

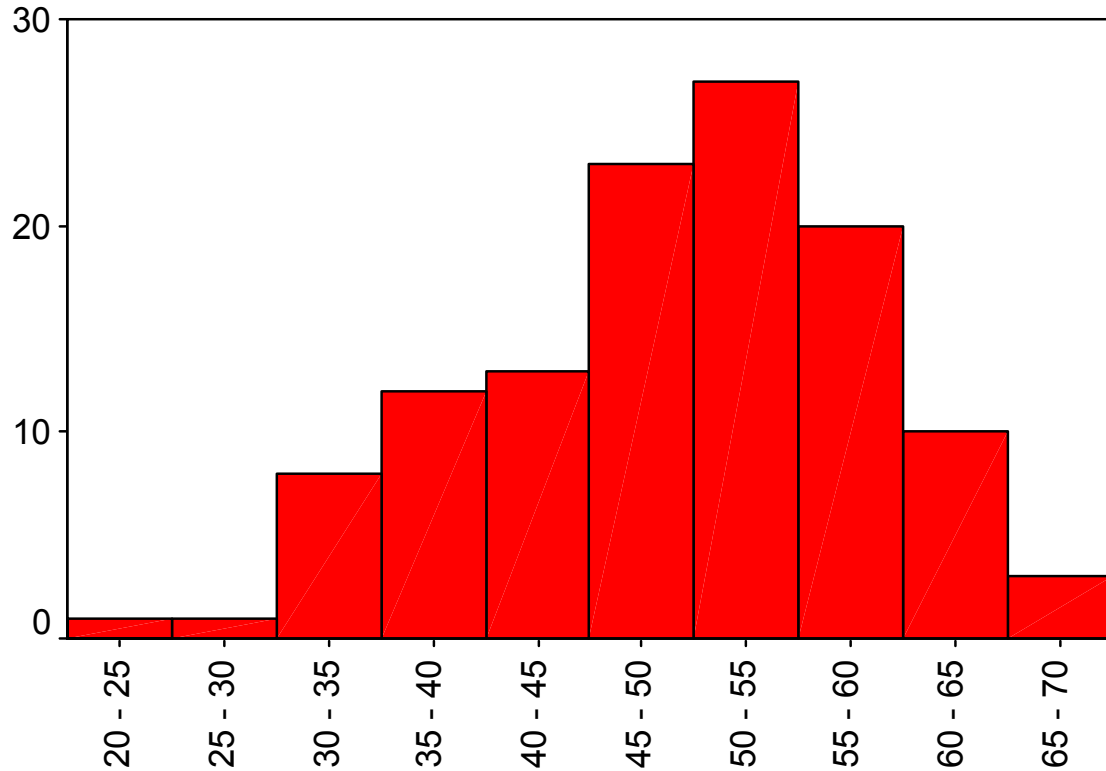
National Learning Infrastructure Initiative (NLII) 2002 POST-CONFERENCE EVALUATION

(based upon 123 respondents to post-conference questionnaire)

Demographics of respondents

Age distribution

The mean age of the respondents was 48.7, the median age was 50 and the modal age was 49.



Age of Respondents

There was no significant age difference between IT respondents (Senior IT, Support IT, and CIO) and non-IT respondents.

Title		
F(1,113) = .003, p = .958		
	IT	non-IT
number	60	55
mean age	48.6	48.5
median age	49.5	50
modal age	n/a	52

There were no significant age differences across Carnegie class.

Carnegie Class
F(4,90) = .11, p = .977

	OTHER	AA	BA	MA	DOC/RES
number	16	4	3	15	57
mean age	48.0	47.3	51.7	48.5	48.6
median age	50	49	52	50	49
modal age	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	49

Respondents from public schools were slightly older than respondents from private schools (this was a nearly significant effect)

Type of School
F(1,97) = 3.21, p = .076

	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
number	81	18
mean age	49.4	45.2
median age	50	47
modal age	49	n/a

There was no significant age difference between male and female respondents

Gender
F(1,115) = 2.38, p = .126

	MALE	FEMALE
number	66	51
mean age	49.9	47.3
median age	50	49
modal age	52	49

Breaking the data down by full-time enrollment (small = 0 - 1,999; medium = 2,000 – 7,999; medium-large = 8,000 – 17,999; large = 18,000+), there were no significant differences in the ages of respondents.

Full-time Enrollment (FTE)
F(3,82) = .41, p = .746

	small	medium	medium-large	large
number	5	18	22	41
mean age	45.2	47.8	50.0	48.8
median age	49	51	51.5	49
modal age	n/a	n/a	54	49

Gender distribution

The 121 respondents who reported their gender were 57.0 % male and 43.0 % female

There was a significantly higher percentage of male respondents amongst non-IT respondents, whereas there was approximately equal numbers of male and female amongst IT respondents.

Title
F(1,116) = 4.5, p = .036

	IT	non-IT
number	61	57
male	47.5 %	66.7 %
female	52.5 %	33.3 %

There were no significant differences in the gender distribution broken down by Carnegie class

Carnegie Class
F(4,92) = .11, p = .979

	OTHER	AA	BA	MA	DOC/RES
number	16	4	4	15	58
male	50.0 %	50.0 %	50.0 %	60.0 %	56.9 %
female	50.0 %	50.0 %	50.0 %	40.0 %	43.1 %

There was no significant difference in the gender distribution when broken down by respondents from public versus private schools

Type of School
F(1,99) = .92, p = .339

	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
number	83	18
male	49.9 %	51.5 %
female	50.1 %	48.5 %

There were no significant differences in the gender distribution when broken down by school size

Full-time Enrollment (FTE)
F(3,84) = .28, p = .837

	small	medium	medium-large	large
number	5	19	22	42
male	40.0 %	52.6 %	59.1 %	59.5 %
female	60.0 %	47.4 %	40.9 %	40.5 %

Conference Content

Overall conference satisfaction

Three of the 123 respondents who rated their conference experience, none gave a rating of 1 (not at all satisfied). The most common rating was 4, and the overall mean rating was 4.18.

Satisfaction with Conference Experience	
Not at all satisfied (1)	0.0 %
(2)	0.8 %
(3)	14.6 %
(4)	50.4 %
Very satisfied (5)	34.1 %
Overall mean	4.18

Breaking down overall conference satisfaction by title, there were nearly significant difference between the satisfaction of IT respondents (Senior IT, Support IT, and CIO) and non-IT respondents, with IT respondents slightly more satisfied.

Title		
F(1,118) = 3.08, p = .082		
	IT	non-IT
number	62	58
satisfaction	4.31	4.09

As a function of Carnegie Class there were no significant differences in conference satisfaction.

Carnegie Class					
F(4,94) = 1.47, p = .219					
	OTHER	AA	BA	MA	DOC/RES
number	17	4	4	15	59
satisfaction	4.41	3.75	4.25	4.47	4.15

There were no significant satisfaction differences between respondents from private and public schools.

Type of School		
F(1,101) = 1.77, p = .187		
	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
number	84	19
satisfaction	4.29	4.05

There was no significant difference between the satisfaction of male versus female respondents.

Gender		
F(1,119) = .02, p = .888		
	MALE	FEMALE
number	69	52
satisfaction	4.17	4.19

Breaking the data down by full-time enrollment (small = 0 - 1,999; medium = 2,000 – 7,999; medium-large = 8,000 – 17,999; large = 18,000+), there were no significant satisfaction differences.

Full-time Enrollment (FTE)				
F(3,85) = .03, p = .992				
	small	medium	medium-large	large
number	5	19	23	42
satisfaction	4.20	4.21	4.22	4.17

There were no significant differences in conference satisfaction broken down by age.

Age			
F(2,116) = 2.23, p = .112			
	<40	40-49	50+
number	23	37	59
satisfaction	3.96	4.14	4.31

General session and featured speakers

There were highly significant differences in the average rated value of the different General session and featured speakers. Unlike previous conferences, these differences did not necessarily correspond with attendance. For instance Sidney McPhee’s talk received the lowest value rating, although it was highly attended.

General Session Speakers		
value: F(3,385) = 10.8, p = .000		
speaker	percent attending	value of session (1-5)
Sidney McPhee	88.4 %	3.59
Brenda Laurel	90.1 %	4.34
Mark Valenti	69.4 %	3.99
Sally Johnstone	73.6 %	4.07

Featured sessions

There were no significant differences in the rated value of the different featured sessions. There did, however, appear to be some dramatic changes in how well each feature session was attended. Only 20% or less of respondents attended “Developing a Successful Partnership Investment Portfolio”, “Creating the Blended-Mode University”, and “Yarns into Gold: Moving ECAR from Idea to Action”, whereas all the other featured session were attended by at least 38% of respondents.

Featured Sessions		
value: $F(8,368) = 1.59, p = .125$		
session	percent attending	value of session (1-5)
Learner-Centered by Practice	58.2 % (1)	4.05 (3)
Now What? The Future from an OKI/IMS/MERLOT Point of View	56.1 % (2)	3.86 (6)
Developing a Successful Partnership Investment Portfolio	15.7 % (8)	3.47 (9)
On the Wings of Change: E-Portfolios Take Off	43.4 % (4)	4.04 (5)
Virtual Communities	40.5 % (5)	4.18 (2)
Creating the Blended-Mode University	20.4 % (7)	4.05 (4)
Yarns into Gold: Moving ECAR from Idea to Action	14.3 % (9)	3.80 (8)
Transformative Assessment Systems	38.3 % (6)	4.20 (1)
The Promise and Pitfalls of Learning Objects	53.6 % (3)	3.90 (6)

Session attendance and evaluation

There were significant differences both in the time spent in attendance to each of the different session types and in the rated value of the different types. Not surprising there was a close correspondence between these two measures, with Companion concurrent sessions receiving lower evaluations and lower time spent in attendance whereas Featured sessions and Concurrent sessions received higher evaluations and were attended for longer. However, General sessions received the second lowest evaluation despite the best percentage time attended. The percent attendance (i.e., the percentage of respondents who attended a given session type for any amount of time), seemed to closely track the percent time attended.

Session Attendance and Evaluation			
time attended: $F(3,456) = 15.16, p = .000$			
evaluation: $F(3,435) = 4.08, p = .007$			
	% time attended	% attendance (at least once)	Average evaluation
General Sessions	72.3 %	95.9 %	3.97
Featured Sessions	71.4 %	95.9 %	4.25
Companion concurrent sessions	48.2 %	80.0 %	3.91
Concurrent sessions	65.5 %	92.5 %	4.06

Conference Logistics

Overall logistics satisfaction

1 of the 123 respondents who rated the conference logistics gave a rating of 1 (not at all satisfied). The most common rating was 4 and the mean rating was 4.11.

Satisfaction with Conference Logistics	
Not at all satisfied (1)	0.8 %
(2)	2.4 %
(3)	17.9 %
(4)	42.3 %
Very satisfied (5)	36.6 %
Overall mean	4.11

Registration process

1 of the 121 respondents who rated the registration process gave a rating of 1 (not at all satisfied), and 1 gave a rating of 2. The most common rating was 5 and the mean rating was 4.60.

Registration Process	
Not at all pleased (1)	0.8 %
(2)	0.8 %
(3)	2.5 %
(4)	28.9 %
Very pleased (5)	66.9 %
Overall mean	4.60

Conference location (San Diego)

1 of the 121 respondents who rated the conference location gave a rating of 1 (not at all satisfied). The most common rating was 5 and the mean rating was 4.31.

Conference Location	
Not at all pleased (1)	.8 %
(2)	3.3 %
(3)	14.9 %
(4)	26.4 %
Very pleased (5)	54.5 %
Overall mean	4.31

Conference hotel (U.S. Grant Hotel)

10 of the 122 respondents who rated the conference hotel gave a rating of 1 (not at all satisfied). The most common rating was 4 and the mean rating was 3.54.

Conference Hotel	
Not at all pleased (1)	8.2 %
(2)	13.9 %
(3)	18.9 %
(4)	33.6 %
Very pleased (5)	25.4 %
Overall mean	3.54

Conference services

There were nearly significant differences in the average rated usefulness of the various conference services. With the exception of wireless internet access, these differences seemed to correspond with the percentages of respondents using the rated services. For instance, wired internet access received the lowest rating and the lowest percent utilization, and Dynamic registration list received a much higher rating and was well utilized.

Conference Services		
value: $F(3,222) = 2.51, p = .060$		
service	percent utilizing	usefulness (1-5)
Wired Internet access	34.4 %	4.02
Wireless Internet access	37.7 %	4.52
Dynamic registration list	65.3 %	4.44
Meeting areas for adhoc and informal meetings	48.8 %	4.17

Conference publicity

There were dramatic and highly significant differences in the influential nature of the various publicity sources. These influence differences closely corresponded with the percentage of respondents who were actually notified through these sources (i.e., publicity sources that were noticed by more respondents were also more influential sources). Notification through Educause publications was the least likely source and also the least influential sources whereas e-mail notices, the Educause website, and colleagues were more likely sources and correspondingly rated as more influential sources. This pattern has been observed in most post-conference evaluations.

Publicity Sources				
influence: $F(3,316) = 12.40, p = .000$				
	e-mail notice	Educause publication	Educause website	Colleague
percent notification	73.9 %	46.5 %	75.4 %	83.5 %
influence of source (1-5)	3.95	2.89	3.80	4.23

Full Breakdown by Title

	Age $F(9,90) = 2.91,$ $p = .005$		Gender $F(9,92) = .93,$ $p = .502$			Conf. Satisfaction $F(9,93) = .80,$ $p = .615$	
	<u>number</u>	<u>mean</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>rating</u>
CEO / Academic VP	10	50.2	10	60.0%	30.0%	10	4.20
CBO / Fed. Rel. / Other Exec.	3	47.0	3	66.7%	33.3%	3	4.67
Dean / Dept. Chair	6	54.8	7	71.4%	28.6%	7	3.86
Faculty	17	50.4	17	64.8%	35.2%	17	4.12
Library	1	57.0	1	0%	100%	1	5.00
Student	1	23.0	1	100%	0%	1	4.00
Corporate	2	42.5	2	100%	0%	2	4.00
Chief Information Officer (CIO)	6	53.2	6	66.7%	33.3%	6	4.33
Senior IT	31	50.6	33	45.4%	54.6%	33	4.39
Support IT	23	44.7	22	45.4%	54.6%	23	4.17

NLII 2003

Planning to attend NLII 2003	
Yes	51.2 %
No	4.1 %
Haven't decided	44.7 %

Comments

This conference is small enough so that one would not feel overwhelmed and could actually have a dialogue going on specific topics.
I especially enjoyed the collegial atmosphere and congenial interest participants have shown toward the subjects at hand.
Mark Valenti's presentation is such an inspiration. He was able to share his vision and prediction without being condescending to his audience. Bring him back next year.

I was deeply offended by the requirement to present a pictured ID in order to register. As one of my junior colleagues said, 'You've been terrorized! And by your own people.'

The new site was fine, but I miss the ambience (sleaze?) of New Orleans, and wish NLII could go back there in a different, better hotel.

I've attended two small, focused conferences this year in addition to the Educause annual conference. The small, focused conferences like the NLII and Portal Symposium were much better experiences for me. Packing the day with short breaks and the smaller session attendance facilitated hearing a lot and getting to speak with others in the session and with the presenters.

Educause events are also well planned and run without any glitches especially in registration.

Another job well done! Congratulations on creating exemplary professional development opportunities.

I know most of the attendees are high-powered individuals will little time but it seemed like so much was crammed into 2 days (and can't folks from the east coast dress informally?). Great conference. I've told everybody.

In general, I found the conference informative and useful. My concern is that allowing less than an hour for the sessions is not nearly enough time to discuss important topics in depth. Thus, I aquired little additional knowledge. If one key goal of the program was to provide detailed, substantive information, as opposed to general information, I'm not sure if that goal was met.

Like most conferences some excellent presentations, some not quite as good. Overall a valuable conference to attend.

I was very frustrated by the number of concurrent sessions. There were a number of presentations I wanted to attend, but could not due to this. As it was I was only attending 1/2 of one in order to hear 1/2 of another at each session... Personally, I would have preferred to have to pay extra money to attend in order to have a longer conference with fewer concurrent presentations in the same time block...

On a much lesser note, I found it frustrating to hear other speakers through the walls, while trying to hear what was being said in the room I was in. This was particularly bad in the ballroom settings. Also the room I was in, could have done with a coat of paint and the washroom needed help (tub needed caulking etc)... I just thought for the price, we could have done better. But maybe I am dreaming - I don't know what costs are like in San Diego.

All in all - I thought you all did a great job. In the future, I would just prefer to stay longer and hear more...

Thanks for asking.

The only negative aspect of the conference was the agenda format. I had to make my own 'cheat sheet' so I knew where to go next, because I didn't want to flip through two sets of papers. A single page meeting-at-a-glance sheet with just titles, times, and locations would have been great (for all activities, not just concurrent sessions).

Great meeting content this year - wish I could've been at more sessions concurrently! Would like to have an executive from a Carnegie I research university speak next time.

I vastly prefer New Orleans to San Diego as a town to meet in.

The wireless access was a godsend!

Thanks to all who worked on this.

I found the talks more relevant to my work than many I find at the full EduCause conference. However, the prohibitive costs of becoming an NLII member mean that I will be unable to take advantage of this conference in the future.

The scheduling was, frankly, abysmal. Cramming too much into the first day, you short-changed the focus and breakout sessions on the second day. Anyone scheduled for the final session found that most folks had already left. This was not helped by having a day two keynote that applied to only a small segment of the population.

The less said about the US Grant, the better.

Traveling coast to coast is difficult and time consuming. Someplace in the center of the country would be reasonable for everyone.

I had to leave to teach a class just north of LA. Wow! I suffered at not being able to attend Monday afternoon.

Everything was of such high quality.

The downstairs rooms for the concurrent sessions were too hard
to find.

Tuesday afternoon there were 3 sessions in the ballrooms and
4 sessions downstairs. The downstairs sessions were extremely
poorly attended - we had one (!) audience member, the room next
to us had three. I do not think there were enough participants
to support this many parallel sessions. Moreover I believe some
of the ballroom sessions were continuations from the morning.

I would have liked even more time for meeting between sessions. I was just getting into good conversations when called to the next session. With that said, it was a tremendously valuable meeting.

It was a very well organized meeting

I would really like to see this conference back in New Orleans. The facilities are much better there than at the US Grant hotel.

I was disappointed that you did not provide computers with internet access at the conference. Most conferences that focus on technology these days do provide this kind of resource.

In the future, you should notify the participants if you plan not to have computers available.

The people I met were wonderful but there wasn't enough chance for smaller group interaction. One idea is to pose several dilemmas and have people come together to discuss them.

The session with the two students was incredible! Needs to be more using students so that we have an idea of what is actually going on.

Thank you.

Wonderfully planned and executed. High levels of service, intellect, exchange.

To get the most out of the companion concurrent and concurrent sessions, it would be really helpful if we could have submitted our questions, or comments about the information we were looking for from the session before the session began.

Great conference, mostly because of its size and the roles that attendees play at their respective institutions.

The hotel was a bit pricey for these dire budget times, and it was a bit on the worn side in the room and upstairs hallways for the price. Airfare was reasonable, but the hotel made it expensive, especially for a team. Better group rates next year?

The room for the general session was too small!

I would like to see some 'active learning sessions' where participants receive information ahead of time and work through it together. With all the knowledge about learning, the format is still talking at you and panelists likewise talk at you. This would be a better way to structure the companion sessions.

This was one of the best conferences I've attended - very informative, casual and to the point.

Keep striving to have a blend - we especially need forward thinkers - some of this year's was a little stale. Thanks

Several of us were a little upset by the influence of Eduprise on the conference. In general I am pleased there was less of an influence by companies than in the past but there was this one example which stood out and did not help the image on NLII. This year's conference seemed more low key but maybe we are just maturing. Some sessions were outstanding but others were so-so. Brenda Laurel was fantastic as was the discussion of the future and architecture at the end of Monday's session.

The US Grant is a fine hotel, just not sure it is up to a meeting of this size...

The US Grant Hotel was a very bad choice of hotel. The rooms were noisy, the technology support non-existent--However, the location in San Diego was good. Overall the conference was worth the 2 days that I spent.

Thanks.

I think it is time for the Eduprise commercials to stop. Bill Graves has chaired the NLII for a long time. Isn't it time for someone else to take over?

Presenters PowerPoint presentations need improvement (there is more to PowerPoint than bulleted lists). Presentations too abstract; presenters should back up their assertions with some data or illustrate with concrete examples to make their points more believable. In a day and a half I heard about Merlot too many times to count and NOT ONCE was an example of a learning object shown.

EXCELLENT

I would like featured presentations to get into more detail - McFees ?sp - presentation was very high level and I wanted more information on the specifics of how we got these programs ready so quickly and with a small budget.

The tech support was great!!

(1) Nametags - The size of everything but first name was too small. I was trying to meet people from a couple of specific institutions that were involved in a project I wanted to learn more about, and it was near impossible to locate them.

(2) The focus is technology to enhance education, so I was surprised at how little technology was used to enhance the sessions.

Thanks for the great registration. I found, upon arriving, that I had not registered and the folks did a great job of fast, efficient registration.

I enjoyed the experience. Thanks for inviting me to participate.

The opening session on Monday was disappointing. I think it's great that a university president is so enthusiastic about eLearning etc., but it was not until the very end of his talk that he covered innovative ground. Several folks I spoke to felt the same way. We'd have loved to hear more about the time-boxed creation of a web-enabled program (his point at the end).

This was my first NLII conference, and overall I found the subject matter had more *potential* than many of the presentations actually delivered. I suppose I have limited interest in, say, a presentation on learning objects that offers multiple definitions of what learning objects are, and yet still leaves me uncertain at the end. It was too often the case that I found the talks a bit fuzzy, whereas I don't think of eLearning as fuzzy.

As an organization, I think the NLII vision/mission is very sound and worthwhile pursuing. So despite my cranky comments above, I will seriously consider attending again next year.

I love San Diego but know there are better places to have the conference than at the Grant. Please consider other options.

The conference was a very good learning experience. I wonder if the printed handout of the program (at the conference) could be made into one brochure that flowed with the sessions from beginning to end. Thanks to all who made the conference so very good.

Didn't know wired internet access was available, but would have used it.

I find this conference to be very valuable in tracking new issues from the point of view of when and how to steer our enterprise towards adopting the new technology, if it is worth adopting.

I enjoyed the conference but the location this year (West side of US) proved to be very taxing due to the extreme time zone changes. Not a major issue, but a more centrally located site (New Orleans) may prove to be more mutually agreeable for all attendees. Thanks.

Good meeting

NLII's redesign of my group's proposal into a shared feature session took away most of what we were interested in doing, and that was a disappointment.

I wish there had been an email announcement of the newcomers' session, as I would have gone. (Maybe I missed it?)

The hotel was superb, but way out of my institution's ability to send me every year. I hope I'll get back sometime!

I found the conference friendly, and full of old friends. The last was its best feature for me.

I found the rooms for lunch and receptions to be very cold and really made it difficult to relax and network with people. Also the room where lunch was provided was very crowded and uncomfortable.

The sessions were timed too close together. I would have liked 30 minutes between sessions to continue discussing the topics and to expand networking with attendees.

My only complain relates to the hotel rooms at the US Grant - there was just too much street noise coming into the rooms. It made for difficult sleeping,

It was far too general in scope this year, not as focused as in the past few years. NLII should feature more cutting edge discussions.

Enough people with common focus and interests to make the presentations and discussions very valuable.

I thoroughly enjoyed this conference and found the sessions I attended very helpful. NLII is really pursuing agendas that are critically important to me and my organization. I think the mission is getting clearer and the foci and research agendas the organization sponsors help move the organization forward in ways that are truly beneficial. I look forward to my continuing association with the organization. Thanks for the good work!

I found the conference to be an excellent venue for assessing the EDU/IT professional's point of view, understanding issues germane to EDU/IT management, and to discern the near future of technology on campus.

I look forward to NLII as I believe that it showcases the quality work of industry professionals seeking best practices, as opposed to lots of single instance good ideas that cannot be easily replicated.

I was suprised at the level of progress of some major universities, some are just taking baby steps. Many presentations were a lot of hot air in my opinion. I am looking for specific nuts and bolts.

From beginning to end, this has been a professional experience. Everything has been carefully thought out and my time was never wasted. I'm very impressed, and I learned so much!

I learned a lot both from the sessions I attended, informal talks, and from those attended by a colleague. We shared a lot of information and have developed a few very potentially useful things to take back to our campus. We are particularly interested in developing an e-portfolio activity.

As always, the EDUCAUSE conference staff is exceptional and the overall experience is well-worth the time investment.