[](http://technetsa.bio.flinders.edu.au/)

Where To From Here

1. The 20 to 30 oral presentations is a suitable number of presentations that provide adequate programme structure for the two day conference.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 56 26 7 2 1

*They really are the mainstay of any conference.*

*Because TechNet represents a diverse group of professionals, a forum of 30presentations at least would provide opportunity to choose relevant material, if that is a priority or requirement.*

*More tours please especially to areas requested by delegates.*

*I remember one TechNet that offered shorter and longer slots. Might be worth trying again.*

*Need enough diversity to cover all areas –i.e. health, Engineering, Agriculture and Safety.*

*Need to maintain reasonable size audience. Need to give range of topic choice.*

*Would need to have more to give more diversity.*

*Up to 30 gives more diversity.*

*Absolutely agree, attendees need to digest the topics and it is only 2 days!*

2. The pressure of my work influences my decision to make the effort of preparing a paper for the TechNet Conference.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 32 20 22 9 9

*Absolutely, in both directions.*

*Work pressures make a strong case to attend & network at TechNet – peer group discussions & presentations indicate alternatives to handle work now.*

*Positions can be time poor.*

*Work pressure may be an influence, but perhaps delegates should view this as an opportunity – after all, one outcome is an addition to a CV if nothing else.*

*Some out of hours work to complete a poster may put some people off.*

*Pressure on time available.*

*The problem is more having material of enough substance and interest to present.*

*Workload has increased significantly as immediate supervisor has been redundant. Expectations of academic staff that I fulfil his task have raised pressure.*

*Making presentations is an additional task done outside work hours.*

*Most of my recent work is commercial-in-confidence so I can’t present it.*

*OH&S – new position – involvement in building works does make it hard to get the time to prepare presentations.*

*Every year at MU is becoming more demanding, reduction of staff and increasing students.*

3.It is too demanding to prepare and make either an oral or poster presentation at consecutive annual Conferences.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 13 18 25 12 22

*Anything is possible, yet the Law of Averages comes into play.*

*I would estimate that most delegates would have a diversity of job descriptions which would easily facilitate presentation of extremely different aspects of one’s occupation.*

*Completely disagree. I enjoy the TechNet experience and will find the time privately if I was too busy.*

*Don’t know.*

*But it depends upon the changes in roles/facilities at your organisation.*

*I think people are intimidated to present posters even though attendees to the TechNet conference are other technicians, fear of peer opinion.*

*It depends on higher management.*

*Would like to present poster of New Vet School.*

*A poster is manageable; an oral presentation requires a good deal more work.*

*I haven’t been to consecutive conferences.*

*Presentations done jointly with a colleague or two should make it easier, as we have seen this year.*

*We are a small university and new developments are done b few technicians so 12 months is not a lot of time to do the work and then prepare a presentation etc.*

*A poster is better for me – I have never made an oral presentation at a conference or attended many conferences.*

*Allotting the time and sharing the topic that may be interested to others*

4. It is difficult for me to gain support to attend TechNet Conferences.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 10 8 16 19 40

*I enjoy unfettered liberty to go thither.*

*We are very fortunate in Civil/Adelaide to be able to attend. – so far !*

*The current economic climate definitely influences and dictates my reluctance to request funds for attendance, for myself and my staff.*

*It can be difficult. We need to ’sell’ TechNet better to demonstrate the value of the event to those who approve travel.*

*I’m here on holidays – my Dean doesn’t believe we need PD*

*Depends who is HOS at the time.*

*Depends upon*

*We are supported in principle. Acting School manager (John Devlin) speaks highly of TechNet. No matching ring from School at present.*

*It depends upon how well I can justify attending.*

*Unless it is at my university.*

*MU system to apply for staff development grant is becoming nearly impossible to achieve, I use persistence to overcome those barriers.*

5. It is difficult for me to gain the financial support to attend TechNet conferences.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 14 11 16 16 35

*Entirely budgetable.*

*I would be able to gain support, but finance is a more sensitive issue.*

*Sometimes. It can be difficult. We need to ’sell’ TechNet better to demonstrate the value of the event to those who approve travel.*

*I don’t qualify for money – I don’t need it!!!!! (In his opinion[The Dean])*

*Depends who is HOS at the time.*

*Need to find sponsorship for people that don’t get much support.*

*UniSA is very supportive through our Staff Development Fund. However this doesn’t always cover the costs required to travel interstate and for accommodation as well as registration.*

*Able to go every second year, maybe not every year though.*

*Self funded this year – School has made redundant 2 staff and ceded 8 to another UWA section.*

*This Uni has no specific budget for general staff development.*

*Tech staff at UCanberra are fairly well supported these days.*

*It depends upon how well I can justify attending.*

*Unless it is at my university.*

*Depends on where it is. Could definitely get support every 2 years.*

*MU system to apply for staff development grant is becoming nearly impossible to achieve, I use persistence to overcome those barriers.*

6. The National TechNet Conference would be better convened every two years.

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 19 11 19 9 33

*Only if annually is unsustainable.*

*The current economic climate would dictate this I suspect.*

*No. TechNet needs more not less events. That is to say that micro conferences are needed to sustain the momentum between the large conferences.*

*Perhaps every 18 months.*

*Every two years you may lose support/interest. However, saying that - more time invested in preparation may increase the size of the conference.*

*Perhaps – this survey may uncover the reasons for lowered numbers willing to present.*

*Consider 18 monthly.*

*This is the first time I have attended the Conference. It is difficult to answer without having been to at least 2 conferences, but perhaps it would be better to spread the work involved over 2 years.*

*Or maybe every 18 months – midyear break or end of year.*

*Only if it meant a better attended conference – otherwise very difficult to continue long distance relationships/friendships.*

*However there are some universities that would prefer to host midyear which could mean an 18 month gap.*

*Definitely, lots of work involved, preparation, organisation etc. Therefore every year is too often.*

*That might make it easier – less pressure.*

*If it means a stronger conference and people more likely to host it, yes.*

*Probably a good idea as it gives delegates an opportunity to present a poster or an oral presentation over a 2 year period of preparation. There is also plenty of time for TechNet organisers to prepare for the next conference.*

*That’s a good idea.*

7. This conference still has relevancy in 2010

Agree o o o o o Disagree

Comments: 84 8

*Absolutely.*

*I listened to a presentation about setting up a PC2 facility for researchers on the first day. An enormous preparation& other material presented there was invaluable in terms of a request made of me to set up a ’Laboratory Users Group’ for researchers strictly to address the housekeeping issues presented in that presentation – I will be contacting those ladies with the support of my Dean.*

*Entirely agree.*

*But Faculty Heads need to be converted*

*I have found 2010 conference presentations very useful and helpful*

*Very relevant as Technicians roles are becoming more under threat due to funding.*

*Change over of staff.*

*I paid for myself to come. This is the highlight of my (Nordish) technical year.*

*There is so little PD available for tech staff.*

*Definitely.*

*The conference provides scope for networking, sharing ideas and finding out ways in which I can improve my ability to interact with academics on various technical issues.*

8. We are willing to host a TechNet Conference at our University.

Agree 42

Comments:

*Already done in Perth 2009.*

*Subject to confirmation – CSU 2011*

*Katrina Morgans.*

*Just Did.*

*Wolf Maier QUT*

*We hosted last year in Perth(I assisted on that committee.)*

*Jon James QUT*

*Scott Burnell Griffith Gold Coast*

*We were last year.*

*Matt Mackay QUT*

*But only had it last year in Perth. In a couple of years.*

*Claire Atkinson Uni of Wollongong*

*Katie Hall Uni of Wollongong*

*Mike Flynn*

*It’s currently at my University.*

*Need to consult and confirm. CSU*

*Probably will in another 5 – 6 years.*

*A.Ryntjes*

*Glenn Geary QUT*

*Lincoln Hudson*

*Wollongong held conference in 2008*

*Raj Indela*

*Roseworthy Campus (Uni of Adelaide)*

*Did the Wollongong one in 2008*

*Perhaps 2015 (Griffith Health*

*A.Younl*

*QUT Brisbane Qld.*

*Ben Cummings Uni of Wollongong*

*Debra Wilson – Griffith*

*Unfortunately not a team to organise a conference at Uni of Sydney*

*Helen Monaghan*

*Susan Secomb SAVS Adelaide Uni Roseworthy*

*Leanne Rolles*

*Tas Uni may be too small to cover enough diversity.*

*Not at a University.*

*Margaret Espejel University of Sydney*

*Geoff Appleby Uni of Tas.*

*Possibly not as had in 2009. But willing if our team says yes.*

*Cannot say, do not know.*

*Tarita Morais Griffith Uni.*

*I think it has already been raised.*

*We have just hosted a conference.*

*Possible. Will need to discuss with the VC CSU*

*Can’t see it happening far too time consuming.*

*We hosted.*

*Melissa Johnston QUT*

*Brad Pullen U of A*

*I would like to say yes, places like Latrobe University, RMIT, Melbourne University and Monash University need to take a more proactive approach to attending such conferences. I will spread the message around to such places, but it is up to Techies in these universities to get on board. Thw Deans at these Victorian Universities could also be targeted to get their vote of confidence and approval for a conference dedicated to improving the day-to-day life of Techies throughout tertiary institutes in Victoria. I can be contacted at the following email address:billtheodoropoulos@nmit.vic.edu.au*

*Anita Hannaford*

*This is my first TechNet Conference. Would be nice to host one in Tas but we would find it very difficult as we area v. small group ( a lot of part time workers) and lack experience in organising events. Our dept. Is located in city – rest of Uni is in nearby suburbs & we have little contact with other techniciansin other depts. We did not get permission to attend this conference until the last minute – we could maybe have been more involved in oral presentations had we known earlier that we were allowed to attend – we have had a busy year moving into a new building so things have not been running quite the same as ’normal’. I do not know if other technicians in other parts of the Tas Uni know about the conference.*

*I had only heard of it this year as we merged with technicians from the other campus into our new building.*

*This is very hard to answer from Macquarie University point of view. There is not support from our staff. Faculty of Science is very small in comparison to other universities.*

*Not at this stage.*

*QUT Mark Hayne*

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

We didn’t find out about this conference till this year. Is there a way to get more information out to different people (tech officers) so that some aren’t isolated? We are currently out at Roseworthy Campus (VET School). There are still many technicians out there that are unaware of TechNet SA. Is there someone who can i.e. get the word out & let more people know about it? For example promote it. So that the network is broadened?

Have you looked at % of SA presenters at all conferences?

It would be terrible to see TechNet fall by the way. Every 2 years would be perfect. We need to get more young ones on board and also encourage the Victorians and Tasmanians to take on a Conference.

I think the TechNet Conference are a great idea. However we need to get more universities on board that haven’t previously attended. Also there is competition from other organisations such as UASA, AdminNet, etc.

Need a strong TechNet Committee in NSW. How do you organise this? We need more communications with each other during the year.

WINNER of the TECHNET 2010 SURVEY PRIZE A bottle of Geoff Merrill Wine

Jan Ryan. Murdoch University.