

AAHSL Strategic Planning Feedback

Q1 What do you get from your participation in AAHSL that is important to you?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	Exchange of information with colleagues and statistics for comparison, budget support, and LCME prep are the two that come quickly to mind.	2/10/2016 1:14 PM
2	Learning what other librarians are doing and how they are handling challenges. Advocacy/alerts on issues of importance to health sciences libraries working on committees with others on projects important to our field as well as getting to work with and know colleagues.	2/10/2016 12:31 PM
3	*Annual Statistics! *connection with colleagues and sharing of ideas *keeping up with trends in the field *developing leadership skills *mentoring from more experienced leaders	2/10/2016 12:24 PM
4	Networking, educational offerings, listserv discussions, and the Fellows/Scholarship program access.	2/10/2016 12:23 PM
5	It's wonderful to be able to meet other library directors at the annual meeting, since it's a much more focused group than MLA. Also, the survey data is excellent.	2/9/2016 12:42 PM
6	Connection with other health sciences library leaders; access to comparative statistical information, a professional organization that "speaks" for its members interests to legislators and other governmental bodies	2/1/2016 12:04 PM
7	In no particular order: Information about macro-level trends affecting health science libraries A relevant outlet for job advertisements Haven't gotten to attend an AAHSL meeting, but it looks like the education and workshops are relevant Opportunities for our staff to compete for scholarships	1/28/2016 3:21 PM
8	The ability to network with other people dealing with the same issues, hearing what they are doing to solve issues or try new things. The salary survey helps me negotiate.	1/28/2016 2:47 PM
9	Access to the AAHSL listserv for networking and discussion with health sciences libraries directors, AAHSL statistics for benchmarking, participation and belonging in an important group for libraries serving medical schools.	1/28/2016 11:38 AM
10	Clearly to me the single most important part of AAHSL is the networking with colleagues. This includes both a professional element and a social element.	1/28/2016 10:42 AM
11	Mentoring, Continuing Education, Networking. The relationships i have with the other AAHSL directors really help me navigate my own job.	1/28/2016 8:50 AM
12	Interaction with colleagues and benchmarking statistics.	1/27/2016 4:37 PM

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Q2 What does AAHSL do well?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	The list serv is invaluable, as are the statistics. Both are very well managed and of critical importance to me.	2/10/2016 1:15 PM
2	Monitoring of issues important to health sciences libraries. Timely workshop/presentations on key trends. For some, the statistics used for benchmarking. Advocacy on the legislative front but on other broader issues among publishers, the health care environment, etc.	2/10/2016 12:32 PM
3	Support for new/emerging leadership in member libraries. Advocacy efforts to influential decision-makers.	2/10/2016 12:25 PM
4	Collecting and tracking annual statistics. Providing the environment and opportunities for developing relationships across institutions.	2/10/2016 12:25 PM
5	The survey and the annual meeting. The new director's symposium is an amazing program as well.	2/9/2016 12:42 PM
6	The "backroom" functions run very well, the leadership development activities are excellent, "speaking with one voice" on matters of concern	2/1/2016 12:06 PM
7	*Share information among its membership *Provide a venue for speedily conducting mini-surveys of interest that would take forever to be published in traditional sources	1/28/2016 3:39 PM
8	Train the next generation of leaders.	1/28/2016 2:48 PM
9	AAHSL statistics, listserv, meetings...	1/28/2016 11:39 AM
10	It creates an environment for the individual members to participate in meaningful professional activities, engage in organized and spontaneous networking events, and share ideas and concerns with peers..	1/28/2016 10:43 AM
11	Annau meeting, Leadership initiatives, listserve participation	1/28/2016 8:51 AM
12	Facilitating meetings at which we can have good conversations with colleagues. Providing email lists.	1/27/2016 4:38 PM

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Q3 What would you like to see AAHSL do better, differently, or not at all?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
1	Change the date when stats are due. The Fall is the busiest, worst possible time for them. They are a lot of work for many low-staffed libraries (i.e., most of them); perhaps they can be pared down so they are not so onerous and dreaded by libraries. Mostly I look to compare staff/librarian salaries, and budgets. Mostly, I'd be happy just to have that information. Perhaps AAHSL could offer a "Stats Lite" survey for those libraries who have no need for so much data, and no staff to track and compile it. I would welcome that.	2/10/2016 1:20 PM
2	The old statistics no longer have value for other administrators. We need new value and outcome based measures and techniques for gathering and reporting them.	2/10/2016 12:33 PM
3	Perhaps enhancing the relationship with MLA and the Leadership & Management Section of MLA to develop new leaders. I believe AAHSL is doing this and doing it well but perhaps just a little more emphasis on the future leaders.	2/10/2016 12:27 PM
4	When you first join, it's a bit hard to get your head around the structure - how the meeting works, etc. A bit more guidance for new members would be nice.	2/9/2016 12:43 PM
5	n/a	2/1/2016 12:08 PM
6	*I'm not convinced the annual statistics need to be gathered, or gathered as often. Health science libraries gather statistics in so many different ways - with personnel who have highly variable levels of commitment to recording their activities - and most of them do it in a mediocre way (mine included, I'm sorry to say) - so even when I look at the numbers, I feel they are rife with potential errors. I am reluctant to show them to scientifically-minded administrators because I fear they wouldn't stand up to scrutiny. *As an addendum to that, I'm not sure I believe in the power of using the annual statistics to negotiate for something for my library. Decision makers here don't seem to care what other health science libraries are funded to do and I wouldn't likely bring it up as a justification. The state budget is the final deciding factor in our case. I realize not all AAHSL members are constrained by that. *Having said all that, I do acknowledge there is value in collecting annual data about our type of library. I just don't know how strong it is outside our group. *Similar to MLA recruitment materials for being a health sciences librarian, has AAHSL ever compiled materials for library staff interested in being health science library directors? It doesn't have to be a brochure or a video. The recruitment guide is useful but seems aimed at search committees. * I hate to bring this up, but since there are new medical school / new director participation channels, I wonder if there needs to be a guide for successfully *closing* a health sciences library or the branch of a health sciences library. Lots of issues involved with that, I realize - but maybe it would be good to have a guide so administrators see you don't just turn out the lights and leave, and suddenly save money. When I worked in a corporate library, I did occasionally see this topic - how to close the company library if you really have to.	1/28/2016 3:45 PM
7	More mentoring relationships for those who have not gone through the fellowship or for those looking for a secondary mentor.	1/28/2016 2:48 PM
8	I'm pretty happy with AAHSL.	1/28/2016 11:39 AM
9	I believe AAHSL is doing excellent work. Who is AAHSL? It really is the library directors that represent the member institutions so AAHSL is us! I think one thing that could be evaluated is engaging staff from member libraries in AAHSL sponsored events. How much should be allow before we become a mini MLA? I don't have an answer but believe this issue should be addressed.	1/28/2016 10:46 AM
10	statistics need to become more streamlined	1/28/2016 8:51 AM
11	I haven't gotten as much useful information out of recent education programs as I would have hoped. I would rather have more networking time, and more directed education.	1/27/2016 4:39 PM

Q4 Are there ways that AAHSL can directly make you or your library more successful?

Answered: 8 Skipped: 4

#	Responses	Date
1	Keep on doing what it is doing. As a director, AAHSL is more useful to me than MLA is. AAHSL is low on bureaucracy, and that suits me fine.	2/10/2016 1:23 PM
2	Keeping us abreast of issues and trends.	2/10/2016 12:34 PM
3	Perhaps some evidence-based statements on minimum collection levels (\$) for libraries that support medical schools.	2/10/2016 12:28 PM
4	Nothing else I can think of.	2/9/2016 12:43 PM
5	Finding a way to make a bigger impact at AAMC for our deans to see us as an entity to be heard, would be tremendous. Right now I'm having to defend our existence regularly.	1/28/2016 2:50 PM
6	They already do in ways that I mentioned above.	1/28/2016 11:39 AM
7	Continue to help members utilize the statistics. Make the statistics that are collected and reported relevant to today's needs. For example, does it matter if we know x# of institutions have Access Medicine? I realize this is a challenge for the Assessment Committee but assessment is the newest buzz word and we all are in need of ways of showing our worth to our respective administration.	1/28/2016 10:50 AM
8	Provide better ways to identify peer libraries and do data-driven comparisons of collections, resources, services, etc.	1/27/2016 4:39 PM

Q5 Are there any new directions or initiatives that you think AAHSL should pursue?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 6

#	Responses	Date
1	I would like to see connections to Directors of academic libraries that support health sciences even if they do not have a medical school.	2/10/2016 12:38 PM
2	working with library or other schools on developing a data management curriculum for our staffs. Not all of us are in the position to hire new people, so retraining is going to be essential.	2/10/2016 12:35 PM
3	Wider dissemination of survey data (anonymised, of course), just to help demonstrate value and provide some benchmarking for the wider academic world?	2/9/2016 12:44 PM
4	I'm happy with what AAHSL is doing. The new directors initiative is really good, the AAHSL statistics are useful, the meetings are good when I'm able to go (which is not very often).	1/28/2016 11:40 AM
5	I think AAHSL is on the right track. The current Board is strong and contains a solid mix of new directors and veteran directors. I believe the organization is strong and heading in the right direction.	1/28/2016 10:51 AM
6	i think the website needs an overhaul. it has the potential to be a great portal for information, but the organization of content is awkward. Perhaps a mentoring program or AAHSL orientation program for new Directors (above and beyond the first time attendees initiative at the annual meeting)	1/28/2016 8:55 AM

Q6 Please share any additional thoughts regarding strategic priorities for AAHSL in the next few years.

Answered: 2 Skipped: 10

#	Responses	Date
1	It's a great organization that provides a lot of value to its members.	2/9/2016 12:45 PM
2	The ongoing issue of our relationship to AAMC needs to be factored in any strategic planning. In many ways AAMC is why AAHSL exists. How do we continue that relationship? Too, we have a healthy budget. Should there be a long-term plan to identify opportunities to leverage the budget? At any rate, good job to the Board.	1/28/2016 10:54 AM

Q7 Optional - feel free to submit anonymously

Answered: 1 Skipped: 11

Answer Choices	Responses
Name	100.00% 1
University	100.00% 1
Address	0.00% 0
Address 2	0.00% 0
City/Town	0.00% 0
State/Province	0.00% 0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00% 0
Country	0.00% 0
Email Address	0.00% 0
Phone Number	0.00% 0

#	Name	Date
1	Jim Bothmer	1/28/2016 10:54 AM
#	University	Date
1	Creighton University	1/28/2016 10:54 AM
#	Address	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	Address 2	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	City/Town	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	State/Province	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	ZIP/Postal Code	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	Country	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	Email Address	Date
	There are no responses.	
#	Phone Number	Date
	There are no responses.	