Society for Technical Communication



- Nearly 44% of our membership base completed Mini Survey #1 - 186 responses out of 426 members
- Raffle winners: Wendy Tung & Kelly Masci

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- Question 1 (past Summit attendance): Over 85% of members surveyed have either never attended or have attended five or fewer annual Summits.
  - Never attended: 44.3%
  - Attended 1-5 times: 41.6%
  - Eight members have attended more than 10 Summits, with one member attending at least 25!



- Question 2 (2013 attendance): Relatively few members surveyed are planning to attend this year's Summit.
  - Only 17% indicated that they would attend.



## Results: Mini Survey #1

#### Ouestion 3: Reasons for not attending Summit

- Money: 49%
  - Employer unable to cover expenses
  - Cannot afford to pay own way
- Time: 13%
  - Busy schedule
  - Would have to use vacation time to attend
- Location: 4%
  - Atlanta considered boring or un-glamorous
- Perceived lack of value: 18%
  - Unable to apply value to own job Summit considered more of an "event"
  - Summit sessions too general and basic
  - Other conferences cover more specific and focused topics/themes

#### - Other: 16%

• Conflicts with existing personal and professional obligations



## Results: Mini Survey #1

- Question 4: What members are most looking forward to doing at the Summit?
  - Attending workshops & educational sessions
  - Networking!!!
  - Reconnecting with old friends and making new ones
  - Meeting with vendors
  - Learning new techniques and technologies
  - Learning what others are doing and how they are tackling the challenges facing the technical communication profession
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#### • Standout quotes:

- "When I can go, I look forward to reconnecting with friends and learning about latest trends."
- "Learning what others are doing. Realizing most are not on the bleeding edge and trying to do the best they can with what they have to work with."
- "Dipping into the wide variety of topics about which I know little, and getting to know people in diverse fields."
- Opportunity to work together with the Usability SIG
  - "Maybe the IDL and Usability SIG can do a co-webinar or other activity. I am full support of it -- I am the UUX SIG manager."

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- Question 5: Which Summit events do members plan to attend?
  - Informal Gathering: 41.5%
  - Communities Reception: 49.1%
  - Training Progression: 35.8%
  - SIG Business Meeting: 18.9%
  - None: 28.3%
- The most popular Summit events the informal gathering and the Communities reception tend to be purely social in nature.

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## Results: Mini Survey #1

#### Ouestion 6: Sharing the Summit Experience

- Tweets: Perceived little value, but convenient and great for current attendees on event reminders
  - Use Twitter instead as a portal to other written communications such as blogs & newsletter.
- Written communications considered much more valuable
- IDEA: Have attendees write blog entries before, during, and after the Summit.
- IDEA: Send daily Summit digest to Discussion list

	No Value	Some Value	Much Value
Tweets	62%	33.5%	4.5%
Newsletter Articles	1.1%	46.9%	52.0%
Email Summaries	5.0%	47.5%	47.5%
Online Panel/Webinar	5.6%	45.8&	48.6%
Website/Blog Posting	5.0%	45.3%	49.7%

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### Results: Mini Survey #1

• Question 6: Sharing the Summit Experience (cont)

#### Member-submitted suggestions include:

- Making session audio/video /papers available.
  - PERFECT opportunity to advertise Summit at a Click! Perhaps we can offer another drawing as we did last year.
  - Does everyone have access to the Summit Proceedings or is access restricted to Summit attendees?
- Chat session/Google hangout
- Tweet-up for SIG
- Consider recording the IDL-related panels and share with SIG afterward
  - NOTE: We may not be able to provide this on our own, but we can use our roadmap to point out sessions that will be available via Summit @ a Click
- On website link to Summit content and session summaries.
- When sending emails just link to online content
- Podcasts on ID topics or mini-training sessions with hands-on activities
- Add additional commentary to existing roadmap why the sessions were chosen, reviews
- Post-Summit journal or magazine afterward with pictures, speaker experiences, participant comments (like TCWorld)