Education on the Fly for the Accidental Library Data Professional: Design Your Professional Publication

Results of a Survey
Survey Context

Purpose – to ascertain level of interest among accidental data professionals working in libraries in a professional publication specifically oriented to their issues
Survey Particulars

- Sent to
  - IASST-L
  - GovDoc-L
  - ANSS-L

- Four-week survey period

- Total responses: 61

  Context: 302 IASSIST members – 15.9%
  Positive Responses – 12.6%
Salient Results

Do you think you would benefit ...? (61)

- Yes - 50 (82%)
- No - 11 (18%)
Salient Results

...which of the following...would you be likely to participate in within the next three years? (58)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading the publication</td>
<td>94.8%</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing an article</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewing submissions from peers</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editing articles</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web support (hosting or maintaining site)</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design/layout support</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Editorial Board (e.g., soliciting articles, planning issue content, etc.)</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other technical support, e.g., researching software options for content management</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Salient Results

Not IASSIST Members

Seven online, six by email for a total of 13 (21.3%).

Two said, “Never heard of you before. Ha!”

One said, “Am new to data-wrangling and figured IASSIST might be a bit too advanced for me.”
Salient Results

Peer reviewed? (55)

• Yes - 45.5%
• No - 54.5%
Conclusions

- **Form partnership**
  - IQ and others
  - Use previous approach of special issue for peer review

- **Encourage partner(s) to embrace new features and/or media**
  - Ask the Expert or DataNotes for Newbies feature
    - On listserv? In other journals?
  - Blog or wiki

- **Take responsibility**
  - Write more!
  - Share the load
Call to Action

- Data Ferret
- Data mining and/or qualitative data analysis
- How do I develop statistical literacy?