

2009 Summer Institute Post-Conference Survey Summary

The following is a summary of the feedback received from Summer Institute participants in the individual session surveys and in the overall conference survey. Overall survey results are available upon request, with individual session results being available for each session's presenters. The following observations were made based on the overall surveys (n = 23), and the individual session surveys:

- 101 participants attended all or part of the Summer Institute. Monday represented the largest single day with 65 participants.
- At least 50% of Institute attendees in each session defined themselves as either “tribal child welfare workers or child welfare administrators.”
- Other attendees included school social workers, educators, community members, therapists, and elders.
- 100% of participants reported being very satisfied or satisfied with this year's presenters.
- Participants reported at least 90% satisfaction with registration, handouts, relevance of content, organization of the event, and the UMD staff.
- The Northern Lights Hotel was well received, although a number of attendees noted that the shape and acoustics of the room made hearing a challenge and that the rooms were too cold. In general, however, the comments about the facilities were much more positive than last year.
- Overall, participants thought the sessions were well done, and enjoyed the presenters. At least 85% of participants in *every session* reported being very satisfied or satisfied with the presenter(s) and content.
- At least 90% of participants at each session indicated that if they had expectations going in to the presentation, they were met or exceeded.
- 100% of participants said that they would recommend the Summer Institute to others.
- Many comments indicated that presenters would like more content on ways to specifically apply Summer Institute teachings or models within their own practice or agency.
- Discussion and question and answer periods were seen as important to participants. In several sessions, attendees noted that they wished that more time had been allowed for these activities, although in some sessions the discussion was seen as taking away from the core content of the presentation.
- Some participants were frustrated with sessions that started late or went longer than originally scheduled especially when this meant that following sessions were given less time.
- Issues related to lateral violence and lateral oppression were routinely brought up as important and relevant content for next year.
- Among other suggestions for future Summer Institutes were:
 - Mandated reporting
 - Continuing information and activities grounded in Ojibwe culture
 - Nutrition
 - More practical application of content
 - A youth panel
 - More interaction with elders
 - Case management skills

If you have additional feedback on the Summer Institute that you would like to share, please feel free to contact us via email at: jheyten@d.umn.edu