

## **PLD Conference Call: Monday, June 06, 2016**

Present: Frances Veit, Stacey Hendren, Sarah Ethier, Stacy Lieneman, Jennifer Reichert Simpson

### 1. PLD Day:

- Overall thoughts: PLD Board all considers day a success
  - Nearly 70 people attended and the majority seemed very pleased!
  - Overall ratings were positive: 17 outstanding and 9 good reviews
  - More professional and agenda flow worked better than PLD2015
    - No lags but didn't rush
  - Mix of presenters was good:
    - Movers and shakers of Minnesota, including State Librarian and Director of Minitex
    - Difficult to appeal to everyone with small budget, short timeframe, and large wide range of libraries attending
    - Lightning rounds were very successful overall
      - Can promote them more next year
      - 5 minute length seemed appropriate
- Things you would change?
  - Confirm date/times with speakers
  - Publish agenda earlier so attendees know who will speakers/topics
  - Introduce point people and make them easier to find if attendees have questions/concerns
  - Food: Buffet style worked well but could've been made clearer beforehand
  - Venue:
    - Set up of space was awkward: long rectangular shape with presenters off to one side
    - Front desk person didn't seem to want to be our "point person". Confirm who this person is in advance
  - No forced networking time and libraries largely sat together:
    - Is there a way to draw introverts to network?
      - SW user experience table activity was too passive
      - Use lightning Rounds to force networking at table?
        - Everyone at table share something they're doing/have done and then optional sharing with full group
  - Lightning Rounds:
    - Leave time for questions and put them before a break so attendees can connect with the presenters immediately afterwards if they like
  - Side Activities:
    - Photo booth wasn't used a ton, but was very popular with those who did use it
      - Maybe would get more use with more networking time?
    - Connect table activity with presenter's topic?
  - Financial Aspects:
    - Frances will ask Tammy about financial situation

- Broke even after PLD2015
    - Extra funding could be useful to attract bigger speakers
      - Could also approach Minitex or CRPSLA will funding requests
      - MELSA denied requests in 2015 and 2016 after contributing in 2014
  - Other suggested topic ideas for next year:
    - Makers Spaces
    - Programming
    - Rethinking the Reference Desk
- Go over evaluations
  - Verbal feedback was positive
    - “Best single day of training”
  - Asked for more feedback compared to PLD2015 and received it
- Remember for next year:
  - Agenda flowed much better than PLD2015
  - Verify presenters
  - Publish agenda/speakers earlier
  - Bring variety of cords again – very helpful to have
  - Check the configuration of the room in advance (if possible) and confirm venue point person who can address all questions/issues
  - Keep flow of agenda similar
  - Have someone take photos and post to FB page afterwards
  - Optional post-conference tour and happy hour were popular with those who attended
    - Nice to have post-conference networking opportunities for those who want them

## 2. Other ideas for PLD between now and MLA

- Facebook presence?
  - FB page saw biggest interactions immediately before and after PLD Day
    - Other ideas for FB activities?
      - Sharing relevant articles (maybe 2/week? 5/month?)
      - Mini profile of people – Who’s Who of Libraries?
        - Interviews with people who want to highlight special things they’re doing
      - Library Highlights
      - Connect with colleagues
      - “Like” other libraries and get them to “like” us
    - Frances will make a loose calendar with slots so Board can all sign up for activities
- Some type of meet-up(s)?
  - Professional development book club?

### 3. Ideas for MLA

- Business meeting only – what to cover?
  - Will be a separate shorter meeting
  - Election:
    - When do terms begin/end?
    - Frances will check into exact terms, but if Sarah and Jennifer will be ending if two years
    - Announce PLD will be holding elections at business meeting? Or start process even sooner?
- How to make engaging?
  - Maybe try the lightning rounds and discussions?
- Other ways to have a presence at the conference?