

iSchools Bi-Monthly Report: May-June 2017

The following member-survey results were reported by iSchool Executive Director Michael Seadle in May and June of 2017. Dr. Seadle's overviews are provided along with links to the statistical data.

May, 2017

The first statistics attachment comes from the first question on size. On this basis plus some estimates based on websites, we are tentatively grouping schools into three size categories: 26 small (<20), 37 medium (20-39), and 13 large (>40). These are very rough categories, and the interpretations of "salaried" staff will vary from school to school and country to country.

View statistical attachment at <https://ischools.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Statistical-Analysis-May2017-1of2.pdf>

The second statistics attachment comes from the second group of questions about balancing a range of concerns.

- My reading of the results is that 23 respondents generally disliked the tier structure and 19 generally liked it. This is a much more mixed result than seemed evident at the public session during the Wuhan conference.
- Dues based on size had mixed results. 21 generally liked the idea, 20 disliked it
- Equal payment for all small and large schools had 28 who disliked it and 12 that preferred it. In this case a clear opposition for the idea.
- Equal payment plus a delta based on size or services had 28 who favored it, and 12 who disliked it. A clear preference in favor

View statistical attachment at https://ischools.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Statistical-Analysis_May2017-2of2.pdf

June, 2017

I will start it off with a report on the second part of the survey that many of you participated in. In this set, I am including only complete answers.

Q5 (1): COMMUNITY BUILDING

This had overwhelming approval: 35 in favor, 2 against.

Q5 (2). MEMBER-BASED PROJECTS

Approval here was also strong, but somewhat more mixed: 32 in favor, 8 opposed

Q5 (3). ACCREDITATION

Accreditation had a very mixed result with 23 generally in favor and 18 opposed, but this question had the largest number (12 or 28%) of strong disapprovals. The split may well be regional, because of the differences in legal requirements.

Q5 (4). ICONFERENCE SUBSIDY VIA STAFF

There was modest approval for continuing to support the iConference with iSchool staff: 23 were in favor while 18 were opposed. It is worth noting that strong disapproval was almost as high (8 votes) as strong approval (9).

Q5 (5) MINIMAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Those who expressed an opinion strongly opposed a minimal infrastructure: 5 in favor, 15 opposed. An important fact here is that over half (23 participants or 53%) did not answer, perhaps because it was unclear what a minimal infrastructure would mean.

Q6(1) HIGHER REGISTRATION FOR NON MEMBERS

The approval rate here was fairly strong: 27 in favor with 15 opposed. Those who were opposed were fairly strongly opposed (9 members).

Q6(2) ADMINISTRATIVE FEE ON ICONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The results were fairly clearly opposed: 13 in favor, 27 opposed with 15 strongly opposed.

Q6(3) VALUE ADDED SERVICES AS AN INCOME SOURCE

Members favored this by 25 for to 15 against.

Q6(4) FEES FOR SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

The approval rate was fairly strong: 31 in favor, 8 opposed.

OVERALL

Overall it seems fair to say that community building is a strongly shared priority, and that members welcome ways of raising money other than dues. There continues to be support for some degree of financial (ie staff) support for the iConference and a minimal infrastructure is clearly not a goal.

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