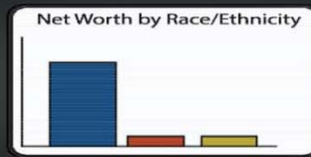




2015

Annual Meeting Survey Results



Removing the Mask, Lifting the Veil: Race, Class, and Gender in the 21st Century

The Society for the Study of Social Problems

65th Annual Meeting, August 21-23, 2015

Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel

Chicago, IL

SSSP 2015 Annual Meeting Survey Results Released

September 24, 2015

With **927 registrants** surveyed and **242 total responses**, we're happy to release the results of the 2015 Annual Meeting Survey on behalf of the SSSP Administrative Office. Thank you for taking time out to participate in our survey. Your responses are vital in helping SSSP to provide a valuable conference experience and to continue our mission as a social justice organization.

The survey ran for two weeks from September 4 through September 18 with a **26% participation rate**. Registrants took an average of 5 minutes to complete the survey.

In this report, you'll see the survey questions, possible answers, summary of responses, graphs, and comments where applicable. The comments have not been edited and may contain misspellings and grammatical errors. Please note in the interest of keeping the survey short, we only ask for comments when a "fair" or "poor" is selected.

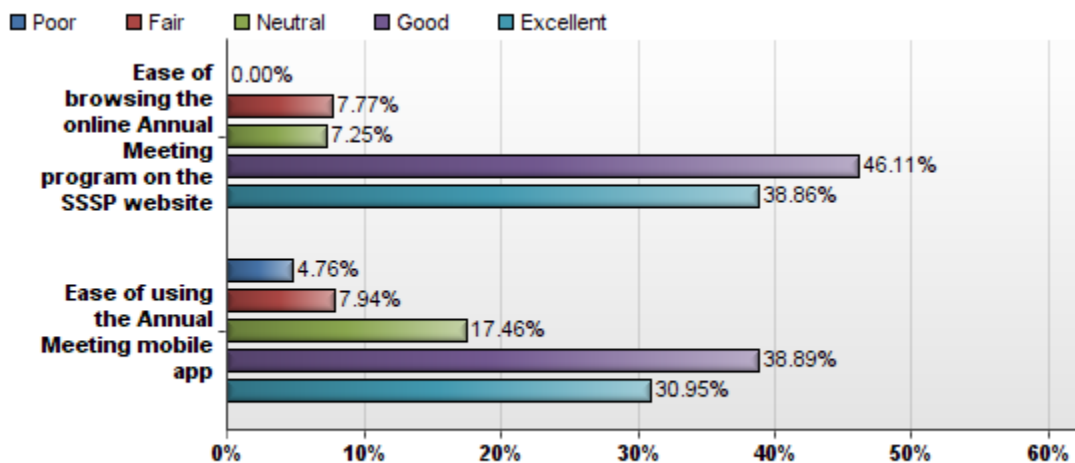
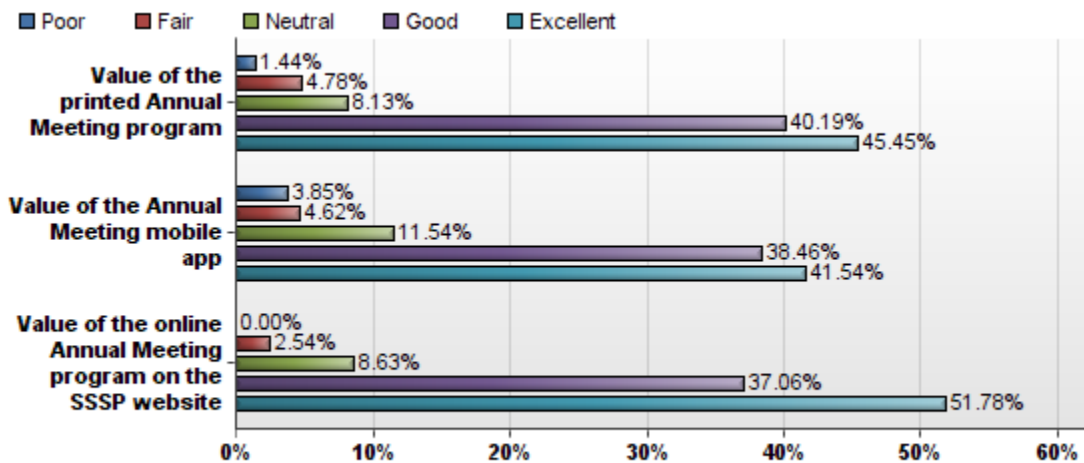
Thank you for your participation!

Most sincerely,

The Administrative Office

1. Based on your experience, please rate the following items.

Question	Poor	Fair	Neutral	Good	Excellent	Total Responses	Mean
Ease of browsing the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website	0	15	14	89	75	193	4.16
Value of the printed Annual Meeting program	3	10	17	84	95	209	4.23
Ease of using the Annual Meeting mobile app	6	10	22	49	39	126	3.83
Value of the Annual Meeting mobile app	5	6	15	50	54	130	4.09
Value of the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website	0	5	17	73	102	197	4.38



2. You said that you are dissatisfied with the printed Annual Meeting Program. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

I just wished that it could have not been printed and given to everyone. Perhaps you could ask people if they want one? I felt it was wasteful as I only used the app on my phone. :)

Cost...can we do without?

It's not so much that I'm dissatisfied, but I feel it's unnecessary to give them to everyone. You should really make it optional (opt-in vs. opt-out). Better for the environment that way!

Dissatisfied it is a waste of paper

The app is more convenient and less heavy :-)

I prefer searching online and had already read the program before receiving the printed one.

Compared to the app, the program book was large, with lots of text on each page, making it difficult to locate where listings for specific sessions started and ended.

The Program was nice. I just think it is unnecessary. The online program was sufficient for me.

I just don't think it is that necessary. Let's get away from printed copies except for people who need them for disability or internet issues.

I don't think everyone needs a printed copy anymore. I suggest asking people to request one, otherwise assume that they have a digital copy.

It's just wasteful. It's a fine program.

Formatting was hard to follow sometimes, needed better separation/ distinction between days.

Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	12

3. You said that you are dissatisfied with the Annual Meeting mobile app. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

I thought it was too difficult to install and navigate easily.

I simply didn't need it. It didn't add value to me (personally) beyond what I received from the online and printed programs.

There was nothing useful about it.

I had trouble getting it onto my phone, so I gave up and didn't use it.

The meeting app was unsophisticated - the listings were fine to search and find, but the search function was a little slow and paused/stuck sometimes. Ultimately, I liked the ASA app much better.

I couldn't get to the schedule on the mobile app on my blackberry - however I could get to it on my ipad. may have been a blackberry thing?

I found it hard to use on my smartphone.

My equipment isn't really up-to-date enough to use it during the meeting. No real problem with the app itself.

Mostly dissatisfied in having to use my phone for other things not phone related.

It was difficult to set up. I thought we were downloading an app specifically for the SSSP meeting, but what I ended up with required me to search for SSSP from among scores of other events in the app. After doing that a few times, SSSP did come up automatically when I opened the app, and it was helpful. Perhaps the problems were my errors, but I have used other meeting apps with less trouble.

It was difficult for me to use. Every I tried to log in, I would have to search for and select the meeting again. The app that used through the ASAs was easier to use, although not perfect either.

I didn't feel it offered much more than the online program. The online program also was easier to access.

I have no use for it. I actually said I was dissatisfied with the *value* of it...for that reason. (My phone does not play well with apps or the internet or anything beyond simply being a phone.)

Having to constantly log in to look up a session. All the information you need is not easily in one spot but you have to click on multiple tabs.

I had a hard time downloading it and accessing it on my mobile phone. In the end, I couldn't even use it.

The UI was clumsy and roundabout type. Often remained non or poorly responsive.

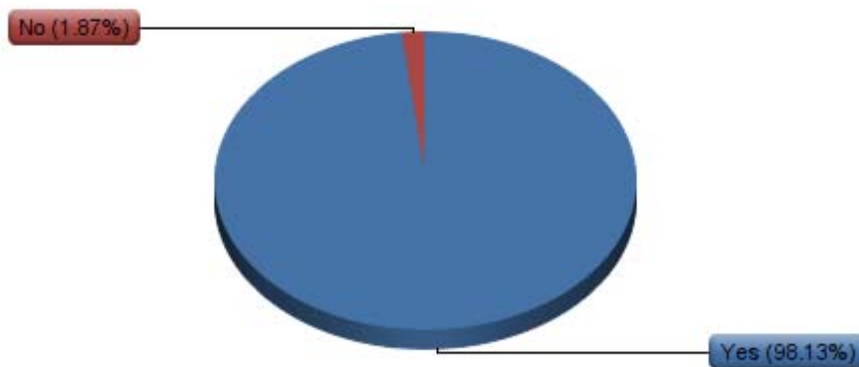
Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	16

4. You said that you are dissatisfied with the online Annual Meeting Program on the SSSP website. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response	
Difficulty in navigation.	
No easy way to search through the presenters or guests -- had to scroll through alphabetically, making it almost impossible to get past the early letters given the volume of people	
Load up time very long due to complex pdf. Link harder to find than for SSSI/ASA respectively.	
i found it was a little cumbersome	
I wasn't dissatisfied, but I read the question as asking what value it had to me. Since I only used the website once during the meeting I rated it as fair in terms of its value to me.	
I'm not dissatisfied. I just think there is a lot of information and it is difficult to lay it out in a way that is easy to read. I don't know that I have thoughts for how to make it easier though.	
The format could've been easier to navigate.	
it was difficult to navigate and did not provide an easy thematic ordering of the program	
Not so much with SSSP's specifically, but navigating any larger conference details is tedious.	
Website would not always open up, so I used the mobile app instead.	
Again, it is not as easy as click and browse. It required multiple clicks and sign in process.	
It was difficult to locate the program on the website.	
Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	12

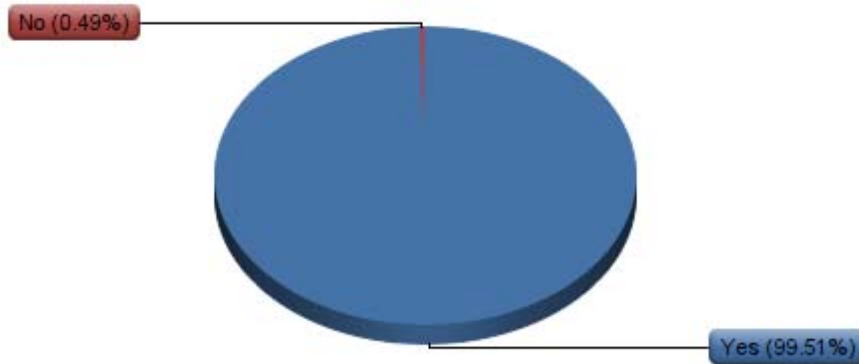
5. Did you pre-register for the Annual Meeting?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	210	98%
No	4	2%
Total	214	100%



6. Was the online pre-registration process satisfactory?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	205	100%
No	1	0%
Total	206	100%



7. You said that you are dissatisfied with the online pre-registration process. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

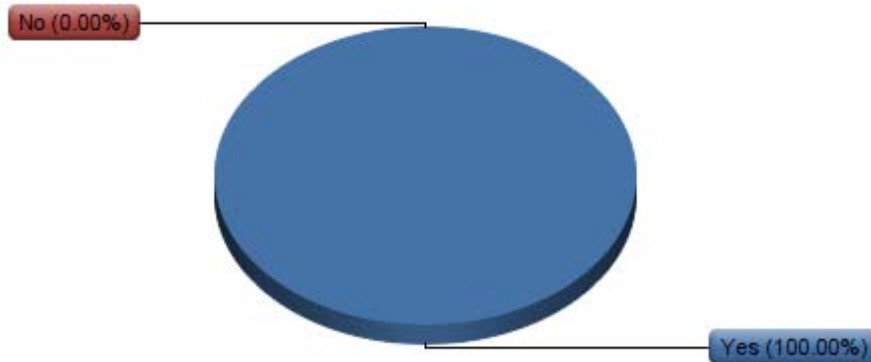
Text Response

there was not a back up hotel and the block reserved for the meeting was sold out. My university won't allow me to purchase at a higher rate UNLESS it is a listed backup/overflow hotel

Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	1

8. Was the on-site registration process satisfactory?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	4	100%
No	0	0%
Total	4	100%



9. You said that you are dissatisfied with the on-site registration process. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

<No Responses>

Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	0

10. Please check the day(s) you attended the Annual Meeting.

Answer	Response	%
Thursday, August 20	72	34%
Friday, August 21	174	83%
Saturday, August 22	177	85%
Sunday, August 23	129	62%

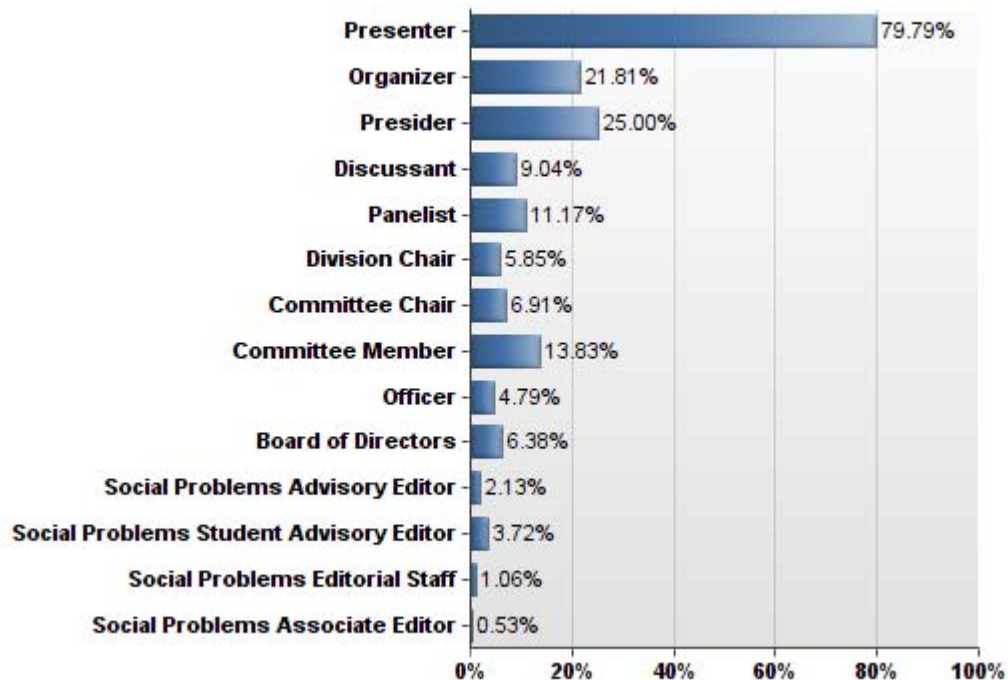
11. Did you participate in the Annual Meeting as any of the roles listed below?

- Presenter
- Division Chair
- *Social Problems* Advisory Editor
- Organizer
- Committee Chair
- *Social Problems* Student Advisory Editor
- President
- Committee Member
- *Social Problems* Editorial Staff
- Discussant
- Officer
- *Social Problems* Associate Editor
- Panelist
- Board of Directors

Answer	Response	%
Yes	189	91%
No	19	9%
Total	208	100%

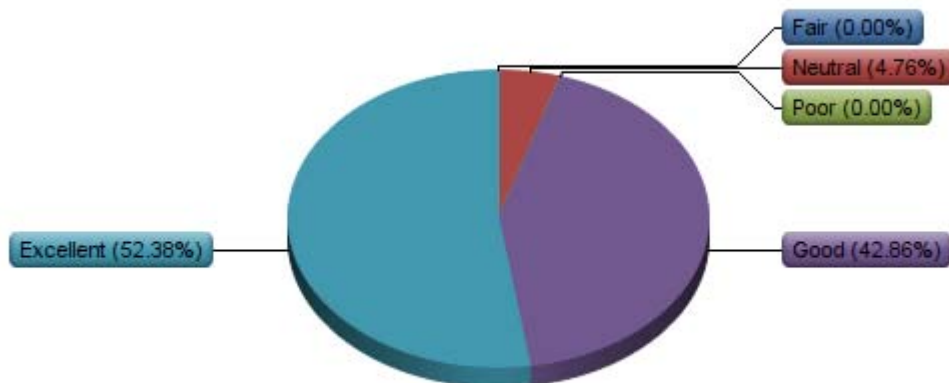
12. Please indicate the roles you played at the Annual Meeting.

Answer	Response	%
Presenter	150	80%
Organizer	41	22%
Presider	47	25%
Discussant	17	9%
Panelist	21	11%
Division Chair	11	6%
Committee Chair	13	7%
Committee Member	26	14%
Officer	9	5%
Board of Directors	12	6%
<i>Social Problems</i> Advisory Editor	4	2%
<i>Social Problems</i> Student Advisory Editor	7	4%
<i>Social Problems</i> Editorial Staff	2	1%
<i>Social Problems</i> Associate Editor	1	1%



13. Please rate your experience of the online Call for Papers submission process for the Annual Meeting.

Answer	Response	%
Fair	0	0%
Neutral	7	5%
Poor	0	0%
Good	63	43%
Excellent	77	52%
Total	147	100%



14. You said that you are dissatisfied with the online Call for Papers submission process. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

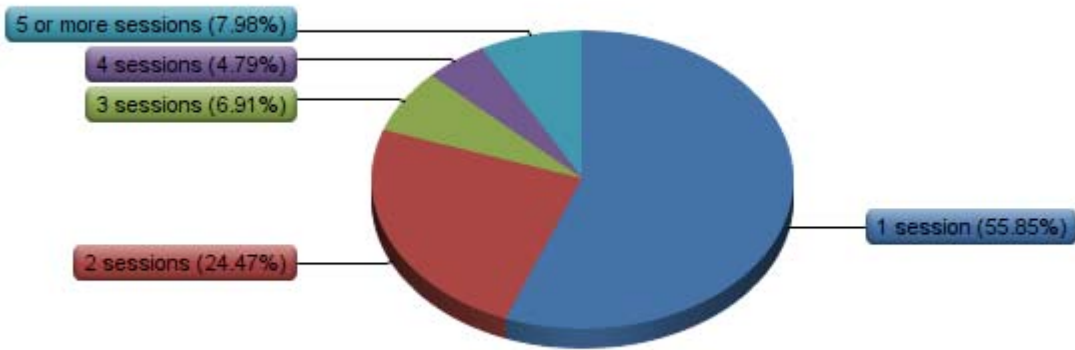
<No Responses>

Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	0

15. How many sessions did you participate in at the Annual Meeting?

(This question was only asked to program participants.)

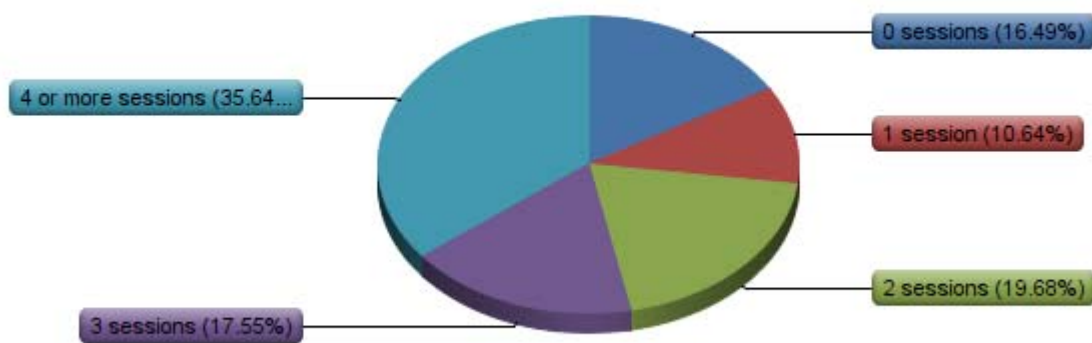
Answer	Response	%
1 session	105	56%
2 sessions	46	24%
3 sessions	13	7%
4 sessions	9	5%
5 or more sessions	15	8%
Total	188	100%



16. Approximately how many sessions did you attend at the Annual Meeting, aside from those you participated in?

(This question was only asked to program participants.)

Answer	Response	%
0 sessions	31	16%
1 session	20	11%
2 sessions	37	20%
3 sessions	33	18%
4 or more sessions	67	36%
Total	188	100%



17. Please specify reason for not attending more sessions, aside from those you participated in. (This was only presented to program participants who attended less than 2 sessions.)

Text Response

Was planning on attending more sessions Saturday, but personal emergency came up

Had my family with me, spouse also attended/presented, had to divide childcare and entertain the child; because of date could not attend entire conference as classes began the Monday after the conference so had to travel on Sunday.

I had a lot to do and participate in at the ASAs. I might have attended more SSSP sessions but I could make the walk between both hotels sites everyday.

no specific reason

Had a busy schedule of meetings.

Other SSSP committments (meetings, etc), committments at ASA

I was busy going to and from ASA and had meetings at both that prevented me from going to more sessions at either ASA or SSSP.

Working registration!

I was not feeling well

Co-occurrence with ASA meetings. Plus, quite frankly, the quality of the research discussed was not high. Too many graduate student theoretical stuff, not enough substance (actual findings).

Childcare responsibilities.

SSSP conflicted entirely with ASA so I was not able to attend SSSP outside of my own sessions. In fact, for the second time my session at SSSP was at the exact same time as my session at ASA. I think that the thematic sections need to be coordinated better and that the same thematic sections should not schedule presentations for the same time that the thematic section has scheduled its time slots at ASA. Sections do not present every day of ASA and certain section times cover blocks of papers, like round tables. At the very least the scheduling of SSSP sessions should address that issue.

juggling the asa and sssp and research in chicago. in general i don't like large association meetings

Not my professional area and normally wouldn't belong to SSSP except my co-presenter belongs and I had to join in order to be able to present our paper at the conference.

Busy at meetings from dawn to dusk.

I was also attending sessions at the Association of Black Sociologists and the American Sociological Association Annual Conference. It was a difficult decision in terms of selecting sessions that were most relevant for my research, so my time ended up being quite divided among the three conferences.

Attended committee and board meetings

My ASA and other Chicago meetings (e.g., graduate students, research collaborations, mentoring, etc.) prevented me from doing so.

I was trying to balance attendance at ASA meetings, presentations, and interviews for a job.

wanted to visit Chicago

Doing other things. In my experience, attending presentations/papers at all professional meetings are a waste of time; reading is much more efficient.

I worked the registration desk and it restricted the sessions I was able to attend to those first thing in the morning or in one large block on one day - which I didn't realize would be my best opportunity to attend sessions. So, I snoozed and lost :(Also, I spent a lot of time reconnecting with colleagues who are in other cities now instead of attending sessions/receptions.

Job market year.

Busy with ASA business

Touring the city of Chicago (using the meeting as an excuse to vacation)

I was limited by time as I traveled in just for my two presentations.

My schedule was tight, due to activities outside of the conference. I hope to attend and participate more next year.

Have other errands to run. Not enough time.

Splitting my time with ASA.

I generally attend more sessions, but happened to know more people participating at ASA this year and focused on talking/networking with people there.

I was also attending the ASAs, and the meetings were able a 20 min walk apart, so it was difficult to get from one hotel to another to attend all the sessions that I wanted to attend.

no time; limited funding that allows only a short stay

I was too busy seeing friends.

informal meetings were more important

As a chair of a committee, I just don't have time to go to sessions AND go to all my meetings AND balance this with SWS and ASA.

Other meetings and appointments kept me busy in Chicago

General disinterest

other sessions, at ASA, were more interesting

Time constraints and commitments to present at ASA, and Chair a Commission meeting at ASA, prevented me from participating more at SSSP. That said, my experience at SSSP exceeded all expectations.

Concurrent ASA sessions + events

I also attended meetings for division chairs, my division's business meeting, and participated in the meeting mentor program.

Narrow focus and close end orientation.

counter-scheduling with ASA sessions; concern that technical troubles with sound system would persist from one session to the next.

time management

Schedule was too packed on Friday and sessions on Saturday interfered with other plans with colleagues.

My father had a medical emergency.

attended the one I was most interested in

Statistic

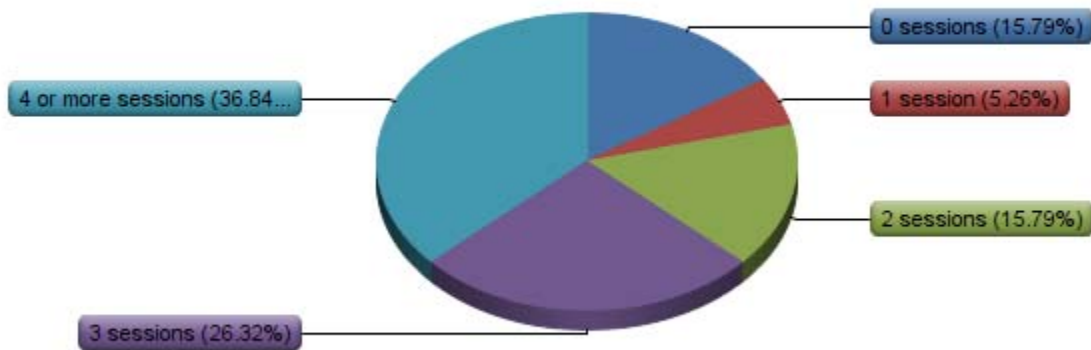
Value

Total Responses

47

18. Approximately how many sessions did you attend at the Annual Meeting? (This question was only asked to non-program participants.)

Answer	Response	%
0 sessions	3	16%
1 session	1	5%
2 sessions	3	16%
3 sessions	5	26%
4 or more sessions	7	37%
Total	19	100%

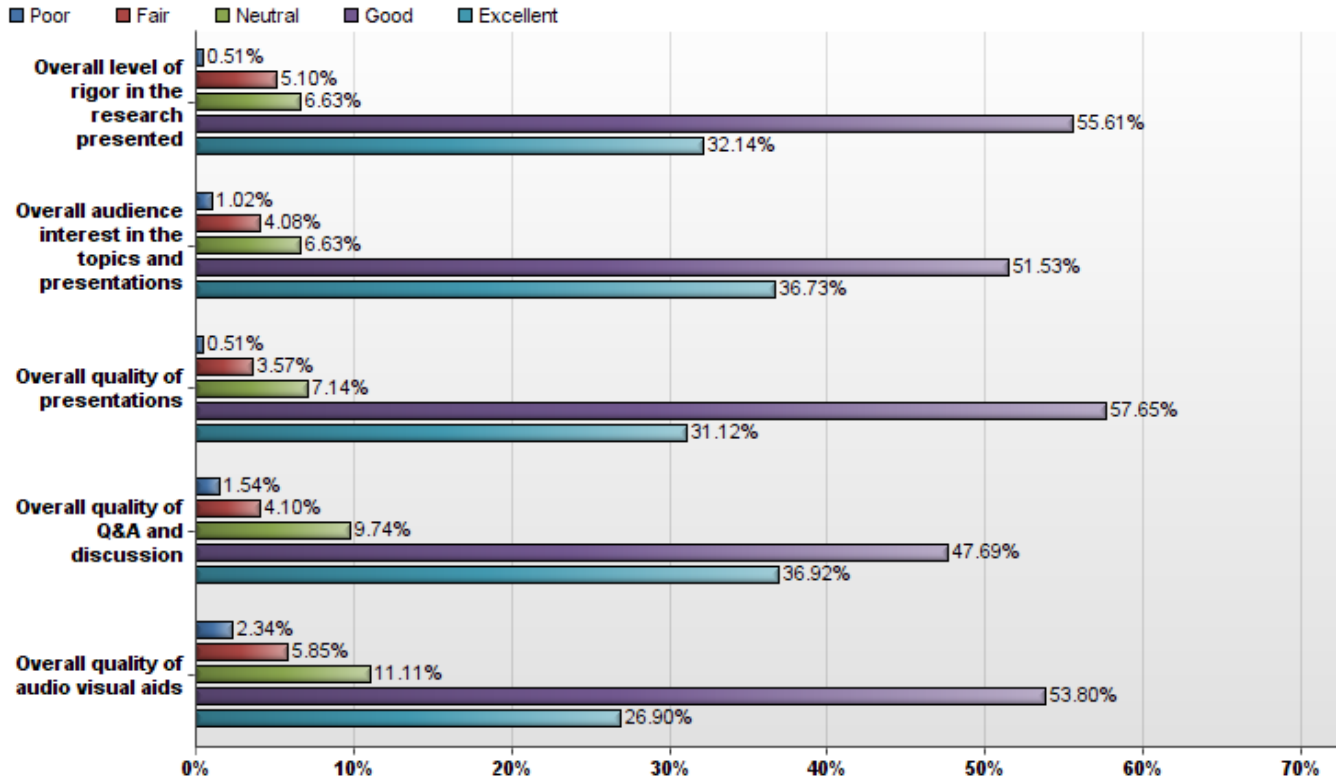


19. Please specify reason for not attending more sessions. (This was only presented to non-program participants who attended less than 2 sessions.)

Text Response	
Personal time constraints. too busy at ASA	
I did not actually attend. I could not raise enough money to actually travel to and attend the meeting.	
was an exhibitor	
Statistic	Value
Total Responses	4

20. Please rate your experience of the session(s) you attended at the Annual Meeting. (This was only presented to respondents who attended at least 1 session.)

Question	Poor	Fair	Neutral	Good	Excellent	Total Responses	Mean
Overall level of rigor in the research presented	1	10	13	109	63	196	4.14
Overall audience interest in the topics and presentations	2	8	13	101	72	196	4.19
Overall quality of presentations	1	7	14	113	61	196	4.15
Overall quality of Q&A and discussion	3	8	19	93	72	195	4.14
Overall quality of audio visual aids	4	10	19	92	46	171	3.97



21. You said that you are dissatisfied with some aspect of the session(s) you attended. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

Paper session had some very poor quality presentations.

I brought a usb drive but there was no computer only a projector. Luckily the other presenters brought laptops but then the problem was the projector was not compatible with Apple. Again, luckily one of the persons had an adaptor.

Same reason as mentioned earlier.

Too few attendees.

I am not a sociologist so it may just be a disciplinary difference and I may have ended up in sessions heavily populated by students. I would have appreciated that be more obvious as I have different expectations for students. In a number of cases, I felt that it was difficult to evaluate the information being presented as many of the presenters in the sessions I attended did not provide information about things that I think of as standard. For example, when talking about qualitative data it is important to talk about how many people you spoke to and how they were recruited. It was not clear in many cases if they spoke with 2 people or 100.

I was dissatisfied that there was so little attendance at some of the sessions, including the one I presented at (2 people attended).

I was very dissatisfied with the Q & A portion of my presentation. There was a woman in the audience who was confrontational, rude and quite unprofessional -- to myself and to another presenter. The interlocutor appeared agitated and irritated during my presentation, and after speaking with a clinical psychologist and describing the "standoff" I was subjected to, she said the woman likely was feeling guilty for drinking during her own pregnancy or knew of someone who did--which caused harm to a child. Nonetheless, she hunkered down (in an aisle-seat) to argue that she was right and I was wrong. I stood my ground, made my point, and did not engage her in further dialogue because I believe it would have only started a full-fledged argument--which I believe would have been a mistake. Nevertheless, I consider it to have been quite a teachable experience.

I think there needs to be more creative ways to get people engaged

The A/V support for the African Independence film in Atlantic E was spotty.

My section organizer did not show up, along with two other presenters, and we were not informed by the organizer that there would be no laptop provided at the meeting. I also found out that I was the presider for the session by looking in the program book, since the section organizer never let me know that I would be filling that role.

My guess is that there were too many sessions...while many presentations were fascinating, many others seemed "thrown together". I think the number of sessions also led to the small audience at many

Many presenters literally read their papers...heads down, no eye contact, no audience engagement whatsoever. This is just completely unacceptable to me and shocking that the "elite" academic research world would have such an extremely low bar.

There were a few sessions where almost NO ONE came... it gets a bit heartbreaking sometimes when you put that much effort into it.

One of sessions that I attended had very poor quality presentations. None of the sessions that I went to were well attended.

Some of the studies could have been more rigorous.... a lot of what was presented was proposed research rather than completed research

Audience in some sessions are leading figures and the discussion is great. If they're not at your session, feedback can be very limited.

The computers weren't working in any of the sessions I attended. In the session in which I presented, a technician interrupted us a number of times but did not assist. At another session I volunteered my own computer for presentations.

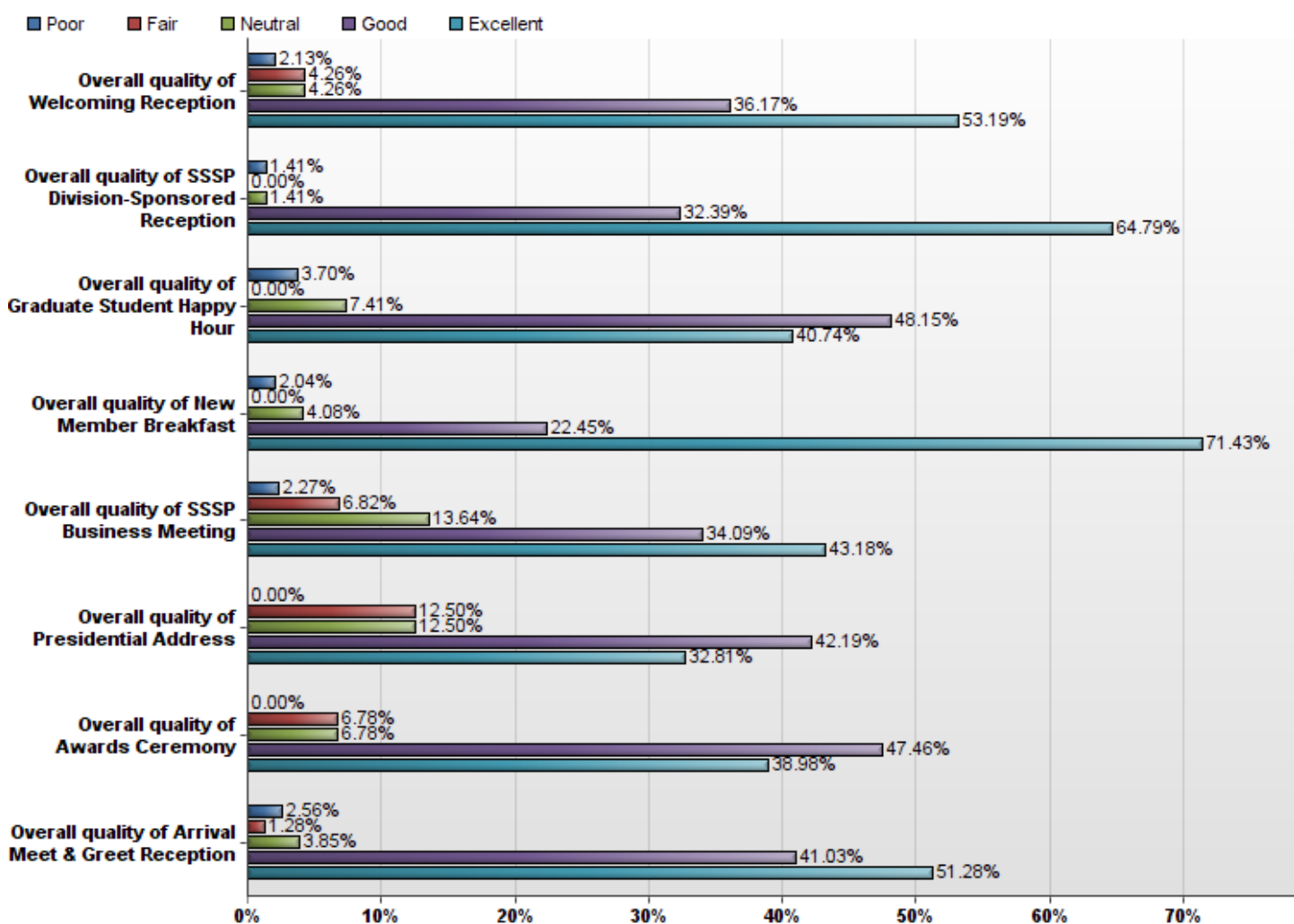
We were at a roundtable and our presider did not show up. Also, there was only one attendee in addition to the three presenters. Four people at a roundtable session at a national conference is pretty disappointing.

Generally, the attendance is low in the sessions. Also, the work is quite varied. I like that SSSP offers opportunities to graduate students and others, but sometimes I wish the rigor was a little greater. For example, the presenters in my session had no theoretical underpinnings, but just reported on some surveys, etc.

Statistic	Value
Total reporting dissatisfaction out of 242 respondents	19

22. Please rate your experience of the reception(s) and special events you attended at the Annual Meeting.

Question	Poor	Fair	Neutral	Good	Excellent	Total Responses	Mean
Overall quality of Welcoming Reception	2	4	4	34	50	94	4.34
Overall quality of SSSP Division-Sponsored Reception	1	0	1	23	46	71	4.59
Overall quality of Graduate Student Happy Hour	1	0	2	13	11	27	4.22
Overall quality of New Member Breakfast	1	0	2	11	35	49	4.61
Overall quality of SSSP Business Meeting	1	3	6	15	19	44	4.09
Overall quality of Presidential Address	0	8	8	27	21	64	3.95
Overall quality of Awards Ceremony	0	4	4	28	23	59	4.19
Overall quality of Arrival Meet & Greet Reception	2	1	3	32	40	78	4.37



23. You said that you are dissatisfied with some aspect of the reception(s) and special events you attended. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Response

Presidential Address was not coherent.

The business meeting was poorly attended and when I arrived, only three or four tables had division signs posted on them. I had to make my own sign just to let members know we were represented - and about 5 minutes into our business meeting, someone came by with our division name sign (finally).

I had a hard time following the content of the Presidential address.

I wasn't dissatisfied it was ok

Very dispersed and hard to get to mingle

Early Welcoming Reception - food and setting were great, but for folks who did not know others and with this happening before sessions, it was not the best way to get to know people (it was a bit awkward in this regard).

The Presidential Address was difficult to follow. Perhaps this was due to the lack of coordination with slides during the address.

I miss the banquet, or some nicer way to do the awards.

The Business Meeting was so BORING. I know it's a business meeting, but still. There should have at least been a powerpoint or Word docs for us to look at on the screen. To have us vote at a BM that is soo poorly attended...that's not representative of who we are. There are ways to make BM more interesting and important.

There were no free drinks on the reception (not even non-alcoholic drinks)

I think there needs to be more time for Q&A. The sessions have too many presenters in each session.

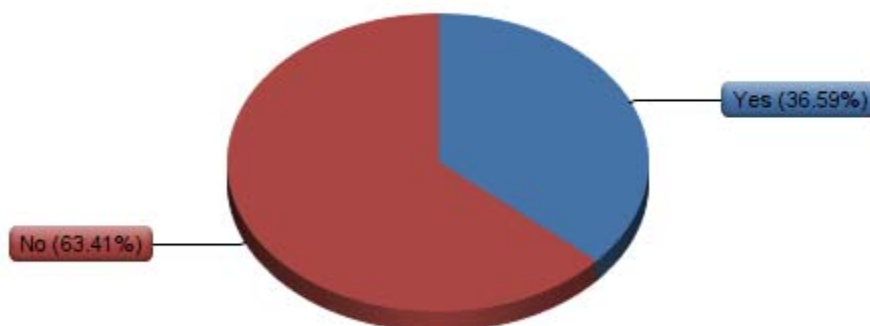
I would have liked the welcoming reception to have been in a space that we could hear someone welcome us. And I didn't love the food.

Hard to find, too many cliques.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	13

24. Did you stay at the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	75	37%
No	130	63%
Total	205	100%



25. What was the main reason you did not stay at the conference hotel?

Text Response

needed to be closer to ASA

I live in the conference city.

Chose less expensive option.

Live in Chicago

price

Way too expensive

I stayed with a friend, but even if I hadn't I would have preferred to stay nearer the ASA hotels as I attend both meetings.

Price

I tried to find a hotel in my budget and in walking distance to ASA.

proximity to ASA meeting

no specific reason

My partner got a room in the Hilton/ASA hotel sponsored by her university.

I have family in Chicago, so I stayed with them instead.

Did not book a room in time. Will try to book sooner. I prefer to stay in the conference hotel

I was waiting for funding from the university so I was too late to find a room at the conference hotel.

Stayed at ASA hotel.

I live here. HOWEVER, if I had needed to stay in the hotel, it would have been a MAJOR problem due to the fragrance they have everywhere. I missed most of the conference because I got sick from the chemicals.

I stayed at the ASA hotel.

Price

I stayed at the ASA conference hotel.

I made my reservation too late.

asa meetings were too far a way so i stayed mid-way between them

I had a friend who lived in Chicago

I was looking for a cheap hotel with access to both SSSP and ASA.

I live in Chicago, so it's too expensive to justify staying in a hotel locally. It did affect my attendance though.

Too expensive; needed a fridge/kitchen for food allergies; like to stay in houses/apartments more than hotels.

Cost

Too expensive and university didn't have money to support my attending the conference so i stayed with friends since I lived in Chicago for ten years 20 years ago.

live in the area

Was also presenting at the ASA Conference

The hotel block for SSSP was already booked, so I decided to stay at the hotel where the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting was being held.

I registered a bit late, and there were no available room for the special rate.

I stayed with a friend who lives in the greater Chicago area.

Too expensive

I stayed at the ASA hotel instead

Cost.

I had a friend living in Chicago that I haven't seen in 4 years. I preferred to spend time with her.

I live in Chicago

Was able to stay at a colleague's apartment in Chicago.

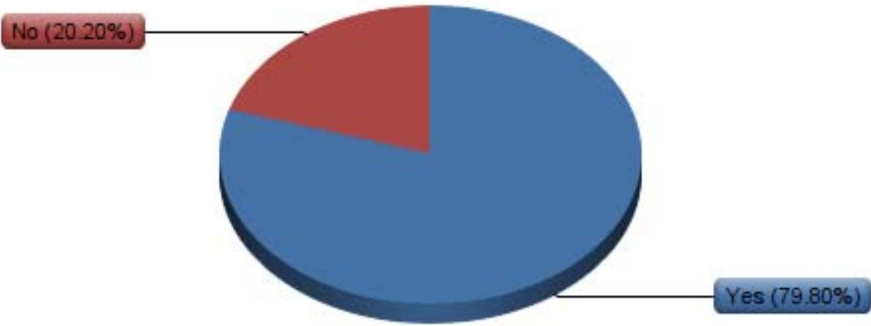
I had to make more affordable arrangements.

I wanted to stay elsewhere.
Too expensive
Going to ASA as well. Thought Radisson was much nicer.
Cost - I was staying for a few days before and after SSSP for ABS and ASA so that many nights was unaffordable for a graduate student.
Too expensive for a graduate student.
Cost of hotel was too much
My wife took care of the hotel arrangements.
Friend has apartment
It was full.
Price
Cost. I was able to stay at a friend's apartment for free. I probably wouldn't have been able to attend if not for the free place to stay.
Too expensive for graduate student; used AirBNB
I live in Chicago and it would have been too expensive.
Price and location somewhat far from the ASA conference hotels
stayed with friends in Chicago
Conference was in hometown.
I live in Chicago, no need.
No rooms available
I live in Chicago
No vacancy
I have family in Chicago who I can stay with.
I live in Chicago.
Price
I live near Chicago and classes at my university were beginning.
Cost.
I did not register in time to get a room, even though I tried in advance of the deadline, and had to find one elsewhere.
It was too expensive. I stayed in a hostel instead which was much cheaper.
SSSP rooms were all booked by the time I called.
I stayed with family who lives in Chicago.
just preferred a different hotel
Chicago residence
Price
I stayed with a friend to save money.
too expensive
Reserved block of rooms sold out before I could make a reservation
also participated in ASA, stayed at middle ground hotel (Palmer House) -- the hotels were MUCH TOO FAR AWAY from each other this year. it was not ACCESSIBLE, convenient, or even reasonable to participate in both conferences -- but MANY PEOPLE DO!!
The block of rooms was already booked by the time I was ready to make my reservations.
cost
Cost
stayed with a friend nearby
Cheaper at another hotel; staying with a peer at another hotel
Stayed at ASA hotel (Palmer house hilton)

Too expensive	
Found cheaper accommodations elsewhere.	
Too expensive. My university did not reimburse any travel expenses, so the entire trip was out of pocket.	
It was full at the time I registered.	
The block reserved for SSSP was already filled.	
Cost	
Too far from the ASA conference	
cost; did not have travel funding	
I stayed in a friend's house in Chicago	
Expensive	
Needed to pre-book before the conference links were open.	
Rooms not available when I registered. Sold out.	
too expensive	
I live in Chicago.	
had friends in town	
I made my reservations for the ASA Annual Meeting at the Hilton Chicago. The facilities at the Radisson Aqua Blu were superb.	
I wanted to stay in-between the Hilton and the Radison--hence, the Palmer House made sense	
Distance from ASA hotels.	
cost	
Statistic	Value
Total Responses	125

26. Are you likely to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	162	80%
No	41	20%
Total	203	100%



27. What is the primary reason that you are unlikely to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA?

Text Response

Work will not pay for my flight and lodging

I would like to but hope to be moving to a job around that time.

It is after my semester begins and too far to travel for just a few days.

Travel cost. Chicago was much closer to home.

timing

distance/cost

Distance

I tend to try to attend meetings every other year.

no travel support

Will not be submitting, conflict with ASA

I only attend every 2 - 3 years because I do interdisciplinary work and attend other conferences.

not sure I'll have new research completed to report on.

lack of funding

The University of Wisconsin budget cuts mean that my department has suspended all travel funding.

Too hard to move between the SSSP and ASA meetings

too far away

Not back in the US

Too far & not rewarding enough for me to attend meetings.

Time and cost

time and funding

Financial

It depends of my research funds, if next year I have a new project with funds, maybe I could go

Distance, planning to be starting an academic job next fall

It is far away from me so it will be costly.

Travel and hotel costs

I am on conference burnout. I hope to come again in 2017.

cost - will go to two meetings in Toronto

financial constraints

Finances

expense doing other things

Date conflict

distance from home

Too far (I'm in NYC).

Location

cost and I have no institutional affiliation to help with costs

Statistic

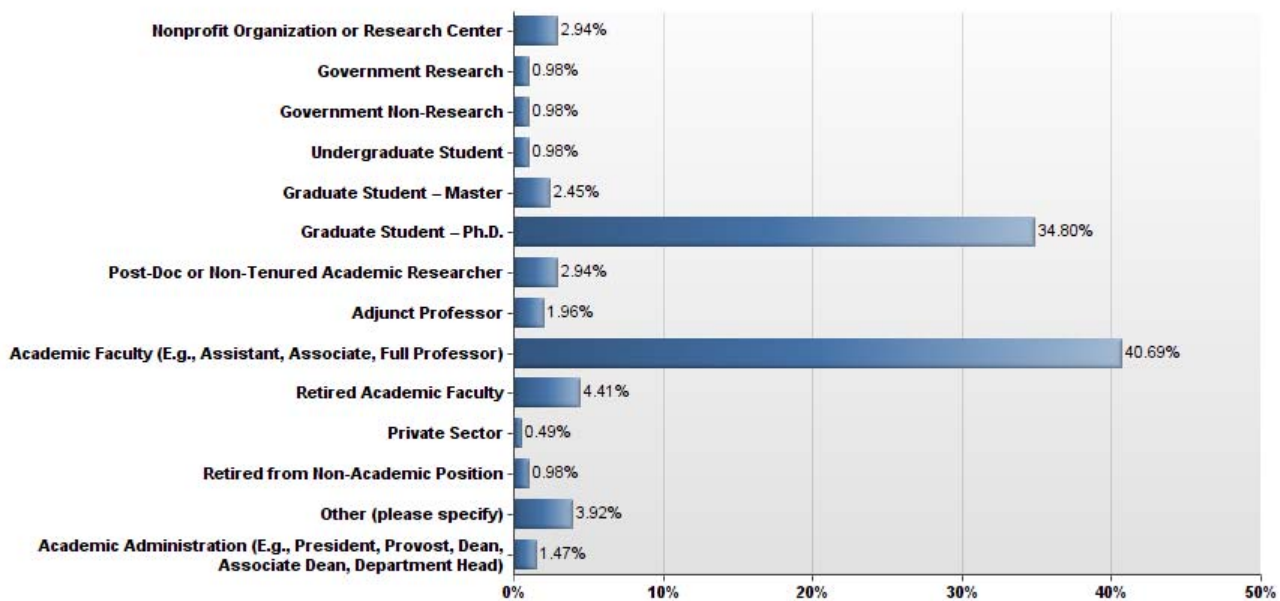
Value

Total Responses

35

28. What is your primary employment type or affiliation?

Answer	Response	%
Nonprofit Organization or Research Center	6	3%
Government Research	2	1%
Government Non-Research	2	1%
Undergraduate Student	2	1%
Graduate Student – Master	5	2%
Graduate Student – Ph.D.	71	35%
Post-Doc or Non-Tenured Academic Researcher	6	3%
Adjunct Professor	4	2%
Academic Faculty (E.g., Assistant, Associate, Full Professor)	83	41%
Retired Academic Faculty	9	4%
Private Sector	1	0%
Retired from Non-Academic Position	2	1%
Other (please specify)	8	4%
Academic Administration (E.g., President, Provost, Dean, Associate Dean, Department Head)	3	1%
Total	204	100%
Other (please specify)		
University Research Program Coordinator - Staff Position		
Practitioner (senior leader from gov. funded non profit)		
Academic, Non-Faculty, Researcher		
Academic Researcher and Program Manager		
visiting (teaching and research responsibilities)		
brand new Visiting Asst Prof		
unemployed		
polytechnic chief lecturer		



29. What is your gender?

Answer	Response	%
Alternate Gender Identification	14	7%
Male	68	33%
Female	123	60%
Total	205	100%

Alternate Gender Identification

Queer - Female (female and male aren't genders! bad sociologists!)

trans

Woman. Female & male are sexes, not genders.

genderqueer

Woman (female = presumed biology/bio-sex)

Intersex trans man

female and male are not genders, they are sexes

Genderqueer

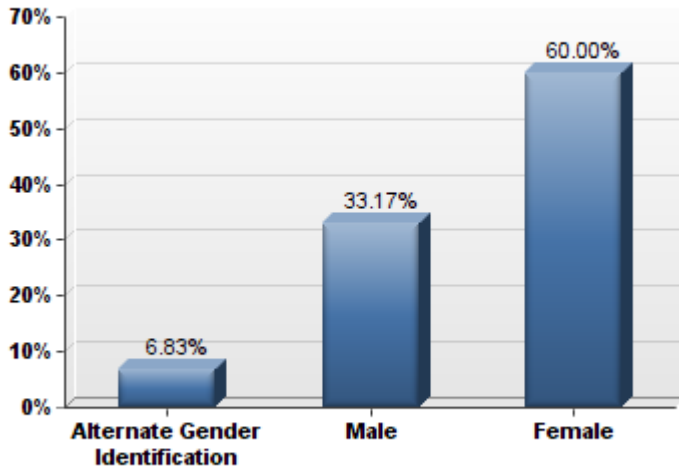
My identify as a woman (female is a sex category).

Female and male are not genders - those are sex categories

Genderqueer

gender queer

trans, born female

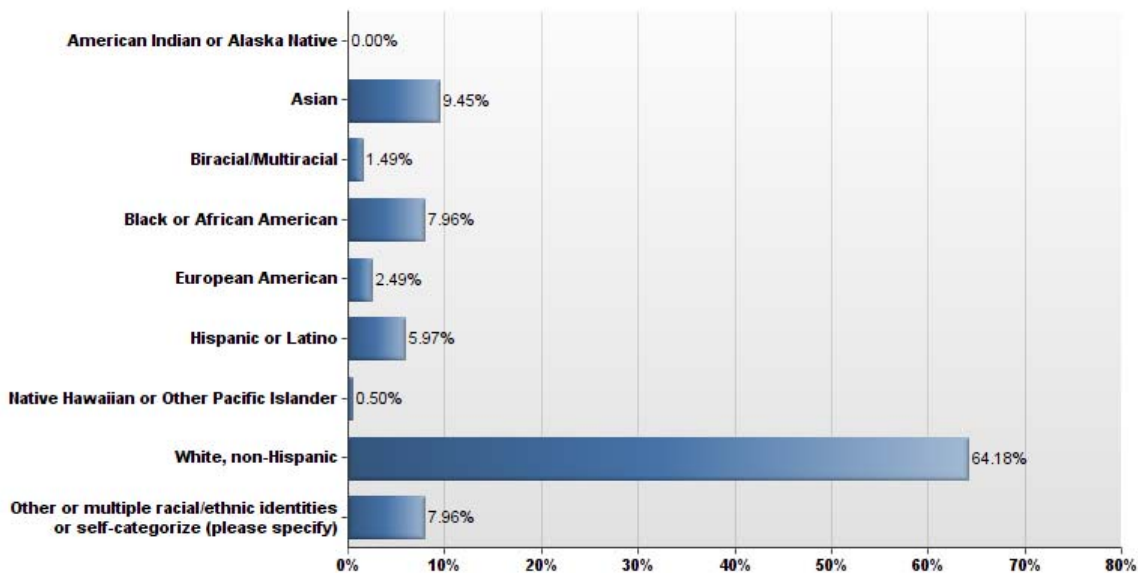


30. Please specify your racial/ethnic identification.

Answer	Response	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0%
Asian	19	9%
Biracial/Multiracial	3	1%
Black or African American	16	8%
European American	5	2%
Hispanic or Latino	12	6%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0%
White, non-Hispanic	129	64%
Other or multiple racial/ethnic identities or self-categorize (please specify)	16	8%
Total	201	100%

Other or multiple racial/ethnic identities or self-categorize (please specify)

Latino and White
Chicano
South Asian American
White European
Multi-racial (White and Asian)
Middle Eastern
White
A multiethnic black person
White, Hispanic
European
Non-American
Black from Africa
Afro-Latina
Black/Jamaican



31. The SSSP strives to ensure that meeting facilities are accessible to all, including people with disabilities, health challenges, or other differences. If you had any accessibility difficulties or if you noted something that could be a problem for others, please share that information here. If you wish to inform us of some accommodation or access that worked particularly well, we would welcome that feedback as well.

Also, please feel free to contact the Chair of the SSSP's Accessibility Committee, Saher Selod, saher.selod@simmons.edu, with your concerns.

Text Response

Layout of hotel was weird though SSSP's signs were super helpful in accessing the building. Wish there were clearer maps, though again, that is something the hotel should have provided.

Need to remind presenters that they should speak clearly and loud enough to project to the back of the room.

no

The all-gender bathroom situation continues to need work. This year, the signage was poor. A white paper covered the "men" sign, with a women's restroom nearby, this became the default men's room. We need to create bigger signage, making 1 room (or 2 rooms that are right next to each other) an "all-gender" restroom with a short description as to why the space is there and matters.

N/A

N/A

The walk-in showers at the Radisson Blu were perfect. Often stepping in and out of a shower tub is problematic. Accessibility rooms are often limited and bathroom designs are hospital like. This was one of my favorite features of the hotel.

I will repeat here: PLEASE make sure future conference hotels don't have systematic fragrance dispersion. It would be great to have a fragrance/chemical free conference, altogether but at the very least the site shouldn't have perfume all throughout. I paid \$60 to attend 3 sessions out of the whole weekend, one of which was outside and one of which I only went to because it was off-site.

I had hoped there would be real childcare available rather than just telling us to hire a babysitter through the hotel. It was a very unwelcome surprise to simply get an email with contact information for other people bringing kids in case we wanted to coordinate babysitters. Some sort of family reception or family playroom would have been helpful to actually make connections with other kids. I presented but basically felt I had no alternative but to skip most of the rest of the conference because childcare was so difficult and so expensive. It was very frustrating.

Thanks for having the gender-neutral restroom available. I do note that the sign for this bathroom was removed a number of times, and apparently tossed on the floor, making it unclear which bathroom was the one so designated. I know that SSSP tries to organize child care options. I wish that this can be done a bit better.

I submitted a satisfaction survey to the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel informing them that my room was very nice--the only problem was that I did have a bathtub -- only a shower. I enjoy luxuriating in a relaxing bath and thought it should have been included, but since I was there for only a short while, the shower was acceptable. I was informed that rooms with bathtubs are available, and my concern will be addressed should I ever return.

The Radisson Blu was a fabulous hotel at good rates negotiated by SSSP. It was a ways from the ASA at the Hilton, but I walked it twice.

n/a

Can you make it a rule for presenters to not read from their papers? I feel like this is a huge problem with academic conferences. Presenters who read from their papers make the audience go to sleep and they make it unbearable to stay focused for the other presenters who are not reading from their papers.

It was nice that you had the room we could go to relax, but I would note on Friday it was in a part of the hotel that had no wifi access.

N/A

NA

I am not a person who is hard of hearing, but I found at least half of the 16 sessions I attended were inaudible. No microphones were used, facilitators didn't attempt to repeat questions from the audience so all could hear, presenters didn't project their voices. If I were the organizer for this meeting, I would never let this happen again.

The session rooms I was in were very cold.

I liked seeing the gender neutral bathroom available.

having real food that you could make a meal off of at the receptions accomplished two things 1. and most important people come and people stay because they don't go running off to dinner because they are hungry 2. many of the people especially younger members have limited funds and it saves them major expenses

A colleague and I were going to attend back to back sessions in one large room with a microphone set up. Because the organizers/presiders of the two sessions did not ask people to use the sound system, we couldn't hear, and we left early and didn't return for the next session to be presided over by the same people.

n/a

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	24

32. Do you have any comments or thoughts about any aspect of the Annual Meeting, including ways in which we can improve for next year? Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an e-mail to Sharon Shumaker, IT Specialist, at sharon.shumaker@utk.edu and include “Annual Meeting Survey” in the subject line.

Text Response

The hotel was fabulous and loved the mobile app. The meeting was very organized and really enjoyed it. The registration desk was so helpful and knowledgeable about Chicago.

The roundtable I participated in was fairly disorganized. The tables were not labeled, so it was difficult to find other the correct roundtable and other presenters. The table I attended included only two of the four papers and one additional audience member. It was disappointing to have so few people discuss work with, but the quality of the discussion was still good nevertheless.

This was my first SSSP meeting and I must say I rather enjoyed it (considerably more than the ASAs).

App was too big for my phone (though admittedly my phone is bloated with other stuff).

The Sunday activities were poorly attended. It's not fair to the presenters and discussants. Can you schedule the Presidential address and award ceremony as a concluding event, moving it to the end of the conference? This has been an ongoing problem with almost all the conferences I attend, except for the ISA interim meetings, which schedule a celebratory dinner at the end of the conference.

no

The hotel was gorgeous. It was so nice, I didn't mind the long journey walking to the ASA hotels as much. Well worth the few cab rides I took between the 2.

The program theme was excellent, and drew many high-quality papers and presentations. I would like to see SSSP do more to engage with the community (i.e. bring in community activists), but I think this is the role of Division Chairs and Session Organizers. Thanks to the Administrative Office for a great meeting!

N/A

Overall it was a very successful meeting. I was thrilled to see greater diversity this year. It seems doing more race scholarship is key to having greater racial diversity in SSSP.

I had hoped there would be real childcare available rather than just telling us to hire a babysitter through the hotel. It was a very unwelcome surprise to simply get an email with contact information for other people bringing kids in case we wanted to coordinate babysitters. Some sort of family reception or family playroom would have been helpful to actually make connections with other kids. I presented but basically felt I had no alternative but to skip most of the rest of the conference because childcare was so difficult and so expensive. It was very frustrating.

Overall, I enjoyed the exposure to a new organization and to hearing new perspectives.

How about holding at a university campus rather than a hote.

The organizer for our roundtable was booked to handle two tables at the same time and we were left without an organizer (Families Roundtable 2), it felt very unprofessional and the presenters felt very uncomfortable with not having been adequately accommodated for the session and forced to go on without an organizer after wasting time waiting. Better planning would solve this.

i spent about 4 hours at the meeting place and made about 20 friends from the moment i entered, had coffee, and wandered around. sssp people have always been welcoming. at the asa, even people i knew didn't say "hello." my old friends al and betty would be pleased.

The New Member Breakfast was excellent. I attended as a host, and it was a great spread. I think the New Members appreciated the event, and it was well-attended. The post-award ceremony reception was also excellent, though that space did not have enough seating to accommodate everyone. So my only thought on improvement would be a facility that could seat more folks for the post-awards ceremony reception. Otherwise, a great conference - excellent facilities (way better than ASA's!), and I appreciated the intimacy of the sessions and the great conversations that were had in the sessions that I attended. As a graduate student, I felt very comfortable and confident to ask questions of presenters and to connect with fellow conference goers. Looking forward to Seattle!

Just that your Executive Officer is awesome.

I made some awesome professional contacts at the annual meeting this year. I thought the welcoming reception was especially well done. I enjoyed the networking time, food, and the performances by the Chicago youth group. The sessions that I participated in were also really great. It's always challenging for me personally to fully engage in the SSSP conference because of its time overlap with the ASA and ABS meetings, but I always enjoy my time at the SSSP meeting and I look forward to next year's conference in Seattle!

I do have an idea: increase attendance at the awards ceremony and its festivity, now that the banquet is no more, by serving all attendees with a glass of champagne or wine (or nonalcoholic alternative) with which to toast the awardees. The distance between the SSSP and ASA hotels made it nearly impossible to spend much time at the SSSP. That was very disappointing to me.

Perhaps, you should post a disclaimer on the doors or in the call for papers that if someone is coming strictly to argue at the presenter(s) that they will be forcibly ejected and detained in jail for two days!

None - it was my first time and I was very impressed with the thoughtfulness of conference planning, the supportive and congenial tone, the focus on addressing social issues and the lack of fear around the label of "scholar activism". This conference space felt like one of the first "homes" i've found in the sociological community.

Kiddos on the hotel and the price. Thank you for that

During my 50+ years as an academic, I never found attending meetings rewarding and for several reasons. They have nothing to do with SSSP--in fact, it's my favorite professional organization. There are "meeting" people & non-"meeting" people & I'm in the latter category.

Let's please stay at a hotel similar to this one!!! It was beautiful and the outdoor space - pool, terrace, seating, etc. - was stunning!

I love the community and networking of SSSP.

Thank you for your great work! The mobile app was so helpful!

I attended two sessions that were really good

It would be great with at least a snack to grapple or piece of fruit as sessions were so closely packed that there was not enough time to go out and buy something.

I thought the meeting seemed to go very well for the part I attended. SSSP President, Professor Marlese Durr, did an outstanding job and was present throughout the day at various sessions, which was very encouraging. The only suggestion I have is to see if it is possible to more senior, established faculty serve as discussants or perhaps just attended sessions where the panelists are junior faculty or graduate students. That type of interaction is often lacking at academic meetings, but SSSP is small and intimate enough that perhaps it can happen. Professor Durr made an effort to attend a variety of sessions, and I hope the leadership next year, along with other renowned and established faculty, follow in suit.

I have decided that I will not attend when the meetings are after the 15th of August. Too much of a hassle with University starting up during third week of August and future annual meetings.

We need to try to recruit more senior scholars to be mentors. There were 3-4 mentees assigned to each mentor this year.

I know this is controversial, but I am not comfortable with SSSP's policy of accepting every submission. As in years past, I saw a couple of truly awful presentations this year, and they were not given by students. I love the opportunities that SSSP provides for students, but I also think that established researchers who present sloppy or careless work are setting terrible examples. Perhaps there is some way to hold non-student members to higher standards?

I look forward to next year's Annual Meeting!

It would be great to have more funding options available for travel.

Nope

My only problem was with the meeting space for the division business meetings. Our business meeting is always well attended by at least 20 people. We had to convene elsewhere because no one could hear what was being said, The acoustics in room were terrible and we had to pull three tables together for division members. The use of round tables with several other divisions in the same room is unacceptable

The recent direct attack on sociologists doing constructionist work, including the selection of an anti-constructionist theme for the conference, seems to show clearly that SSSP is, more and more, "for conflict sociologists only." Increasingly, anyone else is marginalized and "othered," in direct contradiction to all the official statements of inclusion and diversity. Sociologists with a Marxist-feminist-socialist-leftist orientation are "included in," and others are "included out." In connection with this apparent trend, all social problems are increasingly reduced to the problem of inequality, as though there is nothing else worth talking about. Throughout, an "enemies mentality" and a negativism tend to dominate all discourse. There is no good news, no joy, no celebration of anything good in the social world. This is similar to the obsolescent "disease fighting" model of medicine that has increasingly been replaced by a model of "wellness" and "holistic health." Nor should all problems be defined in terms of justice (understood, somewhat simplistically, as equality), for there are other fundamental values, some of which (compassion, love) should be considered superior to justice. Without compassion, without love, the struggle for justice can be divisive, harsh and even violent. Justice is fundamental, but it is not enough to create a good social world. Members of SSSP probably mean well, but underneath there seems to be a pervasive anger, and anger is destructive. There seems to be a sense that if you're not angry, then you don't care about justice. But this is a recipe for burnout and unhappiness. There must also be joy, and a celebration of all that is good.

The app for the meeting should have had an alphabetical bar at the left for the section listing presenters so that it would be easier to locate particular people. I found it very time consuming and boring to have to go back to A after reading about each particular presenter.

Seems to be run by officers and not membership...why get involved if a closed circle of insiders

I really liked the way the conference was organized, overall. I think the people organizing it did a great job, the people at the welcoming desk with the conference materials were very welcoming and kind, the head office staff were great, and even the people who opened the door at the hotel entrance went out of their way to be kind and welcoming. Great job everyone!

Michele is wonderful. all the staff were wonderful. it was a great meeting. although I was disappointed at the attendance size at the places I presented, having a number of roundtables where people can actually talk is very good. It is important that the space is not too crowded and the acoustics are good. I have been at some other conferences where it was almost impossible to hear.

As noted,I chair the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS or the Commission). CAPACS accredits postsecondary programs in sociological practice, including engaged public sociology, at all degree levels). I believe there are opportunities that SSSP and CAPACS can explore, together, as joint initiatives, in providing and accrediting programs with core educational and practical components (viz., basic sociological theory, methods, skills, coupled with internships, supervised field work, experiential learning, and practicum) for students at the postsecondary level. These programs would be designed to graduate students who can recognize, research, and implement sociological solutions to critical social problems addressing the public health, welfare, and safety, in the public and private sectors, both domestically and internationally. My name is Dr. Michael Fleischer, PhD, CSP. You can reach me at mikefleischer@cs.com.

Hotel was great. The timing of the meeting is awful (too late in the summer).

I always wonder about these hotels and how expensive they are. I know that you are committed to good worker rights at hotels that you book but the costs are still quite high. I would love to see a way to bring the costs down a bit if there are ways to do that.

More diverse sessions Don't schedule the meeting so close to the opening of classes, so the participants don't feel rushed Continued assistance for foreign academics/scholars so they can participate in the meetings of SSSP

Please try to avoid hotels as venue.

Not only did the presider of my session show up, but I heard from multiple colleagues that this was an issue for them, also. I realize this is not an issue of SSSP, but maybe more attention should be paid to this leading up to the meeting. The meeting rooms were a bit large and the hotel did not seem to be close to many restaurants for a quick breakfast or lunch. More tables and chairs would have been nice at the division reception. There is too much to do in the short amount of time that the meetings last. Might we start a day earlier to have less overlap with ASA. That might improve attendance at some sessions. The people. i got to spend a few days with amazing people, and I am so grateful to SSSP for that opportunity.

THE NUMBER OF PRESIDERS SHOULD BE INCREASED AT ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION TO 2 INSTEAD OF ONE IF THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS LARGE TO AVOID A TABLE NOT HAVING A PRESIDERS AS IT HAPPENED TO SESSION 83 B WHERE I PARTICIPATED AT CHICAGO.THE PRESIDERS HAD TWO TABLES TO ATTEND TO AT THE SAME TIME.

I believe that the meeting was excellent. Also the atmosphere is relaxing and cordial and not overwhelming.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	51