



Emerging Researchers in Ageing Australia



ERA 2009 CONFERENCE – FEEDBACK REPORT

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This report is based on a total of 45 feedback sheets (~35% response rate)

Respondent Characteristics: *7 males, 15.6%; 38 females, 84.4%*

Average age 43.6 years (23 to 82 years)

28 (62.2%) presented at the conference

SATISFACTION

Possible satisfaction ratings ranged from 1 (LOW) to 5 (HIGH).

Satisfaction responses overall were consistently high.

	Mean
Welcome Event	4.52
Wicked Widows	4.75
Conference organisation	4.57
Quality of the presentations	4.52
Keynote address	4.36
Networking opportunities	4.56
Conference venue & catering	4.43
Presenter's overall experience	4.62
Conference content	4.37
Time for questions/discussion	4.11
Value of information	4.43

General Comments

Mainly very complimentary (e.g., well organised, presentations of a high standard). The main criticisms related to the venue – in particular, the difficulty of moving between sessions due to rooms being on different levels.

Stimulating aspects/presentations

Favourites were Leon Piterman, Wicked Widows play, Paul Higgs and interestingly many prize recipients were nominated.

How respondents found out about Conference

Overall, ERA website and email predominated.

Number of ERA Seminars attended

Average = 1 (.95).

How often ERA website visited

Most prevalent response was weekly (19 - 42.2%)

Attended previous ERA Conferences

Majority has attended none (28 - 62.2%)

Four respondents had previously attended two conferences and two had previously attended three.

Conference comments

Some responses include: best conference even overriding international conferences attended; would be better if linked to AAG; should be international.

Intention to support future ERA conferences

Overwhelming majority response of Yes (43 - 95.6%)

Suggestions for future ERA conferences

Summary of positive feedback/suggestions:

Suggest attracting international interest.

Combine with another conference.

Have conference over two days.

Include new ageing populations

Prayer room for Muslim participants

Round table conferences based on similar interest

More discussion/question time

List applicable A & B journals relevant to different streams

Provide proceedings prior to conference to enable planning of presentation attendance.

Methodology stream.

Podcasts & PDFs of power point presentations.

Include forum/workshops on session topics.

“Great experience”, “extremely satisfied”, “great number of presentations”, “great opportunity”, “overall fantastic”.

Summary of negative feedback/suggestions

Poor time keeping for conference overall and especially for chairs.

More time for grant writing workshop and to accommodate all those interested.

Critical of venue - difficulty travelling from ground to 4th floor. Consequently missing out on presentations of interest.

For more detailed information about this report, please contact Sylvia Niele

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