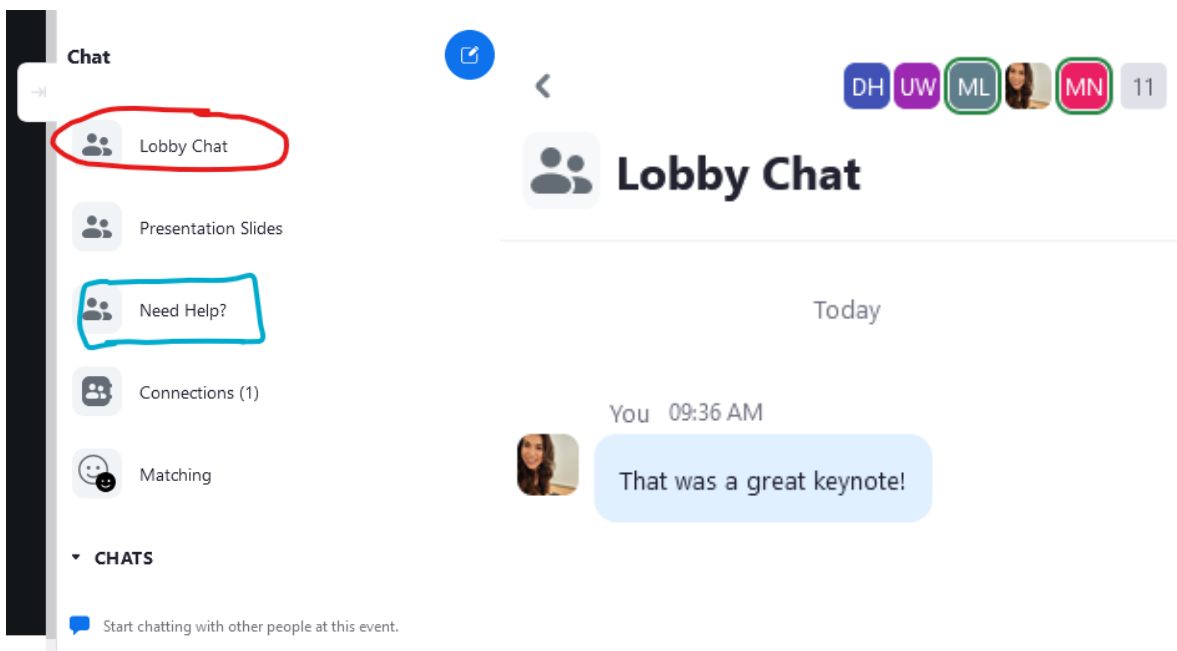# Connecting & Networking

Hosted on Zoom Events, our [2024 University of Illinois Web Conference](#) allows you to connect and engage with fellow attendees, expanding your professional network.
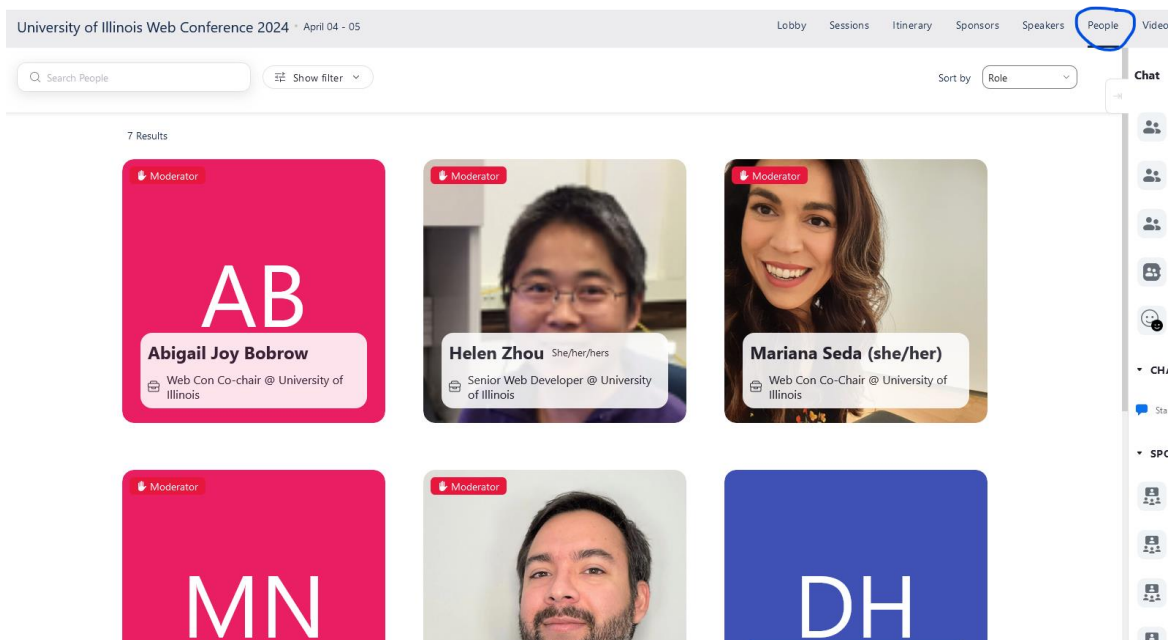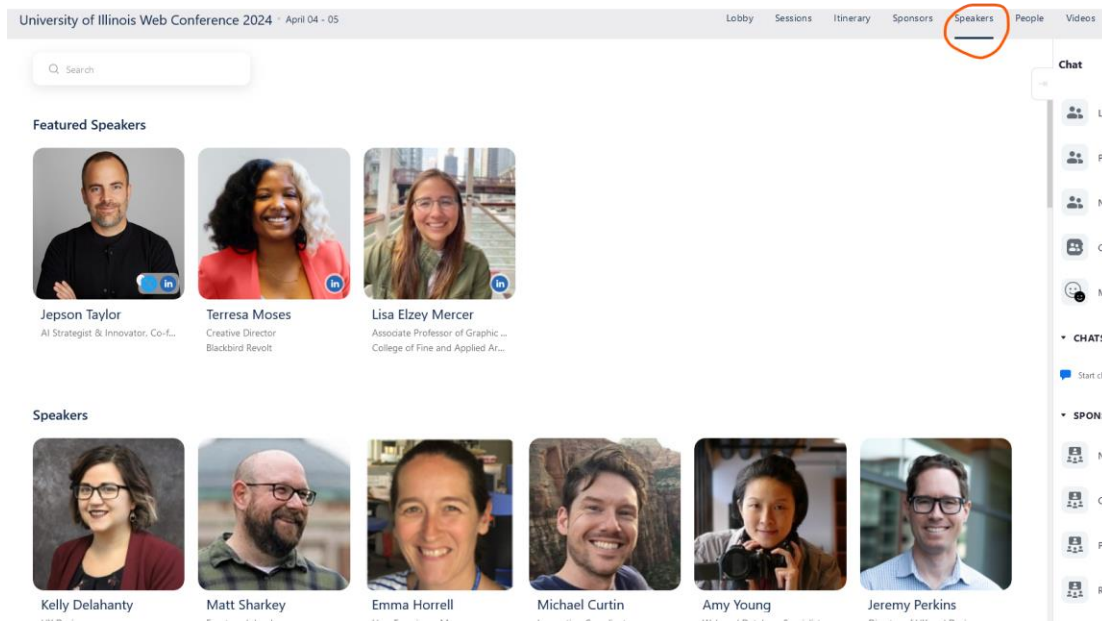
Table of Contents

Using the Lobby Chat

The "**Lobby Chat**" is a great space to discuss big ideas at the conference and to connect with others interested in continuing conversations outside of the session chats. Anyone at the conference can write a message or question in the chat to spur conversation. If you need help accessing or troubleshooting a problem, please go to the "**Need Help**?" chat anytime or visit the "Need Help?" Zoom room from 7:30-8:30am where Web Con committee members will be on hand monitoring and assisting conference attendees with any issues that come up.
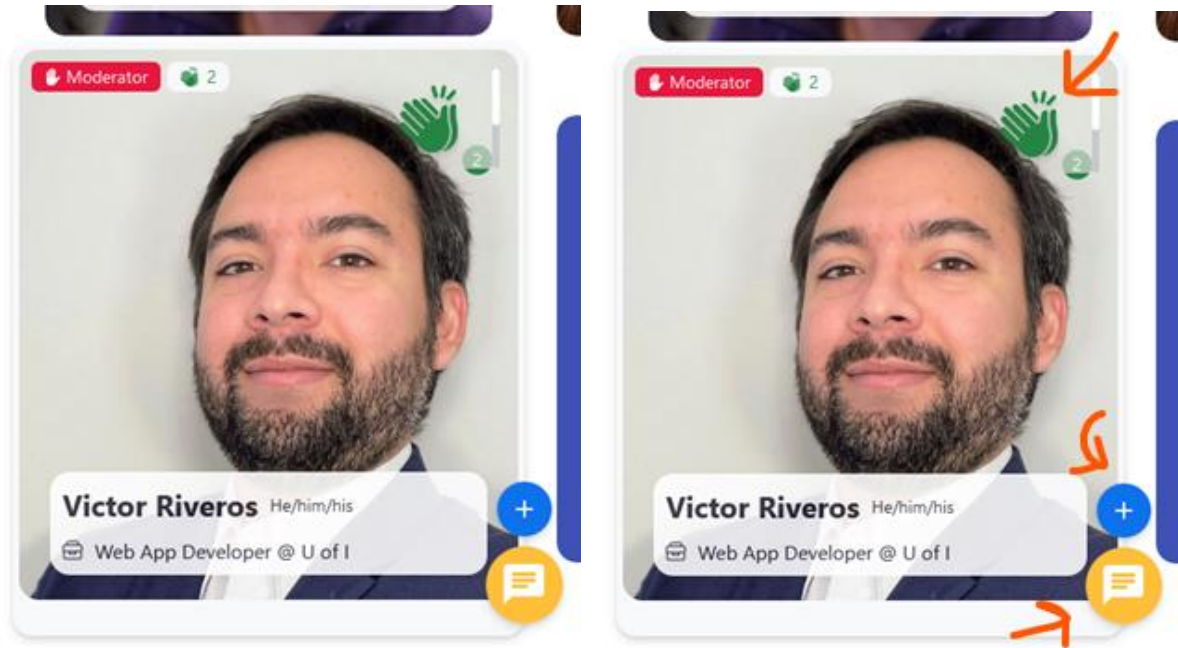
View Profiles

You can learn more about speakers and attendees by visiting their profiles. If you select **"Speakers"** on the top navigation you will find the full list of speakers including their photos and bios. To find attendees, click on **"People"** and you will find profile cards for attendees who have made their profiles public to other attendees. You can also click on people's profiles in the Lobby Chat or through "My Connections."
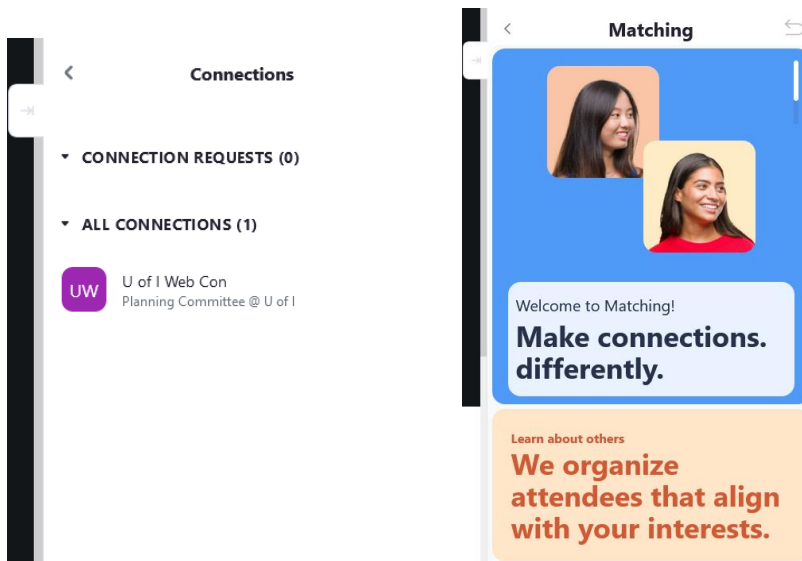
Chat, Connections, & Matching

If you're feeling social and would like to engage or connect with other conference attendees there are a few ways to do that.

- **One-on-One Chat:** 1:1 persistent chat is available before, during, and after an event. You can chat with people directly by clicking on the yellow chat icon on the bottom right of their profile card or by clicking on a name in the Lobby Chat.

- **Send Applause:** Anyone can like/applause another person's profile or profile section. To do this, hover over someone's profile or profile element (bio, education, etc) and click once the green hands appear. Likes and interactions with profiles will also be marked and seen from the Chats panel.

- **Connections:** You can connect with others by clicking on the blue plus sign on the lower right of their profile card. From the Lobby, you can click into "Connections" in the menu on the far right to see your current and pending connections.

- **Matching:** The Matching feature provides suggested connections based on user profile information. You can see profile cards of other attendees with similar interests.

Engage with Sponsors

Web Con has great sponsors and they may be active in the chats. In addition to the "Lobby Chat," sponsors may use an individual chat space where attendees can join to chat directly with sponsor representatives. Last year, there were some great giveaways and resources shared freely by sponsors in their chat space. So, it is worth checking out!

We hope you enjoy an engaging conference! Check out our other guides to learn how to navigate the conference platform, access presentation slides, and build your conference presence!