


In order to make questioning a habit or part of an organizational process, leaders need to make the time to fit it into their busy schedules. Part of building a culture of inquiry is teaching people to defer judgment while exploring new ideas. Many of us react to questions by trying to answer them too quickly or by countering them “devil’s advocate” style, which stifles innovation. The humbling question is, what if I am wrong? This question can put a check on our natural tendency to be certain of our views. As a leader, a key question is, how do I stay inspired so I can inspire others? Sometimes questioning involves stepping back and giving oneself time to reflect and think to come up with good questions.

A More Beautiful Question is a good book for anyone wanting to learn more about themselves and the world around them. It specifically addresses teachers, leaders, and business people, as well as taking a personal look at self-inquiry. Questioning is essential to learning and staying viable in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous world. 

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Upcoming Conferences of Note

April 6–10, 2018: Higher Learning Commission Conference

Chicago, Illinois

<https://hlcommission.org/Programs-Events/conference.html>

The 2018 conference will highlight the theme of “Innovation and Transformation,” addressing major changes in higher education brought on by new technologies, new credentials, new providers, and new public policy priorities. The conference will provide forums to explore how institutions can embrace the opportunities presented by transformative change, and how accreditation can facilitate this evolution while continuing to assure quality and promote student success.

April 13–17, 2018: American Educational Research Association (AERA)

New York City, New York

<http://www.aera.net/Events-Meetings/Annual-Meeting/Future-Annual-Meetings>

The AERA, a national research society, strives to advance knowledge about education, to encourage scholarly inquiry related to education, and to promote the use of research to improve education and serve the public good.

June 2–4, 2018: *The Teaching Professor Conference*

Atlanta, Georgia

<https://www.facultyfocus.com/conferences/>

The Teaching Professor Conference provides a thought-provoking forum for educators of all disciplines and experience levels to share best practices that advance college teaching and learning. The three-day conference features preconference workshops that provide hands-on learning, provocative plenary presentations, carefully selected concurrent sessions on a range of relevant topics, poster presentations highlighting the latest research, and ample opportunities for conversations with fellow attendees.

June 7–10, 2018: *Adult Education Research Conference*

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

<http://newprairiepress.org/aerc>

The Adult Education Research Conference is an annual North American conference that provides a forum for adult-education researchers to share their experiences and the results of their studies with students, other researchers, and practitioners from around the world.

August 7–9, 2018: *Distance Teaching & Learning Conference*

Madison, Wisconsin

<https://dtlconference.wisc.edu/>

This conference emphasizes evidence-based practice, educational innovation, and practical applications of theories and research findings in the field of distance education and online learning. There are also many opportunities for you to network, share, and collaborate with peers from around the world. You will head home with new skills, fresh knowledge, and the motivation to apply what you've learned.

October 2–5, 2018: *American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE)*

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

<http://www.aaace.org/page/2018SOE>

This is the annual conference of one of the nation's largest organizations for adult and continuing education. AAACE is the publisher of three leading adult education journals, including the *Adult Education Quarterly*, *Adult Learning*, and the *Journal of Transformative Education*. This year's theme is "Adult Education in an Era of Accelerated Technological Innovation."