

CATS 2013 Conference Evaluation Executive Summary

Evaluation Tool and Response Rates

Four separate surveys were used to evaluate CATS 2013 – one 16 question survey for each of the three Regional meetings and one 10-question survey for the Individual (Concurrent) sessions. The Regional surveys covered attendee demographics, meeting logistics, achievement of conference goals, participation in last year's CATS activities, and future CATS activities and participation. The Individual Session survey covered both content and presenter(s). The response rate averaged 44% for the Regional meetings.

The Respondents

- Thirty-four percent (19 of 56) said this was their first year at CATS.
- Thirty-four percent said they'd used something learned at a previous CATS conference.
- Twenty-eight percent said they'd contacted someone from a previous CATS.
- Nineteen percent said they'd used MERLOT since the last CATS conference.

Conference Logistics

- Most respondents said they learned about the conference from a CATS email or listserv (learning from friends or colleagues was second).
- All (100%) said they received timely and useful information about the conference.
- All (100%) said the registration process was easy to use.

Conference Goals and Value

- Ninety-five percent of respondents who answered the questions said the Regional meetings were successful or very successful at meeting stated conference goals.
- They most appreciated the face-to-face interaction, networking, and opportunities to collaborate with others (Individual Sessions were second).
- They were least satisfied with the attendance (not enough people).
- Ninety-eight percent (63 of 64) said attending the Regional Meetings was worthwhile. Most (54.3%) said it was because of the useful information they gained. Networking, connecting, and collaboration was the second most popular reason (37.1%).

Future CATS Participation and Activities

- Ninety-seven percent (59 of 61) of respondents said they would want to attend a similar type of meeting in the future.
- Seventy-five percent (46 of 61) said they'd like to attend next year's conference. Twenty-two percent (14) said Maybe – it depends.
- Five said they'd be willing to help plan CATS 2014 – 14 said they'd consider presenting.
- The most popular suggestion was to return to a single statewide multi-day face-to-face conference. Many of those suggestions expressed the hope that doing so would result in increased attendance and increased session offerings.