ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM SURVEY 2018

ON A SCALE OF 1-10 (1 BEING NOT GOOD AND 10 BEING EXCELLENT), HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE EVENT OVERALL?

- Average of answers- 9

WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE EVENT?

- I thought the entire symposium flowed very nicely. A good number of breaks, never felt like wasted time, and the meals/snacks were so thoughtful. I had a 7-hour drive back from Billings on Friday, so the food options were great. Overall, it was just a good mix of content, work, and network/chat time. Well done!
- I like the opportunities to see colleagues and learn about what's happening at other campuses.
- Well-organized, good topics, good food. The wine reception was a nice event.
- I enjoyed the overall topic of UX and the chance to get to be with colleagues from around the state.
- Awesome programs and comraderie
- Great sessions and having a chance to meet peers from around the state.
- It was well organized, well run and the topic was actually useful for all areas of the library not just public services
- The camaraderie, meeting new folks and spending time with others I know mostly through email but don’t see often. The mood and the food were uplifting and the hospitality was just awesome! Loved the location and felt like Billings was a really pleasant place to visit this time of year. Hours were good, spacious, relaxing for the most part, what a nice, committed, professional group of people to spend a day and a half with! Thanks so much for all your work and dedication!
- Seeing the MSU Billings Library; networking with colleagues -- meeting new ones; the interactive break out sessions, being so well taken care of by MSU B! (GREAT snacks!)
The presentations were quite informative.
The theme of the symposium was well thought out and applicable to all attending. The keynote speaker chosen was dynamic and provided insight that all sized institutions could learn from.
Location
Networking. Speakers were engaging.
Networking opportunities
Good talking with others in the field.
The inspiration I got for making my patron's experience better and some content management strategies.
It is always great to all of the folks in the academic library community together!
The MSU Billings staff was extremely kind and accommodating and had a nicely planned out schedule.

WHAT DID YOU LIKE LEAST ABOUT THE EVENT?

Would have liked brief summaries of the sessions.
That I was unable to attend all of the sessions due to overlap. It was hard to choose.
Thursday's lunch (the sandwich was a bit to be desired)
At times it was hard to hear the speakers especially in the large auditorium. I appreciate that the main speakers had mics on and that was very helpful. However I was unable to hear any of the questions made by audience members because in the larger room or in the wrap up session.
I don't think there was anything I didn't like about the event. The topics were interesting and would have loved a bit more of the technical "web design" aspects of improving the UX experience. Loved, loved the tour of the library and especially learning about the video/media recording room. I don't know how in the given time frame more technical info could have occurred because there was a mix of TRAILS, Alma and UX, some sessions did seem a bit rushed at times.
One session went too long and there was a much needed bathroom break, so bathroom filled up and had a line.

- Friday morning was a bit of a flood of information, moving rapidly as we did from a lot of talking heads on the panel to the second keynote -- kind of stressful, needed a break. Would have liked it to be more interactive. Although our keynote was a bright, thoughtful practitioner with a lot of information to share with us, I wonder if keynotes at this kind of gathering are the best use of our time together. I found that she stressed me out -- not her intention and probably indicative more of my own issues at present trying to do too much with too few resources and time. Hearing (through my own filter) about how we should be doing things better and differently can work but this message can go over better sometimes when the audience is engaged in problem solving that includes the local situation and lets us leave with specific ideas to implement in our own libraries in incremental ways.

- Nothing, I thought it was great.
- The weather.
- Trails update, way too long
- Sessions too short
- The tables and chairs in the lecture hall.
- There wasn't enough diet soda....which isn't really a serious complaint. ;) The Alma session wasn't nearly long enough.

- Nothing
- There's wasn't enough time.

**WHICH SESSION OR SPEAKER WERE YOU MOST PLEASED WITH?**

- The session on institutional repositories was most in line with what I do, so that session was most useful to me.
- Keynote speaker
- I enjoyed the Keynote speaker and also the TRAILS update.
Our main speaker, Courtney McDonald
I enjoyed the TRAILS update, and the keynote speaker as well.
I really enjoyed the keynote speaker
There are 2: Courtney's presentations I enjoyed a lot but because I struggle with a hearing deficit and therefore word distinction challenges, and, because she was speaking SO fast, I had trouble following her and letting in what she was saying although I do appreciate the volume of information she brought and the obvious skill and understanding she has of the subject matter. I also liked the TRAILS panel discussion, thought it generated some conversation that can only bring us closer in our respective relationships, loved Pamela's powerpoint and enjoyed the fact that Kenning and Brian were there and that Kenning contributed on the panel.
I loved the interactive breakout sessions like UX Speed Dating and Students on the Front Lines. Very useful and very creative. Thank you.
I really liked the main speaker, she did an amazing job!
The Keynote speaker.
keynote
They were all great. The Billings library was open and welcoming. Thanks!
Courtney
Both of the keynote speaker's sessions were informative and inspiring.
Courtney was a great speaker!
Keynote was good, but I'd like to see someone even more revolutionary - maybe from another field.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MAKE NEXT YEAR’S CONFERENCE EVEN BETTER?

Perhaps more involvement by the State Library? I appreciated Jennie Stapp’s presence at the Symposium.
more library techs
More breakout sessions for Alma and Primo.
- It might be helpful if there was an extra mic for audience questions or if the presenters repeated questions before answering them.
- Ask for suggestions for topics for breakout sessions in advance of the conference from the pool of librarians. Somehow engage and enroll smaller and tribal college libraries to attend.
- Don't have a keynote; build in more interactive sessions and fewer long stretches of being talked at; include scheduled tours of hosting library.
- I think it was great.
- I think that it would be easier on those that have to attend the TRAILS GC meeting for that meeting to be held the day before the symposium. Going straight from that meeting into the Symposium was jarring and a little bit of a difficult transition.
- not sure...
- Longer and more learning sessions
- Easier to use tables and chairs
- I thought it was really great and smoothly run.
- Nothing
- Offer a full 2 day conference.

**WHAT KIND OF SPEAKERS OF TOPICS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE NEXT YEAR?**

- I'd like to see more on cataloging/metadata, more on institutional repositories, and I'd love to hear where other libraries are really focusing new efforts. Maybe a "spotlight" session where libraries highlight the top 1-3 "new" things they're thinking about or implementing.
- Distance education and OER stuff? Data topics and how to best tell the library's story in contributing to student and faculty success. Grant funding -- how to fund projects and initiatives in your library.
I really appreciated the topic of user experience because it crosses all aspects of librarianship. Other useful topics might include ways in which libraries staying relevant in the modern university.

Some students speaking (panel) about what they want from the "new and evolving" library experience.

International Student representative from a campus to share insights about challenges and successes inherent in the "library experience." What could be improved?

TRAILS evolving process.

A perspective shared from a librarian who has been in library services for 4 or more decades as to what we to gain and what are we losing by moving into such a technological environment? MSU Bozeman, Special Collections, Kim Scott could be an interesting candidate for that.

I'd like to see at least a partial focus on special collections and archives and how they are /should be /could be integrated into the rest of the library. And/or collaboration across institutions -- latest projects, tools that can be used, ways to share resources (beyond TRAILS...)

I thought the topics were current and useful.

I would like something on diversity, I noticed that those attending were overwhelmingly white and female (myself included) it would be nice to have a different perspective.

something relevant to technicians, but still more of a big picture type of topic

That's the problem with "librarian" specific topics, they are all big picture where there is just a lot of hypothetical talk going on. I wish there was something like that for technicians. Normally "technician" specific programs are so focused on facts and actual outcomes.

Assessment ideas

Specific Alma sessions--Alma for Serials, Alma for Catalogers, etc. And more social media content management as that is always changing.

Maybe a focus on how to ensure a successful consortium.

Maybe someone who is a futurist with applications for libraries.
WHAT FEATURES SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE EVENT?

- Can't think of anything.
- None that I can think of.
- Perhaps some kind of game or creative time breakout for people to get to know each other better, 2 truths and a lie, charades, spin the wheel for door prizes, little unexpected bursts of fun along the day so people really get warmed up to each other.
- A "burning issues" all group discussion in which people are free to speak up about priorities, current problems, successes, needs...I wouldn't want the entire symposium to be this free form but a moderated all-symposium session would be nice and could generate some shared understand and even solutions.
- None, I thought it was great.
- I enjoyed the networking of the reception. This was the first time I experienced this at the symposium so I would recommend maintaining something like this in future events.
- Built-in time for trails committees to meet
- Ice-breaking activities
- A planned evening event
- N/A
- Webcasting of keynote and a few other sessions.

GENERAL COMMENTS?

- I really appreciated the dietary accommodations.
- Thanks for posting presentation slides on the website.
- Great work! You all did a wonderful job at putting the Symposium on!!!
- The option for grab and go eats on Friday was very nice. It sure made it convenient for those of us trying to get out and get back on the road
- Nope. I think I've said enough! : ) Thanks again, it was a great time together!
- MSU B did a great job! Thank you so much for sharing your library and your talents with us!
- Very well done!
- good job, the reception was very nice.
- Great job, MSUB!
- It was great
- N/A
- Great job!