



## Post Conference Wrap-up

### 2016 Conference Evaluation Report NASIG 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference: Embracing New Horizons June 9-12, 2016

#### Submitted by

2016 Evaluation and Assessment Committee:  
Derek Marshall (chair), Melody Dale (vice-chair), Clint Chamberlain, Deberah England, Michael Fernandez, Kathryn Johns-Masten, Trina Nolen

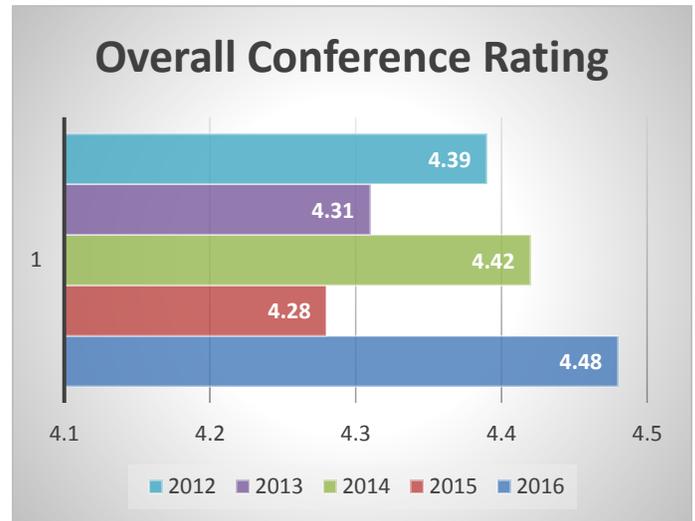
The 31<sup>st</sup> annual NASIG conference was held in Albuquerque, NM. The conference offered six pre-conference workshops, three vision sessions, thirty concurrent sessions, one “great ideas” showcase, one snapshot session and a vendor expo. Other events included an opening reception, first-timers reception, and informal discussion groups.

115 surveys were submitted from 327 conference attendees. Survey respondents could enter a name and email address for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. Laura Secord from DeWitt Wallace Library, Macalester College, was the winner.

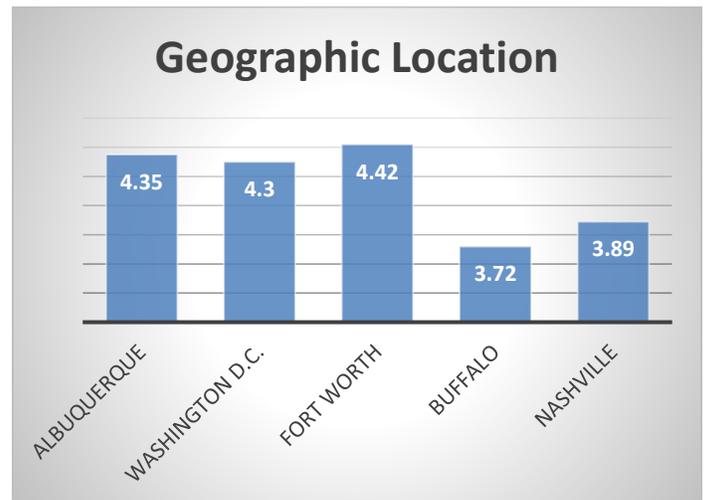
Below is a summary of the survey results.

#### Conference Rating

Respondents were asked to give ratings on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest. The overall rating of the 2016 conference was 4.48. This was the highest rated conference over the previous four years.



#### Facilities and Local Arrangements

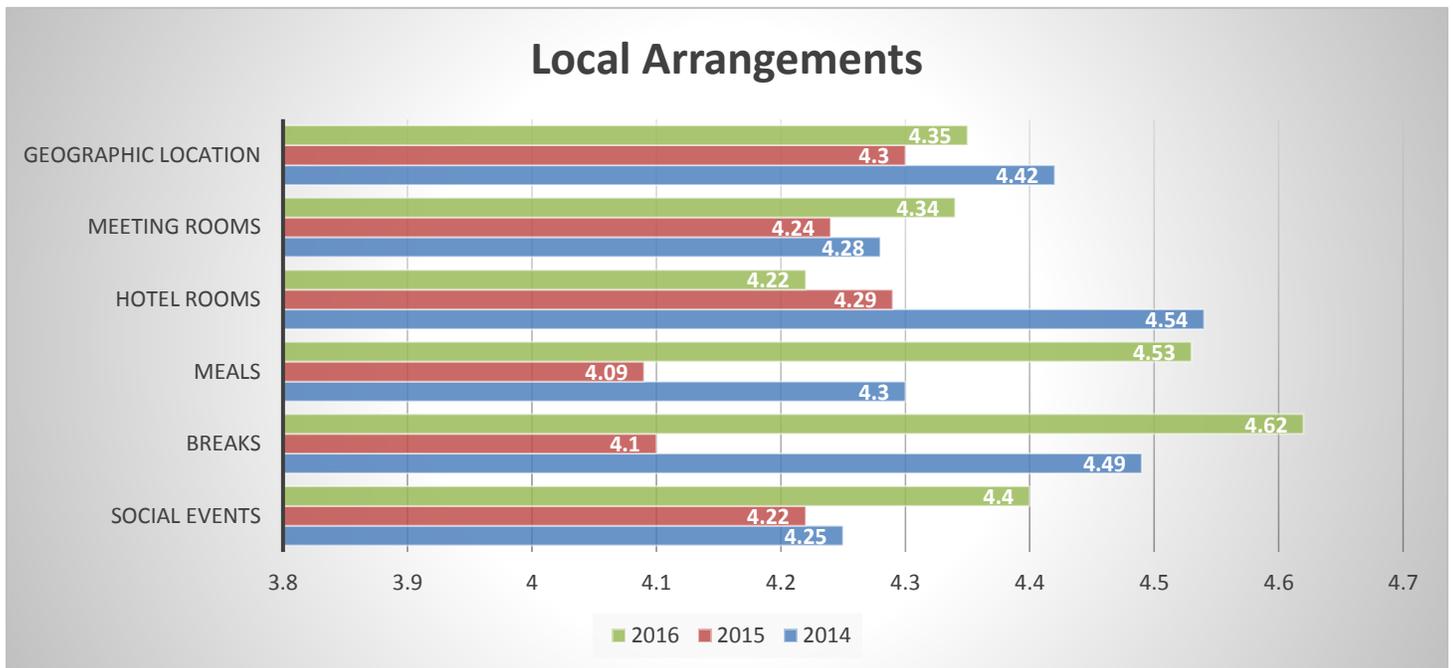


The 2016 rating was 4.35, a slight increase from the 2015 location of Washington D.C., which rated a 4.3.

Forty comments were entered on the survey about local arrangements and facilities mentioning a variety of issues. Meals and snacks appeared to be a large factor

with several attendees, noting that the snacks were impressive and would constitute an entire meal. Several comments stated that more social dining options would have been appreciated. While the conference hotel was well-received, there were several

comments on the overflow hotels not meeting standards. Several respondents commented that the AC was too cold in the meeting spaces. There were also several complaints about the Wi-Fi Internet connectivity not working correctly.



Eighty-one percent of survey respondents brought a laptop or a tablet to the conference. Fifty-three percent of respondents rated a high importance on wireless access availability in meeting rooms.

overwhelmingly positive, while only a small number of respondents mentioned that more time was needed to cover all that was necessary for particular topics.

### Website, Blog and Schedule

The majority of survey respondents rated the layout and explanation of programs as 4 or higher on the Likert scale with 46.94% assigning a rating of 5.

### Vision Sessions

Three vision sessions were a part of the 2016 conference. The average overall ratings for the three sessions ranged from 4.18 to 4.26. T. Scott Plutchak’s presentation was timely on Institutional Repositories with several respondents commenting on the excellence of his presentation. Many respondents commented on the timeliness of Heather Joseph’s presentation on Open Access and felt it complemented T. Scott Plutchak’s presentation. James J. O’Donnell’s “How Many Libraries Do We Need?” prompted many comments on the thought-provoking nature of his presentation.

The conference website received a weighted average of 4.14. The conference blog was rated less highly at 3.88. Many of the commenters noted they did not take advantage of the conference blog or knew of its existence.

### Pre-Conference Workshops

The six pre-conference workshops received a weighted average of 3.80 to 4.67. Comments were

## Other Sessions

NASIG offered 30 concurrent sessions during the 31<sup>st</sup> annual conference. Twenty of those (67%) received an overall rating of 4.0 or higher. The number of sessions offered was lower than last year's conference in Fort Worth. Most comments were positive, or offered specific, constructive criticism of an individual session. Feedback will be shared with presenters upon request.

2016 marked the fourth year of the great ideas showcase, formerly called poster sessions. There were seven participants in 2016. The overall rating for the great ideas showcase was 3.88. The showcase sessions did not generate many evaluation comments. However, among the comments were suggestions to include the topics in the evaluation survey. The Evaluation & Assessment Committee has noted this and will be sure to include this information in future surveys.

The 31<sup>st</sup> conference was the third year to offer snapshot sessions, "designed for 5-7 minute talks in which projects, workflows, or ideas are presented." There were five sessions, with weighted averages from 3.32 to 3.93.

The survey requested that responders rate and comment on ideas for future programming. Comments were entered with general and specific ideas for various types of sessions. A detailed summary of feedback will be submitted to the board.

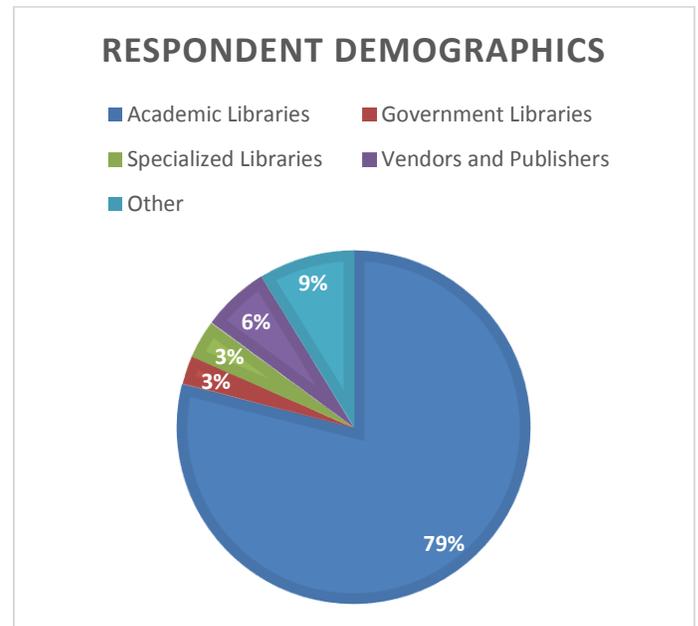
## Events

The First Timers/Mentoring Reception received a rating of 4.07. An overwhelming 94.83% would like to see this event continue. Comments submitted about the event were positive, praising the networking opportunities; however, several comments noted that the space was too small for such an event.

The Business Meeting received a rating of 3.87. Participants noted that the meeting appeared to be disorganized, while others noted that it was informative to understand the inner workings of the organization.

The Vendor Expo received a rating of 3.97 with the majority of survey respondents (84%) wanting to see it continue.

## Respondent Demographics<sup>1</sup>



As in previous surveys, academic library employees continue to represent the largest group of respondents at 79%. This is a marginally higher percentage than was held by academic libraries for the 2014 conference at 72%.

<sup>1</sup> To ease the reading of the demographic chart, several categories offered on the survey were condensed:

- Academic libraries contains: College Library, Community College Library, University Library
- Vendors and Publishers contains: Automated Systems Vendor, Back Issues Dealer, Binder, Book Vendor, Database Provider, Publisher, Subscription Vendor or Agency
- Specialized Libraries contains: Law Library, Medical Library, Special or Corporate Library
- Government Libraries contains: Government, National, or State Library
- Others contains: Public Library, Student, Other
- Several other categories were available, but not selected by a survey respondent.

Respondents were asked to “describe your work” using as many of the 24 given choices as necessary (including “other”). 2016 marks the third year that “electronic resources librarian” garnered the highest number of responses (53). Acquisitions Librarian (42), Serials Librarian (40), Catalog/Metadata Librarian (28), and Technical Services Manager (28) round out the top five responses.

When asked about the number of years of serials related experience, “More than 20 years” received the majority at 40 responses.



Thirty-one percent of respondents noted they have attended one to five past conferences.

