, Benzil DL, Scarrow AM, Bean JR, Mazzola CA, Liau LM, Rutka JT, Muraszko KM. Developing a Professionalism and Harassment Policy for Organized Neurosurgery. Neurosurgery. 2021 Apr 15;88(5):1038-1039. doi: 10.1093/neuros/nyab051. PMID: 33755153; PMCID: PMC8046587.

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