1. What is your MLA membership status?

- Regular: 62.7%
- Sustaining: 14.9%
- Paraprofessional/hourly/part-time: 9.6%
- Student: 11.9%
- Early Career: 18.5%
- Retired: 18.5%
- Emergency circumstances: 11.9%
- Honorary: 1/2%

2. Approximately how many MLA Annual Conferences have you attended (including the most recent)?

- None: 9.6%
- 1: 24.4%
- 2-3: 31.1%
- 4-6: 11.9%
- 7-10: 11.9%
- 11-20: 18.5%
- Over 20: 11.9%
3. What is your affiliation? Please select all that apply.

135 responses

- Academic library: 112 (83%)
- Conservatory library: 8 (6%)
- Public library: 6 (4%)
- Student: 1 (1%)
- Non-library unit in a university: 1 (1%)
- Orchestral library: 2 (1%)
- Archive or special collection: 11 (8%)
- Governmental library (federal): 3 (2%)
- Vendor: 3 (2%)
- Retired: 4 (3%)
- Unaffiliated: 1 (1%)
- MLIS program: 1 (1%)

4. Did you attend MLA 2022?

135 responses

- Yes: 123 (92%)
- No: 12 (9%)

Conference Attendee Feedback

5. What is the ideal amount of time to be in Zoom sessions during a conference day?

123 responses

- 1-2 hours: 61 (49%)
- 3-4 hours: 23 (26%)
- 5-6 hours: 14 (12%)
- 7+ hours: 1 (1%)
- Other (please specify): 1 (1%)
6. If you used Remo, please rate your experience for the following activities.

7. Please provide any additional specific feedback related to using Remo, including expanding your ratings from Question 6.

61 responses

I couldn't even get in.

Remo can make it very difficult to have a meaningful conversation when visiting a poster presentation. I don't think Zoom is any better but at least Zoom doesn't have a limit on a number of people who can listen.

I hated Remo in 2021, so I just skipped everything Remo in 2022.

Under the circumstances Remo was fine.

To have a maximum of 8 people in a Remo "room" is not conducive to conference attendance.

Really don't like how Remo drops you into a random table and then you are responsible for finding the table you actually wanted. Also challenging having a limit to table size especially for posters or exhibits where more people might want to join.

I never was able to get to the poster session I was interested in, as there was never any free
8. What FOUR TOPICS would you most like to see addressed during sessions at future annual meetings? Please select no more than four.

124 responses

- Archives, rare books, special collections: 24 (19.4%)
- Cataloging/metadata: 35 (28.2%)
- Collection development: 41 (33.1%)
- Copyright: 27 (21.8%)
- Critical librarianship: 25 (20.2%)
- Data/information visualization: 12 (9.7%)
- Diversity, equity, inclusion: 38 (30.6%)
- Digital collections: 20 (16.1%)
- Digital humanities/musicology: 19 (15.3%)
- Ensemble librarianship: 42 (33.9%)
- Instruction & information literacy: 24 (19.4%)
- Linked data: 23 (18.5%)
- Local music: 30 (24.2%)
- Outreach and programming: 14 (11.3%)
- Music history/musicology: 29 (23.4%)
- Performing arts (e.g., dance, theater): 29 (23.4%)
- Professional development: 29 (23.4%)
- Reference: 12 (9.7%)
- Scholarly communication: 12 (9.7%)
- Social justice, public policy, advocacy: 16 (12.9%)
- Music library advocacy: 1 (0.8%)
- Ethnomusicology: 1 (0.8%)
- Music education librarianship: 1 (0.8%)
- Advocacy: 1 (0.8%)
- Library advocacy: 1 (0.8%)
- Advocacy for library workers: 1 (0.8%)
9. This year, Committee and Interest Group meetings occurred either before or after the main dates of the conference. How satisfied were you with this schedule?

123 responses

10. How interested are you in having the Committee and Interest Group meetings return to the Wednesday-Saturday program schedule, knowing that MLA is committed to future hybrid conferences?

123 responses
11. Please provide any specific feedback related to the scheduling of Committee and Interest Group meetings.

67 responses

It's so nice not to have the committee/IG meetings competing with sessions. It also makes the conference interval less demanding in terms of wall-to-wall obligations.

It was hard to have them so spread out. It would be better to cluster them, even if it's clustered on a day before or after the conference, so that you don't end up trying to do your job AND attend a conference at the same time.

Having Committee and Interest Group meetings prior to and after the actual conference make the conference feel like a never-ending slog.

it seemed like attendance was lower because they did not occur during *the* conference week

I like being able to attend the conference and not miss sessions because all my time is in meetings.

In a hybrid format there is no need to have Committee/Interest Groups meet during sessions. And there is no need for overlap!!

12. MLA attendees made me feel comfortable and welcome.

122 responses

![Bar chart showing responses to the statement: MLA attendees made me feel comfortable and welcome.](chart.png)
13. Please provide any specific feedback related to how personally comfortable and welcome you felt at the conference.

27 responses

It’s hard to feel welcome in a virtual environment when you’re not really interacting much.

People were welcoming.

Difficult to feel comfortable and welcome in a virtual situation that is taking place while you’re still at work during the week and at home during the weekends—“real life” tends to get in the way, and navigating time differences (different time zones) doesn’t help.

The mentorship folks were very nice! The social times in Remo were a little more clique-y and hard to engage in.

I think the hybrid format via Remo has proven effective. There’s still a lack of interpersonal interaction that happens in-person, but at the same time that can be an alienating experience for some attendees, especially with COVID still in full-swing.

Great conference topics and presentations!

I don’t think that I’ll ever be 100% comfortable at an MLA meeting. I only stay a member and

14. I found MLA 2022 to be accessible because it was virtual.

124 responses

![Bar chart with responses]

- 4 (3.2%)
- 6 (4.8%)
- 22 (17.7%)
- 41 (33.1%)
- 51 (41.1%)
15. Please provide any specific feedback related to accessibility.
40 responses

I really do prefer to attend events in person.

For me personally, virtual vs real-life does not matter, but I cannot speak for those who have real accessibility issues, perhaps they would have a more useful response to this question than mine is.

I would not have been able to attend in person this year due to a number of factors.

Define access. My access issues had nothing with technology and everything to do with having/choosing to be physically located (and therefore really accessible to my employees) at my work office.

I would be happy if virtual was the default, and in person came once every 5 years.

Huge financial accessibility not having to get institutional funding for airfare, hotel, ground transportation, etc.

It's not as easy to visit, brainstorm, and network in an online environment--the most

16. Overall, how satisfied were you with MLA 2022 as a LEARNING experience?
124 responses

![Bar chart showing satisfaction levels](chart.png)

- 0 (0%)
- 5 (4%)
- 25 (20.2%)
- 65 (52.4%)
- 29 (23.4%)
17. Overall, how satisfied were you with MLA 2022 as a NETWORKING experience?

123 responses

18. Overall, how satisfied were you with MLA 2022 as a SOCIAL experience?

122 responses

Non-Attendee Feedback
5. Why did you not attend the Virtual Conference? Please select all that apply.

10 responses

- Cost of registration: 4 (40%)
- Don’t like virtual conferen…: 2 (20%)
- Job change or reorganiz…: 1 (10%)
- Lack of institutional support: 3 (30%)
- No service obligation/not…: 3 (30%)
- Personal reasons: 3 (30%)
- Program content: 2 (20%)
- Schedule difficulties (e.g…: 5 (50%)
- Technology access: 0 (0%)

6. What FOUR TOPICS would you most like to see addressed during sessions at future annual meetings? Please select no more than four.

9 responses

- Archives, rare books, s…: 3 (33.3%)
- Cataloging/metadata: 2 (22.2%)
- Collection development…: 3 (33.3%)
- Copyright: 0 (0%)
- Critical librarianship: 2 (22.2%)
- Data/information visual…: 0 (0%)
- Diversity, equity, inclusi…: 2 (22.2%)
- Digital collections: 4 (44.4%)
- Digital humanities/musi…: 1 (11.1%)
- Ensemble librarianship: 0 (0%)
- Instruction & informatio…: 1 (11.1%)
- Linked data: 2 (22.2%)
- Local music: 0 (0%)
- Outreach and program…: 3 (33.3%)
- Music history/musicology: 2 (22.2%)
- Performing arts (e.g., d…: 2 (22.2%)
- Professional developm…: 1 (11.1%)
- Reference: 2 (22.2%)
- Scholarly communicati…: 0 (0%)
- Social justice, public p…: 2 (22.2%)
19. MLA is strongly leaning towards future conferences being planned as hybrid participation (both in-person and virtual) modalities by default. Do you believe this is the appropriate future direction for our conferences?

135 responses

![Pie chart showing 78.5% Yes, 17% Unsure, and No]

20. If you have additional comments related to hybrid conferences as the future standard, please provide them here.

56 responses

Virtual attendees by default will not get the same social/networking experience, but virtual attendees are also more likely to be students/early career people, who won't necessarily have access to institutional support and who are more likely to want social & networking experiences.

I still intend to attend our conferences in person. But I can easily imagine other institutions cutting travel support funds even more drastically, on the grounds of "your last 2 conferences were on-line, and they went fine." Unfortunately, I fear that conferences will be more sparsely-attended than they were 3 years ago as a result.

Hybrid conferences allow those with less financial privilege or university support to attend.

On one hand, hybrid means folks who are unable to travel will be able to participate on some level -- GREAT! On the other, it creates two issues -- 1-an out for administrators who do not want to support actual professional travel, and 2-another sense of the haves and have nots around the whole MLA experience and sense of belonging. I have no great answers, just observations. As a manager, I'll continue to advocate for my librarians and staff to travel when possible, and at the same time, the hybrid option means some folks can participate who were not able to before.
21. Hybrid conferences can greatly impact sustainability, inclusivity, and discoverability for MLA. The Planning Committee is exploring initiatives to support these principles. Please select any of the below options as initiatives you'd like MLA to explore for future hybrid conferences.

120 responses

- A "viewing room" for in-person attendees: 62 (51.7%)
- Institutional virtual registration: 54 (45%)
- More robust equipment a la carte: 62 (51.7%)
- Real-time captioning: 53 (44.2%)
- Sign language interpreting: 19 (15.8%)
- Virtual events beyond the 3 days before conference: 63 (52.5%)
- Networking events that may not happen: 1 (0.8%)
- Just skip the social event: 1 (0.8%)
- Better pricing options for the hybrid committee participation: 1 (0.8%)
- This isn't another option: 1 (0.8%)

22. Recognizing that virtual attendance comes with its own challenges (e.g., office/home obligations; difficulties using Zoom for lengthy times; etc.), if you were to attend a future conference virtually, how many days do you think you would actively participate?

134 responses

- 1 day: 37.3%
- 2 days: 21.6%
- 3 days: 15.7%
- 4 days: 1.9%
- 5 days: 2.3%
- It depends so much on how t...: 1 (0.8%)
- as many as are offered: 1 (0.8%)
- A virtual conference need not...: 1 (0.8%)
23. MLA conferences traditionally run from a Wednesday evening to Saturday afternoon. For virtual attendees in particular, this can prove problematic. Do you think that the schedule "footprint" should be shifted to avoid the weekend?

135 responses

- Yes: 45.9%
- No: 17%
- Ambivalent: 31.1%

24. What is the minimum number of days you believe our conference should be in order to justify travel?

134 responses

- 1 day: 0 (0%)
- 2 days: 16 (11.9%)
- 3 days: 91 (67.9%)
- 4 days: 28 (20.9%)
- 5 days: 0 (0%)

- If it includes MOUG then...: 1 (0.7%)
- Don't think it should be a...: 1 (0.7%)
- I won't be able to travel u...: 1 (0.7%)
- This includes Wednesday...: 1 (0.7%)
- Any longer than three da...: 1 (0.7%)
I appreciate all of the hard work that went into the planning, especially in the smooth shift to online programming after it was decided not to meet in person. Bravo!

no

The content this year was excellent.

I didn't attend nearly as many sessions as I wanted to, and frankly was just too tired in the evenings to do the social events (have been dealing with lots of other things going on). Now, let's hope I can watch all of the sessions through Sched/Vimeo, although I didn't do that last year (but attended a few more sessions last year). Honestly, it's difficult for me to have or create a sense of engagement with virtual conferences. That's not on MLA, that's a personal issue. I do think our convention managers and all of the other folks who worked on the conference did a beautiful job moving everything online with relatively short notice.

With the exception of Remo, it was a very good conference. Everyone is more relaxed (without alcohol) than in person.