

## 2007 MACRAO CONFERENCE – GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Listed below is a summary of membership rankings and comments from the evaluation forms completed after the 2007 Annual MACRAO Conference. These have been reviewed by the MACRAO Executive Committee and have also been shared with the Great Lakes Conference Local Arrangements Committee. We take your comments seriously and will continue to address them as best we can for future conferences. We appreciate your comments and the time you took to complete the evaluation forms.

### SUMMARY

**1 = Excellent, 2 = Good, 3 = Satisfactory, 4 = Poor, 5 = Unsatisfactory**

2007 MACRAO CONFERENCE - GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN													
Area	1		2		3		4		5		Total Votes	Total Pts	AVG
	Votes	Points	Votes	Points	Votes	Points	Votes	Points	Votes	Points			
Pre-Conf Pub	69	69	40	80	10	30	10	40	7	35	136	254	1.87
Location	93	93	28	56	5	15	3	12	8	40	137	216	1.58
Rooms	74	74	39	78	14	42	5	20	5	25	137	239	1.74
Meals	74	74	38	76	8	24	7	28	8	40	135	242	1.79
Sessions	40	40	43	86	18	54	12	48	3	15	116	243	2.09
Vendors	28	28	46	92	28	84	12	48	2	10	116	262	2.26
Entertainment	46	46	40	80	17	51	10	40	6	30	119	247	2.08
Overall	69	69	44	88	6	18	7	28	7	25	133	228	1.71

### COMMENTS

#### Pre-conference publicity/web registration

All around information was very helpful

For pre-conference publicity, have teasers by committee presentation

Found out in good time

Reminded at good times so we registered on time.

I didn't get the e-mail about wearing school colors

I had to discover, by accident, that the info was on the website. Nothing came out on the listserve.

I liked the e-mail reminders

I really liked the on-line registration

Suggest direct e-mails to registered participants

The website for the conference was hard to find

Good use of e-mail and timely reminders

## **Location/Hotel**

Beautiful Facility

Great hotel; elegant

I loved having it in Grand Rapids but the food and sessions could have been better

Love Grand Rapids, but missing going up north

I love MACRAO when it is up at Traverse City or Shanty Creek

Grand Rapids is a great location

Great location

Grand Rapids is a good site, easy for most people to drive to

## **Rooms**

Great rooms and meeting areas – beautiful venue

Meeting rooms were too cool/cold

Rooms tough to find sometimes

The pillars in the meeting rooms were a real barrier to dialogue, give and go conversation

The rooms in the hotel were very comfortable

There was smoke in the “non-smoking” rooms due to poor ventilation

We need to get internet worked into room charges or conference fee

Needed internet connection in the rooms for presenters

Rooms worked out better than I thought but some were hard to find

Would have liked to have tables in the rooms and some were crowded

Some rooms were noisy

## **Meals**

A vegetarian option at each meal

Food was very good; all meals were delicious; food was delicious; food was very good; food was awesome; every meal was actually pretty good

Good variety of food

Having a lighter lunch, sandwiches and light salads; would really rather have salad and maybe soup

Having water during all the breaks

If you offer vegetarian – make sure it is not pasta (or clarify that it is)

The food choices were limited

The servers never smiled – why so dour?

The service was great

The water glasses at the meals were smudged

Vegetarian meals were not as good as expected

Meal seating seemed crowded

Too often had to select chicken as the best selection

## **Sessions**

Every session I attended was good and I got something that I can take home  
Friday session are always under attended  
Have sessions on strategic enrollment management – how to plan for the maximum/optimal enrollment  
It was great to have a full program again  
I think we should have individual workshop evaluations  
I was expecting a bit more emphasis on “new approaches”  
Look at Professional Development programs  
More round table discussions  
Great variety  
More Admissions session  
More sessions for the seasoned admissions person  
More sessions geared toward staff working in “One Stop Center” that covers both Admissions and Registrars  
More variety in sessions – more student focused  
Need more interactive sessions (not just lectures)  
Need to focus a bit more to all markets including the adult learner. Much of the conference was traditional specific.  
Need workshops  
Nice selection of sessions  
Not a great selection for Registrar's  
Registrar's sessions not as good as past years  
Remind presenters to look at audience and not slide show  
Some of the sessions I attended the presenters were confusing and not well versed in presenting  
The Friday sessions aren't as well attended as the others. Possibly include a Closing Ceremony  
The Paul and Mark show was excellent  
This year there was a better diversity of presentations  
Too many sessions are repeated  
Were very informative  
Would like to see more compliance/records/FERPA session  
Would like to see some meaty admissions sessions – specifically marketing, communications, west site, publications  
Not enough sessions to fill either a Registrar's or Admissions tract  
Track 2-3 sessions for a certificate  
Sessions were a lot better than last year  
Since the evening activities were scattered, an interactive opening sessions would have been nice.

## **Vendors**

Didn't visit them  
Didn't offer much for me  
Have incentives for visiting vendors  
We need to put vendors where they get better traffic flow

## **Entertainment**

I was sad we didn't have anything planned to keep us together for at least some of TH night.

Loved the entertainment

Loved the Museum and the Free Night

Missed the usual TH night get-together

Really entertaining, especially TH night

The dessert reception was amazing

Wasn't pleased with the night out on the town entertainment format

Wednesday was great and not having anything scheduled on Thursday was wonderful, it gave time to get together with old friends.

Loved the singers

Loved the Mariachi band

I loved the singers and the band, the Gerald Ford Museum was awesome

## **General**

2 ½ days too long, 2 days is more than enough

A spot for feedback on the web

Aug – Sep is beyond busy and the early November meeting comes when I most need to get away, it does conflict with the first week of winter registration. The W-F format helps us work around that.

Breaks were a bit long

Conference bag hard to use

Even the organization of this conference was superb

Great gifts – time to retire college wear exchange

I appreciated the enthusiasm of Howard and his team

I wish we could have incorporated a theme throughout the conference (for example the budget issues many of us are struggling with)

It would be good to have the committee reports before the business meeting

Kudos to the LAC! Another fantastic year.

Liked different format for prize give always

Maybe have an ice-breaker type event where people could mingle and meet (this is especially good for first timers)

Prefer full program over on-line only

Provide mentors to first time attendees

The business lunch was awkward and hard to hear (maybe it should be a plenary session)

The business meeting luncheon should serve as a model for future conferences.

Think Green – too much paper waste

Too much time scheduled for lunches and between

Very good, one of the best

Put the handouts in a folder or on-line