

## **Evaluation of AIE October 2019 Conference: A summary of participants' post-conference online survey responses**

Thank you to everyone who completed the online survey following the AIE19 Rethinking International Education – Values and Relevance conference hosted by the International School of Geneva in October 2019. 67 responses were received from a total of 107 participants. What follows is a brief overview of the main points arising from these responses, under a few main headings. As can be seen from the summaries, responses overall were overwhelmingly positive.

### **Plenary lectures, including ITEps students**

These were all very well received. The contribution from the ITEps students was similarly very well received, not only in terms of their plenary session but also with respect to their input to the conference more widely.

### **Strand sessions**

Feedback was very positive overall, largely with praise for the benefits of staying with one group of participants – though a small number indicated a desire to attend at least one or two sessions from another strand. A number of suggestions were made for greater flexibility in how the 45 minutes allowed per presentation/ discussion is used. A suggestion that information about the presentations making up each strand should be distributed to participants in advance of arriving at the conference was made, and the Board have since agreed that this is appropriate. Not only would it help participants, it would also make the process of participants selecting their strands more efficient.

### **Gallery Walk/Plenary Feedback session**

Responses were positive overall, though there were some suggestions for more effective dissemination of ideas from strands through the Gallery Walk. The plenary session of feedback from strand leaders was well received.

### **Evening receptions and entertainment**

The Friday evening reception generated positive feedback, but feedback on the Red Cross/Red Crescent museum visit was particularly good. Respondents were unanimous in praising both the venue and the catering. The Ecolint students' musical input was widely praised and clearly appreciated by participants.

### **Conference organisation and location.**

There was consistently positive feedback and comments on the structure and organisation of the conference overall. The Ecolint location was also very well received.

### **Exhibitors**

There were many comments about the exhibitors' stands, suggesting that they would have had greater footfall if they been more centrally placed. The role of exhibitors at AIE conferences will be discussed in future AIE board meetings and conference planning meetings with a view to clarifying what might be reasonable expectations of those wishing to exhibit when (unlike most other international conferences) no additional charge is made.

### **How participants found out about the conference**

Most respondents who answered this question were aware of the conference through having attended previous AIE conferences and/or having received an email from the AIE. With some overlap, other participants heard via emails and conversations with colleagues from the University of Bath. The Board will look closely at how future conferences should be advertised and promoted.

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