OHECC Fall 2000
Attendee Survey Results

Following OHECC, a brief email survey was sent to all attendees, excluding those from Wright State and from vendor/sponsors. OHECC included 287 attendees in total. We received 31 replies. This document summarizes their responses and attempts to give you a flavor of the conference.

Wright State University again made an extra effort to include as many institutions in the state as possible, from the smallest community college to the largest state university. The smaller schools were able to tap into technical resources they rarely have access to and the larger schools were able to see how institutions with more limited resources have come up with unique solutions to complex problems. Here is a list of the 41 attending institutions:

University of Akron
Ball State University
Bowling Green State University
Capital University
Case Western Reserve University
Central State University
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Clark State Community College
Cleveland State University
Cuyahoga Community College
Denison University
University of Dayton
Edison Community College
University of Findlay
Franciscan University
Franklin University
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Hiram College
John Carroll University

Lakeland Community College
Lima Technical College
Lourdes College
Miami University
Muskingum College
North Eastern Ohio University College of Medicine
OARnet
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Ohio Supercomputer Center
Ohio University
OhioLink
Owens Community College
Southern State Community College
University of Toledo
Urbana
Wittenberg University
Wright State University
Youngstown State University
Xavier University

Paul Hernandez, Terry Anderson,
Steve Nickell, Mary Clem and Venne Smith
load up the van and prepare to head
out to the Dayton Convention Center.
What did you like MOST about OHECC?

"The Roundtable discussion, the examples in the Web Accessibility session"

"Being able to discuss Distance Learning & see what others are doing, or what problems arise and need to be solved."

"I liked that Data Warehousing and Database was discussed in a roundtable."

"Opportunity to talk to people from other campuses--people who are dealing with similar issues. Lunch on Thurs. was great!"

"Very good sessions, vendors, facilities, food and breaks."

"Keynote speaker"

"This was my first so it's hard to say. I guess I'd say the keynote speaker was what I liked the best."

"The two roundtable sessions."

"Very well organized. I liked the schedule on the name tag, the nice carrying case with CD of the conference inside, and the Web Accessibility Breakout. You also had good prizes. Overall, I really enjoyed this OHECC."

"Good breakout sessions! Good roundtable discussions. Keynote speaker was great."

"Communicating with colleagues. I like the long breaks, meals, etc. to meet and talk about issues."

"The keynote speaker. Also enjoyed the session put on by the FBI."

"Relaxed, short conference; nice portfolio"

"The hula dancers!! Just kidding...I think the opportunity to network with the other schools is the best part of OHECC."

"I thought the keynote speaker gave an excellent presentation -- many thought provoking ideas delivered in a very memorable way."

"The speaker was great. I really enjoyed networking with the other IT professionals from other Universities."

"The roundtables."

"Roundtables and networking with peers."

"There were more items of interest than I was able to participate in."

"The information from the roundtable discussions. Keynote speaker Scott McKain and the Vendor Exhibits."

"Speaking to colleagues with same interest and size of institution."

"There were plenty of interesting sessions and breakouts to choose from. I was able to go to several directly related to my position, plus I went to one on a topic of personal interest."

"Networking with our peers."

"The keynote speaker, although light and fun, was very informative and entertaining!"

"The opportunity to share information and ideas with peers."

"I really enjoyed the keynote, Scott McKain. He was exceptional!!!"

"The breakout sessions that I attended were excellent - esp. the one on web accessibility."
What did you like LEAST about OHECC?

“There were more items of interest than I was able to participate in.”
“Short duration.”
“Special Diet Food choices— I requested Vegetarian on the conference order form, and never saw where this was an option. It took so long to get someone’s attention Thursday at lunch; I just ate the potato and green beans and left the chicken. Friday’s lunch after removing the turkey, there wasn’t a whole lot left. Dinner Thursday was great for me because I do eat fish, and it was a nice spread. Very well done!”
“The breakfast buffet was handled poorly.”
“No shrimp left for dinner when I got there.”
“Hotel Accommodations and Friday’s breakfast setup.”
“The breakfast arrangement.”
“It should have lasted longer than a day and a half.”
“A slant on enterprise level discussions. I come from a departmental support area.”
“Box Lunch— “Just Kidding”. I was completely satisfied with everything, including my room and meals.”
“The food at the Hawaiian dinner.”
“I really could not afford to devote 2 days to the conference and attended only on Thursday. I would have preferred to have it be a 1-day event rather than 2 half days.”
“The gaps between programs.”
“A couple of sessions I would have liked to attend were at the same time, could not attend both.”
“Not enough time for more sessions.”
“Waiting in line for breakfast or worse, eating breakfast while others were waiting in line.”
“No map. Was hard to find the room locations at first.”
“Friday morning breakfast seemed to have some sort of a logistical problem.”
“Having to stand in line for over half-an-hour for breakfast on Friday morning and missing the breakout session. We had to choose between eating breakfast and missing the breakout session or missing breakfast and being able to attend the session!”
“I was pleased with everything. It’s one of the best I’ve attended. WSU did an excellent job.”
“Too much “entertainment” on Thursday. Could have offered an evening session. I attended to learn more and exchange ideas; not for drinking and hula dancing.”
“Dancers not showing on Thursday”
“Too much time between registration and first event, and between last session and dinner. The exhibitors were a good mix, but it didn’t take more than a couple hours to talk at length with all those whose products might be of interest to me.”
“The roundtables were too long. More breakout sessions please.”

Danna Esterly
will lead the team from Youngstown State that will attempt to host an even better OHECC than Wright State next spring.
Good luck, Danna!
SESSION Ratings

Breakout sessions were very popular and received high marks. The special bonus session presented by the FBI discussing white-collar crime and how universities can work with law enforcement was the most popular session at OHECC, with a packed room of interested attendees.

The telecom-related sessions received the fewest attendees. Telecom support staff have not traditionally attended OHECC, but interest appears to be growing. Staff from university libraries and centers for teaching and learning (home to most distance learning groups) were major growth areas for OHECC. Future conferences may want to address their needs and concerns in a more significant way.

Here are other comments from the survey:

"Network Security: needed a handout to fulfill the promise of providing a security framework."

"Especially noteworthy for me were the sessions by Kitty Friedman on Crystal Reports and Jeff Hiles on Instructional Web Development. Both speakers seemed nervous in giving their talks, and Jeff had troubles getting his PowerPoint presentation working; nevertheless, both were knowledgeable, eager to answer questions, and extremely helpful. I would rate both presentations 9 out of 10!"
ROUNDTABLE Ratings

| 1 (low) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 (high) |

"Administrative-Good Topics/Good Discussion. Terry and Scott lead the session well."

"Desktop Support. Specific individuals in the group consistently monopolized the discussion. Perhaps the moderator could have been more firm in redirecting the conversation."

"Nice to see we are on par with other schools."

Vigorous and informative discussion is the cornerstone of an OHECC Roundtable.

OHECC ROUNDTABLES
1. Directors, 2. Web Development & Support, 3. LANs & WANs,
4. Data Center Operations & Systems Management,
5. Help Desk, 6. Distance Learning, 7. Telecom & Infrastructure,
VENDOR AREA Ratings

“Vendors were fine and friendly. For the Thursday refreshments, try putting the drinks at one end of the exhibits and food at the other to encourage people to circulate among the booths again.”

“A list (in our registration packet) of vendors and their products would have been helpful.”

“Small, not a show focus - I like that.”

“I think that there should have been more vendors present.”

Vendor/sponsors provided information on the latest products and technologies.

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<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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FOOD Ratings

ENTERTAINMENT Ratings

"Didn't stay for the Hawaiian festivities."
"Too much alcohol."
"Rich from Wright State and Dan Kuhlmann from UC did great."
"Quite elaborate on Thursday. Breakfast on Friday should have been handled differently--too many people were unable to get seated."
"Food was good, but ran short."

"For convention food, it was great."
"Plenty even if they did run out of shrimp."
"The break refreshments were very nice. I did not have any meals."
"The food was good, especially the dinner but, the breakfast seating was ill suited to the size of this group and there were a lot of annoyed people."
SUGGESTIONS for future OHECCs:

"The hospitality suite!" (should be enhanced)

"The format was excellent. I really like the Round Table Discussions."

"Here's a few administrative issues that would make useful topics: 1) processes and tools that are successfully used to manage project requests for changes, enhancements and new development. How are requests made? How are they prioritized and managed? Are all requests processed? What kind of backlog is typical? etc.
2) tools and/or procedures that are used to handle implementation into a production environment given the variety of platforms in use today.

"I would like to see more vendors participate."

"More departmental level discussions and speakers, rather than enterprise level."

"More Vendors"

"Perhaps you do the roundtables in the 2-part format all the time. I have not attended OHECC before. But I would prefer to have a chance to hear about 2 different topics rather than being expected to spend 2 hours with the same group."

"More diverse sessions"

"Distance Learning options and technologies"

"The "meet and greet" roundtable should be shorter (30 min) with just introductions and someone recording topic items only. This would allow time for two breakout sessions on Thursday afternoon and one on Friday morning along with the regular roundtable. WSU had lots of good sessions it was tough to pick only two."

"A larger, more diversified group of vendors."

"Discussion of Library and Computing collaboration. Sessions designed to discuss software used in different disciplines. Hands-on session for trying different software programs, or to practice desktop support."

"I think there needs to be a roundtable just for data warehousing and database support."

"The use of video integration within Distance Education. Streaming video demonstrations and how others are using that and multi-media within learning."

"I liked having the motivational speaker first. Having a 3-hour Roundtable instead of two 1.5-hr Roundtables might be better; we were really getting rolling when we had to shut down the first session."

"Two full days would be better for me. I just get to know faces and people are ready to go home."