



Best Companies Executive Strategy Network

Convening the nation's most innovative workplace leaders to

LEARN, CONNECT, AND RAISE THE BAR

October 13 & 14, 2010

Raising the Bar: Taking your Great Place to Work® to the Next Level

Hosted by SAS, the #1 Best Company to Work For

If you could implement any practice at your organization, what would it be? What are the great practices you dream of, but habitually feel are just not possible? At this Executive Strategy Network meeting, hosted by SAS, the 2010 #1 Best Company to Work for in America, Best Company leaders will be challenged to confront the notion of “we can’t do that” head on, suspend disbelief, and explore the realm of possibility when it comes to their workplace culture and related practices.

In this two-day session onsite at the world-famous SAS campus in Cary, NC, ESN members will spend one day experiencing SAS’s unique culture first-hand, meeting with SAS employees and leaders, and understanding how the #1 Best Company continues to raise the bar in their approach to creating a great workplace. On day two, members will engage in a workshop-style session where they will examine their own workplace cultures, explore their vision of what is possible for their own organizations, learn from ESN peers and Great Place to Work® experts, and generate concrete take-aways to put to action that will help transform ideas and inspiration into reality.

Event Logistics

Meeting Location

SAS Headquarters
Cary, North Carolina

Please note that the SAS campus is tobacco-free.

Attire is Business Casual; weather is typically in the 70’s this time of year. Comfortable shoes are recommended.

Hotel Reservations

Umstead Hotel and Spa
www.theumstead.com

We have negotiated a special rate of \$195/night at the beautiful Umstead Hotel and Spa, located on the SAS campus. To reserve your room, please call The Umstead at 866.877.4141 and let them know you are with the Great Place to Work Institute event. **The cutoff date for reservations at this rate is Tuesday, September 21st.**

Airport Details

Attendees will want to fly into the **Raleigh-Durham International Airport**, which is about a 5-minute drive from The Umstead Hotel and Spa.

Detailed Agenda: October 13th & 14th

Wednesday, October 13th	ACTIVITY
8:15 a.m.	Pick-up at The Umstead Hotel
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Welcome
9:00-10:15 a.m.	SAS Leadership Series Speaker: Jason Jennings, Author of <i>Less is More</i> , <i>Think Big Act Small</i> , and <i>Hit the Ground Running</i>
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Break ESN members and SAS managers
10:30-11:30 a.m.	SAS Overview
12:00-1:15 p.m.	Lunch Skylight Café with SAS Employees and CEO Award of Excellence Winners
1:30-2:15 p.m.	Communicating – Creating A Culture of Trust Led by Karen Lee, Sr. Director, Corporate Communications
2:15-2:45 p.m.	Meet with Dr. Jim Goodnight, CEO of SAS
2:45 -3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00-4:30 p.m.	Debrief led by Great Place to Work® Institute Debrief SAS visit in teams Extract key learnings and capture inspiration for tomorrow’s working session
4:30-5:00 p.m.	SAS Vocal Motion Show Choir Presentation
5:00-5:45 p.m.	Wine and Cheese Reception
6:00 p.m.	Return to The Umstead Hotel
6:30-8:30 p.m.	ESN Group Dinner at The Umstead Hotel

Thursday, October 14th	ACTIVITY
8:15 a.m.	Pick-up at The Umstead Hotel
8:30-10:00 a.m.	SAS Campus Tour
10:00-10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15-11:00 a.m.	Relax & Renew Class Hosted by SAS Recreational and Fitness Center Staff <i>This is a non-physical class; no wardrobe change will be necessary</i>
11:15-12:15 p.m.	Lunch Executive Dining Room
12:30-3:30 p.m.	Workshop Style Session led by Great Place to Work® Institute 12:30-1:00: Continue facilitated debrief of SAS experience 1:00-2:00: Group work - Learn from the cultural strengths of your Best Companies peers 2:00-2:15: Break 2:15-3:30: Coaching teams –Take a cultural practice area in your own organization to the next level
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Check out and close, bridge to next meeting