



2011 Planning Conference Feedback - Summary Report

Survey: 2011 Strategic Planning Conference Feedback Survey

What is your role in Montgomery College?

Value	Count	Percent %
Administrator	18	41.9%
Faculty	16	37.2%
Staff	8	18.6%
Student	1	2.3%

Statistics	
Total Responses	43

General Conference Questions. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the conference content and its logistics. Please select "NA" if a statement does not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The conference outcomes were clearly communicated in advance of the meeting	0.0% 0	4.1% 2	4.1% 2	51.0% 25	40.8% 20	0.0% 0	100% 49
The conference outcomes were met	0.0% 0	4.1% 2	8.2% 4	44.9% 22	40.8% 20	2.0% 1	100% 49
The conference date was convenient.	16.3% 8	22.4% 11	14.3% 7	28.6% 14	18.4% 9	0.0% 0	100% 49
The conference was the appropriate length of time.	4.1% 2	16.3% 8	10.2% 5	49.0% 24	20.4% 10	0.0% 0	100% 49
The conference refreshment and food was good.	6.1% 3	0.0% 0	12.2% 6	55.1% 27	24.5% 12	2.0% 1	100% 49
Participants at the conference were from a broad representation.	2.0% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	34.7% 17	61.2% 30	2.0% 1	100% 49
The information presented was appropriate and informative.	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	2.0% 1	32.7% 16	61.2% 30	2.0% 1	100% 49
The small group discussion was productive.	0.0% 0	6.1% 3	2.0% 1	26.5% 13	61.2% 30	4.1% 2	100% 49
Overall, the conference was well organized.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	32.7% 16	65.3% 32	2.0% 1	100% 49

Overall, the conference was worthwhile!	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	6.1% 3	32.7% 16	59.2% 29	2.0% 1	100% 49
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Keynote Speaker. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the keynote speaker session. Please select "NA" if a statement does not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The keynote speaker was prepared, informative, and understandable.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	12.2% 6	85.7% 42	0.0% 0	100% 49
The information presented was relevant and understandable.	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	2.0% 1	28.6% 14	67.3% 33	0.0% 0	100% 49
The discussion and questions were handled to your satisfaction.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	40.8% 20	57.1% 28	0.0% 0	100% 49
The session was the appropriate length of time.	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	8.2% 4	40.8% 20	49.0% 24	0.0% 0	100% 49
Overall, the keynote presentation was worthwhile!	2.0% 1	0.0% 0	4.1% 2	26.5% 13	67.3% 33	0.0% 0	100% 49

Morning Academic Panel. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the Morning Panel session. Please select "NA" if a statement does not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The Morning panelists were prepared, informative, and understandable.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	34.7% 17	63.3% 31	0.0% 0	100% 49
The information presented was relevant and understandable.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	32.7% 16	67.3% 33	0.0% 0	100% 49
The discussion and questions were handled to your satisfaction.	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	6.1% 3	28.6% 14	63.3% 31	0.0% 0	100% 49
The session was the appropriate length of time.	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	2.0% 1	34.7% 17	61.2% 30	0.0% 0	100% 49
Overall, the morning panel was worthwhile!	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	2.0% 1	24.5% 12	73.5% 36	0.0% 0	100% 49

Afternoon Workforce Panel. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the Afternoon Panel session. Please select "NA" if a statement does not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The Afternoon panelists were prepared, informative, and understandable.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	2.1% 1	27.1% 13	62.5% 30	8.3% 4	100% 48
The information presented was relevant and understandable.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	4.2% 2	27.1% 13	60.4% 29	8.3% 4	100% 48
The discussion and questions were handled to your satisfaction.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	6.3% 3	31.3% 15	54.2% 26	8.3% 4	100% 48
The session was the appropriate length of time.	0.0% 0	6.4% 3	0.0% 0	38.3% 18	46.8% 22	8.5% 4	100% 47
Overall, the afternoon panel was worthwhile!	0.0% 0	2.1% 1	2.1% 1	31.9% 15	55.3% 26	8.5% 4	100% 47

Small Group Discussion. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the small group session. Please select "NA" if a statement does not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The Small Group Facilitator was prepared and helpful.	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	4.2% 2	37.5% 18	52.1% 25	6.3% 3	100% 48
Each participant was given opportunities to express opinions.	0.0% 0	2.1% 1	0.0% 0	29.2% 14	62.5% 30	6.3% 3	100% 48
Participants stayed focused on the small group questions.	0.0% 0	4.2% 2	2.1% 1	33.3% 16	54.2% 26	6.3% 3	100% 48
The small group discussion was the appropriate length of time.	0.0% 0	4.2% 2	4.2% 2	33.3% 16	52.1% 25	6.3% 3	100% 48
The small group location and facilities were appropriate.	0.0% 0	2.1% 1	2.1% 1	37.5% 18	52.1% 25	6.3% 3	100% 48
Overall, the small group discussion was worthwhile!	0.0% 0	6.4% 3	0.0% 0	25.5% 12	61.7% 29	6.4% 3	100% 47

Conference Material. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the conference material. Please select 'NA' if a statement does

not apply.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total
The Preconference package was timely.	2.3% 1	4.5% 2	13.6% 6	59.1% 26	18.2% 8	2.3% 1	100% 44
The Preconference material was relevant and informative.	0.0% 0	2.3% 1	15.9% 7	50.0% 22	27.3% 12	4.5% 2	100% 44

Overall, was the conference productive in developing the 2013-2020 strategic themes for the College ?

Value	Count	Percent %	Statistics	
Somewhat productive	14	29.8%	Total Responses	47
Very productive	26	55.3%		
Extremely productive	7	14.9%		

What were the strengths of the conference?

Count	Response
1	A broad group of people had the opportunity to participate
1	Broad participation; knowledgeable presenters; participants seemed engaged
1	Communication of Information necessary for futrue planning.
1	Excellent presentations
1	Good morning session. Small group discussion
1	Great information presented! Good discussion in small groups.
1	Inclusiveness. Perspectives from industry. Data from economic sources.
1	Knowledgeable speakers; time to ask questions and give input; pertinent subject matter
1	Opportunities for questions and small discussion.
1	Organization Speakers Questions in the small groups were pertient and relevant
1	Representation was diverse
1	Speakers
1	Stephen Fuller
1	The inclusion of all constituents.
1	The keynote speaker and morning panel were very interesting and relevant.
1	The panels and opportunity to discuss things in small group were very worthwhile.
1	The range of participants from various areas of the college.

1	The small group discussion was excellent.
1	Variety of people involved. Setting the base for Strategic Planning
1	Well organized communication about the event. Great idea to have it video-taped.
1	Well planned good speakers in the morning. The afternoon panel was very hard to hear and follow.
1	gave a wide range of leaders to discuss large issues affecting them and the college
1	getting everyone together
1	panel discussions
1	panelists and the small group discussions
1	panels were very informative and offered good perspective
1	speakers
1	the small groups gave us time to convey what everyone thought. The presidents address
1	It was good for credit side of the College to hear the workforce issues that the noncredit side is more aware of. The statistics on future workforce areas was very important. Also thought that emphasis on basic gen ed skills (reading, writing, problem solving, critical thinking skills) by workforce speakers very enlightening.
1	Wide variety of participants and speakers. The panel discussions were very informative. The breakout sessions and discussions.
1	Lunch. Just kidding. The workforce panel was very informative. The tangible examples of issues managers are presented with at the workplace showcased that an emphasis needs to be place of life skills and general education courses.
1	Broad representation - Inclusivity Great, thoughtful, lively discussions in small group break outs. UMS Chancelor was wonderful as was Dept. Ed rep and Workforce panelists! I much preferred the breakout groups with notes taken on flash drives. When we were all in one room in Gude (even though there were less people) it was hard to hear in the small groups and the reporting back was time consuming and unecessary. Great improvement.
1	The information about the business community we serve. Some of the information confirmed what we are already doing is good and some of it signaled a need for change
1	Organization Panels - Trends in education and workforce needs Small groups A broad representation
1	Broad representation Data to use for decision making Having panel with a broad spectrum of knowledge. Appreciate the K-12 and university viewpoints.
1	Represented all parts of the college and governance. Excellent framework for looking to the future.
1	The representation from around the College and the caliber of the general presentations. It was nice to meet and interact with colleagues.
1	Well organized Inclusive Small group discussions Opportunity to participate in a focused and organized discussion on strategic themes for MC
1	Good background with Stephen Fuller and brought others than workforce faculty the message that

workforce development is important. Small group work was invaluable for not only resulting info but bring folks together who have not worked together before. .

- 1 Laying the foudantion with the Keynote speaker and a.m. panelits. Bringing together a cross section of the College Community for a short period of time to discuss and set priorities for the College.

What could be improved for the conference?

Count	Response
1	A website for pre and post conference materials
1	Better room for large sessions People were all over the place
1	Have more faculty participation
1	I expected something a bit more concrete for outcomes, but I suppose it is what it is
1	I like to see the next steps.
1	More comfortable space - theater arts was cavernous; classrooms not the best chairs for adults
1	One group session, not two
1	The preplanning stages might benefit from an earlier start date.
1	The room was very cold so it was uncomfortable at times.
1	The timing was terrible.
1	Timing.
1	Would have been nice to have more time and more folks stay for the afternoon session.
1	breakout sessions could have been in the same building
1	half day; full day too long
1	keynote speaker what will be the outcome?
1	length
1	open invitation for the speaker and panel sessions.
1	timely - never during the faculty instructional time (needed for course preparation)
1	Having the capability to view the conference "live" from our office computers if we were unable to physically attend the conference.
1	Academic panels could be more forward thinking. They told us mostly about the present, and gave us information we already have if we read the Chronicle.
1	Because both the morning keynote speaker and the afternoon workforce panel were so economics-based, I fear the small-group discussions and output may have missed some other big areas concerning more internal issues at the college that need to be concerned about when planning for 2020.
1	Send materials to read earlier -- professional week is very demanding, especially for faculty, and

we didn't have much time to absorb materials

- 1 Having the afternoon small group discussions was useful but seemed redundant. It appeared that a number of participants did not return to the main conference after that. Having the small group discussions in a different building from the main conference made it too tempting for people to leave for good.
- 1 Better communication of the goals for the day and how participants are actions will help us progress towards those goals
- 1 More time in the conferences rooms. Use FL method for brainstorming. More relevant statistics about M. College vs. other higher ed institutions. .
- 1 While the keynote speaker was knowledgeable, most of the audience is already very well informed about the economic challenges facing our area.
- 1 Industry participants from Computer Sciences, Computer Network applications. More time for wrap up, than just 1 minute per faciliator.
- 1 It was embarrassing that so many participants had left before the second panel. Maybe holding the conference on a day other than so close to the start of the semester would have been good.
- 1 Classrooms not ideal for adult learners - tablet armchair desks were a problem for some small group participants. Not sure the small group discussion was very valuable.
- 1 This sounds dumb but there were so many extra chairs that they were extremely close together. Match the number of chairs more closely to attendance.
- 1 Not really sure what the process will be going forward. It would have been good to have had some type of timeline.
- 1 Too much information in one day. One day - way too long -- my mind was numb by the afternoon session
- 1 I felt that the p.m. panel could should have been part of the a.m. panel. In other words, one speaker from the p.m. could have joined Drs. Kirwin and Grant in the a.m.
- 1 Begin on time so there is time for small group work. Maybe the speakers were not on time casusing us to begin late?
- 1 The small group discussions are never as productive as they could be. They suffer from the problems Dr. Pollard shared in the mission statement video. Too many people trying to put too much stuff into every answer and not focusing on big picture items.
- 1 There should be a focus on adult students (aged 21 and over) who make up over half of the students at the College.
- 1 Since Montgomery County is 90% small business, it would have been helpful to include that perspective and the perspective of a younger business owner.
- 1 More attendees stay for the entire day. Maybe the timing of the conference would help - maybe hold it in summer?
- 1 Overall it was pretty good. The major problem I saw was that there was a person who was so dominating in the small group that literally noone else could get a word into the discussion, and this person commented negatively on others remarks when they did get to make one. The group faciliator did not reign in this person and so the summary does not in anyway reflect the opinions

of the entire group.

Other Comments

Count	Response
1	A massive undertaking. Great job to the planning committee.
1	After I see the results I will better be able to judge the value of the day!
1	All in all, I think it provided a good foundation and the right mindset for the work ahead.
1	Extremely well organized
1	Glad it was a conference format
1	I had a great time and learnt a lot!
1	I really enjoyed the conference and learned a lot.
1	I was glad to be a part of these important discussions!
1	Need to keep workforce partners more engaged in this conversation.
1	Not sure that the strategic themes for 2013 - 2020 were developed
1	Overall very informative.
1	Overall, the retreat was great. Suggest more planning and preparation for the facilitators.
1	Overall, this was a well planned and well organized event.
1	Select the Tuesday in Professional Week, not Thursday.
1	Thank you for including me. It was very enlightening.
1	Thanks so much for this opportunity!
1	Very appreciative to be included in the process of forging the future of MC.
1	Well staffed to support the activities and guide participants to where they needed to be
1	good planning
1	well organized.
1	It would be good to have MCPS represented to hear the comments and participate. I realize there was a conflict with MCPS on this day, but in the future, it would helpful.
1	I would like to see the participants get a listing of the ideas coming out of the small groups. The sharing was too quick, and we were all too tired to really follow well.
1	Chicken Caesar salad-- chicken had pieces of bone a still attached to it. Not sure I would use that vendor again.
1	I was sorry we spent most of our time talking about preparation for careers and did not have time to discuss how education prepares our students to understand themselves and to function as responsible citizens.
1	My concern is that even in small groups, some people do not seem to be willing to look at

anything differently.

- 1** Arrange it in an area like Gym, with more participants, sitting on round tables so that everything can be in the same place.
- 1** Killer being out of the office for an entire day this time of year. I'm sure that was the reason for those who didn't attend but were invited.
- 1** A half day during professional week is the most you should ask people to commit to. A full day in early August would be fine, but this time was really hard.