

Annual Meeting Survey Results

Those who tell the stories rule the world

Native American Proverb

67[™] ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

AUGUST 11-13, 2017

MONTREAL BONAVENTURE HOTEL MONTREAL, QUEBEC CANADA



narratives in the world of social problems

Power • Resistance • Transformation

SSSP 2017 Annual Meeting Survey Results Released

September 29, 2017

With **1020 registrants** surveyed and **243 total responses**, we're happy to release the results of the 2017 Annual Meeting Survey on behalf of the SSSP Administrative Office. Thank you for taking time 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.

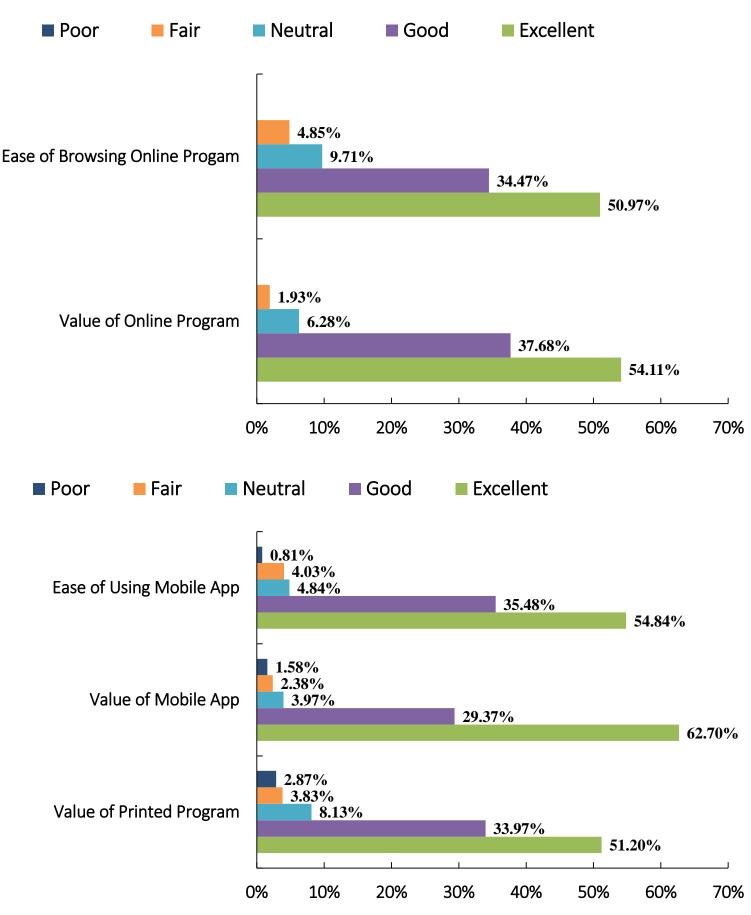
The survey ran for two weeks from August 25 through September 11 with a **24% participation rate**.

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

Based on your experience, please rate the following items.



1

Based on your experience, please rate the following items.

Question	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Neutral (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	Response	Mean Value
Ease of browsing the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website	0	10	20	71	105	206	4.32
Value of the printed Annual Meeting program	6	8	17	71	107	209	4.27
Ease of using the Annual Meeting mobile app	1	5	6	44	68	124	4.4
Value of the Annual Meeting mobile app	2	3	5	37	79	126	4.49
Value of the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website	0	4	13	78	112	207	4.44

Statistic	Ease of browsing the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website	Value of the printed Annual Meeting program	Ease of using the Annual Meeting mobile app	Value of the Annual Meeting mobile app	Value of the online Annual Meeting program on the SSSP website
Min Value	2	1	1	1	2
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	4.32	4.27	4.4	4.49	4.44
Variance	0.70	0.93	0.67	0.66	0.49
Standard Deviation	0.84	0.97	0.82	0.81	0.70
Total Responses	206	209	124	126	207

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

Tovt	Entry
ICAL	

No need any longer for most. Should be optional.

When we can already access it online, it is a waste of resources.

I just used the app more

The formatting makes it difficult to read

I don't think it's necessary to print it given the digital options, and a waste of money and natural resources.

Unnecessary. I realize not everyone has a smartphone, but the paper program could be optional.

I don't think the use of that much paper is warranted given the availability of the program on the mobile app and through the society's website.

It might have been better to go paperless for the meeting.

I don't like to carry around a heavy book – I actually liked the PDF program you sent the best.

I wasn't dissatisfied - but I simply did not use it. My needs were met with the app.

It would be easier if the time of the session were printed below each session title, in addition to being noted before the first session of a new session time.

Not dissatisfied so much as I did not use it.

Statistic	Value
Respondents	12

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

Text Entry

the permissions the app requires are basically unacceptable, even though I am aware that most people neither know, nor do care. Nonetheless I think it is ridiculous! Neither you nor the app-manufacturer needs to know all my contacts, my calendar, access to my camera etc. It's just a schedule- app that basically only needs to show me what is when and where.... nothing else!

I had trouble with my phone service in Montreal, so it was difficult for me to use it. I liked the what is going on now feature, but the search capabilities could be improved as could the ability to sort for what is "up next"

Couldn't find it in the App Store! So never got to use it!

not of use or interest

The app overall seemed glitchy. Took awhile to get used to and wasn't that intuitive until after spending a good amount of time on it. However, if the app is the same every year (minus updates) then it'll be easier to deal with and be fine I think.

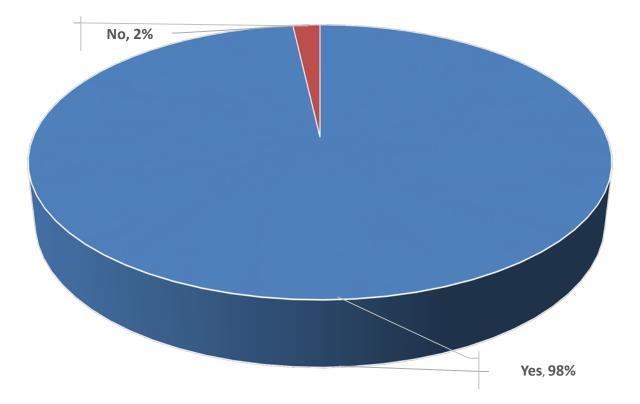
Workshops and some of the miscellaneous activities were hard to find on the app.

Statistic	Value
Respondents	6

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

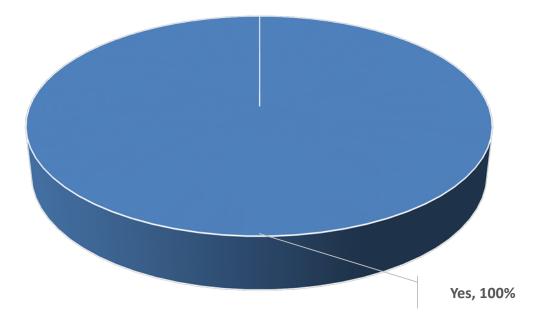
Text Entry
It was just hard to find.
It would be nice to be able to search for certain people by just typing in their info instead of having to go the "list of participants" or whatever or having to download the pdf to search.
I'm not dissatisfied, I just didn't use it. I used primarily the paper program and a little with the app.
It felt like too much info displayed all at once. A format like the app display is key
It's rather hard to search it could be better
It wasn't easy to navigate, and you could not see who was presenting in each category without going in to each session.
I think It was simply Pdf's - not searchable.
I thought the dropdown menus were difficult to navigatei.e. it is hard to keep them open when I scrolled over them with the mouse.

Statistic	Value
Respondents	8



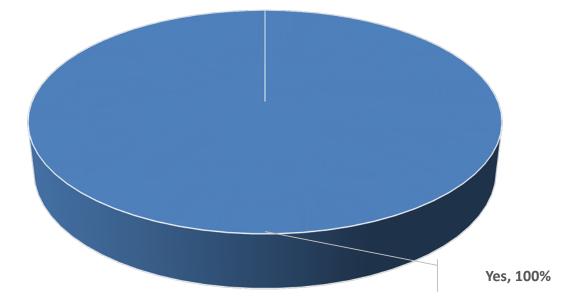
Answer	Response	%
Yes	220	98%
No	4	2%
Total	224	100%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	2	1.02	0.02	0.13	224	224



Answer	Response	%
Yes	219	100%
No	0	0%
Total	219	100%

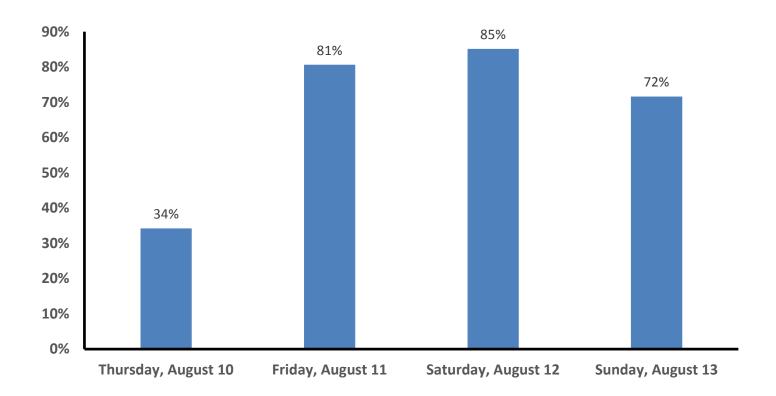
Min Value	Max Value	Average Value	Variance	Standard Deviation	Total Responses	Total Respondents
1	1	1	0	0	219	219



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

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	1	1	0	0	4	4



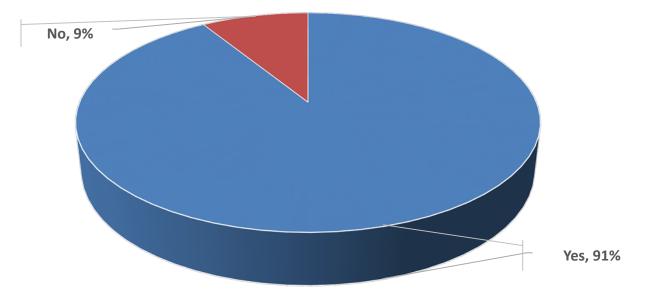


Answer	Response	%
Thursday, August 10	76	34%
Friday, August 11	179	81%
Saturday, August 12	186	84%
Sunday, August 13	159	72%
Total	600	100%

Total	Total
Responses	Respondents
600	222

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

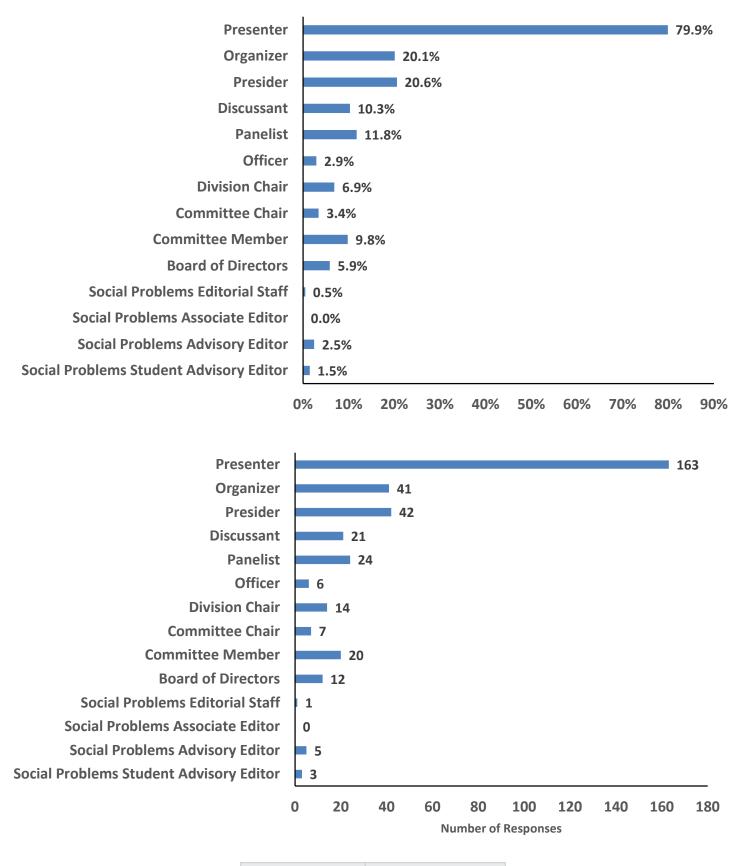
- Presenter
- Organizer
- Presider
- Discussant
- Panelist
- Officer
- Division Chair
- Committee Chair
- Committee Member
- Board of Directors
- Social Problems Editorial Staff
- Social Problems Associate Editor
- Social Problems Advisory Editor
- Social Problems Student Advisory Editor



Answer	Response	%
Yes	205	91%
No	20	9%
Total	225	100%

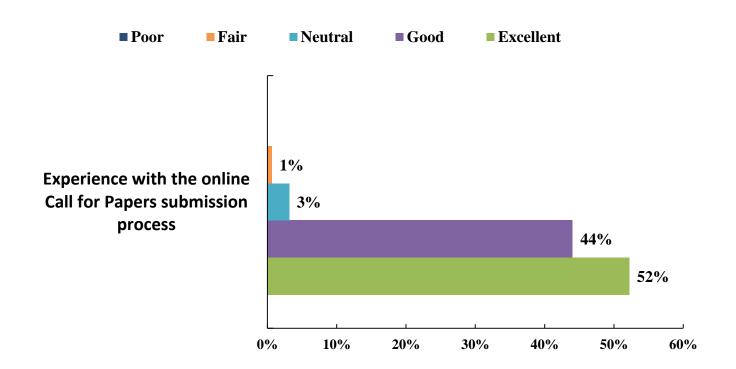
Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	2	1.09	0.08	0.28	225	225

Please indicate the roles you played at the Annual Meeting.



Total Respondents
204

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



Answer	Response	%
Poor	0	0%
Fair	1	1%
Neutral	5	3%
Good	70	44%
Excellent	83	52%
Total	159	100%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
2	5	4.48	0.35	0.59	159	159

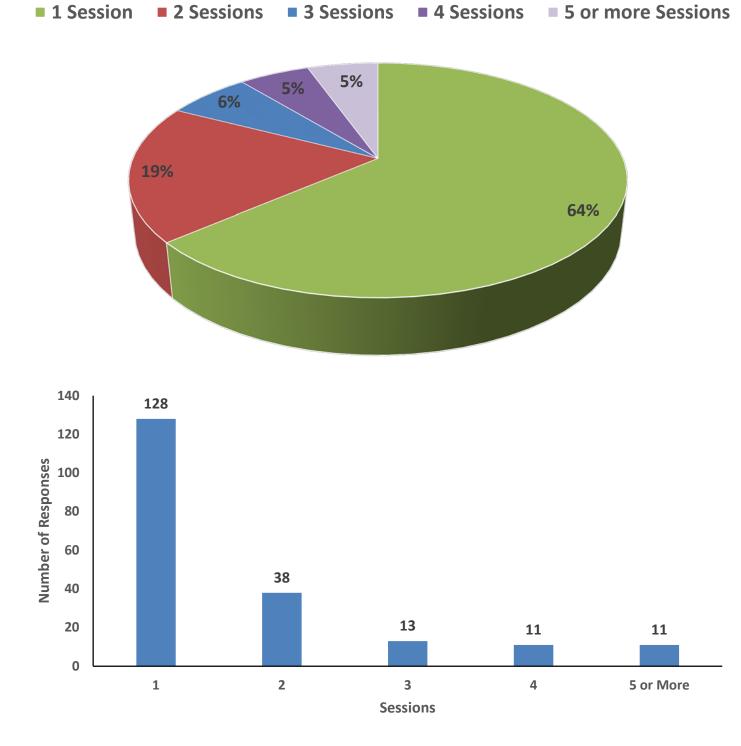
You said that you are dissatisfied with the online Call for Papers submission process. Please tell us why you are dissatisfied.

Text Entry

The window of the call for papers was too narrow. I kept looking for it throughout Fall 2016 and it was never there and then after the busy start of the academic year 2017 I missed the Jan 31 deadline. Luckily there was still room in a session and I was able to present. I strongly suggest you open the paper submission much more in advance of the conference date.

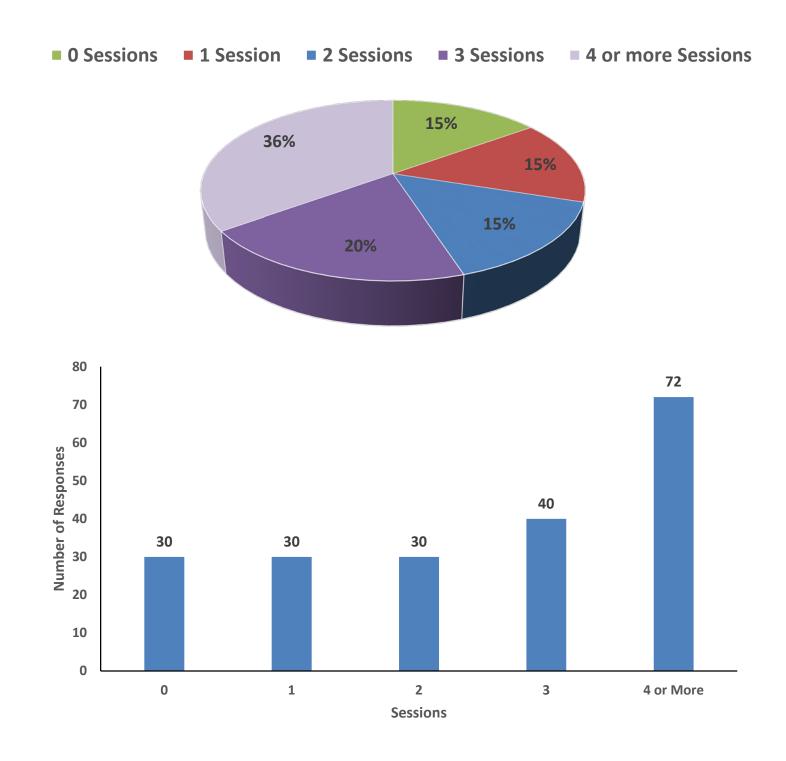
Statistic	Value
Respondents	1





Min Value	Max Value	Average Value	Variance	Standard Deviation	Total Responses	Total Respondents
1	6	2.06	2.45	1.56	201	201

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



Min Value	Max Value	Average Value	Variance	Standard Deviation	Total Responses	Total Respondents	
1	5	3.47	2.15	1.47	202	202	

Please specify reason for not attending more sessions, aside from those you participated in.

Text	Entry	
ICAL	LIICIY	

Other conference preparation ...

Schedule conflicts make it difficult to attend many you are interested in.

I was overbooked in my conference activities and my meetings with colleagues and was unable to attend more sessions. Much of my time was spent also preparing for these meetings and activities.

meetings

No time; I also had to be at ASA meetings.

Preparation for my session and other presentations at two other conferences.

little time to do so

I was also attending ASA and ABS events

Attending ASA at the same time

Just a general burn out from big professional meetings. Lots of people rushing around trying to get noticed for their work. Authentic conversations are hard to come by. SSSP is way better than ASA, but its still tough.

Wanted to see the sites.

Had a very busy meeting schedule as Division Chair.

I arrived in Montreal very late in the week and had to present in ASA on the same day (Sunday)

Too much chaos with ASA co-occurring.

ASA, other responsabilities (just too busy).

Had too many meetings, some required, some with mentees or other colleagues.

I toured the city of Montreal with my family.

I had childcare responsibilities.

There were a lot of things happening at the same time, including ASA.

I attended several Board meetings, served as a faculty mentor, met with a publisher about a book contract, and spent time with my students who were attending and did not time to attend additional sessions unfortunately.

Please specify reason for not attending more sessions, aside from those you participated in.

Text Entry

I was presenting at two conferences in addition to SSSP (so three total) over the same weekend.

too many meetings

Participating at ASA

Busy networking and participating in ASA

Time constraints this year since I was also running to presentations at ASA, ABS, and the Media Sociology preconference.

I would have liked to attend more. This meeting was busy for me because I am on the job market so I had to attend ASA more.

There were many sessions that looked interesting!

I am on the job market and was busy meeting with people & also switching btwn SSSP & ASA

I got very busy between ASA, SSSP, and SWS, plus bringing my family.

schedule tight due to obligations asDivision chair and Board member

During the time(s) I was available, there were no sessions of interest to me (specifically on teaching/learning)

limited time

I am on so many boards and committees, I have little time for sessions.

I had a family emergency and had to delay my trip. I would have if I could have.

Was in various division meetings and Board meetings.

ASA commitments

N/A

Missed flight

In committee meetings, chair meetings, etc.

Too many other responsibilities - meetings especially.

Balancing between ASA, SSSP, and exploring the city.

Please specify reason for not attending more sessions, aside from those you participated in.

Text Entry

I simultaneously attended SSSP and ASA, also presented and was section chair at the latter, was thus most busy

Conflicts with ASA, not many panels in my research areas.

The sessions are not well-attended

I was at other meetings

I had other meetings and sessions at ASA.

Topic areas not relevant

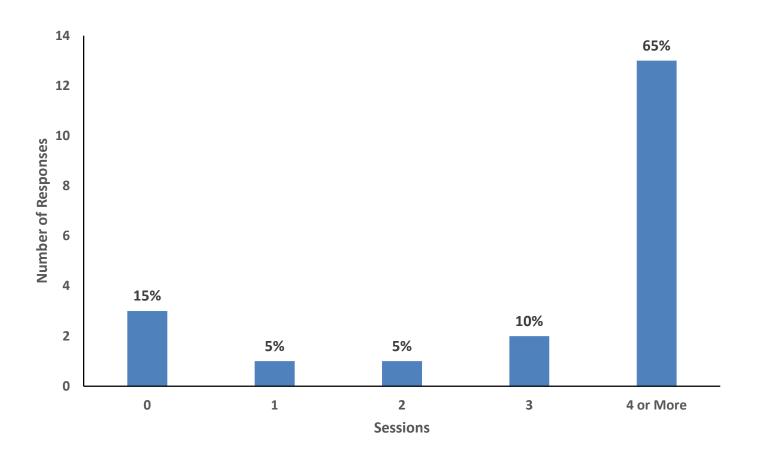
no time

Attended ASA workshop, attended paper sessions at ASA (at the time I was available, the ASA paper sessions were more interesting)

Meetings; wanted to explore the city

Statistic	Value
Respondents	49

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



Min Value	Max Value	Average Value	Variance	Standard Deviation	Total Responses	Total Respondents
1	5	4.05	2.25	1.5	20	20

Please specify reason for not attending more sessions.

(This question was only asked to non-program participants who attended less than 2 sessions.)

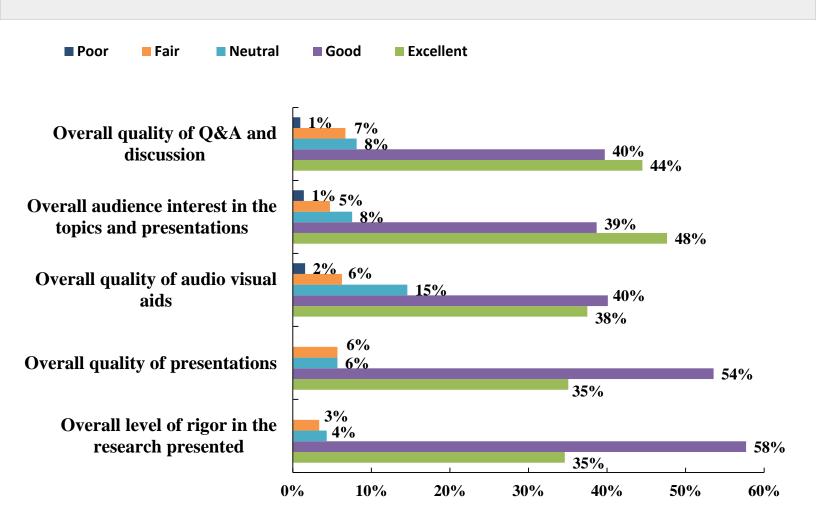
Text Entry

I did not actually make it to Montreal. I had a family emergency.

Distance to ASA and hotel. Conflicting sessions at ASA and SWS.

Statistic	Value
Respondents	2

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



Question	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Neutral (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	Response	Average Value
Overall quality of Q&A and discussion	3	14	17	83	93	209	4.2
Overall audience interest in the topics and presentations	3	10	16	82	101	212	4.26
Overall quality of audio visual aids	3	12	28	77	72	192	4.06
Overall quality of presentations	0	12	12	113	74	211	4.18
Overall level of rigor in the research presented	0	7	9	120	72	208	4.24 21

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

Statistic	Overall level of rigor in the research presented	Overall audience interest in the topics and presentations	Overall quality of presentations	Overall quality of Q&A and discussion	Overall quality of audio visual aids
Min Value	2	1	2	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	4.24	4.26	4.18	4.20	4.06
Variance	0.47	0.8	0.6	0.84	0.91
Standard Deviation	0.68	0.89	0.78	0.92	0.95
Total Responses	208	212	211	209	192
Total Respondents	208	212	211	209	192

Text Entry

Poor attendance for some sessions. In my session where I presented, there were 3 or 4 audience members. Little time left for Q&A. For the roundtable, only the presenters were in attendance. No audience members.

Lack of rigor, and also not explained clearly what sessions were about. It would be immensely helpful if there were a short abstract or 2-3 sentences about each session posted on the website.

Two out of five presenters did not show up. The presider for my session was also a presenter. He did not assign a time-keeper for his presentation and proceeded to talk for twice as long as the other two presenters. He also read from a PDF document and had no clear argument and no original/empirical data. Unfortunately, this was the first professional conference for the other presenter. He gave an excellent research paper - particularly for an undergraduate. I was impressed with him, and I hope that his experience was good enough that he'll come to another SSSP. Fortunately, the audience was great.

I realized that most of the work presented hardly can be described as being unbiased or even scholarly. It doesn't feel like the Society for the STUDY of Social Problems anymore but rather the Society for fighting anything we deem a social problem.

It's strongly ideological, recursive, biased, and does not seem to be very reflective

I think at this point, people use macs as much as they use other pcs. it would be helpful to have mac adapters at every session. Also, encouraging presiders to organize that element of the session would be helpful. Just asking folks via a group email who is bringing what could be nice.

Some of the presenters literally read their papers. Not as many as previous years, but still...it's very, very difficult to be a part of those. People should be encouraged to plan their presentations so they are engaging to the audiences so the sessions aren't difficult to sit through.

Not many attendees, discussion monopolized by men.

Text Entry

I mostly was dissatisfied that there weren't more opportunities for graduate students to network. Maybe coffee breaks could be utilized to do this. Actually, there should be afternoon coffee every day! Also, grad student happy hour should be earlier than 10pm

There was only one audience member, who arrived (late) with one of the presenters. The format ("Critical dialogue") was little more than a grab bag of barely-related presentations - a dressed-up roundtable.

It seemed like sessions were more poorly attended this year than last. I also felt like the placement of some of the papers didn't really match up with the topic of the session. Of course I understand some papers are forwarded to session they weren't necessarily intended for, however.

We had some MAJOR audio-visual issues in a Sunday session... we had to call for hotel technical help. The guy figured it out and got us back up and running... but only after about 15-20 minutes. Fortunately, some of the other panelists did not show and we had adequate time. But it was rather bad, I'm sorry to say... and not acceptable given the fees paid to the hotel for this service (the system obviously had a "short" in it, it was lightly bumped and it turned off and would not restart...)

Need more time for quality Q & A with the discussant showing that they read the papers beforehand

I am not sure if this was just me, but it seemed like there were many AV problems. It was not an issue that presenters or session organizers caused. In most of the sessions I attended IT needed to come and fiddle with the projectors for a couple of minutes before they would work.

The Q&A of one of my sessions was not truly a Q&A; there was no significant engagement with any of the presenters' papers or work.

The time limit made some of the discussions superficial.

The technical organization was often poor as computers were missing and IT personnel was helpless.

The conference was centered around qualitative methods where I do quantitative methods.

Text Entry

Many of the sessions I attended did not have all presenters in attendance. I am not used to such a large number of 'no shows' from my experience at other conferences. At minimum, having notice of the change in presenters as an addendum to the conference program would be helpful, but it seems this is a much bigger problem for SSSP compared to other conferences I attend.

I have noticed that some issues were encountered with the projectors and its installations.

The room size and projection visibility were mismatched. It was often hard to see the screen for visual aspects of the presentation, especially in the larger rooms.

Inaccessible for people with disabilities.

Not dissatisfied, just gave a rating

In some panels I attended, including my own, the papers were poorly curated - there was little through line and unifying theme. Yet for other panels, this was well done. This was an issue in the panel I participated in. I was also disappointed that in my panel, there was no time left for Q&A as some presenters took up over 20 minutes. This is terrible moderating and disrespectful on the part of the presenters to the audience and co-panelists.

In terms of the quality of the research, I am disappointed that the majority of papers I heard did not meet the SSSP purpose of the 'pursuit of social justice'. There seemed to be a general trend of research talking about marginalized peoples, but very little coming from the position of the marginalized, or talking to and with marginalized peoples. I was expecting a social justice alternative to ASA, but found instead another highly academic conference that is in the pursuit of profit making and career building - letting in many papers that do not fit the purpose of the society, in order to reap the membership and registration dues. Perhaps my expectations were naive.

Text Entry

There was a wide range in the quality of the presenters. Some were excellent, while others were not well prepared (no visuals, not the author of the paper), while the issues with others was that the research was just not rigorous, or not yet started. The low quality presentations came from both students and seasoned academics. I'm not sure how you weed them out, but I won't be attending again because about a third of the sessions I attended were not worth the trip.

That the sessions had all questions reserved to the end. I prefer session where questions are invited after each paper is presented.

Q&A focused on 3 out of 5 presentations; two presenters received no questions or comments. Session moderator should have intervened for the sake of the two presenters that were completely overlooked. Or the panel was not constructed well, with too many differences between the presentations and not enough effort to integrate them together in discussion. I feel that a short Q&A following each presentation is preferable to one large Q&A at the end.

Presentations and presenters were boring. Topics of presentations did not fit together as a theme. Too many presentations in one session, making discussion too specific to one or two of them.

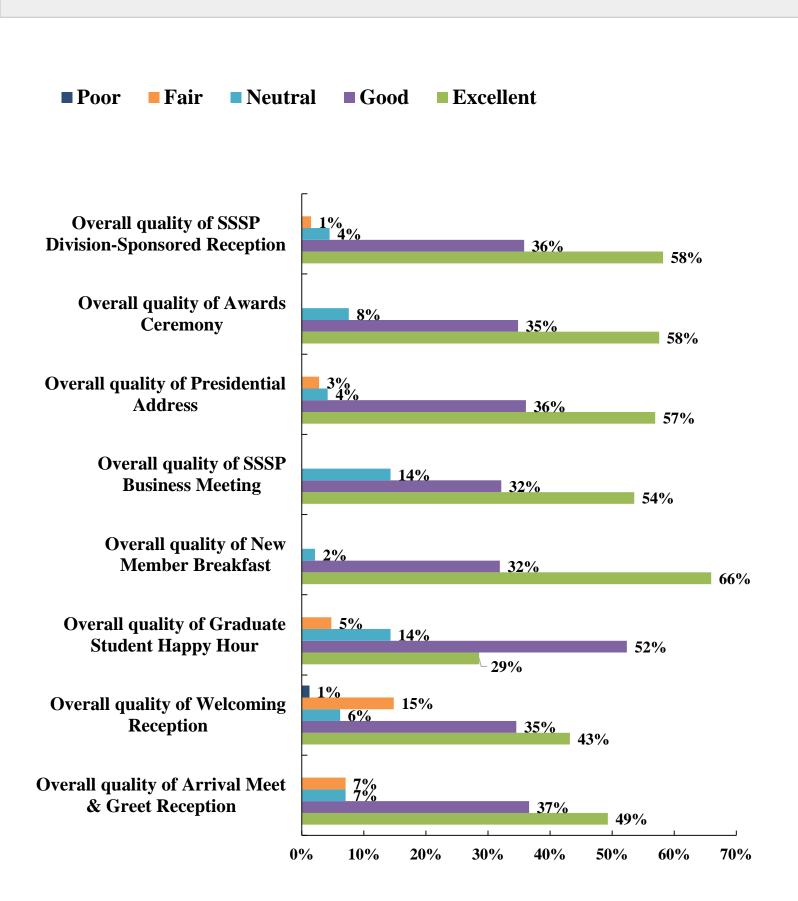
The sessions were poorly attended as compared to ASA.

Sessions seemed poorly attended - a number of people were bouncing back and forth to ASA. Even session presenters were late or had to leave sessions early to make it back to ASA for seemingly "more important" presentations, meetings, and socializing.

Many presenters overused powerpoint and other visual aids. It was distracting and time consuming.

Statistic	Value
Respondents	28

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



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

Question	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Neutral (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	Response	Mean Value
Overall quality of Welcoming Reception	1	12	5	28	35	81	4.04
Overall quality of SSSP Division- Sponsored Reception	0	1	3	24	39	67	4.51
Overall quality of Graduate Student Happy Hour	0	1	3	11	6	21	4.05
Overall quality of New Member Breakfast	0	0	1	15	31	47	4.64
Overall quality of SSSP Business Meeting	0	0	4	9	15	28	4.39
Overall quality of Presidential Address	0	2	3	26	41	72	4.47
Overall quality of Awards Ceremony	0	0	5	23	38	66	4.5
Overall quality of Arrival Meet & Greet Reception	0	5	5	26	35	71	4.28

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

Statistic	Overall quality of Welcoming Reception	Overall quality of SSSP Division- Sponsored Reception	Overall quality of Graduate Student Happy Hour	Overall quality of New Member Breakfast
Min Value	1	2	2	3
Max Value	5	5	5	5
Mean	4.04	4.51	4.05	4.64
Variance	1.2	0.43	0.62	0.27
Standard Deviation	1.09	0.66	0.79	0.52
Total Responses	81	67	21	47
Total Respondents	81	67	21	47

Statistic	Overall quality of SSSP Business Meeting	Overall quality of Presidential Address	Overall quality of Awards Ceremony	Overall quality of Arrival Meet & Greet Reception
Min Value	3	2	3	2
Max Value	5	5	5	5
Mean	4.39	4.47	4.5	4.28
Variance	0.52	0.5	0.40	0.77
Standard Deviation	0.72	0.71	0.63	0.88
Total Responses	28	72	66	71
Total Respondents	28	72	66	71

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 Entry

Not enough food and drinks were very expensive

There was only a cash bar. I didn't see any water or soft drinks. Many people were crammed outside in a small space, while inside it was empty. It didn't feel welcoming as advertised.

The hotel's drinks and food were very expensive. The free coupon for graduate students was not totally honored they declined to allow students to get mixed drinks. While this overall was very pleasant, I wanted to let you know this occurred.

The food was being packed up as I arrived at the reception. An hour long reception that runs out of food at 6:25 is disappointing.

At the Welcoming Reception, there was not enough food.

The food was limited and it seemed that most people chose to go out to eat, which limited my ability to actually meet people at the reception.

Food had run out - very few tables to gather around

Food completely gone too early. Price of drinks out of reach.

There did not seem to be enough food to go around.

I think it would have been nice to have more food available for the length of the welcoming reception. For those who arrived only a few minutes it late, it was already nearly gone. This didn't happen at the division reception, which was excellent. Also it would be nice to have more affordable drinks at the welcoming reception. They don't have to be free but just less expensive.

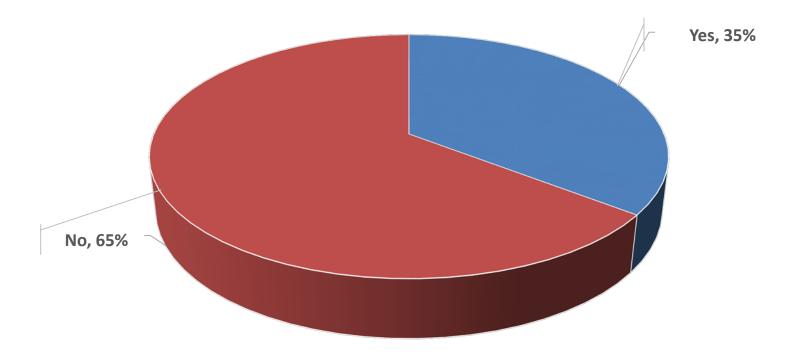
The grad student happy hour was great but was a bit late, it should be fined closer to the welcoming reception or the grad student meeting/panel.

The division reception and the new member breakfast were beyond excellent. Breakfast was a bit early but not sure anything can be done to avoid that. But it was strange to have to grad student social so late the night before and then the breakfast so early. A lot of new member grad students felt that they had to choose between the events.

It would be nice if there was a little more food at the receptions, as it can be difficult to attend these events after a full day of conference sessions with no meal breaks

Not dissatisfied, just gave a rating

Statistic	Value
Respondents	12 30



Answer	Response	%
Yes	78	35%
No	142	65%
Total	220	100%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	2	1.65	0.23	0.48	220	220

Text Entry

I leave in Montreal, 30 minutes of metro to home

Waited too long to make reservation

No funding.

I stayed at an even cheaper place a few metro stops from the venue.

no room affordable

It's expensive. I was also spending the whole month of August in Montreal so had already rented a room in an apartment.

I found a less expensive hotel that was close to public transportation.

I was heavily involved with ASA and SSSI.

I found accommodation much cheaper using Airbnb

Found a cheaper hotel downtown

Price. I am but a poor graduate student. I got a \$30/night airbnb in the Mile End.

My roommate reserved a hotel room for us.

Price and had issues finding a roommate to share costs

no available rooms at the discounted rate

Too expensive

found something less expensive

Cost

Price.

I stayed with friends in an AirBNB to save money

I'm a poor graduate student. I stayed at an airbnb a mile away for half the price.

budget

I didn't book my reservation in time, so it was full already.

Text Entry

too expensive

We had Marriott points so wanted to stay at one of their hotels.

The room block filled too quickly.

Local

Too expensive and would rather stay at small inn or airb&b.

I didn't end up going to the conference.

It was fully booked by the time I made my reservation. I also have terrible allergy to mold and I saw all of the water and was concerned. I paid a bit more and stayed in a brand-new hotel.

With other three colleagues we rented an apartment. It was much cheaper.

cost

Cost. I brought my husband and made a vacation out of our trip and we were able to spend the week in an AirBnB for cheaper and also in a more desirable part of town for our interests.

It was booked very early!

Are you kidding? My university would barely pay for registration fees.

Cost

Cheaper deal somewhere else.

Found more affordable accommodations

It was beyond my budget

It was all booked up when I tried to book, even though I booked in April! I was saddened that I couldn't stay there.

Too expensive.

It was booked when I tried to make a reservation.

Too expensive!

Text Entry
Too expensive.
High cost of rooms
It was booked up so I stayed at the Fairmont.
My travel funds are not enough to allow me to stay at conference hotels. But this one was beautiful, although access was an issue
Rooms were sold out.
Stayed at an ASA hotel
Cost. I was the only one of my colleagues attending SSSP this year, so I stayed with them at another location to keep costs down.
I was able to find a cheaper room elsewhere.
All the rooms in the block were booked by the time I was arranging travel.
I found a close and less expensive air b and b
I registered too late!
I'm born and leave at Montreal
cheaper to Air bnb through our school budget than to stay in 3 rooms.
I stayed at an airbnb with friends, because it was cheaper, and more of us could share one place.
Cost
Cost: I stayed at a hostel nearby for \$250 for a week to attend ASA as well
price
I wanted to be near the ASA meeting too
sold out
Too expensive
The hotel lacked adequate accommodations for persons with disabilities.

Text Entry

Less expensive room and reward points at Marriott

Cost

Too expensive.

I didn't find rooms in the hotel when I started booking. However, in my opinion the rooms at the Montreal Bonaventure Hotel were expensive.

plans changed

Stayed with another presenter

There were no available rooms even though I tried to book early.

money

Could not afford it.

ASA hotel

Price

I stayed with someone who had already decided on the hotel.

My roommate picked our room

Found a location inbetween SSSP and ASA.

I was also presenting at ASA and stayed at a hotel closer to that location.

Friend found a good AirBB at lower cost--more room, walking distance

Finance: couldn't afford staying there.

I stayed at the Fairmount.

Cost

Found less expensive housing. In addition, prefer to use Airbnb when traveling to get more of a feel for the city.

Too expensive...missed the conference block pricing.

Text Entry
It was booked by the time I was able to register for the conference.
No more rooms available
Expense - I'm only a graduate student!
I wanted to stay in a different part of town.
There were no rooms available.
Too expensive.
Cost and availability
the sssp rooms were sold out quickly
Sold out.
Cheaper hotel down the street.
Price.
Air BnB was much cheaper
Full
I was not fully booked and I stayed on the waiting list for 15 days and could not find a room.
I wanted to support a gay-owned business. I stayed in the gay village and took transit to the hotel and later to ASA.
It was booked.
Price.
No rooms left
Because by the time I had saved enough money to reserve my room, there were no more discounted rooms and I could not afford it. I went to a cheaper hotel instead.
Cost

Text Entry

No more available rooms at the discounted rate

Too expensive.

cost

Cost. There is no way a graduate student or junior academic could afford to stay in a luxury hotel. Why would a social justice focused conference be located somewhere so expensive and inaccessible? This is a gatekeeper's approach to theories of 'social justice' where members of the communities and populations that a lot of the research is talking about cannot access or attend or share their own knowledge, and this reinforces a hierarchy of academic knowledge (very expensive, very white, very privileged and very exclusionary) is valourized as enlightened knowledge, but lived every day experiences of peoples is discounted. This is then reproduced within academia, with graduate students and nontenured professors having to constantly prove their worth of existence, but in spaces which they are at a disadvantage to access because of costs and lack of resources and funds that support them.

Cost

Found cheaper accommodations and shared with others.

Cost. Also, wanted to stay out of downtown.

I stayed in one of the ASA hotels.

Cost.

Cost. My school is under a manufactured budget crisis (as are many), and they are not giving much funding to doctoral students.

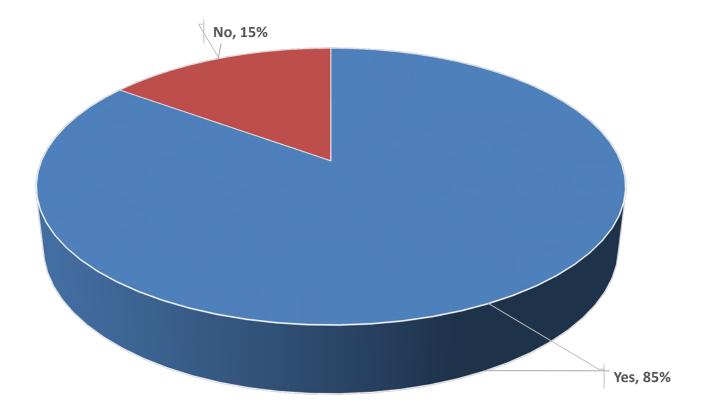
I was too late to book it and I was concerned with all of the water around it. I have a bad allergy to mold. I stayed in a brand new hotel near the conference hotel.

It was possibly the most expensive option and there were many other more cost-effective alternatives. Plus, I'm a graduate student, but on principle I would not spend that amount of money for a hotel when hostels/AirBnB provide more than adequate alternatives.

Text Entry
My institutions does not provide enough funding for me to stay in a hotel.
too expensive.
I had access to an apartment for free.
Way too expensive, especially for grad students and Canadians (we didn't have the benefit of the US dollar strength)
I tried, but one of the nights I needed (Saturday) was sold out.
cost
the price
Price was too high
Sold out
Not available.
I stayed with friends
Too expensive
Was full
Cost
Price
cost
Expensive

Statistic	Value
Respondents	133

Are you likely to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA?



Answer	Response	%
Yes	187	85%
No	33	15%
Total	220	100%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	2	1.15	0.13	0.36	220	220

What is the primary reason that you are unlikely to attend the 2018 Philadelphia, PA?

Text Entry
Unemployed or low employment
Cost of travel & hotel
I am not a sociologist
Lack of money
I'm not an activist, but a scholar
As I mentioned earlier, I am a bit burned out on national meetings. I go because we "have" to as professors to show we have a national presence, but I try to just go every other year.
No funding
money and time
unsure
I'm unemployed - I work a day a month
cost
I will be doing fieldwork abroad next summer.
I am retired
I am retired and have no institutional support
I'll aim for ASA instead.
not in sociology
Location
I plan to attend the ISA meeting in Toronto
The theme of the meeting isn't as applicable to my current research.
Unable to afford it
Won't have a paper ready/cannot afford
Will no longer be a student/ in academia.
Not sure of future plans

What is the primary reason that you are unlikely to attend the 2018 Philadelphia, PA?

Text Entry

budget constraints and my academic priorities

Funding

Cost - This was an extremely expensive meeting (not even including registrations costs). I exhausted all of my travel funds for the year. I would rather attend reginal meetings that don't cost nearly as much to attend.

Cost, capacity

Low quality of presentations

I will be out of the country.

Other conference date conflict

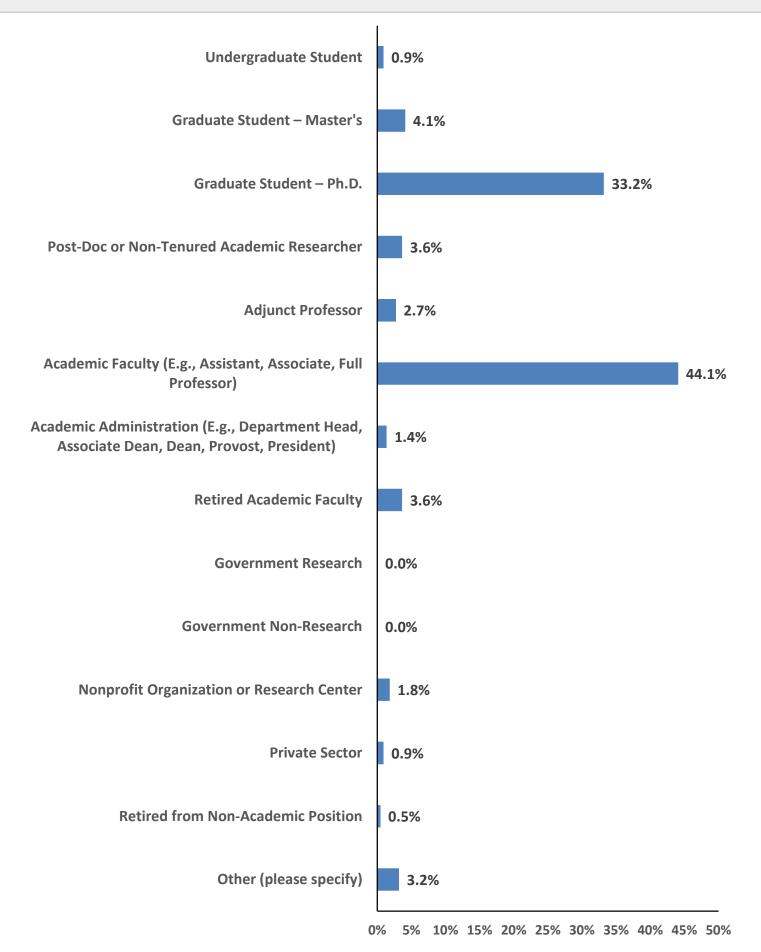
I've found, in the last two years, that the conference is not doing much for me. Interaction with potential collaborators is minimal. Sessions are sparsely attended. Roundtable participants don't necessarily show up. Division meetings feel a bit cliquey. In one session last year, I was shut down for asking a question (the presenter was presumably someone with a big name who didn't need to answer questions)

Can't afford it, and not worth it if no one is around

might attend another conference; I only have money to attend one conference a year

Statistic	Value
Respondents	33

What is your primary employment type or affiliation?



What is your primary employment type or affiliation?

Answer	Response	%
Undergraduate Student	2	0.9%
Graduate Student – Master's	9	4.1%
Graduate Student – Ph.D.	73	33.2%
Post-Doc or Non-Tenured Academic Researcher	8	3.6%
Adjunct Professor	6	2.7%
Academic Faculty (E.g., Assistant, Associate, Full Professor)	97	44.1%
Academic Administration (E.g., Department Head, Associate Dean, Dean, Provost, President)	3	1.4%
Retired Academic Faculty	8	3.6%
Government Research	0	0.0%
Government Non-Research	0	0.0%
Nonprofit Organization or Research Center	4	1.8%
Private Sector	2	0.9%
Retired from Non-Academic Position	1	0.5%
Other (please specify)	7	3.2%
Total	220	100.0%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	14	7.81	4.76	2.18	220	220

Other Employment of Affiliation Responses

I do a web review of sociopopitics

independent researcher

I do a sociopolitical web review

Retired tenured prof now adjunct

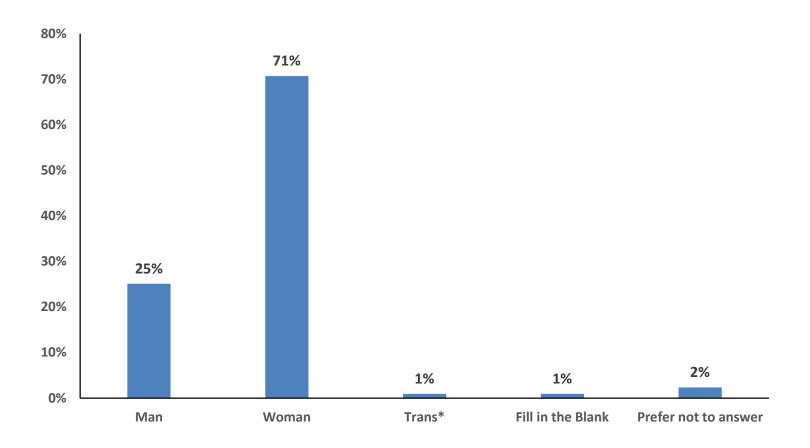
Program Coordinator - Classified Staff

Doctoral Student and Assistant Professor of Instruction

emeritus but very active

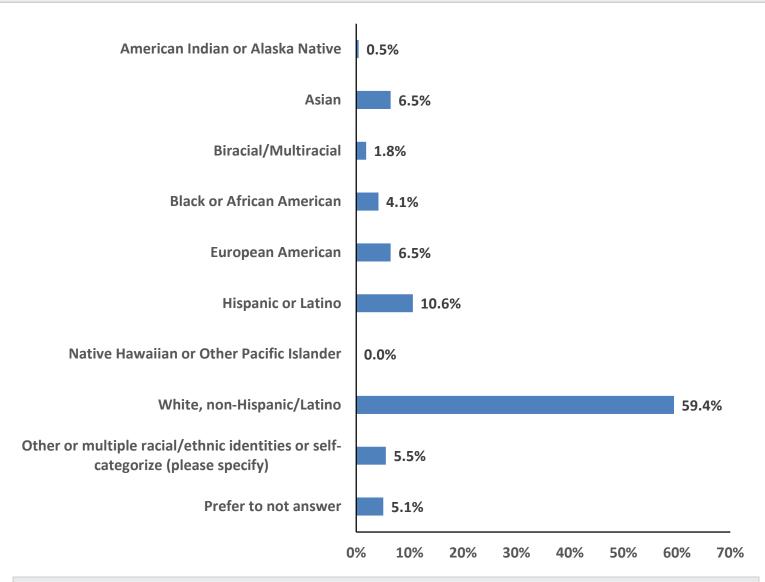
Statistic	Value
Respondents	7

Please specify your gender identification.



Answer	Response	%
Man	54	25%
Woman	152	71%
Trans*	2	1%
Fill in the Blank	2	1%
Prefer not to answer	5	2%
Total	215	100%

Please specify your racial/ethnic identification.



Other or multiple racial/ethnic identities or self-categorize (please specify)
French canadian
•••
I am Mexican
White - french canadian
White/Latino
Jew
Jamaican-American
White/American Indian
Massa
filipino/white 46

Answer	Response	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0.5%
Asian	14	6.5%
Biracial/Multiracial	4	1.8%
Black or African American	9	4.1%
European American	14	6.5%
Hispanic or Latino	23	10.6%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	129	59.4%
Other or multiple racial/ethnic identities or self-categorize (please specify)	12	5.5%
Prefer not to answer	11	5.1%
Total	217	100.0%

Min	Max	Average	Variance	Standard	Total	Total
Value	Value	Value		Deviation	Responses	Respondents
1	10	7.07	4.08	2.02	217	217

Text Entry

Hotel Bonaventure not disability friendly. Very difficult to navigate with a wheelchair.

Attending with a small child (without my partner_, it was extremely difficult to navigate the space with my child in a stroller. The main lift was not functional, and there was no signage in the hotel for alternative pathways to reach the conference.

n/a

This is not a large issue, but I did want to note the important of both having food options labeled and to provide foods that allow for vegans and those with allergies to partake. Veganism, Vegetarianism, lactose-intolerance, gluten intolerance etc., can make receptions stressful and awkward as we have to try and guess if a food is edible to us.

Division reception was good. Awards ceremony was good.

I recommend that the meeting organizers look to the VERA institute for justice's resources on creating accessible in person meetings...they have a fantastic body of resources and people to help think through how to make the meeting more accessible. It was so much better than the last meeting I attended (2015) where I expressed my grave concern about accessibility...but there is sooo much room for improvement, even still. ALL sessions should have microphones and all speakers should be required to use them. No matter what.

I did not have any issues. It was a lovely hotel and a great city for me.

The conference hotel was out of SSSP rooms, but Michelle Koontz advised us to use the ABS rooms which we did.

Everything was accessible and hotel staff were accommodating. All were friendly and helpful!

I loved the hotel overall.

Text Entry

Couldn't attend any of the new member/grad student welcome and networking events because I have a sleep disorder and cannot get up before 8 am.

The escalators were very narrow at the hotel, which could have been an issue

Temperature in some of the rooms were either too cold or too hot.

There were some huge accessibility issues at this meeting. The elevator to the conference level was tiny, slow, and broken at times, for example. However, I feel like that was less an issue with SSSP itself and more a failure on the part of the hotel. I guess the main takeaway would just be to make sure of those things a bit more in future venue choices.

The elevators were a problem. But you know about that.

The Bonaventure was TERRIBLE for accessibility, as all attendees had to use one of the two small elevators to get up to the reception floor. There were almost always crowds waiting at both the bottom and top floors. Furthermore, the two escalators to the banquet floor were tight and emptied right in front of the registration table. During busy times, this area became so congested that accessing the elevators and getting off of them was like an agility course. I had to jump off the elevator and to the side when I went to get my badge, as the badge line had backed up to the bottom of the escalator and those in line were not aware of the fact that they were literally trapping people.

I have claustrophobia and had to wait until an elevator was empty before being able to go up. I often waited for 5-10 minutes until I could use an elevator. I used the exit stairs to leave, but these stairs were not available for entry. I prefer to avoid elevators completely, but this wasn't feasible at this location. I also had difficulty using the escalators, as they were very small and the area they emptied into felt closed-off. Overall, I found this location to be very miserable with my claustrophobia . It limited my desire to attend.

The elevator situation as the only entry point was problematic as it made elevator traffic very heavy and less accessible for those who truly needed the elevator

Text Entry

The all-gender bathroom last year was superior to the one provided for this year. It's best to designate a facility that is already a "family" restroom, or to designate both the men's and women's restrooms as all-gender. When the women's room is right next to the all-gender bathroom, the all-gender bathroom becomes the default men's room and doesn't really address the accessibility concerns for trans and gender nonconforming people.

No. But the odd way that the floors at the Bonaventure were set up did cause some difficulty for people trying to roll luggage to sleeping rooms.

The Bonaventure was not friendly for anyone with a mobility impairment. I saw participants who were stranded because of lack of wheelchair accessibility. For those who used canes, the hotel had many stairs and long hallways to walk.

I do not have any disabilities, but I noticed the hotel had a lot of steps that needed to be traversed to go between different floors. While the hotel may have fit legal definitions of accessibility, I cannot imagine the difficulty someone who needs assistance with mobility would have trying to move around the hotel.

Facilities were fantastic. Signage was clear and well-positioned. AV assistance was invaluable!

There were some concerns that I think staff was notified about regarding the wheelchair access. The elevator was broken and those with disabilities had to go through the kitchen to go downstairs. This process took a very long time as 1 person was stuck on the elevator and hotel staff continued to try to troubleshoot the issue (trying to fix the elevator) rather than escorting those with disabilities to a working elevator. While the staff were pleasant and the SSSP staff could not have known this would happen, it was disappointing how the hotel took the seriousness of this issue.

I would like to see the forthcoming sssps in convention centers. The meeting rooms are difficult to find in the hotel.

The hotel rooms were not accessible by wheelchair (they were also very expensive). While accommodations may have been made to have people with mobility issues stay on the main floor, this was an issue that became apparent to me while at the hotel.

Text Entry

I had not asked for accommodations, however, as someone with light sensitivity due to a head injury, it was a relief to have reasonably lit presentation rooms that were not glaringly bright with fluorescents. I was able to participate much more than I had anticipated and appreciated the location selection because of this.

I had no problems

One of the sessions I attended had a presenter who was not able to present from the podium and there was no portable microphone available. Everyone made it work, but it would have been good to have an alternative microphone available even if she did not think to request it in advance.

none

The hotel is not designed well for people with physical disabilities - I'm sure many will report the same. The accessible elevator downstairs to the conference area was not working on Sunday. These kinds of things are generally less of a problem in the U.S. because of the A.D.A. but, when the meetings are in Montreal (or Canada), this hotel might not be the best location for the meeting.

It was not obvious that there was elevator access to sleeping rooms on the floor I was located on. That is an accessibility concern.

N/A

One of the panelists for my session (and a collaborator/co-author) experienced accessibility issues related to elevators. She needed to use the freight elevator and was late to a session in which she was presenting - it was unnecessarily nerve-wracking and took longer to address/ameliorate than one would hope. It might not be enough to have accessibility in our minds, but also BACK UP plans when accessibility fails (elevators break!) happen. How do we help people feel like we have thought about them - we have created space in which they are the intended inhabitants - not incidental ones.

The sidewalks were difficult to navigate in Montreal, and the elevator broke at the hotel and there were no signs.

Text Entry

I personally wondered how those who needed to access various rooms would manage all the stairs. While accessible rooms were available by elevator, what if people wanted to spend time in other rooms or explore the hotel?

SSSP has a long way to go to ensure it is accessible. Especially for people with hearing impairments.

Unfortunate that lift did not work appropriately. Hotel should compensate organization.

The Bonaventure hotel, while a lovely icon piece of MTL architecture, the split level nature of the hotel made it very inaccessible. It also made it difficult for able bodies people to cary luggae up to rooms.

Statistic	Value	
Respondents	38	

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

It's difficult to predict attendance at sessions, but presenters rely on audience participation/Q&A/feedback on their research. Not sure I have suggestions that may improve this problem.

n/a

Please offer childcare.

My survey answers are sparse because I was not a typical attendee. I presented at the workshop Donilene Loseke organized. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend regular sessions of the meetings.

I only learned about the New Member breakfast when leaving SSSP. This was my first SSSP and I would have loved to participate! Same with mentoring and other events. Perhaps I am missing something like an e-mail list?

This is a good one, particularly in the current political environment.

As a Graduate Student, by far the most beneficial experience was being part of the Mentor-Mentee program. Maybe having a more structured Mentor-Mentee meeting or some professional development workshops talking about the academic career or ongoing research/scholarship etc opportunities would benefit other students like myself who are just starting out in their career.

none at this time. thanks.

I loved Montreal and would greatly enjoy returning to the city in the future.

Next year, please choose a hotel that is easier to exit and enter. This hotel was not terribly easy to find. Plus, it was hard to transition between SSSP and ASA events given the amount of time it took to enter and exit Hotel Bonaventure and the simple fact that the hotel only has TWO elevators.

I enjoyed the atmosphere, with socially relevant topics and people developing useful research.

There were too many sessions running concurrently so attendance at each was low. There should be less presentations overall so there is higher attendance and quality.

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

Thank you for having so much cold water available in all of the rooms! That was very helpful throughout the day. It would have been nice for the coffee service to last a little longer next year. I went to an 8:30 session all three days and didn't have time to get coffee before hand and it was gone by the time the session was over.

I would have loved a mentor, but was never contacted by one.

The graduate student happy hour should be earlier in the evening. The graduate student meeting should be published in a different format in the program so people know to attend.

I've been going to conferences since 1972 and the Bonaventure Hotel was the best so far. Every detail was addressed in the room, including lamps strategically placed in the closet, refrigerator, bathroom.

Although I enjoyed the panels I went to, the one I participated in was underwhelming. There were five papers- all of them very interesting, but no moderator or discussant. There was no one to keep track of time and no one to comment on the papers. I think it would have been a much better panel if there was a discussant and someone to keep time, and/or limiting it to 4 presentations.

I greatly enjoyed the meeting and the connections I made there. I wish I had the opportunity to attend more sessions but the ones I did attend were engaging and interesting. The conference area was a little difficult to find at first (depending which entrance you came in), but the space was conducive to conversation and it was easy to find privacy if you needed to get work done. I will definitely attend another SSSP meeting; great work to all the organizers!

I love the films and the tours. I hope there are tours in Philly and I would love to see more films screened at SSSP. Thank you and I loved the conference in Montreal!

more integration with BSA workshops since we were sharing the space

Maybe the critical discussion panels could be somewhat more focused, e.g., not just crime and delinquency, but a specific theme within.

balance the social justice theme with support and respect for advancing social problems theory.

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

GREAT JOB on the mobile app!!

Great job, Michele and everyone else!

I understand SSSP is small, but given the prices that we all must pay to attend it would be nice if there was at least some sort of SWAG or once in awhile providing a meal or even just cookies or something.

The mobile app is extremely difficult to extrapolate information from unless you already have your schedule done online. When you're browsing sessions, all you see is "Session 154. Race and..." along with what type of session it is and the location. . . When browsing the sessions, people want to be able to read the name of the session without having to click into another window. The session number, type, location, etc. are things that should be secondary (by clicking) rather than primary.

I did notice a lack of engagement with ABS -- which was on the other side of the conference area. It would've been nice to see some integration or invitation extended. Granted, I know programs are drafted early on, but opening communication between the associations could've started there. It was a sad view to see two sociology associations segregated by an escalator.

Tea, or coffee, offered throughout the event and not just for a limited number of hours in the early morning. It's a small thing, but it makes a big difference. I missed the opportunity for smaller, more organic introductions and socializing in small bursts that happen around publicly situated tea and coffee stations.

The critical dialogue format is fantastic! Its what I think academic conferences should be - people with an empirical basis for an opinion on a topic discussing it with each other and the audience. Really my favorite thing about SSSP!

As always it was a great meeting. The hotel felt a little old and the room where the receptions were had some bad odor, but that is beyond SSSP's control.

I understand the need to keep costs low. I am not sure there is a solution. Having lunch with a keynote or panel presentation would allow attendees to be engaged while eating. The hotel restaurant was overwhelmed by the lunch crowd and service was slow making it difficult to get to one or two time slots, depending on day.

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

Provide coffee service [even if at a charge] in between sessions. It was disruptive and expensive to have to go upstairs or over to the mall to get coffee from the cafe

Presidents should be encouraged to plan to ensure a Q and A opportunity following their address.

A way to stop people who aren't courteous enough to stop when they have gone over on their presentation time. We didn't get to do a Q&A in our session because the last presenters went more than 10 minutes over their time.

Please have laptops available for presentations. It became difficult to coordinate as a presider/organizer the laptops for presenters. Also, as a presenter, this was a challenge.

Also, is it possible to have coffee available throughout the entirety of the conference. Thank you.

At some of the sessions I attended the facilitator did not have good time management skills. Therefore, there was little time for the last presentation and little or no time for discussion.

Other than that, I was very impressed with the quality of the presentations and the wonderful variety of topics

N/A

SSSP remains one of my favorite meetings. Faculty are kind and there are many opportunities for graduate students. That said, at ASA I ran into two faculty of color who spoke about their experiences of racism at SSSP (in years past) and how that has turned them off form the meetings. I would love to figure out constructive ways that we could a) address conversations about racism within the organization and b) how to find faculty we have "lost" to ASA (for reasons other than prestige) and re-engage them in the spirit of social change.

I was a bit disappointed that only me and one other panelist showed up for our roundtable and no one attended. In other words, I flew all the way to Montréal to present my work and did not present it. This has never happened at any other conference I attended. I wonder in what ways presentations/roundtables can be promoted so this does not happen to others in the future. On the bright side, I was able to connect with the other panelist who did showup.

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

The mentoring program for first-time attendees is a great idea and my mentor was extraordinarily helpful and available.

I didn't like the way the sessions were organized. ASA or SSS will include scholars or all levels and reputation (well-known vs less well-known) in sessions together. I felt as though I and other less well known scholars in the other session I attended were grouped together simply because we were not big names. The meeting should be helping scholars connect across the board, regardless of their reputations. I was shocked that an organization with a reputation for being more egalitarian than ASA would engage in such practices.

Overall it was a great conference, and I look forward to attending in 2018! I understand that this is not a main issue for organizers, but having more food would honestly help some graduate students immensely. Montreal was an expensive city, and the food cost was prohibitive. I understand that the registration cost is so low (also good!!) and that there is a tradeoff between registration cost and including food, but perhaps a bit more (e.g., more than crackers and cheese at some of the receptions) could be offered.

I loved Montreal. I enjoyed the city and the feel of the conference. I would love to return.

Only thought was there should have been coffee/tea available in the afternoon. Pastries would have been nice, but coffee/tea are essentials for presenters and participants to be on top of their game and engaged. Typically, this is provided at conferences.

You did a great job! The registration staff were great! Everything went smoothly from my perspective. Thank you so much.

Coffee and food. Sounds like a small thing, but with no coffee (or food) available in a central location, everything scatters after their session, leaving very few opportunities for the hallway conversations that build real connections. If there is coffee (even better, some food) at a central location, people will connect more and the conference will seem less stale and impersonal.

And/or more receptions, cheap/free social outings, etc.

More affordable and varied lodging options, especially for grad students.

I loved the app!

Coffee and tea should be available for longer.

It's all good. I love SSSP.

Further, if you would like to be contacted regarding this survey, please send an email to SSSP at sssp@utk.edu and include "Annual Meeting Survey" in the subject line.

Text Entry

It would be nice to have like ten minute breaks between the morning and afternoon sessions (instead of 20) so that we could have a longer midday break for lunch. I always feel bad for the midday sessions because I often have to skip them to grab a bite

Overall, I was pleased with the meeting. In terms of suggestions, I was not thrilled with the hotel. In the future, I would expect to pay less for this sort of hotel. I also find the high cost of drinks at the welcome events to be a deterrent to socializing, particularly for graduate students, underemployed and adjunct instructors.

no

I think the organization is in crisis. Senior members will be retiring soon, and grad students and junior faculty see SSSP as a way to squeeze in another presentation while they're at ASA. Of course, I have no hard evidence of this - but that's the way it feels. I'm not sure how we can over come this.

hotel was a bit expensive

Statistic	Value	
Respondents	53	