National ADA Symposium
Participation and Outcomes: Great Plains ADA Center Survey Analysis

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ADA State of the Science Symposium
Diane L. Smith, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA
Bridget McNamara, OT/s
Research Question

• How are the participant’s of the National ADA Symposium using the knowledge acquired during sessions in their work and community environment?
Methodology

• Data were analyzed from a survey sent to attendees of the 2015 National ADA Symposium (n=763)
• 238 attendees responded to the survey (31%).
Methodology

• Descriptive analysis was used to determine
  – Overall opinion of session presenters
  – Self-perceived improvement in skills and knowledge
  – Intended use of the knowledge and skills in work and/or community environments
Methodology

• Open-ended comments were analyzed qualitatively with themes and categories developed to provide richer descriptions.
Results

Effectiveness of Speakers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results

Knowledge and Expertise of Speakers

- Poor
- Fair
- Average
- Good
- Excellent
- N/A
Results

Skills and Knowledge Improvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Skills Development</th>
<th>Knowledge Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results

Satisfaction with Symposium Components

Percent

Length and breadth
Variety of sessions
Learning environment

Poor
Fair
Average
Good
Excellent

0 10 20 30 40 50 60
Results

Satisfaction with Symposium Components

- Conducive for networking
- Opportunity for connections
- Cost effective
- Overall quality

Percent
Results

• Most beneficial
  – Networking!
  – Panel discussions and breakout sessions
  – Information sessions during the Symposium
  – Time with vendors
Results

• Most beneficial
  – Knowledgeable speakers
  • DOJ
  – Regulatory updates
  – Information and resources
  – Center for Civil and Human rights reception
Results

• Future topics
  – Access to health care
  – Employment
  – More advanced sessions for
    • Titles I, II, & III
• Future topics
  – Education
    • Higher education and transition services
    • K-12 focus
  – Fair housing
Results

• Future topics (cont.)
  – Emergency preparedness
    • Many expressed dissatisfaction with this presentation
  – Accessibility at venues
Results

• Future topics
  – Policy training
    • Other disability laws
    • Olmstead Act
  – Additional sessions focused on lawyers and litigation
Results

• Barriers to implementation of knowledge/skills
  – Commitment from/knowledge of employers
  – Money
  – Time
Summary/Punchline

• The National ADA Symposium is an effective mechanism for increasing skills and knowledge of disability issues that will be used in the community and workplace.
Summary/Punchline

• Further survey results have been used to:
  – Add requested modules (e.g., advanced sessions)
  – Incorporate networking
  – Add more large group sessions (similar to TED talks)
  – Increase support by business (e.g., Region’s Bank)
Thank you!
Questions?