

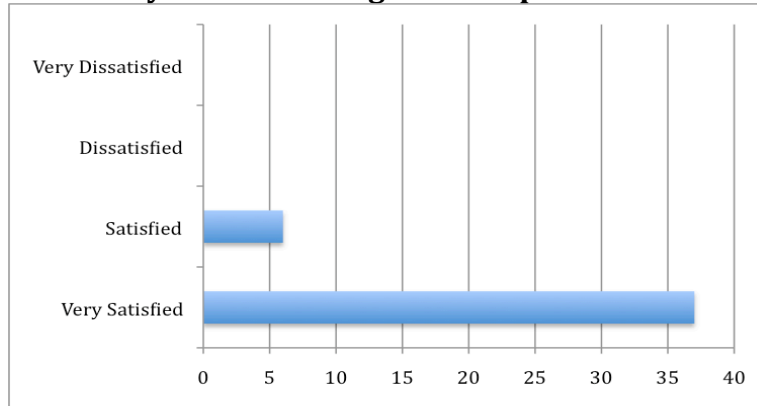
Overview

The Power of Positive Aging Mini Conference was held on October 10, 2008. Below is a summary of the evaluations received from forty-two of the conference participants.

1. Describe your main role at the conference.

Of the 42 responses, 30 or 71.4 % were participants. The remaining 12 responses came from the other categories, with at least two responses from each group.

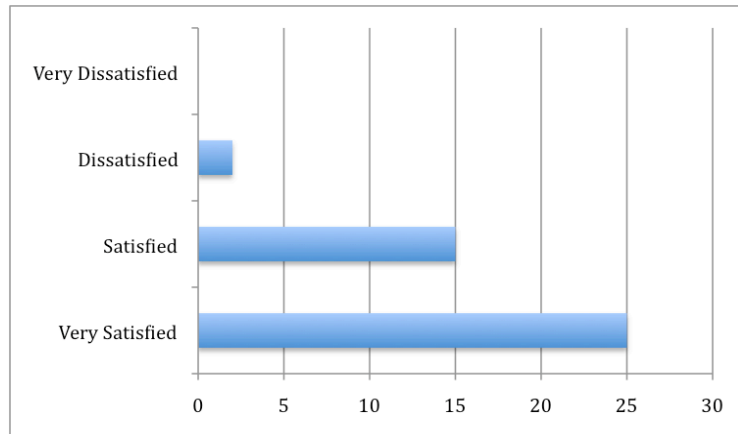
2. How satisfied were you with the registration process?



Comments (14)

1	It was confusing, when they did not have my name on the list. No signage that Advisory Board Members checked it at another table. Volunteers on main check in table did not refer me to correct registration table.
2	Very quick & easy
3	You were so organized that I was very pleased to be part of it.
4	Efficient and effortless. The staff was very accomodating.
5	Was well organized and run by quality people
6	walked up to desk - got package - couldn't ask for more
7	Ms. Reagin had everything so well organized that it was an enjoyable process.
8	A big + (plus) for contacting us early and taking our choices for the workshops!
9	Attention to detail was evident in your early mail- out of related information (including the parking placard) and a subsequent e-mail for course selections added to your program success.
10	The volunteer at the registration table was very welcoming and helpful
11	Excellent communication between participants and host.
12	Registration was very smooth and organized.
13	What a wonderful day of events!

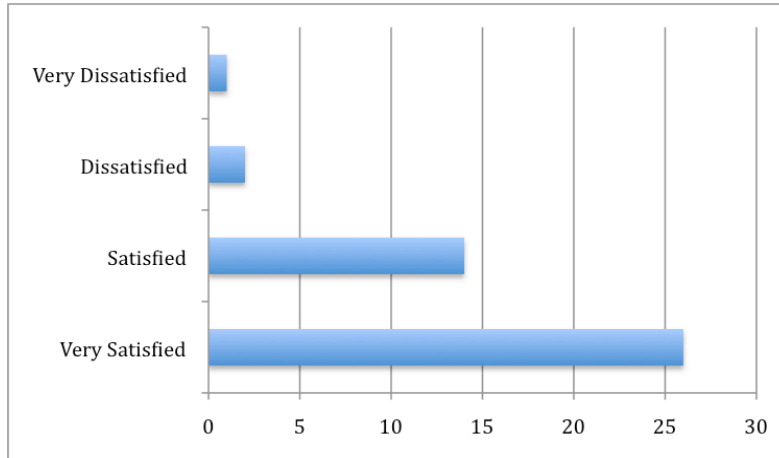
3. How satisfied were you with the exhibits and networking opportunities?



Comments (7)

1	Excellent group of exhibitors and I got some very good information.
2	These women were so approachable...It was a joy for one as timid as I!
3	I met some great professors and learned some valuable information from exhibit presenters.
4	Although most of the exhibitors were in place but, perhaps the exhibitors should arrive earlier than the participants?
5	I didn't really explore the exhibits, but did have some excellent networking encounters
6	It was good to see many of the faces you may have talked to on the phone and get to know them.
7	It is so nice to see all of my peers who care so deeply for the "Active Adults in our community.

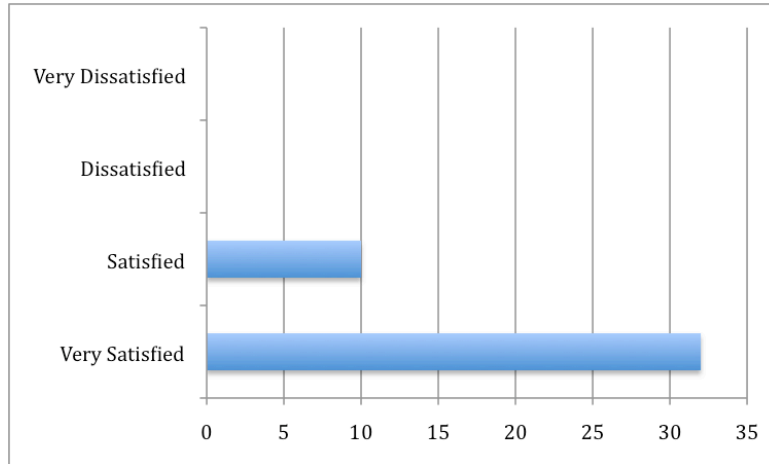
4. How satisfied were you with the facilities?



Comments (12)

1	Lovely room, and having a reserved parking space made the trip stressless.
2	Moving around to other facilities was difficult.
3	Because of the remote location, the very small space and the inability to access the workshop easily, I felt we could have leveraged the information better.
4	There should have been a map in the bag, or signs posted to let people know which building the classes were in.
5	I have lived here only 3 years and never been on campus. It was great to see some of it.
6	Thank you also for the Parking Pass and all the clear instructions you sent out.
7	The Richard Tam Center was perfect for the continental breakfast, exhibits, and lunch. I wish that the building could have accommodated the break-out seminars too. I, and there were others, didn't like walking to the other building to attend the classes.
8	The class rooms were slightly too small.
9	I did not like the fact that the classes were in another building and I was not familiar with the campus and had little help finding my way.
10	I thought the main rooms used were excellent, but the small classroom I used was somewhat claustrophobic. We kept the door open during the session. I think the breakfast and lunch set ups were very attractive and comfortable.
11	Facilities were lovely, classrooms were rather far distance for some who have trouble walking.
12	Really appreciate the parking – usually when an event is at UNLV I dread the thought of where I am going to park – this was a DREAM!

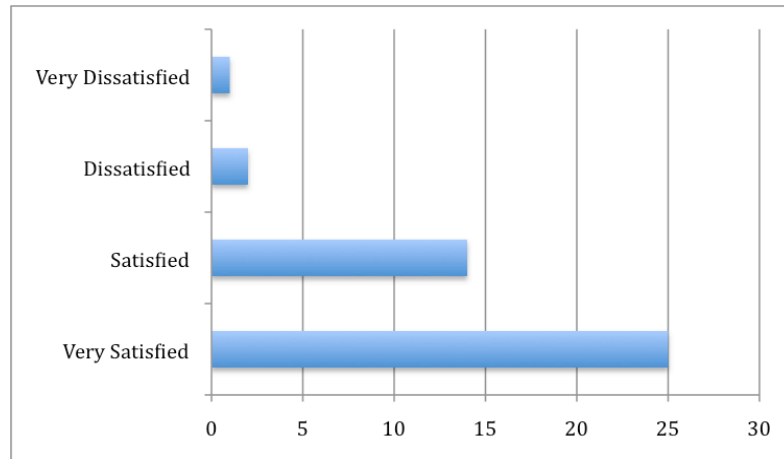
5. How satisfied were you with the conference materials (program, bag etc)?



Comments (5)

1	Great handouts and information.
2	The bag and goodies were really great! Useful and supportive of diverse organizations!
3	Bag and materials were a nice surprise for me.
4	The programs and bags were welcome souvenirs. I would have preferred a sturdier one (in a shout-out color) which actually advertised the name of the conference and invited comment when I carried it. The logo could have served as a conversation jump-off for the curious. (What could have possibly gone into the bags of the exhibitors that we participants (who paid the fees) didn't get?)
5	It would have been easier to put things in a bag without a drawstring opening.
6	I thought the handouts were good, but I would have liked to get the program in advance. As a workshop presenter, I didn't know the program schedule until the morning of the event, except for the time of my own workshop. I think the presenters might have received a package of information in advance of the day's event.
7	The information was very appropriate and I was glad to have it.

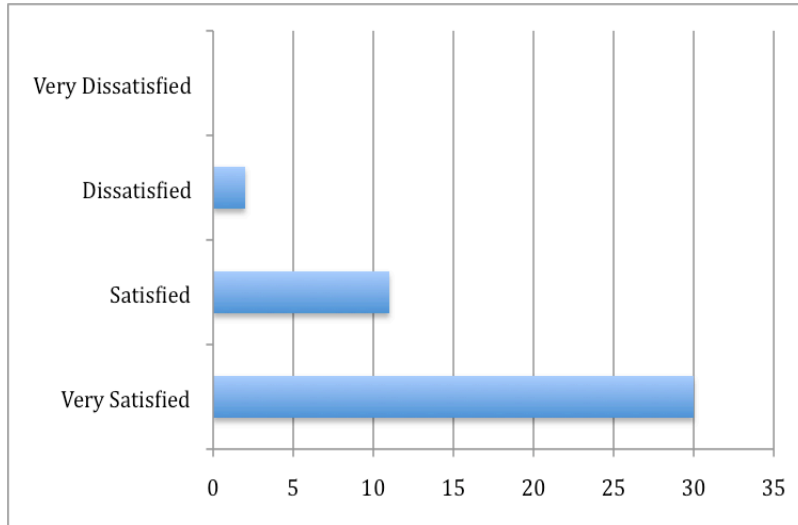
6. The content of the conference sessions was appropriate and informative.



Comments (10)

1	I understand it was a short conference but it was rushed.
2	I feel that they did not in depth enough. Also a lot of power point presentations that were very boring and not enough interaction with the people in class.
3	Both sessions were a waste of my time. The first was too academic, and the second was chaotic and disorganized. I was very frustrated that I took time off work for this.
4	Classes were varied and informative. I wish I could have attended more of the sessions.
5	The speakers in my sessions were extremely informative and shared many worthwhile ideas. Their mission to sell the idea of “not merely aging in place” but of “continuing to be productive as we age” in my opinion, was accomplished.
6	I suggest more sessions on maintaining health and less on disease.
7	I was only able to attend one workshop, and it seemed to work well for the attendees.
8	I think some practical sessions on programming and ways to meet the needs (social, recreational, etc.) of seniors would improve the conference.
9	This is the first conference that I attended that included both professionals and the general public. The members of the OLLI group were very satisfied with the level of the courses, but it may have been more basic for professional attendees.
10	The conference sessions had timely and important information which I will pass on to the rest of my office.

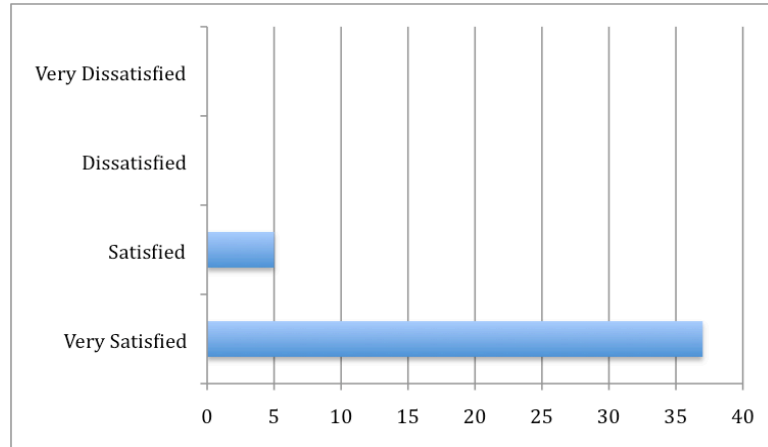
7. The conference was well organized.



Comments (10)

1	Conference was excellent and organized beautifully.
2	I was very impressed with Jacqui and her organizational skills. One of the most organized events I've attended. I think Jacqui should get kudos for her efforts and her ability to remain calm during the entire days activities!!
3	(See my other comments above)
4	This format was great. We were able to enjoy some coffee before we attended our first session and each session was just right in length. Lunch, speakers and drawing at the end made it a relaxing day.
5	For a "first time" event – the day was very well organized and executed! Looking forward to your next one.
6	The conference was well conceived and appropriately paced. Neither the speakers nor subject matter covered in my sessions was ever boring. I particularly enjoyed comments from those in the field who had had hands-on experience. I did hear significant rumblings regarding one of the classes in which the speaker spoke in a pronounced accent and was difficult to understand. (session 1 in room 105?)
7	Schedule three workshop sessions instead of two.
8	I think the organizers did an excellent job of putting the program together and pulling in the resources and volunteers to make it successful. The breakfast and lunch were very good and provided a good time for networking, except during the speaker presentation at lunch. We would have liked to be able to talk together at the table, although the speaker was worth listening to.
9	The organization and flow if events was outstanding.
10	I noticed the walking from building to building was far for some individuals.

8. The conference staff were helpful and courteous.



Comments (9)

1	Everyone was helpful and informed.
2	More than one person offered to assist me. The projector and laptop were set up in my room without incident. The staff helped to get my handouts taken care of as well as with transporting things.
3	Everyone was wonderful and so available to answer questions.
4	The food was excellent too. Perhaps soda pops would have been nice, but certainly not mandatory. Good job.
5	Conference staff were enthusiastically and whole-heartedly focused on the importance of the topic and were supportive of each other during “the power of positive aging.” Genuine regard and understanding of the problems and their consequences were reflected throughout the conference. Seniors themselves and their direct caregiver(s) should hear the message. Empowering those in direct need is fundamental to taking responsibility for a quality life.
6	Everyone seemed to go out of their way to make us feel welcome and to make the event a success. I think the organizers really did a great job with this conference.
7	UNLV staff did an excellent job
8	I would especially like to recognize Jacqui as she spearheaded the organization of the conference. Everyone was friendly and helpful.
9	Great staff!

9. Please provide suggestions for future workshops and lunchtime speakers.

Comments:

1	I am not a fan of having a speaker during lunch. I feel it is a time to network and discuss the conference with others who attended.
2	Address the stress the Seniors experience as well as ways to cope with it. It is every bit as important as the family caregiver stress.
3	Next time have a person talk and less power point presentations.
4	My suggestions include: 1. Stress management for Older Adults 2. Coping skills for caregivers 3. How to make the most of your later years 4. Hollistic approaches to staying healthy.
5	Fine just the way it is.
6	Again, couldn't ask for more - very well done.
7	Enjoyed the workshop. I thought it excellent for gerontology students who need to learn more about local resources for seniors.
8	1. Trips, falls, balance and Seniors 2. A pre-survey re how often/what kind physical/mental activities attendees take part in and benefits/changes they realize. 3. Nutrition - diet - healthy vs. unhealthy foods. 4. Typical medicine vs. alternative choices.
9	Perhaps workshops of this type should be given to more of those who work directly with the seniors. Crucial differences can be made if more caregivers are educated to embrace this philosophy too. Usually, the conference staff spends lots of time and effort gathering information and recruiting speakers. The participants pay their dues, get a paid day off, pick up a packet, visit the exhibits, fill out an evaluation, and go home...end of story. Perhaps, a follow-up with the attendees could be addressed. What did you do with the the information you learned, the hand-outs you received, the e-mail addresses you wrote down, etc. Did you share it with anyone? Did you conduct a staff development? Did you see possiblities for changes within your situation? Did you research the topic further? Did you make a difference with what you learned? In the "each one, teach one" mode, we need to "reach out to touch" as many people as possible so that, together, we can positively impact the lives of our seniors and help them be all that they can be!!! Life is for the living, right?
10	Medical Qigong Environmental medicine: detoxifying and preventing poisoning from heavy metals, plastics, etc. Cooking to preserve antioxidants and other nutrients Home and container gardening for mineral rich food
11	I think some recreational activities for seniors would be good to highlight in a workshop. My own topic of volunteerism is one I feel strongly applies to seniors, especially retirees. I don't know that a serious speaker during the actual lunch is a good idea, but perhaps that's one good time to get people's attention while they're eating.
12	I would have hated to be giving a talk while I didn't have everyone's attention. It seemed like the crowd was preoccupied with eating, rather than listening.
13	I would be eager to hear from the UNLV Gerontology experts on their specific
14	People from the Clark County Senior Advocate Center who know EVERYTHING about seniors!

10. Please provide any overall comments and/or suggestions.**Comments:**

1	Do not schedule a speaker during the lunchtime period until everyone has about 45 minutes to talk about the conference. I must say the food, for breakfast, but especially for lunch was presented very well – and tasted great. Everyone commented on the quality of the food. Thank you for all of your hard work.
2	It was a very informative mini-conference. Thank you
3	There needs to be more time between the morning intro and beginning of panel discussions to allow everyone to get in place and not rush.
4	Lunch was great! With a great variety.
5	Keep the conference in one facility, but overall it was a great time. The speakers were dynamic and the information was great.
6	I found it to be extremely well put together. The exhibitors were informative and had great information. It was a wonderful networking opportunity for myself. Thank you.
7	I attend as many of these conferences as I am able. This was the BEST that I have attended in Las Vegas. I was appreciative of the registration process, the organization, the content, and the participants. I felt that my table mates will be 'friends' and that we will continue to stay in touch! Thank you for your passion!
8	The conference was well organized.
9	Sessions need to be more in depth.
10	Thank you for the opportunity to present at your conference. Overall it was a very good experience!
11	Great mini-conference!
12	I enjoyed it immensely!
13	Excellent conference!! Quality people involved!!
14	It was nice to attend an event w/so many different ages and backgrounds. Not just professionals getting their ceu's. Nice to have been on campus.
15	I had fun and learned a lot. I would volunteer again in the future
16	I am familiar with the OLLI program, but for those who are not, it would be helpful to have someone speak who represents that programs and can encourage more to participate.
17	Wish I had suggestions, but do it again!!
18	I was looking forward to this conference, and took time off of work. I was very frustrated with the sessions, the initial disorganization, and the food offerings. I understand that I am gluten-intollerate, so I don't typically expect to eat at any public place - but in hearing the comments made by my tablemates, they were surprised that the food was as unhealthy as it was.
19	This was my first workshop in the gerontology department and it fulfilled my needs and expectations.
20	I enjoyed this informative conference. There were great exhibits and a great deal of wonderful information to collect. I would love to attend more of these.
21	As above. Everything was very well done.

22	The day was interesting, fun and you provided good information. Continental Breakfast was heavy on the calorie side; no fruit or yogurt offered. Way toooo much food/choices @lunch, but it was very good, tho. Would like to have seen more men there. Also, hope more Seniors will hear about it and attend your next one. I just finished spending 7 summers in a very small town in North/Eastern Montana; the local Hospital offers a "One Fine Day" for Seniors; yearly event, well attended and always a good day.
23	Allowing time for additional classes would have been great, but under the circumstances, two classes were appropriately, enough.
24	The food was geared toward people on a high carbohydrate diet. I suggest adding: breakfast: boiled eggs and fresh berries, pineapple, apple, etc. lunch: baked chicken breast no breading, no oil and steamed vegetables, no oil.
25	I liked the idea of having the exhibitors in a circle and in one place. If the next conference is much larger then think about having both an AM and PM session(s) I personally would like to have attended all the classes. They sounded very interesting and the participants that I overheard talking later sounded very satisfied. Also the lunch was very nice. Thank you all for the work you do.
26	This was a the power of positive again and I suggest if you are going to have a breakfast it could be much healthier foods
27	I was disappointed to have so few people at my workshop, having put in a lot of work to prepare a presentation specifically on this topic. I would have liked to be warned in advance that there was little response to signing up for my workshop, and would have been more prepared for such a small group. The few who came were quality participants and I did not feel that my time had been wasted. I enjoyed the experience and if I gave food for thought to just one person, then it was worthwhile.
28	Great Job!
29	Loved this conference.
30	Everything was well organized; the speakers were knowledgeable and enthusiastic.
31	Health tips
32	I enjoyed the conference, but I was not to impressed with my second session (FDH 105), I really enjoyed the first session on managing stress. Over all I enjoyed the information that was given. Looking forward to next year.
33	I've been to a few of the conferences at UNLV. I always am very pleased the entire time. I appreciate the ticket for parking also. This could be a problem otherwise. Thank you.
34	Conference was an excellent opportunity to learn new information and visit with colleagues. The half day format was great.
35	I thought it was very informative. It was my first such seminar and I learned a lot of very useful information with regards to aging issues.
36	Very good conference - mini-conference was much better than a huge conference.
37	Thank you for an enjoyable experience.
38	I enjoyed the conference and found the information most useful. I hope you have another conference next year. And the food was excellent.
39	Really enjoyed the fact that the audience was diversified, professionals as well as citizens wanting to learn and be heard as to what their needs might be. The fact that

	educators are taking the time to study gerontology and come up with solutions to problems that will face all of us at some point in life.
40	The conference was wonderful, I hope to see it as an annual event.
41	Thank You Jacqu & UNLV for the invitation and a wonderful event! I hope to see you soon!
42	It would have been nice if staff had known about CEU's and that were available at time of meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES.

- Call exhibitors two days before to ensure they are coming, ensure that they will be set up before participants arrive.
- Allow all participants to check in at one desk, only have separate desk for exhibitor and volunteer check in.
- At check in table, split participant names between two lists of last names A – M and N – Z and have appropriate signage to indicate this.
- Provide all the same bags for everyone.
- Have in one location if at all possible.
- Have a volunteer training day before either via phone conference or to actually meet.
- No lunch-time speaker, perhaps just closing remarks.