Project and Evaluation Report

Working Together to Move Forward

An international conference presented by the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums and the Western Museums Association, in partnership with the Hawaii Museums Association and the Pacific Islands Museums Association

September 23-26, 2011
Hawaii Convention Center • Honolulu, Hawaii

Major funding for indigenous programs provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries
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Overview
The September 23-26, 2011 “Working Together to Move Forward” International Conference was held in Honolulu, Hawaii. It was co-sponsored by the Western Museums Association (WMA) and the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM). Additional sponsorship was provided by the Hawaii Museums Association and the Pacific Islands Museums Association. The program book and other information about the conference are available at www.atalm.org.

Attendance

- 675 attendees (WMA/ATALM/HMA/PIMA)
- 276 attendees identified as “indigenous”
- 102 tribal nations represented
- 34 states, from Maine to Hawaii
- 3 continents (Asia, Australia, North America)
- Indigenous attendance numbers by event were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>Indigenous Registrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Property Training</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveying and Assessing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local vs. Tourists</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care of Folded and Rolled Documents</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge is Gained by Doing</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamehameha Schools Tour</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botanical Gardens Tour and Talk</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waikiki Aquarium Tour and Talk</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luncheon with Walter Echo-Hawk</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luncheon with Sven Haakanson</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Day at Pearl Harbor</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu Academy of Arts Welcome Dinner</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository of Enlightenment Dinner</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shangri La Evening</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Architecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Palace</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Museum Evening</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Event Participation</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,151</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The theme of “Working Together to Move Forward” was evident throughout the conference, beginning with the opening session conversations encouraged by keynote presenter Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer.
Conference Format

- 4 days of programming, including 1 day of pre-conference workshops and tours.
- 11 Pre-Conference Workshops, four of which were specific to indigenous interests.
- 1 Pre-Conference Tour to Pearl Harbor.
- 2 general sessions, each featuring an indigenous keynote presenter. Opening session featured a traditional Hawaiian Awa ceremony.
- 2 Indigenous luncheons featuring keynotes by Walter Echo-Hawk and Sven Haakanson
- 4 “Tour & Talks” with curators and educators of Honolulu’s premiere cultural sites.
- 70 Concurrent Sessions, 32 of which were specific to indigenous interests, and 10 of which were specific to tribal libraries.
- 17 “Ask an Expert” luncheon tables, 7 of which were indigenous-focused.
- 3 Cultural Evening Events, including an evening for indigenous librarians hosted by the University of Hawaii, School of Hawaiian Knowledge.
- 2 Tribal Research Fellowship meetings and documentary previews.

Program Planning

Conference programs were planned by a 25-member team and co-chaired by Merritt Price and Adam Mikos. Susan Feller served as the ATALM liaison to the committee.

Prior to meeting as a group the first time, ATALM distributed a call for session proposals which resulted in 49 submissions. Out of these, 32 proposals were approved by the programming committee.

Each program was assigned a “key” to help conference participants tailor their experience. Key categories were Audience and Identity; Business; Collection Care; Indigenous; Interpretation and Experience; Leadership; and Library.

The addition of a library track was a first for the Western Museums Association, although the programming committee embraced the idea and fully supported the symbiotic relationship compatible organizations such as archives, libraries, and museums can develop when brought together under the same roof.
Financial Support and Sponsorship

Major financial support for indigenous programs was provided by The Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS funds were used to provide support for 84 scholarships, 12 presenters, and to help with appropriate conference expenses.

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries provided administrative oversight, including the services of Susan Feller, conference director and Melissa Brodt, project manager. WMA provided contract staff and strong board support.

A 36-member Host Committee provided local support and volunteers for the conference. The host committee was chaired by Stacy Hosihno (WMA) and Keikilani Meyer (ATALM). Significant support was provided by Kippen de Alba Chu, the director of the Iolani Palace.

Thirty local institutions provided support by opening their doors to special events and workshops, providing volunteers, promoting the conference locally, and through in-kind contributions of materials and services.

The Hawaii Tourism Authority provided a $20,000 grant to fund the development of a day-long “Knowledge is Gained by Doing” workshop that enabled participants to engage with cultural practitioners, musicians, craftspeople, and artists who keep Hawaiian culture alive.

The Hawaii Convention Center contributed all meeting space, an estimated contribution of $48,000. The Convention Center actively promoted the conference, including the provision of free street banners listing both WMA and ATALM.

The Ala Moana Hotel provided deeply discounted hotel rooms ($119-$139) for indigenous attendees, an additional $3,267 in complimentary rooms, and complimentary meeting space for the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums.

The Western Museums Association provided discounted registration fees for indigenous registrants ($200 vs. $365), as well as student registration rates of $180. This generosity enabled ATALM to fund almost twice the number of scholarships originally planned.
# Financial Report (preliminary)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Registration</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$66,614.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. IMLS 21st Century Funds</td>
<td>$116,000</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Sponsorships, Misc. Income</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$181,000.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$126,614.22</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Local Planning Committee Expenses</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Registrations/non-scholar</td>
<td>$37,500</td>
<td>$46,541.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Scholar Registration/Travel and Hotel (funded)</td>
<td>$53,899</td>
<td>$53,233.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Staff Travel and Hotel</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$3,847.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Presenter Travel and Hotel</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$9,722.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Planning Committee Travel and Hotel</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
<td>$4,666.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Postage and Shipping</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,501.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Workshop Materials and Supplies</td>
<td>$3,625</td>
<td>$1,021.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Facility expenses/Audio Visual</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Buses</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$1,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Local Transportation</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Cultural Events</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>$1,459.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Hospitality</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$180,134.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$126,303.32</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income Notes:**
1. Registration was budgeted for 150 people at $250. Actual registration was 276 with registration fees of $180 (student), $200 (light), and $250 (full).
2. Organizers achieved a greater economy of scale by partnering with the Western Museums Association, saving approximately $36,400 in IMLS-related expenses.
3. The Local Planning Committee was successful in securing $20,000 in funding, which it used for its own purposes.

**Expense Notes:**
1. Committee used funds for local meetings, transportation, hospitality, and supplies.
2. Expenses increased in relation to increased registration numbers.
3. Funded 84 registrations at varying levels of support.
4. Hotel provided complimentary room for conference director.
5. Invited additional presenters, resulting in a slight increase.
6. Number was reduced because most committee members covered their own cost or were presenters.
7. Conference supplies shipped from a variety of locations.
8. Decreased due to contributions from the Minnesota Historical Society and local host institutions
9. Covered by WMA with registration fees collected.
10. Covered by WMA with registration fees collected.
11. Covered by WMA with registration fees collected.
12. Covered by WMA with registration fees collected.
13. Covered by WMA and local host committee.
Lessons Learned

**Location:** In planning the conference in Hawaii, it was thought that this would be a prime opportunity to engage new audiences from the Western United States, including Hawaii and Alaska. While the conference was successful in attracting new audiences and almost double the anticipated numbers, several people who wanted to participate were not allowed to do so because their tribal leadership felt the location was too much of a resort area. While this should be taken into consideration when selecting sites, it should not outweigh the desire to be representative of all indigenous cultures.

**Event Location:** While the Hawaii Convention Center was a fabulous meeting site and it provided substantial in-kind and promotional support, the fact that it does not have a hotel connected to it was problematic. Whenever possible, future conferences should be held in sites that have both meeting facilities and adequate sleeping rooms.

**Local Transportation:** So much hinges on having a well-thought-out transportation plan and a reliable bus company. For Hawaii, contract staff from the Western Museums Association handled all transportation, including buses for ATALM events. Buses did not arrive on time for many events or were not available as scheduled. This created confusion for many attendees, especially those staying at the second host hotel, The Hilton Hawaii Village.

**Local Arrangements Committee:** Early on in the process, it is important that the local arrangements committee understands its roles and responsibilities. Keikilani Meyer deserves great credit for her skillful handling of the monthly committee meetings and her attempts to ensure that there was an understanding of the long-term role ATALM has in ensuring that every element of the conference adheres to the format ATALM has a reputation for delivering.

**Partnership Agreements:** When partnering with other organizations, it is important to delineate roles and responsibilities in writing, as well as how the event will be billed, i.e., is it a joint conference, an annual meeting of one of the host organizations with an indigenous track, or what? It is also important to have performance benchmarks and a clear understanding of the corporate culture of each partnering organization.

The minor difficulties encountered during the partnership were certainly offset by the overwhelming success of the conference. In the final analysis, it is obvious that the successes of the conference were achieved by “working together to move forward.”
**Evaluation Report**

This evaluation report presents information gathered from the indigenous attendees (those registered through the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums). In all, 157 responses were received, for a response rate of 57%. Two attempts were made to collect information.

When providing “selected responses,” any duplicate information was grouped together and the number indicated in parentheses.

**Question 1 – Organization Type**

Of the 275 attendees identifying themselves as “indigenous,” the largest percentage by far were libraries (46.2%), with museums (15.4%) being the second largest group. The large number of librarians in attendance can be attributed to the support of the Institute of Museum and Library Services Tribal Library Enhancement grantees in attendance.

If an attendee did not fall into one of the listed categories, a provision for “other” was provided. Those identifying themselves as “other” included several representatives from the American Indian Library Association, First Nations Library & Archives, guests of attendees, historical societies, independent author and oral historian, language programs, unspecified non-profit organizations (8), research organizations, retired faculty, tribal nations without an archive, library or museum (in development), tribal cultural affairs offices, and tribal historic preservation offices (5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archive or Records Center</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Center</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Institution</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm a student</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*answered question 156
skipped question 1*
Question 2 – Experience with attending workshops/conferences.

In evaluating responses, it is helpful to know the experience level of the respondent. From the response received, it appears that most attendees are experienced conference-goers, with 65.3% attending 1 to 2 conferences per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2 per year</td>
<td>65.3%</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 per year</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6 per year</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 6 per year</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t usually attend events/conferences/workshops of this type</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered question 147
Skipped question 10

Question 3 – Comparative evaluation of the Hawaii conference to other events.

When comparing the Hawaii conference to other conferences (non ATALM sponsored), 89.8 percent indicated the conference was far better (58.5%) or somewhat better (31.3%). Six respondents indicated the conference was not as good as other events at meeting the individual’s needs and expectations. The nine respondents who offered no opinion were guests of attendees and not affiliated with an archive, library, or museum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Far better at meeting my needs and expectations</td>
<td>58.5%</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat better at meeting my needs and expectations</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not as good as other events in meeting my needs and expectations</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No opinion</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered question 147
Skipped question 10

Selected responses (responses of same type are grouped):

1) This conference was exceptional in that it was the right balance of cultural programming, enhanced by programs from non-tribal entities that represent some of the best in the field.

2) The location surpassed all other conferences I have ever attended.
3) My focus was the museum sessions, as I will be entering Museum Studies in Spring 2012. Excellent selection of sessions!

4) I thoroughly enjoyed the concurrent sessions.

5) Seemed that there were topics addressed in the best interest of all Archive, Libraries, and Museums, with emphasis on tribal interests.

6) Having the joint conference between WMA/PIMA/ATALM enhanced the availability of sessions, events, etc. There was really too many to choose between!

7) It was great good information, once in a lifetime conference.

8) I really enjoyed this conference and it was good to get to talk with Alison Freese, thank you all so much for organizing this conference.

9) This conference was awesome! I brought home with me not only ideas and information from the conference but the culture that went with it. Hawaii is not only beautiful because of its paradise but because of the Native Hawaiian People who make it beautiful. I loved everything about the environment where the conference took place.

10) The conference featured inspiring speakers and innovative-thinking panelists.

11) This was my first ATALM conference or any conference as a matter of fact, as I am a newer employee here at the College of Menominee Nation. This conference was wonderful and very organized which was nice. This conference did set the bar pretty high for any other conference I might attend.

12) Some of the sessions that I attended did not follow the descriptions that they provided. I was sometimes confused on if I was in the right session or not.

13) This was my first conference I attended of this type and was blown away by it. I feel like I walked away learning so much. I know I would not have ever gotten the same experience in my graduate program as I received from this conference.

14) You have a very inclusive and supportive group of members.

15) I would have preferred that there would have been more library workshops (3 similar comments).

16) Excellent speakers, events and programs (2 similar comments)

17) I am thankful for the opportunity to meet people in Indian Country that do the same work and I now have a resource and network of people to call to further strengthen our program's services.

18) I attend different conferences focused on different issues, so it's very hard to compare the conferences. ATALM remains the most important conference for information on tribal libraries and services to indigenous populations.
19) This was one of, if not the, best conferences I have ever attended.

20) I felt like I needed to be two of me as there was so much I wanted to do and was not able to cover. I enjoyed every minute of what I was able to attend.

21) Many of the sessions were highly relevant. More native content provided at this conference than any I have ever attended.

22) I felt that the sessions were too long, and it would have been nice to have the conference in the hotel. There was no water available to the audience, which was a first for me. Most of the sessions were geared for museum folks, not library folks.

23) The fact that the site did not seem to have high-speed internet was a problem, but this was outside of your control, and folks seemed to be able to work around it.

24) Best one I have gone to yet! :) The Pearl Harbor Tour was AWESOME!!!

25) The info received from the folks that had exhibits was a great help, gave me information that will help with the projects we have planned for the next year.

26) Excellent networking of ideas (2 similar comments).

27) The opening presentation was one of the best I have ever heard. Thank you so much for this opportunity (4).

28) Native Hawaiian hosts made this one of a kind.

Question 4 – Was the conference successful in helping participants establish professional contacts, learn new information, and renew enthusiasm?

Overall, the Conference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not Really</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helped me establish professional and personal contacts.</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provided me with information that will help me do my job better.</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provided me with a renewed enthusiasm for my job.</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Selected Responses:

1) Amazing, so many other librarians that have the same concerns and problems, I am not alone. Now have contacts that I would not have had if not for the conference.

2) From the facility to the program offerings, everything was outstanding!
3) Great new ideas and programs to take back to my library!

4) Helped me bring more ideas to incorporate in our Tribal Museum that is currently underway.

5) I am fairly experienced, and the sessions and workshop were a little too elementary for me personally.

6) I brought back a lot of ideas, resources, and contacts that will help us with our current and future projects.

7) I definitely have made some new acquaintance that I can rely on in terms of resources, for the continuing development of our Mobile Library.

8) I enjoyed getting to meet all the wonderful people involved with ATALM. Thank you for the opportunity to participate.

9) I have only been at my job for one year now and it was getting tough and then I went to this conference and it made me more confident that I can do this job and I can enjoy my job.

10) I now think it renewed enthusiasm as much as it supported worth and value.

11) I made several new and important contacts. I am Choctaw and will be presenting throughout the year at tribal events honoring veterans. The Pearl Harbor tour led to our discovery of a tribal member who died on the Arizona.

12) I only met one new person, and stayed with the people I already knew, that is bad, but I felt a little out of place. However, seeing the passion other people have about what they're doing made me feel more passionate about what I'm doing.

13) I really enjoyed the topics in sessions, and the workshops and preconference workshops were great, I really appreciate the opportunity and enjoyed the uniqueness this conference brought forth.

14) It helped me look at my job in a different way and what needs improvement.
15) Learning from other programs and how they deal with them on a daily basis helped me see that we all have issues and sharing problems/successes make it better for all of us.

16) LOVED The Indispensable Tribal Library session. Would love to receive more of the information that was in the presentation. (a copy of the presentation)

17) Meeting the professionals in Museums and hearing their stories and feeling the passion reconnected me with a desire to push on with my journey.

18) More focus on the library field would be nice.

19) My main issue was that the buses were consistently late, but we returned at time indicated, so I missed out on 1/2 hr to 3/4 of my events (Note: ATALM was not involved in the transportation schedule.)

20) Opened my eyes to research for international indigenous peoples.

21) So many of the speakers & presenters at the ATALM were very inspiring. People really seemed to want to make personal contacts, both for giving & receiving further information. Those things were great. I would have benefitted by some sessions offering serious "how-to" training. The two WMA sessions I attended lacked in that area. Too general.

22) The closing keynote speaker for the ATALM (Sven Haakanson) was very inspiring. I have shared his talk with many people and hope to help organize an event for my colleagues to reflect on it and other poignant experiences from the conference. Mahalo nui loa for holding in Hawai‘i.

23) The conference allows for social interaction that brings a lot of good networking. I now have met and worked with other tribes through these conferences.

24) The Hawaiian cultural events were awesome. I hope everyone who attended appreciated the specialness of them.

25) There were so many people I met during the poster sessions, which was one of my favorite parts of this conference, as well as the keynote speakers.

26) This was my first time attending this kind of conference. I was really scared; but not for long. It was once in a life time conference for me. Thank you
27) Yes, the Hawaiian sun was awesome and the people were very nice and accommodating. Thank You!

**Question 5 – Overall impression of the Conference.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please rate your overall impression of the Conference.</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Very Poor</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the Conference overall?</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the Conference for meeting your needs and expectations?</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the quality of information presented?</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the presenters overall?</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the Conference materials overall?</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
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<tr>
<td>How do you rate the Conference facilities overall?</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you rate the registration process?</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>How do you rate Conference staff overall?</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Question 6 – Change in Skill Levels.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As a result of your participation at the conference, would you say your skill level:</th>
<th>Response Percent</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greatly improved</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved somewhat</td>
<td>58.0%</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No change</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments?

143 answered question
14 skipped question

Selected responses:

1) Based on the selection of the sessions I went to, my skill level has improved because I tried to focus on areas that I know little or nothing about.

2) Being a continuing student, specializing in a 2nd Master's program, Museum studies, Spring 2012, this conference was right on point, that was the focus when I applied for
the scholarship to attend this Conference. I am thankful and blessed to have been selected for a scholarship. Thank you.

3) Especially on interviewing skills. Great session with Tim Tingle and Greg Rodgers.

4) I definitely returned to work rejuvenated, ready to implement some of the new ideas I learned at the conference. The conference location itself was awesome, having a natural way of cleansing and restoring new energy to continue our jobs to the best of our abilities. The positive encouragement coming from all presenters and participants was rewarding as well.

5) I definitely had some basic skills refreshed and reinforced.

6) I have a lot to consider and learn. A conference of this sort is very valuable to see what is going on at various types of entities and their experiences.

7) I know this conference has helped me as a person to improve my professional environment and I have a better understanding of Archives and what we should be striving for to be successful.

8) I needed that :) improved a lot.

9) I realized that the same things we struggle with, most libraries struggle with, and by learning from other libraries we can get through those struggles.

10) I really enjoyed the opening keynote and the luncheon keynotes. It was great to learn more about the UN Declaration.

11) It didn't seem to offer any new ideas.

12) It is always educational to meet others and learn about what they do.

13) It now depends on me implementing what I have learned within the workplace.

14) My fire was re-lighted which motivates me and is ready to connect with my community.

15) My goal was to meet people, make contacts, and learn about diverse cultures. This goal was definitely met.

16) New level of tech expertise (actually used a recording I had never played during a presentation, after receiving invaluable tech help)

17) Thanks to the Care of Rolled and Folded Documents. Sherelyn is amazing and so generous with her time and expertise. Where else would we learn so much?

18) We could really benefit from some paper archive training.
19) With the digitization of pictures project I am working on, it was wonderful to meet others who were working on similar projects and who shared the same road blocks and questions I had as well. It was great coming back with contacts and names and numbers of people who I might consult in terms of how to handle a problem or just to see how their digitization project is coming along.

20) With the variety in information made available, I found some interesting ideas, to bring home and incorporate into our program.

**Question 7 – Likes and Dislikes**

1) Absolutely loved this conference. It couldn't have been better.

2) Again, having a joint conference was fantastic! The events were fabulous. The overall experience was amazing and really motivated me to work! I would like to see more advanced topics offered in the future. I think some of the more involved sessions simply did not pertain to my position, and the ones that did relate to my responsibilities were more introductory.

3) As compared to other conferences, this conference was extremely well organized and kept the participants informed. The location of the motel to the conference center was an asset as well as the transportation to special events. It all made participation easy. The first keynote speaker was exceptional and a wonderful way to start off the conference. The Native Hawaiian themed presentations were an important part of coming to Hawaii for a conference. I really appreciated these sessions and speakers. One little thing for improvement - many of the final detail e-mails were sent after leaving from home. If a person did not have a mobile device, this information was missed. Great conference! Well organized!

4) ATALM remains one of the most important conferences due to its focus on tribal libraries and services to indigenous communities. The opportunities to learn from and network with others are invaluable. The session content is varied and powerful. One thing that might be considered for future conferences would be to repeat selected programs of broad interest (as it is sometimes difficult to choose between programs). One opportunity for planning next year's conference would be publicity well ahead of the event. It is sometimes hard to hear about the conference registration opening, spotlight events that require registration, and calls for proposals for future conferences.

5) Best: sense of family and helpfulness, encouragement Could be improved: maybe a brief explanation of opening ritual, though it was moving and powerful....maybe a bibliography of recommended films, books on indigenous Hawaiians

6) Descriptions of each session in the booklet were very helpful to help me choose which session to attend. However, I don't like it when there are too many concurrent sessions, then it makes it difficult to decide which one to go to. It would have been helpful to receive an email, just about pre-registering for the "field trips".
7) Diverse experiences-cultural opportunities. Indigenous aspects of Hawaii well covered and integrated.

8) Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer gave the most powerful keynote address that I have ever heard. The panels on dealing with the tough issues and cultural perspectives were great. The session on forgiveness was especially powerful. I would have liked to experience the tech talks but the scheduling was off. I would think there would be enough of a demand for these that they should be offered during times when they wouldn't conflict with sessions. The expo was lacking substance.

9) Enjoyed the offsite day time workshops. The heat was very hard on me. Having the conference in a warm place would have been better in October or November. Enjoy conferences that are held in the hotel I stay in, then it does not matter if it is very hot or cold outside.

10) Going to evening reception. Sit in conference with nothing to follow pertain to what is presented, just lecture like. Everything else was good. I'm new and didn't expect to see this many presentations. Got at least something out of it.

11) Got to meet a lot of people from different places. Some had same issues as we have in our library and community.

12) Having the Native Hawaiian workshop the day before and having Native Hawaiians host the conference with ceremony, speakers, and closing and throughout made this the best conference I have attended of any kind. The time to share amongst the ATALM video participants was too limited. We should of had more time to share our videos with each other.

13) Hawaii in itself is so wheelchair accessible! I loved that! The most I liked about the conference was the environment. I would like to see more library programs presented.

14) I am grateful for the keynote speakers and for the display boards.

15) I appreciated the opportunity to meet other individuals in the field and to catch up with colleagues I don't see that often.

16) I enjoyed and got the most out of the workshops that I registered for. Good overall variety of workshops. The tours were excellent.

17) I enjoyed learning about native cultures from around the States through the various presentations. I found the conference very enlightening and enjoyable.

18) I enjoyed the luncheons. I felt that I was able to interact with other participants because of the setting of the tables. It was also great to hear about the advancement of Native museum professionals. I also enjoyed the variety of children's and young adult programs sessions. What I liked least was some of the sessions that I attended did not match up to the description provided in the conference booklet. If I had known that I would have attended other sessions. Only one session provided additional materials. It would have been nice to walk away with more informational material during these sessions.
19) I enjoyed the pre-conference workshop (Knowledge is gained by doing), the staff was great, the food was delicious, the presenters were knowledgeable. I didn't like that there were a lot of receptions and that they had an associated fee. I would have liked to see one reception so that all conference attendees could be together, network, share ideas and have fun. A networking event at the beginning would be great.

20) I enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and the people. I did not feel rushed. The people that I spoke with had time for me and my questions and were willing to help. I would have liked to have attended workshops on how to use technology programs rather than just say, here are some technology programs, go use them.

21) I enjoyed the sessions a great deal. The lunches were also a great way for me to meet other attendees. There were a few sessions where I didn't feel the presentation was as focused as it could have been, but not in a horrible way. I can't think of a thing that could be improved. I was very impressed by the entire conference.

22) I enjoyed the variety of different workshops that were made available to the attendees. The typical challenge is making decisions on which workshop to attend when there are so many run concurrently. A suggestion would be to have workshop materials available at a central area for pick-up in the event that an attendee had to choose to attend one workshop over another. Another suggestion would be to provide food and validate parking for all the presenters, especially on the day that they present. It is kind of insulting to invite a speaker/presenter and not take care of them. The evening activities were informative and fun-filled although food menus could have been coordinated a bit better as there were some overlap on consecutive nights of Hawaiian food. All in all, it was an excellent conference and I look forward to attending more in the future.

23) I enjoyed the workshops that pertained to working in the library but I enjoyed the others as well. It would have been great to have personal times, dates, and such for the events to attend. For example, I missed a speaker in the morning because I did not check what was occurring at 8 in the morning.

24) I liked meeting the people from all over but as I said not enough about libraries. The displays setup from all different places and the projects that were displayed was a very useful for new ideas and uses for the grant money.

25) I like everything at this conference with the interaction, warm hospitality and great information in all the workshops. There was nothing i can say that i least liked. It was a wonderful experience.

26) I like that it was in Hawaii. I never have been there. I also enjoyed the keynote speakers. The location of the hotel near the convention center was great!
27) I liked attending UH Manoa Hawaiian Studies Center. It was a great way for others to experience Hawaii in a short amount of time. I was happy to be able to experience sharing my Hawaiian Heritage with indigenous people from the Continent.

28) I liked having an opportunity to network and the pre-conference tour of the school. It would have been nice to have had an opportunity to hear from each of the IMLS poster session presenters. Maybe a session where each person gives a 5 minute presentation on their work so that other poster session attendees can have the benefit of hearing from their colleagues (rather than being with your poster the whole time).

29) I liked learning from the Polynesian museum workers and the young people at the UH. To say what I liked the least is difficult because I believed it was all good. But if I had to pick the least, I'd say ... the hosted breakfast could have been embellished. The experience was practically perfect in my opinion. But I suppose the AV staff could have been better prepared. For example, two presentations didn't have laptops even when they were requested ahead of time.

30) I liked most that I was made to feel welcome and appreciated at all times. There isn't much that I didn't like, although most of the meeting rooms were standing room only. The one issue I had was with the session on policies and procedures. If a presenter is going to use information directly lifted from other's work, the source should be provided.

31) I liked that the workshops were easy to find and wish I could have attended more but not enough time. The least was the transportation was late but otherwise it was great. To have a list of the places we are supposed to be every day.

32) I liked the "Culture Day" pre-conference with culture conveyed with the making of traditional items and enthusiastic teachers. The ceremonial aspects of the conference were all quite moving and set this conference apart from other ones I attend. The organization is spectacular. Can't think of what I liked least or improvements.

33) I liked the choice of events and presentations. I wasn't particularly impressed by the exhibitors. I liked the idea of the tables with different discussion topics. I would have appreciated healthier breakfast choices.

34) Everything was fantastic. It is obvious that the sponsoring organizations spent a lot of time on organizational details. My one and only disappointment was the lack of a conference tote bag, although we did receive one at the ATALM lunch. This would have been good to have at the very beginning.

35) I liked the range of presenters. The collaboration of the various associations which brought about an open feeling of sharing not only with existing relationships but with new acquaintances. The keynote speakers focused on tangible issues and enlightened participants with positive attitudes. I think planners could have communicated better with onsite coordinators regarding preconference pickup points.
36) I liked the workshop I attended, and most of the panels I attended. I wish there were more networking opportunities during the day that don't require an additional cost.

37) I love that ATALM invited not only the United States; but everyone who wants to save the past for the future generations to see.

38) I loved everything about the conference except the humidity! Haha. Too bad it wasn't ALL indoors.

39) I loved Sven Haakansen's talk. I also loved the Hawaii welcome ceremony. I loved the evening reception at the Center for Hawaiian Studies (food was great!). We could use some serious "how to" training, particularly in photo & paper archives description, arranging, cataloging. Sessions on that would be great. Overall this conference was great for us.

40) I loved the keynote speakers especially Manu Meyer! I did not like how I had to choose between so many great presentations. I wish there were more double sessions so I could go to all the ones I liked.

41) I loved the keynote speakers and the reverence given to the local customs and traditions. I also enjoyed the pre-conference workshops. Going from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM (receptions) was a bit much; but, thoroughly worth it. Perhaps it could have been communicated a little better on how to get to the pre-conference workshops.

42) I most liked the location; however the wonderful presenters had much to say that I could bring back to my school. I did not like that there was some confusion about my registration and I still don't know what happened.

43) I only went to the Care of Folded and Rolled Documents" workshop taught by Sherelyn Ogden. I thoroughly enjoyed this workshop and learned a lot! Sherelyn is so knowledgeable and to actually meet and learn from her was great. The hands-on activities and to see the preservation dept. of Hamilton Library was great too! This workshop has gotten me stimulated to learn more. I hope there will be more opportunities to attend these types of workshops in Hawaii. Thank you for allowing non-conference people to attend this workshop.

44) I pretty much liked everything, however, one of the sessions I wanted to go to was so full, people were standing. I forget the exact title but it had to do with Facebook and such.

45) I really enjoyed the conference being in Hawaii not only did I gain knowledge at the conference but I was able to gain knowledge about Hawaii's culture which was exciting and interesting. They have a wonderful island and would like to attend another conference there; just such a beautiful, peaceful, and serene place to really allow your mind to open and absorb as much as one can. I did. Overall, it was a wonderful experience that I probably would not have had otherwise. The people were friendly, helpful, and great. Thank you.

ATALM thanks Kippen de Alba Chu, Director of the Iolani Palace, for his visionary leadership. Without Kippen, the ATALM/WMA conference would not have happened.
46) I really enjoyed the pre-conference meeting on Museum Stores. We have one and I learned so much, got some great ideas, understand more about the way one should be operated, as well of what not to do! Over all this conference is a 10! Nothing could have been done better.

47) I really enjoyed the preconference-Knowledge is Gained by Doing. There were a lot of e-mails sent right before the conference which I did not receive with information that would have been nice to have before I had already left for the conference. Also the shuttle service to and from the Hilton to the Conference center as well as evening events was confusing and myself and others often waited a long time for the shuttle. Complementary tea and coffee would have been nice throughout the conference. The organizers were very nice, but sometimes hard to find. The conference was really busy from 9am to 5ish often, seeing it was in Hawaii, maybe have a half day session on Sunday would be nice so folks can enjoy a little of Hawaii if they are only there for the conference and cannot stay any longer. But I learned a lot from some of the sessions even thought I was not so moved by the other keynote speakers besides Sven. Thank you!!!

48) I suggest not removing filled workshops from the online registration list; rather, make a note that they are filled to capacity so that participants can be sure that it hasn't been canceled.

49) I was able to share our library knowledge, gain some knowledge and get to meet other librarians. There are some libraries that are more advanced than ours and there are others who are not so fortunate. As I mentioned earlier, I would like to have attended more workshops pertaining to the library field. I would like to see a library conference for just libraries. There was more focus on the other fields.

50) I was greatly impressed with all the speakers and the keynotes. The amount of social time was hard, you could not talk with presenters between or after sessions, you had to go to the next one and find some was hard.

51) I was impressed with the range of subjects to choose from. Wish there was more than one of me so that I could go to more that were offered at the same time slot. I was disappointed in the Sunday luncheon. It was certainly not worth $35. Didn’t bother going to the Monday luncheon. Even though it was free, it still was not worth whatever price was charged the Assoc.

52) I would prefer that outdoor sessions/field trips be conducted during a particular block of time rather than overlapping with the indoor sessions so that participants do not have to choose between the two and missing out on some. There were way more sessions I wanted to attend than time allowed. The preconference sessions provided a wonderful selection on learning opportunities.

53) I’m more aware of the interconnectedness of museums, libraries, and Indigenous peoples. Also, how Indigenous people can use these institutions to their advantage. There wasn’t much I disliked, if anything. I would like to see more storytellers, or panels on the connections between oral literature and libraries.

54) It had some hands on i think it should have more equipment on hand so that us little libraries could see if
we really need it for our project and if we were to buy the equipment, the cost would be reasonable.  

55) It was a great once in a lifetime experience! I wish there was more for the library included but what was provided was excellent. I loved all the hands on aspects of the conference. I love seeing how other places conduct business and how they have become what they are. Very, very good stuff. :)

56) It was very interesting and informative. Met a lot of people and made good connections. Of course, I loved the location!

57) Like the enter mix of races within the conference and general population.

58) Liked being in Hawaii the best—wonderful ambiance. A minor problem was the events transportation.

59) Liked most the two ATALM luncheons. The speakers were fabulous, the food was delicious, the ambiance was gracious, the gifts were lovely, the parting circle was very moving, and the both events were enduringly memorable. The other event I like very much was the opening ceremony, which I also found very moving. There was nothing I disliked in the least. A list of participants would have been very useful, but perhaps timing did not allow this to be produced.

60) Liked most was Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer. Least was transportation. Get program information out earlier, I had left before receiving ‘Knowledge is Gained by Doing’ and the program, so I didn’t have time to really review sessions could take at Knowledge.

61) Liked most: manulani meyer-keynote speaker. Liked least: presentations lacked orientation in Archives, location of conf., scheduling of receptions. Improve: location that is not packed with tourists and more native-oriented. Would have been nice to be on a less congested island. Or at least been located near areas where there is a lot of cultural learning centers. We were not able to attend any receptions because of high cost to travel & lodging. We had to fly in late. Information center seemed to be not as inviting. More speakers that can present at the same level as manulani meyer, presentations with new and fresh ideas, how to overcome obstacles, etc. Would like to see ATALM get more involved in using new media so that there can be live streaming/web cast/recorded presentations for those who cannot afford the travel expenses, free for academic institutions.

62) Liked presentations and the excellent turn-out (so easy to meet a lot of people). Did not like the internet situation. The internet was outside of your control; if I were to suggest anything, I would say that perhaps internet facilities could be checked in the future (although this would normally be assumed); if you find out in advance that the facility cannot supply high-speed internet, then presenters can be informed.

63) Liked the Most: Great native content, great people to meet/mingle with. Liked the least: conference needed more food options.

64) LIKES: I liked the networking opportunities, the variety to be had by combining archives, libraries, and museums in one, the 'hands-on' activities. LEAST LIKE: difficulty in choosing sessions much less with the added 'tour and talks' choices during concurrent sessions. That being said, and knowing how difficult it is to plan concurrent sessions and squeeze everything in 3-days, good job in the planning efforts!

65) Location, location, location. Although it is a bit difficult for most people to get to Hawaii, for those of us who did it was awesome. I wasn’t able to attend any of the pre-
conference workshops or excursions, but I heard from a lot of people who said they were awesome. It was unfortunate that most of the library related workshops happened on Monday. Many of us had to leave that day so missed out.

66) Most = our Hawaiian hosts - I think their amazing culture greatly enriched the conference. Least = I think there were too many concurrent sessions. This may have been due to WMA's involvement, but I had a very hard time deciding which sessions to attend - I was conflicted and wanted to attend at least two almost every session. I don't think there was much ATALM could have done about this other than making the conference longer which was probably not an option.

67) most: beauty of the surroundings least: having to walk back and forth between conference center and hotel improve: see that there is water available to listeners as well as speakers

68) Most: I enjoyed the expert lectures. Least: too much to do in so little time :(

69) Most: keynote speakers and sessions. Least: Common thread of the conference experience is the registration confusion. Like me, others shared that they would have liked to participate in some of the off-site activities but did not realize that they were already closed.

70) Most-Partnering with WMA increased networking opportunities and provided exposure to the museum profession. Least-none come to mind. For future conferences, to improve participant experience I suggest more hands on learning experiences be included.

71) One of the biggest challenges is ensuring the presenters are accessible and ATALM did a good job in allowing time for this. One suggestion you might make to the moderators is for them to post as the last slide the contact information of the presenters for folks to write down for future reference and contacting. yes we get the list but if you keep the contact names with the presentations then that will allow for more exchanges in the future. just an idea.

72) Opening ceremony and speaker were wonderful -- luncheon speakers for the indigenous luncheons were good, especially Sven Haakenson. Sessions were generally very good, a couple were not up to the quality I would have liked to see, but I think that was due to inexperienced speakers who had good projects but hadn't organized their materials enough to make it valuable. Windows in the rooms, it's hard to be inside without windows -- regardless of the geographic location of a conference, but especially so in Hawaii.

73) Overall the conference was great! It was a relaxed setting and the sessions were excellent. The least, I don't think this applies to this conference at all. Well put together and the location was one of the best I have attended so far.

74) Overall, the conference was excellent! I received a little more than what I expected based on the information provided prior to the conference. I enjoyed the speakers as well as the information they were able provide as well. It was quite nice to attend group "behind the scene" tours; they were excellent! I don't think I would have received as much information about the tours if I had just went as a tourist. It would be nice if all conferences were this nice!
75) That it was held in a location where there was local Native input and participation. That there were preconference events which let us get out and about and not just sit. - The Best. There was hardly sufficient downtown to explore where we were. - The Least.

76) That there were presentations related to Native Hawaiians and other Indigenous Peoples in preserving their cultural knowledge.

77) the classes...learned about packaging our artifacts...and the preservation of our own archives.

78) The cultural diversity was amazing-sharing experiences in sessions helped me think about things at my museum in a new way. I had a great experience.

79) The evening activities at the Academy of Art, Bishop Museum, etc., were excellent.

80) The excellent program and gracious staff and hosts. I wish I would have done a little more research on what to see while there. That isn’t anything to do with the conference.

81) The first speaker Dr. Meyer was awesome, as was the Hawaiian ceremony. This set a wonderful tone for the event. I was very impressed by the morning coffee and muffins, the lunch presentations and discussions, and the evening events. These events helped increase the dialogue between people and helped us see parts of the city we wouldn’t have time to visit during the day. The location was beautiful and the people all so friendly. It was a great experience.

82) The focus on Native American/Native Hawaiian interaction, sharing, and experiences in addition to the professional focus.

83) The Keynote address, and the two lunch time speakers. Very moving presentations, encouraging preservation of our tribal practices. Foremost demonstrating the respect toward cultural practices. I felt the conference end mid-day on the last day of the conference. The second half of the day was a bit too much, information overload for me.

84) The keynote speaker Dr. Meet was inspirational to say the least, she gave me as a native person hope again, and am so happy I was there to listen to her. I also appreciated the diversity in session available and the knowledge of the presenters. I do wish I had booked early for the visits away from the conference to museums and other attractions or there was the opportunity to purchase tickets at the time of the tour, but I do understand why things where done the way they were. Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to grow and learn. Pilamiya.

85) The Keynote speakers and the lunch speakers were excellent. Some of the offsite learn and tours were offer at the same time as the library sessions - I did not want to miss any of the library sessions so miss several of the offsite learn and tours. I did attend the Pearl Harbor pre-conference - it was great.

86) The keynote speakers, pre-conference choices and evening activities. The registration process was easy and Susan and Melissa were very helpful. It would have been good to have a few more choices for libraries - particularly library/tribe partnerships.

87) The keynote speakers. They were the most inspiring and engaging conference speakers I’ve ever heard. And the location can’t be beat!

88) The least was the hotel accommodations, it was a tight squeeze, but at least i was there. What caught my interest were all the grants available through IMLS, when i went to the
workshop i didn't know there were so many grants available. That was far best from all. And the people were the nicest people i have ever met.

89) The Location was great. I really liked learning from the other organizations participating in the conference.

90) The location was the best. What I liked least was that I did not arrive sooner or stay later. Had someone suggested taking more time to experience the Hawaiian culture by coming earlier or staying longer, I would have done just that. As it turns out I did not even think of it until after I was there and it was too late or too expensive to change reservations. But all in all, I had a wonderful time and great experiences while there. Improvements could be made by having concurrent sessions repeated to offer more opportunities to attend them when the scheduling does not allow you to take everything you want to attend.

91) The location was wonderful...who wouldn't love to attend a conference in Hawaii.

92) The location, was awesome, chartered buses were a little confusing.

93) The most influence to me was the place itself and the people from Hawaii. They were so friendly presenting us with so many gifts. The luncheons were great and most of the presentations were good. The Conference Center was appropriate for the event. The only thing I was disappointed with were the poster presentations, not the posters themselves but the way they were done. I feel I did not have a chance to explain my poster. I guess I thought we would individually present their poster.

94) The Most, the location was awesome and the preconference options. The least... couldn't attend more of the workshops and needed more time with the Local groups to discuss their programs. One other thing was the Opening Night Session, didn't enjoy that wine was the only selection for a beverage. ATLAM did a wonderful job.

95) The Native Hawaiian people and their friendly welcome to all of us. I had never been to such a friendly environment. The conference facility was great and the staff was very helpful.

96) The museums and art I like. The least is the time conflicting with other places I wanted to see they overlapped. ATALM did a great job.

97) The networking and sharing with other grantees was great. The quality of interaction with other attendees in general was great, everyone not just nice, but willing to engage in conversation. I think the poster session was too long, I appreciate the efforts that the staff did to provide quality excursions and preconference workshops. These helped me understand the environment from which many of the speakers spoke of...otherwise I would have been in the conference center and the hotel and tourist area. Not what the message was, so good job.

98) The Opening Ceremony and Presenter were exceptional and provided a great start for the Conference. The wide range of topics presented was very valuable to allow a participant to attend a number of different areas of interest.

99) The opening keynote speaker, Manulani Aluli Meyer, was so good. I felt that I was learning Life lessons as well as professional. That is always the best way to learn. Working for a tribal museum, Dr. Meyer’s speech was so inspirational. The location was beautiful.

100) The Opening Keynotes and the luncheon keynotes.
101) The opening speaker. I didn’t like how the events were all separate and they all seemed to be "sold out.” I heard later that the reality was that the venues were not crowded and could have in fact, accommodated additional attendees. Note: It wasn’t a matter of capacity, but a matter of budget. The $35 charged per event was about half of what it cost the host to produce the event. The host organizations simply could not exceed their budgeted amounts, as they were underwriting much of the cost.

102) The registration gets easier, as well as the conference organization did everything possible to get attendees to each function. I did not feel rushed or uncomfortable in any sessions. Seating was well spaced at tables, in most sessions. The timing seems to fit each group quite nicely, that is, each session was just long enough. I did not see papers to fill out in the sessions - rating the presentations. I enjoyed each so much, then forgot about the papers as I hurried off to the next session. What I loved most, the amount of sessions to pick from but at times it was so hard to choose which ones to attend. Great Experience, though.

103) the scenery....the packaging class. for our archives

104) The sessions I attended were great! I loved the session at Kanehoe. The overall experience and setting were wonderful. Thank you.

105) The sessions well thought out and planned, I needed to be three people in order to do all that I wanted to do. Not enough time and I had to spend my own money due to lack of funds from my employer to assist in my travel so I limited to my extra activities and did not get to see all that I would have like to see.

106) The speakers had a lot of information to share. I enjoyed my overall experience, and I like that I met so many people who share the same interests as I.

107) The speakers were outstanding and offered positive insights as well as support. The collaboration of the various associations to offer a unique gathering. Can improve on better coordination of pre-conference pickups.

108) The venue was wonderful and I made many new acquaintances; more so than attending the regular WMA conference. There were so many great sessions and many of them were during the same time period. I know I couldn’t attend them all but it was difficult sometimes to choose between two at the same time.

109) the welcoming by the people was the most embracing - sharing of culture by native Hawaiians - networking with others The least was that there were not enough tickets for us to attend evening events- buses were mixed up to take us to places therefore i LOST my space to attend two events -

110) There were a number of things I liked about the conference. The first was the poster sessions, which I think helped me most when it came to meeting contacts and others who were either taking part in a similar project or who were interested in what we are doing here at CMN. I also really enjoyed the keynote speakers, particularly the opening speaker on Saturday. She was such a relaxed and realistic speaker, which was refreshing. What I didn’t like so much, was that there were no reasonably priced beverages or refreshments available other than the kiosk in the main lobby upstairs. Perhaps I didn’t venture out far enough around the building. There may have been vending machines or something similar at other spots. I think if there could be an improvement that the refreshments and beverages could be more available or a wider variety.
111) This is my second conference that I've attended, and I feel that Hawaii was a great place to have the Conference. I feel as though I walked away from the conference with greater knowledge, and expectations of my position. The parts I liked most about the conferences is the Key Note speakers, and the overall experience of the conference and meeting fresh faces in my line of work.

112) This was one of the best organized conferences I've ever attended, plus the quality of speakers was excellent. Every session I attended was very informative, and provided me with helpful information. Plus, networking with other professionals in my field was an added bonus. I thoroughly enjoyed this conference, and applaud the organizers for all their efforts in setting up this awesome conference.

113) Transportation was highly disorganized. No one, including hotel staff, could direct me to the proper location to find the shuttles and buses. I received an email after I had left my institution that pickup locations had been changed. I ended up missing the opening event, which I paid for, because of this. There were several times I had to wait over 30 minutes for a shuttle. I ended up walking or taking a taxi back to my hotel. Having attended the AASLH/OMA Annual Conference with a tribal track, I felt somewhat let down by the WMA Annual Conference. The location was great but some of the sessions were less than ideal, especially the session on Cultural Heritage Tourism. That particular session was highly disorganized. It offered nothing new. I did enjoy the evening events.

114) Well I liked that the presenters where organized, I did not like that the tours I signed up for months in advance, had no evidence of me signing up for those and paying for them, so I didn't get tickets for those, but I did get refunded. Over all the conference was the best I've seen, although the registration could be a little more organized.

115) What did I like the most about the conference?? Location, location, location. With that being said, what I liked the most was connecting with my counterparts and sharing new ideas, etc. Of course, meeting new people is always nice.

Question 8 – Outcomes

Participants were asked to share information on “what changed as a result of your participation.” Selected responses include:

1) A few of the presenters really made a big impression on me. The keynote by Dr. Meyer was transformative and really made me question my own perspective and subjective opinion is a good way. The session on forgiveness also blew my head wide open and got me thinking about the effects of colonization and how people can move forward in a new and better way. I also made contacts that use the same open source software and that will build my support network.
2) A greater appreciation of the diversity of indigenous peoples, and an increase in awareness in the challenges that our institution faces in developing resources that meet the varied needs of indigenous peoples in protecting their cultural heritage.

3) A renewed perspective on dealing with indigenous materials and how to correct past mistakes. I learned from the examples where tribes partnered with museums to control the information that is shared with the public. The examples of collaborations between tribes and museums that house their collections (most notably NMAI- National Museum of the American Indian) that have formed positive partnerships and outreach programs were also valuable in helping institutions with starting to evaluate existing practices for working with indigenous cultures and caring for their materials. I like to see that software is being updated to include native understandings? And in some cases, opposing views among native tribes.

4) After the conference I came home wanting to better my library. I wanted to reach out to our community to get them more involved. With the experience I gained I feel I am better equipped to present not only myself but my library to Foundations to request funds to help better our reservation.

5) As a result of my attending the conference my enthusiasm for the digitization project we here at CMN are part, has been renewed and has grown. I met people who were taking part in similar projects and consulted with them on problems they faced, and was pleased to know that we had all been in the same boat at one point. It encouraged me not to be frustrated with problems or road blocks we may come upon during the project. By meeting new people I saw the fun side of this type of work and it was nice to be in company with people who were so enthusiastic about what they are doing. At the very least this conference renewed my enthusiasm for digitization and made me excited for the next step in our project.

6) As I am a LIS student I feel like I left knowing so much more about what librarians can do. Being in school we are always focused on certain areas of the field so hearing how tribal librarians are working was really inspiring to me. It made me consider this type of librarianship where it wasn't even on my radar prior to the conference. This conference reaffirmed how important it is for the community to be represented in libraries, museums and archives. I will work hard to make sure these communities are represented wherever I end up working.

7) As I listened to all the presenters, and fellow participants talk about both victories and challenges facing them, I came away with a renewed sense of enthusiasm and determination to fulfill the mission of our library by providing "access to information" to everyone. I learned that no matter the size of the library -- you can impact the community in a positive way.

8) Being chosen as a scholarship attendee, what I value as a student is hearing from professionals in the field, currently my focus is museum studies. These sessions on
museums were critical as I move into further Master studies at the Univ. of OK. I am interested in how a tribal community will benefit, how can I be of assistance to a tribal community and their needs to get a museum going, keeping respectful to their needs. My recent MA in IRLS taught me that I must respect and value one's culture and community. We are keepers of memories and stories and sharing them must be up to the Native Community. Hearing at the conference from museum members, their change in practice of showing artifacts--first consulting Native experts, sensitivity to the Native community beliefs. My learning curve has expanded since attending these ATALM sessions--experts from Native communities, archives and museums. Amazing amount of knowledge is passed along at this conference that university and books cannot teach a student. I value my time spent at these conference that will assist me in the future, especially the many contacts made, valuable resources to link into later.

9) Dr. Meyer’s power point helped me refocus my museum and educational goals. Because we have so little funding and time, we need to be strategic in what we do and she helped us set more direct goals. Also, Dr. Haakanson’s accomplishments were an inspiration to all as were Dr. Meyers. We saw many wonderful examples of cooperation in action between museums and individuals and the details of how these relationships can be structured. We were able to learn from the presenters experiences and this will help us move forward more quickly. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to attend.

10) First of all, getting to know ATALM and IMLS people face to face was great. And interacting with other grantees, sharing ideas, pitfalls and solutions was so helpful. It renewed my enthusiasm and inspired me on things that can be done. Also receiving confirmation on the value of what we have accomplished this grant year was a boost! I really didn't expect to be so gratified by the wealth of experiences that everyone brought with them.

11) Great opportunity for professional development and making contacts. Excellent opportunity to link with other organizations (WMA and PIMA) and leverage funding to maximize opportunities for all.

12) Higher awareness of native peoples in these fields and the quality and diversity of their work.

13) Honoring and learning from a host culture for an Indigenous organization seems essential now. WIPCE (World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education) does this very well. Putting cultural and historical knowledge into action, as the Native Hawaiians do, is a model for all Indigenous people and teaches something to all, including visitors, guests, and Indigenous.

14) I am in school and not working in the field, so it was very helpful to see presentations from the field. It gave me a better sense of how the issues I read about in articles are actually impacting institutions, and the real-life steps they take to address those issues.

15) I am more likely to attend future ATALM conferences, as it is valuable to establishing professional relationships with colleagues from other institutions. I would like to see more sessions dealing with libraries, though.
16) I attended quite a few sessions and was able to bring back my notes and share with the rest of our staff. New program policies will be proposed as a result.

17) I became more aware of ways in which to collaborate and work for programs that will enhance the community - the sessions at the conference gave me a better perspective.

18) I believe that IMLS played a huge part in the reason I was asked to speak at the conference. Their support is very valuable.

19) I came away from the conference with a profound appreciation for the Native Hawaiians and how they are successfully preserving their lifeways. We have much to learn from them.

20) I came away from this conference with a renewed enthusiasm and increased understanding for the work I do in partnerships with public libraries and tribes. Listening to the knowledgeable and informative opening keynote speaker, encouraging our continued engagement as well as challenging us to think in new ways, provided a forward thinking impetus for the entire conference. The opportunity to learn Native Hawaiian culture through hands-on workshops and informed sessions was a once in a lifetime experience for me. IMLS affords those of us in rural areas, opportunities we would not have in any other way.

21) I do value having networking sessions similar to AAM. You get to meet with other professionals in your field. You can hash out problems and find solutions. I do like having a specific tribal track relevant to current museum issues. I also think it’s difficult to have separate registration and events specifically for ATALM. You don't feel part of the entire conference.

22) I experienced more appreciation of the diversity of indigenous people as well as knowing that as indigenous people, we have a lot of the same experiences.

23) I feel I gained so much that I will be giving a PowerPoint presentation with photos and information I learned. When someone attends a wonderful conference, they need to share what knowledge they have gained.

24) I felt that the value of the work our organization is providing was affirmed through meeting and sharing with others as well as during discussions in sessions.

25) I gained valuable information about what other tribal libraries are doing to preserve the cultural content they are charged with preserving, specifically how they are digitizing their archive collections.

26) I got more insight and realized other people have the same problem as I do.

27) I have known of some of the IMLS Enhancement grant projects and it was great to see the progress made and I was able to learn ideas, lessons learned and make contacts. I value the ideas that come out of the sessions and how they can be implemented at my library.

28) I have learned how others are doing with their museums, their libraries, and what I can do to become a part of our future museum.
29) I learn a lot when I get to meet people and see projects about what other indigenous groups are doing to help preserve and perpetuate their culture. With this knowledge, it helps our organization to be able to help preserve and perpetuate the Hawaiian culture and environment here (with much needed funding of course).

30) I learned some libraries are quite resourceful and innovative. I will definitely employ some of the shared strategies in my organization.

31) I like listening to other real life experiences and the interaction in part of the conference. I really enjoyed the new concept of "working together to move forward". I like being able to network with others and share the good and bad experiences that they have endured throughout the journey in tribal archives, libraries, and museums. Dr. Meyer had a great presentation and I really liked the list of words she displayed and explanations of how people incorporate those into their lives; and I like how she had us work together. I am not a big interaction person and talking to strangers was not always easy for me but this conference and others put on by ATALM have helped me greatly in that area.

32) I loved the indigenous perspective. It really spoke to me.

33) I met a lot of interesting people I wouldn't have interacted with normally. I learned new things and got excited about the field.

34) I mostly value the opportunity of the social experience, and gaining a greater understanding of the position in which I work. I believe that the Conferences' in which I have attended have left with good experience, and knowledge of my position.

35) I now feel a little more comfortable in my role of preserving documents using technology. I don't feel like I'm the only one with issues and challenges. I also feel that there is a need to collaborate with other data/document collectors. I valued the Networking aspect of the conference. Making these connections will greatly improve the work we do and most definitely become more efficient.

36) I particularly liked the hands-on workshops. I also liked the opportunity to visit facilities and talk with people. I liked the food, the local gifts and the aloha spirit.

37) I returned home with specific ideas on how to engage and revitalize the Board. The session information on that topic provided specifics and I have begun implementing several of the strategies to assure the board is engaged and that meetings are time well-spent. Time will tell if this is successful. My own personal understanding of issues in handling Native archival and historical information increased during the conference. I will be able to use that new knowledge in the implementation of a new grant in the upcoming year. I also networked with several people who shared experiences that enlightened me about how to approach a project we are undertaking. Gaining understanding, making connections and learning new techniques all increase my effectiveness in my job and therefore improve services for our patrons.

38) I value IMLS giving us the travel funds within our grant so we can gather yearly to view each other's projects and get new ideas to bring home to our tribes.
39) I value IMLS! It offers an opportunity of a lifetime.
40) I value the fact that ATALM provides specific training from an indigenous perspective.
41) I value the fact that the training provided is targeted towards an Indigenous audience.
42) I value the open sharing of information, learning and information gathering, meeting people, making valuable and useful contacts, and building friendships that result in preserving different cultures.
43) I value the work that ATALM is doing for native communities. I love that there is an organization that works specifically to address the needs of tribal communities.
44) I valued the conference very much, especially because there were so many states represented and so many tribal programs. Beginning with opening ceremony, the keynote was so inspiring. Her words were so true and I related to her words so well. Thank you and all the staff and volunteers for putting this conference together.
45) I want to go into the Library and Information Science field along with Hawaiian Studies and find a way that fits the needs of my Hawaiian community.
46) I was able to make connections with other institutions doing similar work. I would not have been able to make these connections if it were not for this conference.
47) I was able to make contact with other tribes and see how they are handling access to their archives and "secret" stuff. I was also able to contact Kimberly Christen and try the Mukurtu software beta software to see if that is the tool we need to grant access to tribal members outside of our region.
48) I was able to meet and exchange ideas and info with librarians that I would not have met otherwise. I came back with information from them that will help me with the programs we have proposed for the Tribal members, and a lot of new wonderful ideas. Very exciting.
49) I was able to network with other tribal libraries, as well as received ideas other tribal libraries are using and implement them at my own tribal library.
50) I was able to see other avenues in young adult programming (since I am going to school for museum education) I found this highly helpful.
51) I was introduced to other library projects that have succeeded in similar contexts. I was introduced to open source digital software which we may use in the future
52) I went to the conference because IMLS was involved and was not disappointed at all. The IMLS based sessions were informative and helpful and I met some wonderful people.
53) Importance of having a unique opportunity to gather with a specific group-in this case the Indian aspects of archives, museums and libraries.
54) Increased focus on the broadband and technology needs of tribal communities. Connections with potential partners to further work (Heritage Preservation, etc.).
55) Increased knowledge in the various resources available.
56) Interacting with tribal museum workers is great but I found a added value in the interaction I had with people working outside tribal museums.

57) It helps strengthen your commitment to the work you are doing when you are able to share your projects with others.

58) It is very beneficial to have the opportunity to interact with individuals from other parts of the country and to share common interests, accomplishments, and challenges.

59) It will allow me to recommend and hopefully guide future development of needed tribal historical information and artifacts facilities and operations.

60) It's is extremely important to have a Native American institution for support—it gives us more freedom to express our Native beliefs as opposed to a traditional institution. What has changed is that having the opportunity to network with Tribal institutions has expanded my thinking—hearing that some Tribes were able to recover their sacred items from other places inspired me to help our tribe do the same.

61) Learning all of how others have benefited and what we can do to better the library. The information on museums will also help assist us for our future plans for a museum.

62) My "Show and Tell" taught and showed me that I was not the ONLY one who was scared of talking in front of people. I talked so much that I lost my voice someplace! I loved it when someone came to ask about Igiugig, and I knew that answer!

63) My knowledge of what other Native American/Native Hawaiian archives, museums, and cultural centers are doing in their areas of expertise and being able to interact and share with them.

64) My perspective on what the current issues are within the entire museums, libraries and archives. It seems to be much easier and accessible than before, also how much more willing the curators are with the access of materials and information.

65) My view of the Spectrum of what IMLS will support broadened somewhat. It was good to have the events of Archives and Museums available to attend - cross pollination as it were. Truly a worthy conference.

66) New authors to read. It’s good to have presenters with published works, wish their publications were made available for purchase at conference.

67) One of my staff was fortunate to receive a scholarship to attend which I thought was very helpful to small museums. ATALM is very active and has great support staff to help us in Museum and Culture Centers with valuable information and assistance when needed.

68) Our tribe does not have a museum - the information I brought back is great, "How to start a Tribal Museum - wonderful. The poster sessions were very informative - knowing what other tribes have done successfully.
Received some new, fresh ideas for the enhancement grant. There were some examples that we want to try at our college for the summer reading and language immersion camp.

Seeing the impact museums, libraries, and archives have in native communities inspires me to continue the work I do.

Sharing information about our projects and comparing what works and doesn’t work for us. Overall, we share the same problems and can share ways of communicating.

Sharing various cultures, makes us— as Tim Tingle put it “all part of one big family” and increases importance of maintaining who we are. Seeing others struggling and succeeding in maintaining their histories, stories, and crafts is inspiring and motivates us to keep our individual cultures alive.

that i need more equipment for my project

The information i received attending the break out on IMLS Grants, as I said i didn’t know there were so many grants available.

the interaction with other participants doing the same job we are and the variety of ways we approach using the precious grant money from IMLS

The networking with people from all over is exceptional. Many of us don’t have much for travel money so being able to attend this conference is very rewarding.

The opportunity to attend the conference in a place such as beautiful Hawaii and sharing in the culture that would not have been possible if I had not received a scholarship - connections and many friends were made, important information was disseminated and reciprocated -

The realization that bookmobiles are a very positive influence and memory among many people. Being mobile does not limit Public Library Services in our communities. Through partnerships with museums and other public service organizations public library programing is possible. The opportunity to share our problematic issues with colleagues for problem solving, a chance to hear ideas outside of the box. The opportunity to share our IMLS Grant funded project, sharing the pros and cons of the project. and receiving new skills and ideas from the conference presenters/facilitators for the continued development of our projects, providing for excellence in service and delivery.

The ways in which we share and disseminate information about programs and collaborations within our own community will change and improve as a result of this conference. Many of the resources and ideas that were shared were from projects funded through IMLS. The hands-on pre-conference sessions, such as Ma Ka Hana Ka 'Ike, were invaluable and could only be shared with participants being in the same place.

This is the only conference of its kind that supports American Indians and Alaska Natives. Nowhere else can you meet peers and discuss topics/issues specific to tribal organizations. This is one of the best and most needed conferences out there.
This is the third IMLS conference I have attended. Both conferences produced ideas, new information and I established new contacts.

Tribal archives, libraries & museums are a specialized area. Our concerns are different than mainstream (non-tribal) facilities. Our facilities are very often small in size. We frequently have to forge our own paths with regard to access issues, cultural concerns regarding the care of objects, etc. It is so important for us to network with others who working with these issues to help us find what works for our tribes while caring for the objects & information. As a result of this conference, we got some questions answered about a specific software program that will allow us to address access issues for our sound/video recordings in a culturally correct manner. We re-connected with personnel at the UHM linguistic archive and discussed issues of mutual interest that we can proceed on. We made connections with people from two other digital archive projects that we can help.

Value of supporting all our libraries no matter how small they are across our nation. It takes only one book to change a person’s life and getting those books to our future starts with our libraries, librarians and our community support of them.

We use our funds for several different things but I was able to bring home some new ideas. One library used their funding to help advocate the usage of technology to help encourage the spoken native language in the youth.

We want to get involved with ATALM! Our institution was involved several years ago and then our representative retired. We've rediscovered it and want to get involved and share in each other’s experiences.

What changed is my perspective, and now therefore my attempts, to keep a library, archives, or museums within walls. Seeing all the different ways people were successfully implementing programs, supported by IMLS, deepened my respect for and understanding of the purpose of the IMLS. Active language and cultural continuity can live and continue outside of the walls of an institution! How exciting!

What changed most for me is I now know that there are groups and institutions out there willing to help, funding wise. A session on how to write grant proposals would be good.

What changed most was my awareness of how different people are able to do good work. Particularly how Native librarians are finding new ways to get funding and/or meet the community’s needs.

What is in the process of changing is the wrong idea about how very important the online teaching, internet, facebooking and e-mail blasting and other forms of media actually are. I have taken this important information to the Cultural Committee and I am trying my best to explain the importance of keeping up with this new technogen generation. This has not been easy as they are elderly in their 80's and don't like change. I have several though who understand and we will be moving in the right direction soon. Also, I now have an urgency in my heart about the importance of preserving our language as well as other cultural activities. I will be encouraging our
museum to voice record as well as video tape our elders who have had a life behind them that none of us know about, or perhaps don’t even understand. Also another change, our library, that has just received a very large grant from OMA, is located in the same building as our museum, will be conducting many cultural activities that the museum will be co-hosting. This is something our entire community will be involved with and we have great expectations.

90) With the shared stories and obstacles that other Librarians shared in the sessions, it was great to hear. I thought only New Mexico Tribal Libraries had issues but it is wide spread among Indian Country. IMLS funded conferences for Tribal Libraries and Museums is needed to further educate and network with other Directors. This is way we communicate if someone has issues and someone else has gone through the same situation we can better help one another.

91) Without the support from ATALM some events at our library will not happen. Or attending conferences like the one in September 2011. I hope they will continue supporting our libraries.

To contact the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, please phone 405-522-3515 or email atalminfo@gmail.com.

www.atalm.org