

University of Massachusetts and New England Area Librarian E-Science Symposium

Monday, April 6, 2009 – Survey Responses

Instructions: Place an X on the line beside each comment at the level which best represents your evaluation. Thank you for sharing your responses.

1. The content of the symposium was:

	5	4	3	2	1	
extremely valuable	13	11	1	1		of little value
detailed enough	12	10	2	1		too general
current & relevant	19	6	1			outdated
cohesive & logical	14	9	2			fragmented

2. The symposium presenters:

	5	4	3	2	1	
were knowledgeable	21	5				were unsure of material
had good presentation skills	13	12	1			had poor skills
had relevant information	15	8	1	1		did not have relevant information
addressed my level and needs	13	9	3	1		did not address them

4. Overall, the symposium:

	5	4	3	2	1	
had clear goals	15	7	4			had unclear goals
met its goals	15	6	3			missed its goals
was long enough	19	5	1			was too short
was excellent	16	6	4			was poor

5. What was the most useful aspect of this symposium?

- The two panels were excellent, too bad not enough time for questions/discussion
- Face-to-face individual and group work - 2
- Speakers, facilitators - 5
- Presentations/panel - 8
- Networking
- All was useful
- Discussion of topic we all have to address or be left out of the loop
- Round table discussions - 2
- Very informative about specific biotools - 2

6. What would you suggest for improving the symposium?

- Do not allow speakers to read from their power point slides - incredibly ineffective use of power point
- More time on library issues and e-science
- Make it shorter – shorter presentations
- Eliminate the small group discussion – when no one knows what they are talking about, the discussion is not very helpful
- Organization with various types of information sharing in a.m. and p.m. provided good balance
- Less UMass focus
- Everything was great
- In my opinion, the symposium was very well planned. It was enough information to absorb in one day, but set a framework for us to go back to our libraries and become more pro-active and involved in e-science opportunities
- UMMS presenters could have addressed topic of libraries role in e-science – would have been more relevant
- As this was a library program, at least a reference to libraries in presentations would be good

7. Suggestions for future regional e-science events:

- More about collaborations throughout New England, what Sullivan began talking about
- Informatics training, e-research collaboration and sharing cross-institutional models. Sharing – educational programs – online program sharing. How to engage libraries more.
- Thanks for providing this forum. Hope to work together on follow up and “translation” to practice
- Include some hands-on training or provide a better description of the expertise needed to manage data collections
- Details on any institutional progress
- NCBI resources workshops locally since there is no more outreach classes
- Classes on specific tools – content course
- More on research being done in the region
- Additional symposium and events such as the upcoming stem cell symposium (1 day events are best). Perhaps, presentations on more specific aspects such as ‘metadata tagging of data sets,’ etc. Development of an e-portal to support librarians becoming more involved in e-science initiatives would be very valuable.
- Less about specific school grants and initiatives, especially when not specifically about libraries
- Presentations of successful collaborations – librarians and scientists – regarding e-science
- Let’s do a regional (UMass) wide web portal

8. Comments:

- Less time about UMass. Is there no collaboration with other life science in the Commonwealth – especially considering all other institutions in the states
- Thank you for bringing all of us together. I was getting tired of virtual meetings. Thank you for keeping it free.
- Good start – I look forward to seeing what initiatives emerge
- I liked having the opportunity to meet librarians from around the area & talk about these science issues
- This has been a wonderful chance to talk, learn, and network with like-minded colleagues