

CNI Member Survey

Andrew K. Pace, Executive Director, ARL
Washington, DC ~ December 9, 2024

Agenda & Caveats

- Review of CNI transition process
- CNI member survey results
- Discussion / Town Hall

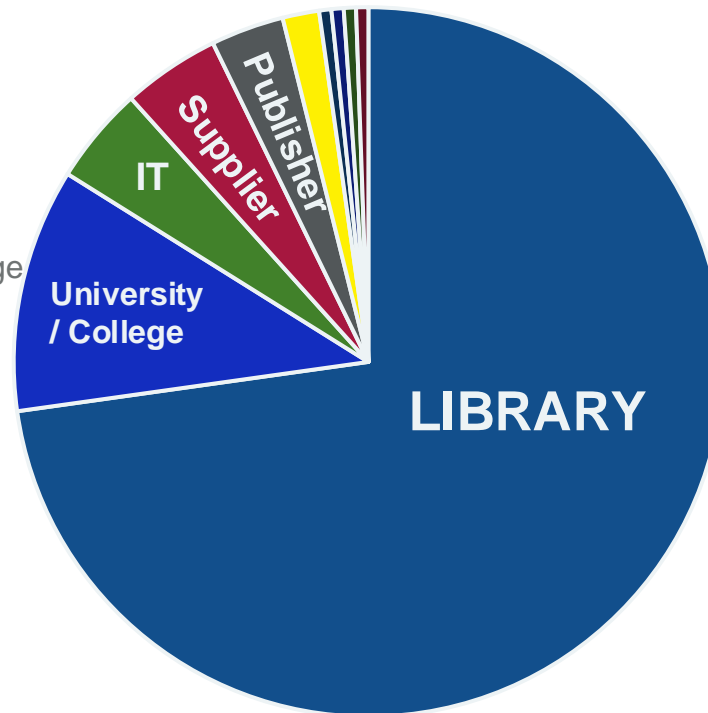
CNI Review: Interviews, Survey, and Contemplation

- Andrew K. Pace, ARL
- John O'Brien, EDUCAUSE
- Susan Parker, UBC, ARL Board liaison
- Sarah Shreeves, Utah, CNI Steering Committee (appointed by ARL)
- Jenn Stringer, Getty, CNI Steering Committee (appointed by EDUCAUSE)

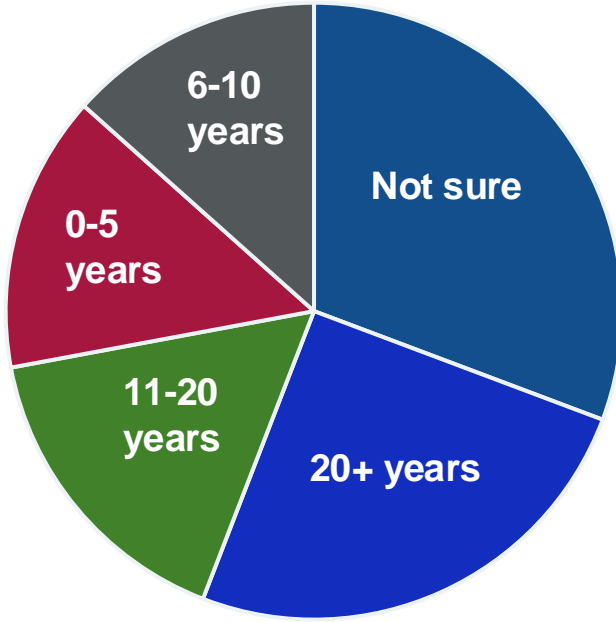
Affiliation of respondents

~ 50% response rate

- Library
- University / College
- Information Technology
- Library vendor, supplier, service provider
- Publisher
- Library Association / Organization
- Foundation
- Scholarly / Professional Organization
- Not for profit with a mission to advance education and knowledge
- Community not for profit organization



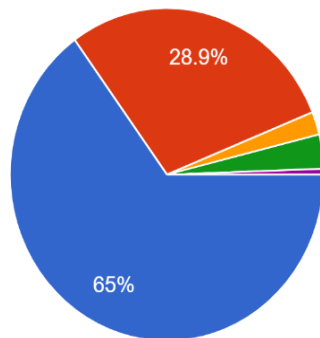
Length of Membership



Attendance & Engagement

14. How often do you or others from your institution attend CNI meetings?

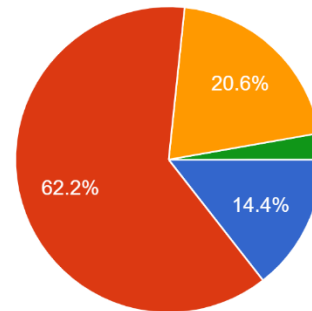
180 responses



- We attend both meetings every year
- We attend one meeting a year
- We attend every other year
- We attend sporadically
- We never attend

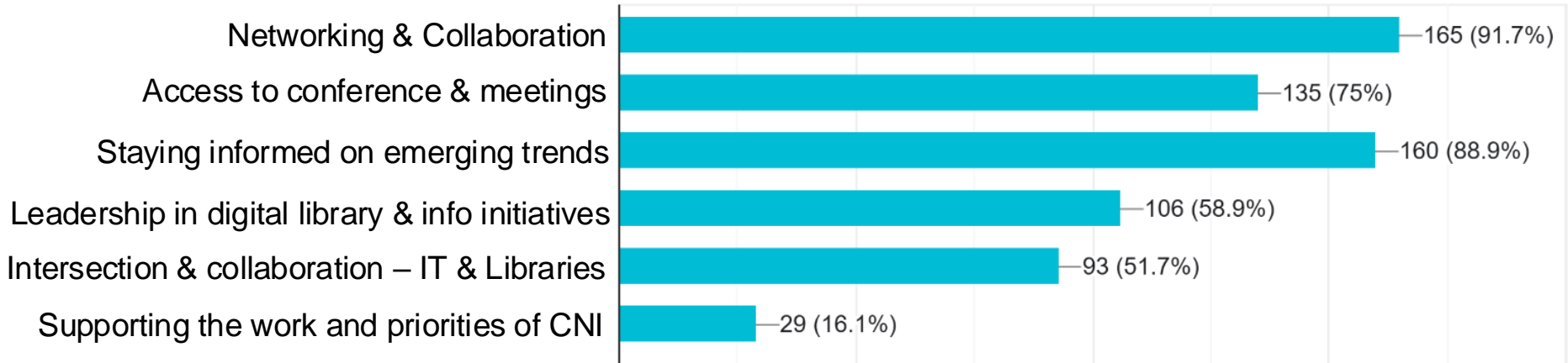
15. How frequently does your institution engage with CNI outside of the annual meetings (e.g., working groups, online resources, collaborative initiatives)?

180 responses

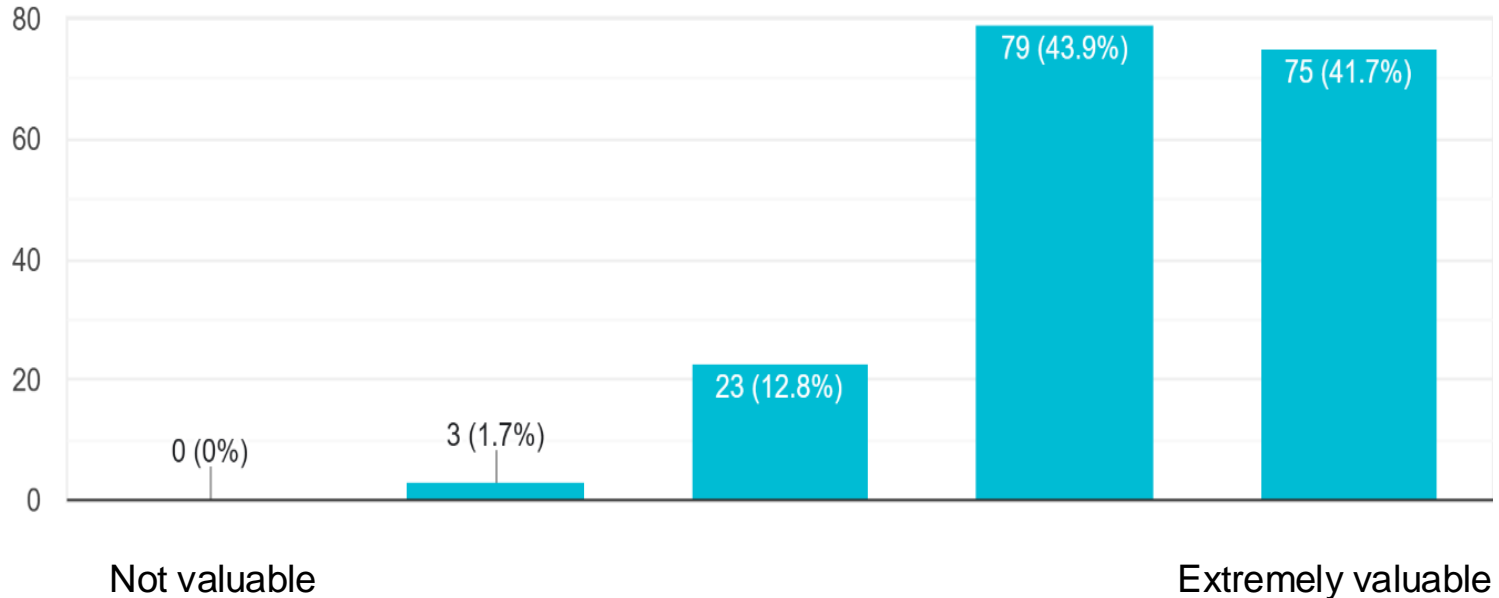


- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never

Primary Benefits



How valuable is the content presented at meetings?



What aspects of CNI are most beneficial to your institution?



Other:

- International visitors & presentations
- CNI publications
- Learning about experiences of other libraries, colleges, and universities that we do not collaborate with regularly
- After-conference publication of presentations from meeting
- Relationship with Clifford Lynch

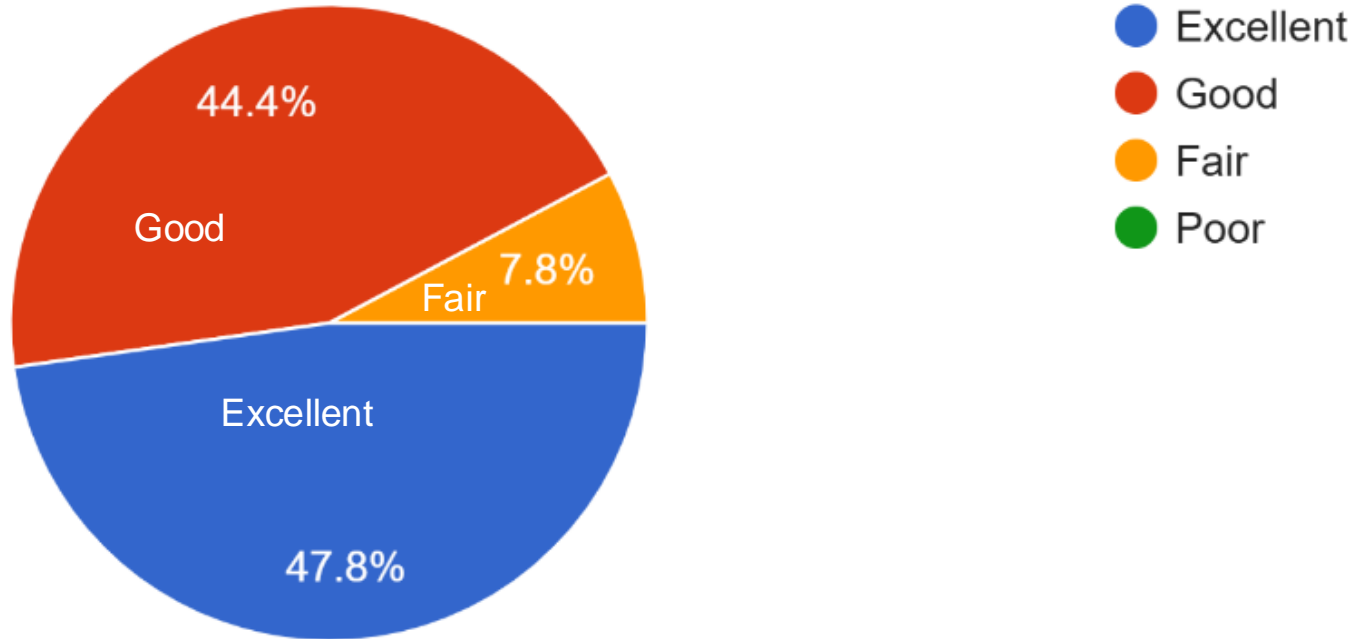
How does your institution benefit from being part of the CNI community?



Other:

- Encourages library/IT [collaboration] within my institution
- Staying up to date on activities at peer organizations
- I would love to see more CNI-led projects and advocacy efforts
- Would like to evolve into more collaboration

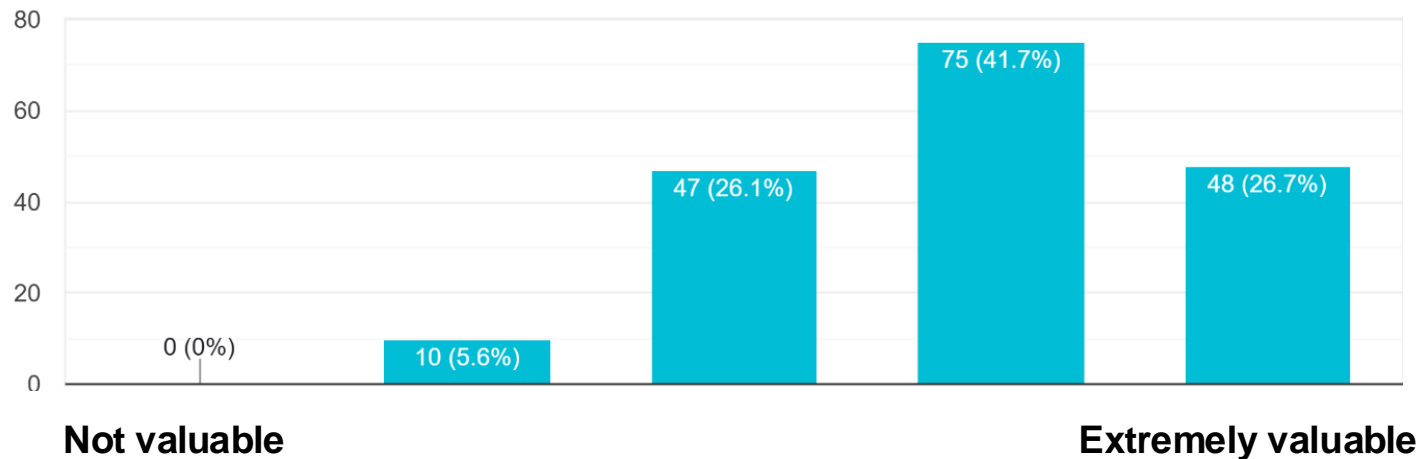
Overall value of CNI membership to your institution?



Value: CNI-Announce email updates

CNI-Announce email updates

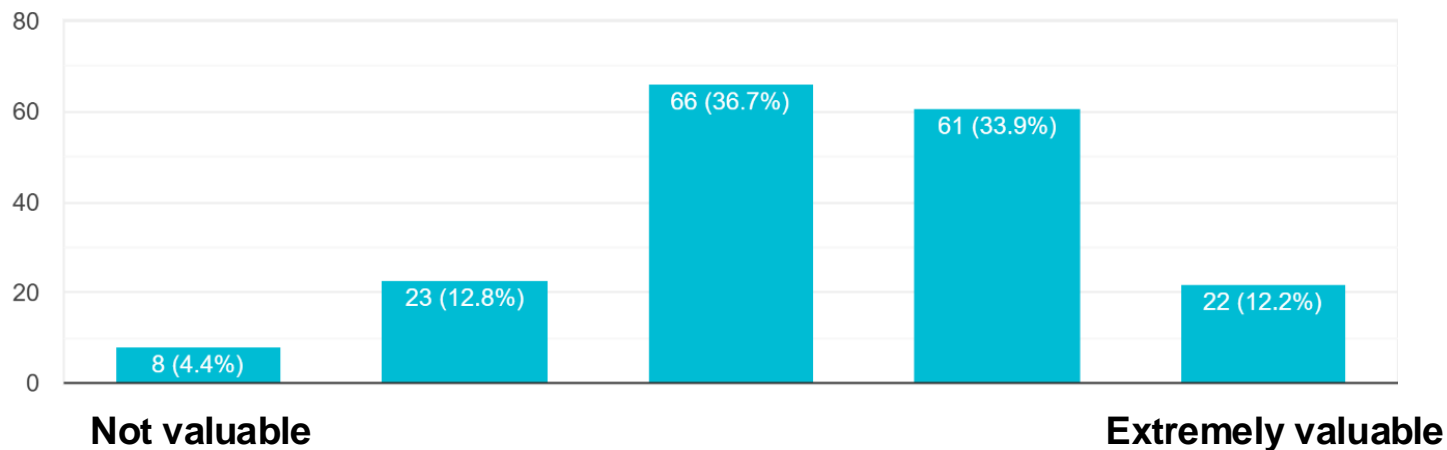
180 responses



Value: Pre-recorded briefings

Pre-recorded briefings

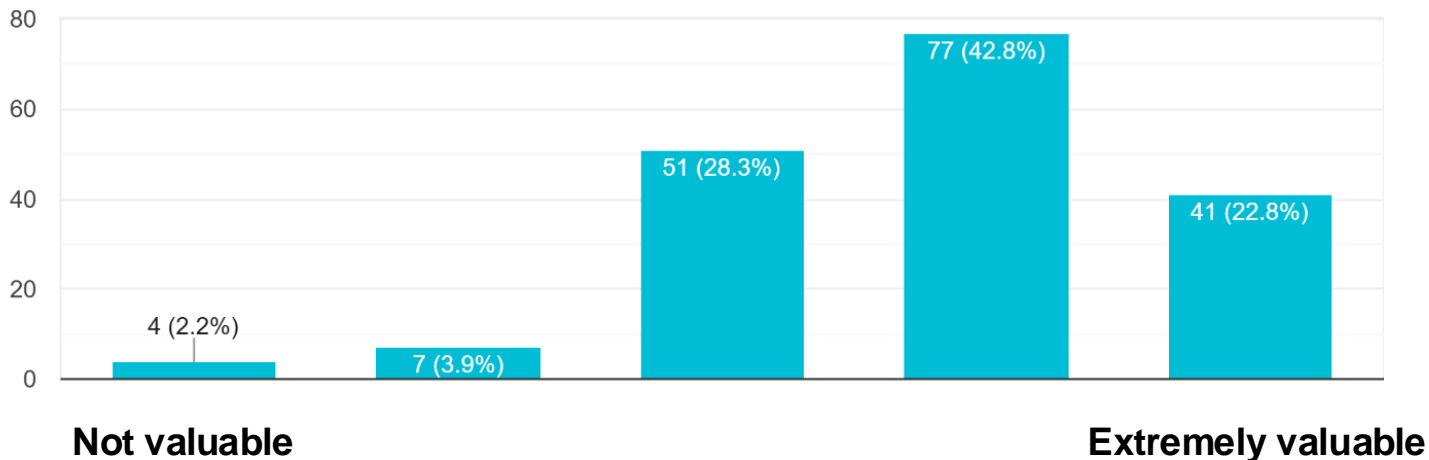
180 responses



Value: Executive Roundtable reports and other publications

Executive Roundtable reports and other publications

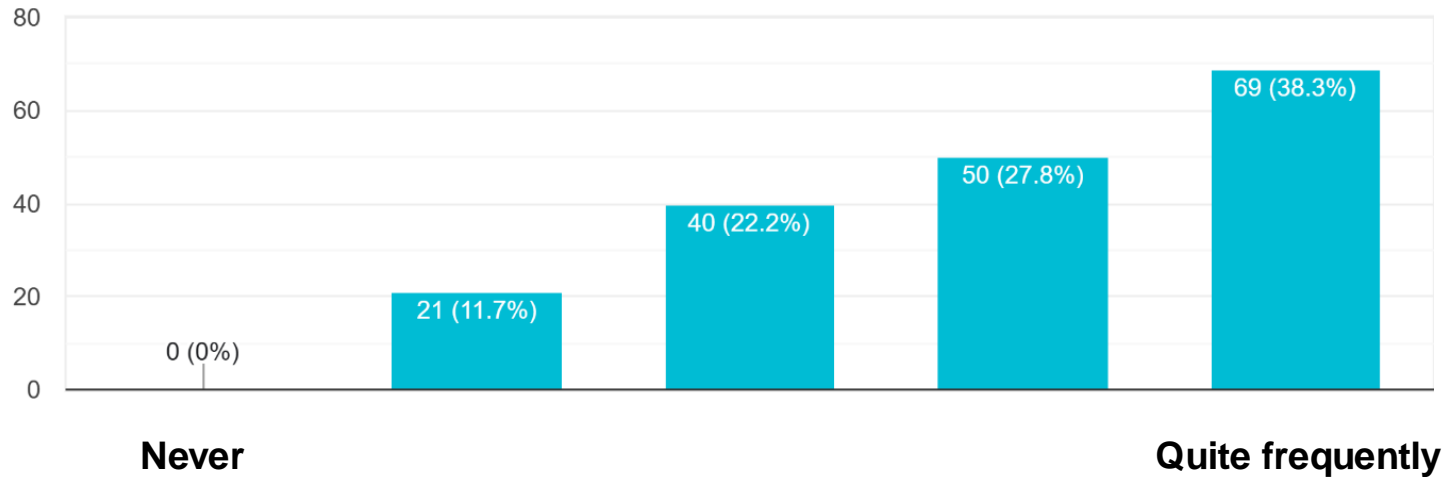
180 responses



Frequency of interaction: CNI-announce email updates

CNI-announce email updates

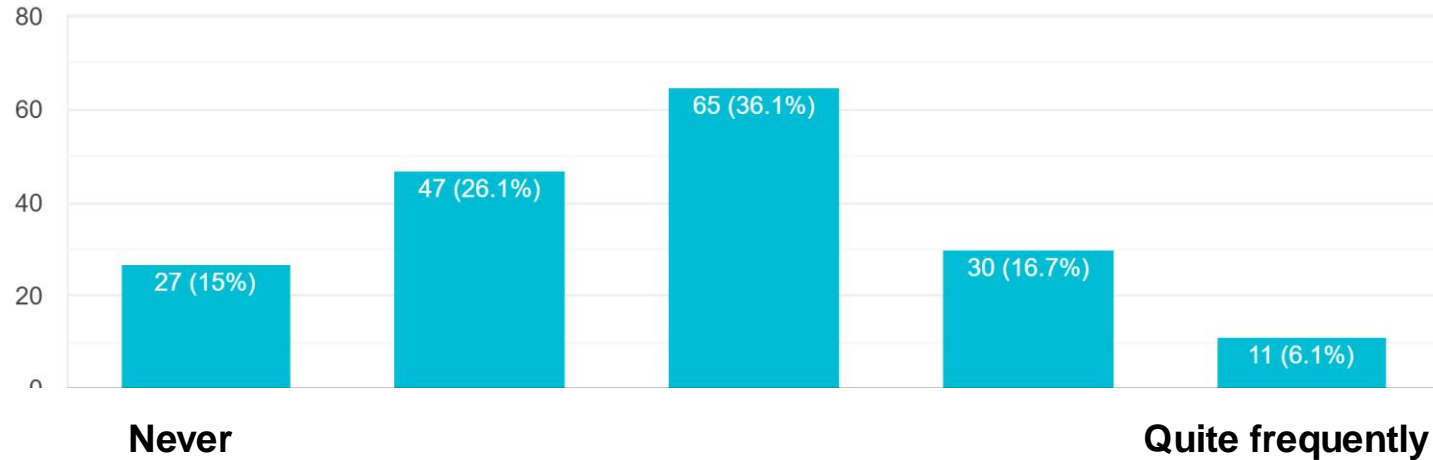
180 responses



Frequency of interaction: pre-recorded briefings

Pre-recorded briefings

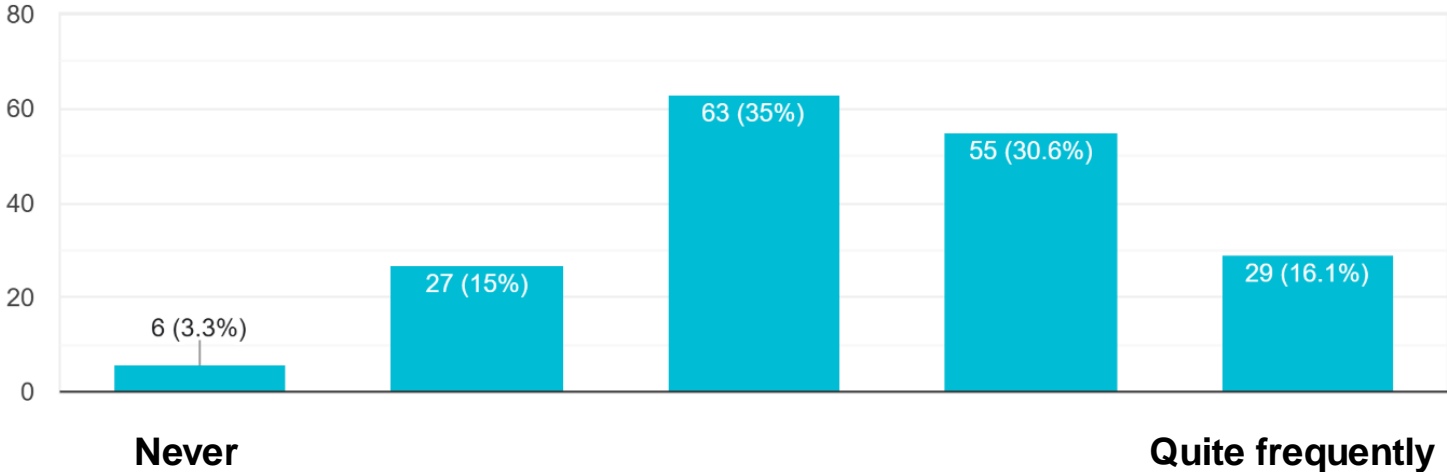
180 responses



Frequency of interaction: Executive Roundtable and other publications

Executive Roundtable reports and other publications

180 responses



In what areas could CNI provide more value or support?



Other (excerpt):

- More international programming and international perspective.
- Open up the CNI Meetings to non-members and more than 2 reps each institute.
- The Hallway Conversations have been very informative and beneficial.
- More support for early career staff
- Lower membership dues.
- Smaller meetings or a CNI section aimed at liberal arts colleges.
- More content that is relevant to humanists
- Greater engagement with experts outside of library IT / library higher ed and inviting expert perspectives from a broader cross-section of technology; including research and academic computing.

Brief Pause

What emerging issues or topics would you like to see CNI address in future programs or initiatives?



- **Advocacy and Innovation**
 - **Leadership and Vision:** Strengthening roles in strategic planning, particularly regarding libraries and IT.
 - **Technology Leadership:** Advancing cutting-edge approaches in academic and library technology.
- **Evolving Institutional Challenges**
 - **Budget Constraints:** Rebalancing library budgets and focusing on sustainability.
 - **Equity in Access:** Addressing disparities across institution types, including historically underfunded colleges.
 - **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Building alliances across IT, libraries, and other campus entities.
- **Broader Technology and Strategic Concerns**
 - **Emerging Technologies:** Quantum computing, machine learning, and high-performance computing.
 - **Cybersecurity and Preservation:** Securing digital infrastructures amidst geopolitical and environmental challenges.
 - **Data Management:** Governance, storage, and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles.
- **Dominance of AI**
 - **Applications of AI in Libraries:** Practical uses of AI for workflows, research, and teaching.
 - **Ethics and Governance:** AI-related ethical challenges, particularly regarding misinformation, privacy, diversity, and autonomous technologies.
 - **AI in Academic Roles:** Impacts on research, IT, and scholarly communication.

If you could do one thing to make CNI programs or initiatives more valuable in the future, what would that be?



- **Strategic Direction**
 - Maintain and enhance CNI's unique leadership role in library and IT technology.
 - Align programs more closely with evolving needs, such as addressing equity and budget constraints
- **Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility**
 - Prioritize diversity among speakers, participants, and programming.
 - Incorporate perspectives from underrepresented groups and smaller or less-funded institutions.
 - Provide virtual sessions and workshops to reduce travel barriers.
 - Introduce tiered membership structures for broader inclusivity.
- **Increased Collaboration**
 - Expand cross-library and industry partnerships.
 - Foster greater engagement with smaller institutions and diverse member organizations.
- **Networking and Engagement**
 - Create more opportunities for small group interactions and community-driven initiatives.
 - Offer "opportunity boards" for collaborative projects.
- **Content Improvements**
 - Diversify program topics, including STEM focus and interdisciplinary approaches.
 - Introduce more participatory workshops and deeper dives into specific projects.
 - Highlight actionable insights for attendees to apply in their institutions.

Are there any additional comments or suggestions you have for improving CNI's value to member institutions?



- **Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility**
 - Increase diversity among speakers, participants, and leadership.
 - Focus on inclusivity for smaller and underrepresented institutions.
 - Reduce membership fees or create tiered pricing for smaller organizations.
 - Offer virtual options and satellite events to ease participation barriers.
- **Collaboration and Engagement**
 - Strengthen partnerships with EDUCAUSE, ARL, and other organizations.
 - Foster meaningful collaboration through roundtables, workshops, and project matchmaking.
- **Content and Relevance**
 - Balance technical and non-library topics to attract broader IT and research participation.
 - Improve content quality and ensure it reflects cutting-edge developments.
- **Structure and Governance**
 - Modernize the membership model to allow broader institutional engagement.
 - Implement clearer governance and strategic planning to guide leadership transitions.
- **Networking and Knowledge Sharing**
 - Expand opportunities for "hallway conversations" and informal discussions.
 - Offer more curated resources, white papers, and digests of trends for easy consumption.

Do you have input on the leadership transition of CNI? (part 1: CNI)



- **Desired Qualities in a New Leader:**
 - Visionary and forward-thinking; Ability to predict and address future trends and issues.
 - Ability to bridge the gap between science and humanities communities.
 - Credibility in the IT sphere, extending beyond libraries.
 - Strong network of peers and ability to facilitate collaboration.
 - Practical technical skills and accomplished research background.
 - Focus on inclusivity and diversity, bringing new and varied perspectives.
 - Intellectual rigor and professional management skills.
- **Suggestions for the Leadership Role:**
 - A new role that is more of a facilitator or catalyst rather than a traditional scholar.
 - Emphasis on avoiding stagnation and encouraging fresh perspectives and innovation.
 - Consideration of generational change and setting term limits to ensure periodic leadership renewal.
 - Importance of aligning new leadership with the future direction of CNI, preserving its value while modernizing.
- **CNI's Future and Evolution:**
 - Remain relevant by embracing new technologies and addressing current and future challenges in the library and IT fields.
 - A potential structural change, such as integrating CNI into an existing organization or redefining its role.
 - The importance of maintaining the organization's focus on IT issues relevant to libraries and not diluting its core mission.
- **Community Involvement and Diversity:**
 - Calls for greater involvement of the CNI community in the search process.
 - Emphasis on diversifying leadership and ensuring the new leader has a commitment to inclusion and addressing systemic issues within the organization.

Do you have input on the leadership transition of CNI? (part 2: Cliff)

Overall, the survey reflects a deep respect for Cliff Lynch's leadership and a thoughtful consideration of the qualities and approaches needed for CNI's next phase.



- **Acknowledgement of Cliff's Impact**

- Many contributors express deep appreciation for Cliff Lynch's visionary leadership, extensive knowledge, and ability to synthesize complex issues.
- They recognize his contributions and the significant impact he has had on CNI.

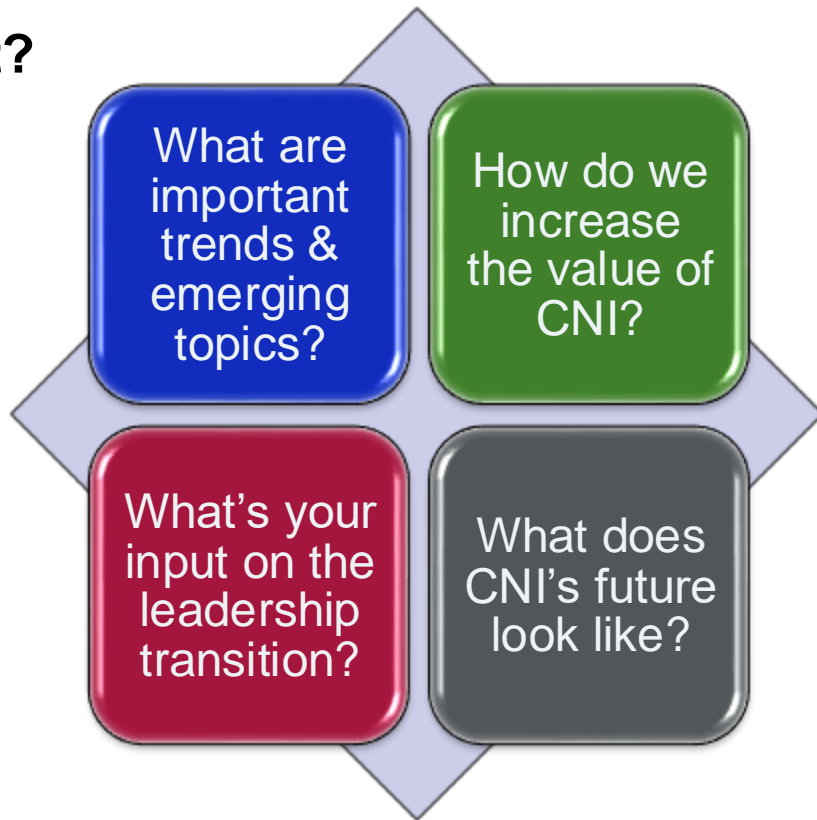
- **Challenges of Replacing Cliff**

- There's a consensus that replacing Cliff will be difficult due to his unique skills and presence.
- Contributors emphasize that it might not be possible to find someone exactly like him and suggest focusing on finding a leader who can bring their own strengths to the role.

- **Cliff's Legacy**

- Many contributors express a desire to retain certain aspects of Cliff's leadership, such as his ability to provide coherent summaries of complex issues and his personal engagement with the community.
- Some express concerns about maintaining the balance between continuity and change, ensuring that the new leader has the freedom to innovate while respecting the organization's history and values.

What resonates? What doesn't?



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Schedule a meeting with me:

bit.ly/ARL-Andrew

