



2021 Policy Council Meeting

June 30, 2021

4 - 5:30 PM New York

CHECKIN

What do you value most about
Society membership?

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Enter HU in chat OR enter your
question or comment

<http://bit.ly/SDSpcnotes>

President's Welcome



Paulo Gonçalves

Università della Svizzera Italiana

- Welcome
- Upcoming Annual Conference:
 - Register, participate, engage
 - Spread the word
- Student Chapter Fundraising Run:
 - Saturday July 24th 9:00-1030AM Chicago
 - Any donation welcome
- PC participation:
 - Let us know in advance
- Finance Committee Report
Submitted/Presentation Shifted to August

Agenda

- 0:05 Welcome (Paulo Gonçalves)
- 0:15 VP Chapter and SIGs Report and Chapter Harmonization Warmup (Stefano)
- 0:45 Future of Meetings Continued (Len/Sara)
- 0:20 SPOC Update - Program Guidelines (Sara)
- 0:05 Announcements
- Adjournment

Motions in 2021

COMING UP

IN PROCESS

- May 2021 Minutes (Brad Morrison)
- Performance Review Committee Motion (Birgit Kopainsky)

PASSED

- (1020) Nigerian Chapter Stefano Armenia, Jack Homer (Y:19/N:0/A:0/NV:6)
- (1021) Stewardship Committee Policy Bob Eberlein, Birgit Kopainsky (Y:19/N:0/A:3/NV:3)
- (1022) Stewardship Committee Budget & Plan Birgit Kopainsky, Bob Eberlein (Y:18/N:0/A:3/NV:4)
- (1023) ISDC 2022 Program Chairs Sara Metcalf, Jack Homer (Y:19/N:0/A:1/NV:5)
- 2022 Slate of Candidates (Martin Schaffernicht)
- Standing Committee Nominations (Paulo Gonçalves)
- **(1024) Budget Amendments (Eliot Rich - Electronic Vote)**

Motion to Approve Policy Council Minutes

February 2021 - April 2021

Moved by Brad Morrison

To approve the Policy Council Meeting Minutes from February 2021 - April 2021.

<http://bit.ly/SDSPCNotes>

VP Chapters and SIGs



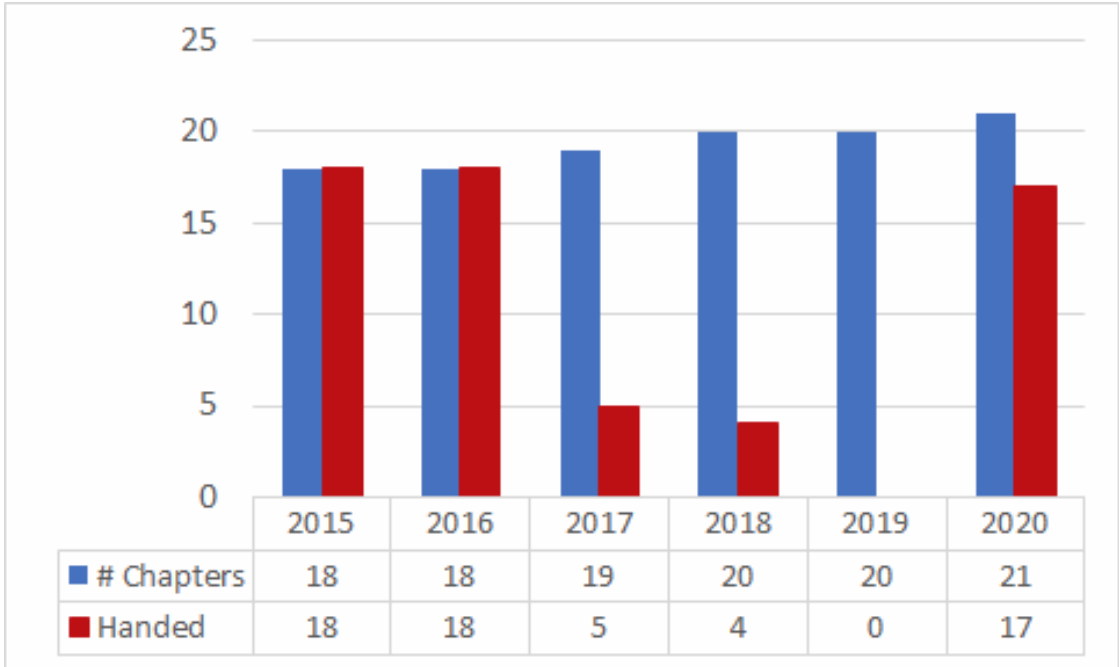
Stefano Armenia

University of Rome

- Annual Report
- Intro to our Harmonizations Efforts
- Large Discussion Planned for August Meeting

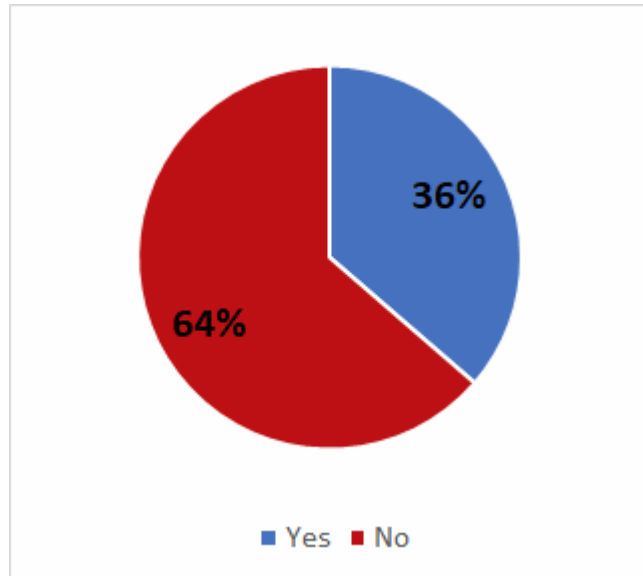
Chapters information

How efficient was the reporting process?



Chapters' web presence

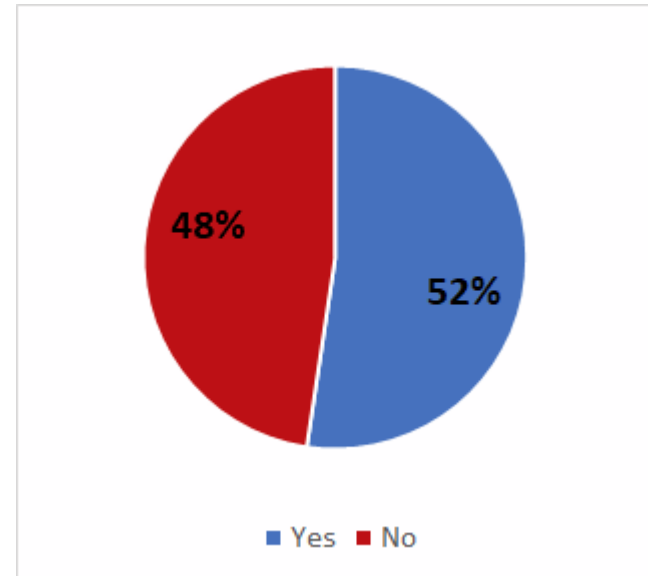
Social network presence (LinkedIn & Facebook)



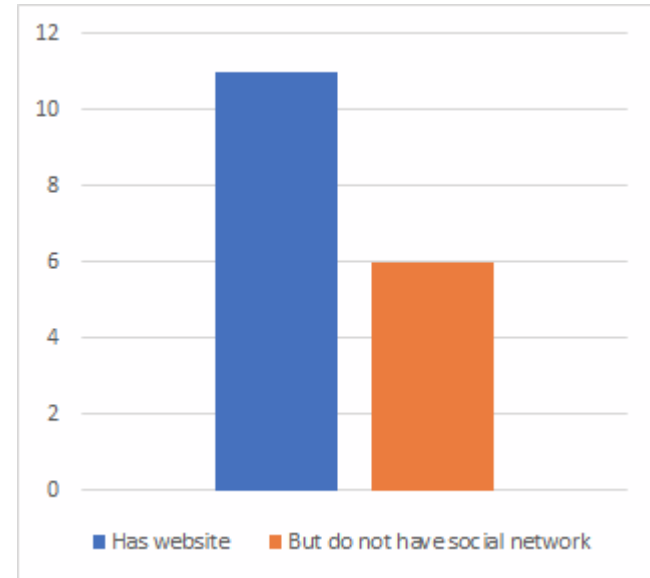
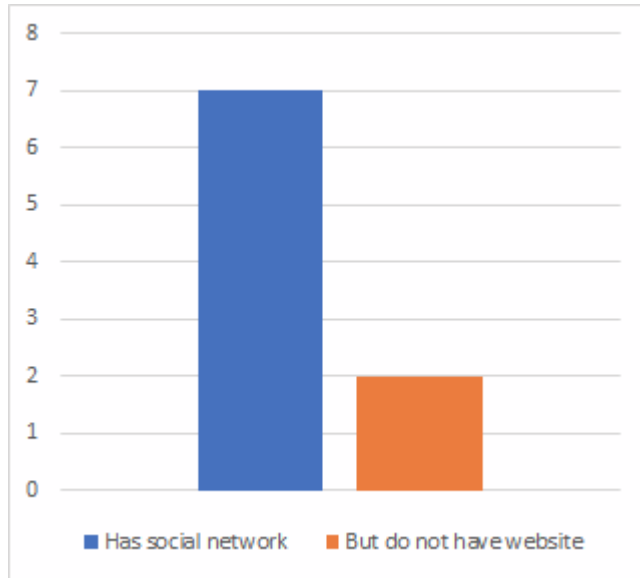
What kind of contents?

Contacts, description, events, jobs, newsletter, technical content

Website



Chapters' web presence



For 2020/2021 - Chapters

In general, we still do believe that Chapters of the Society need to evolve into a “professional” direction. This implies a systemic change in the society itself, as Chapters need to raise their own funds and memberships to sustain at least partially their resources all the year round (as done for example by other Chapters - i.e.: the German, Italian and UK ones).

This will have an impact also on memberships: we do have to take into account the tight relationship between SD membership and local chapters memberships, as we do have to offer services to local chapters. The membership harmonization investigation, currently involving the VP Chapters & SIGs Office and the VP Memberships, will be a key towards this process

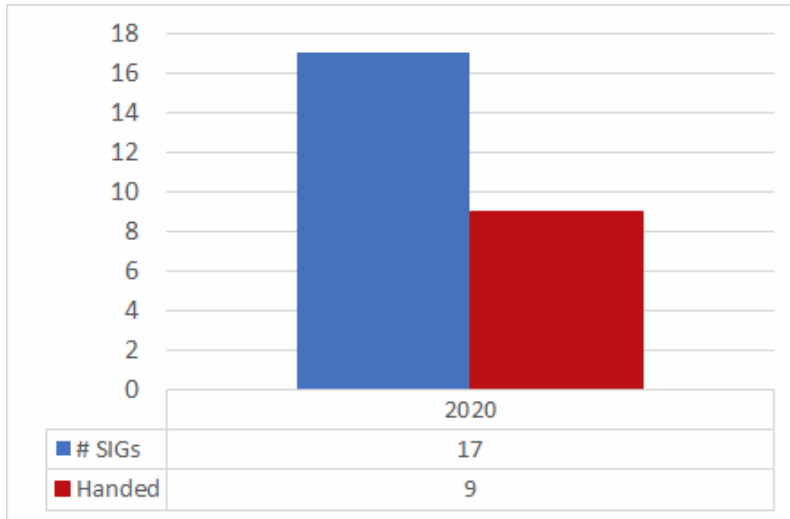
Chapters challenges reported

- Tracking all activities performed by members
- Maintaining professional and up-to-date websites and social media accounts
- Carry out periodic events/meetings to engage members and attract new membership
- Organizing events that are meaningful both to practitioners and scholars
- Membership growth
- Delivering local value to members (includes **membership harmonization**)
- Financial sustainability
- Volunteer engagement and retention

SIGs information

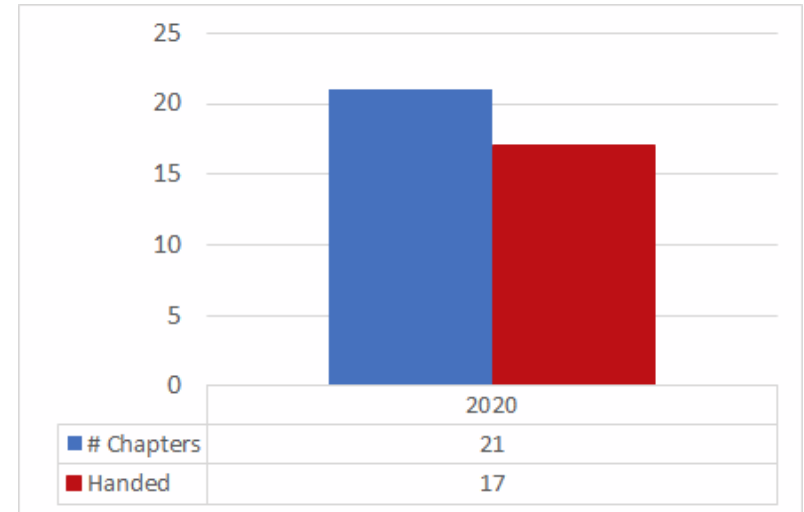
How efficient was the SIG reporting process?

SIGs reporting



~53%

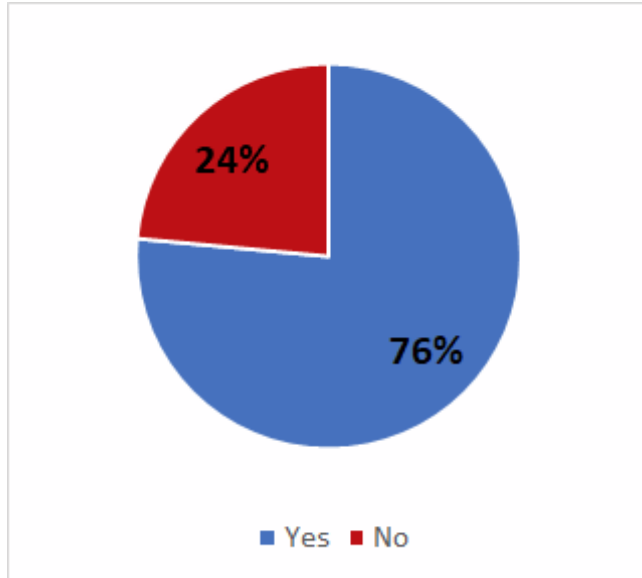
Chapters reporting



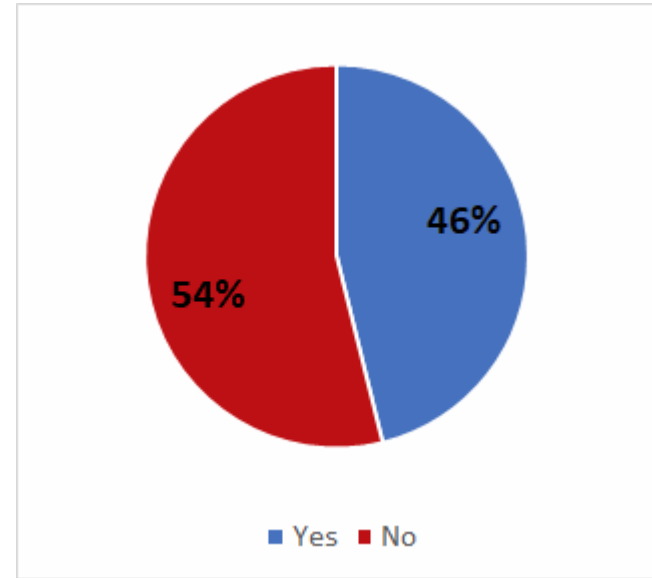
~81%

SIGs web presence

Do they have a web page within the SDS website?

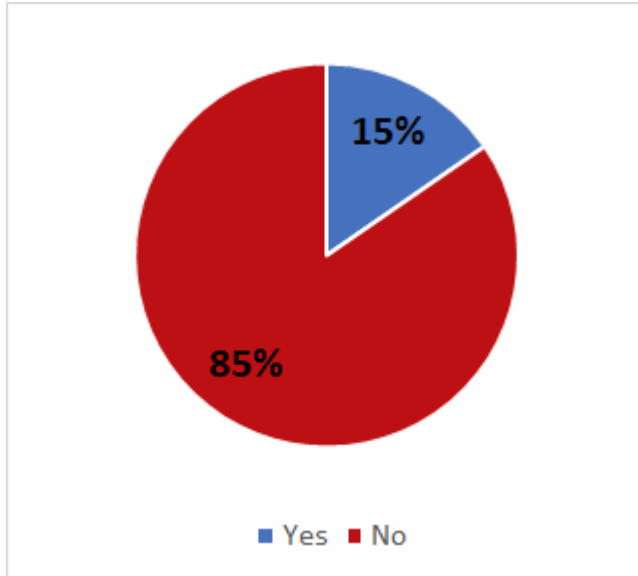


Are these web pages up to date?

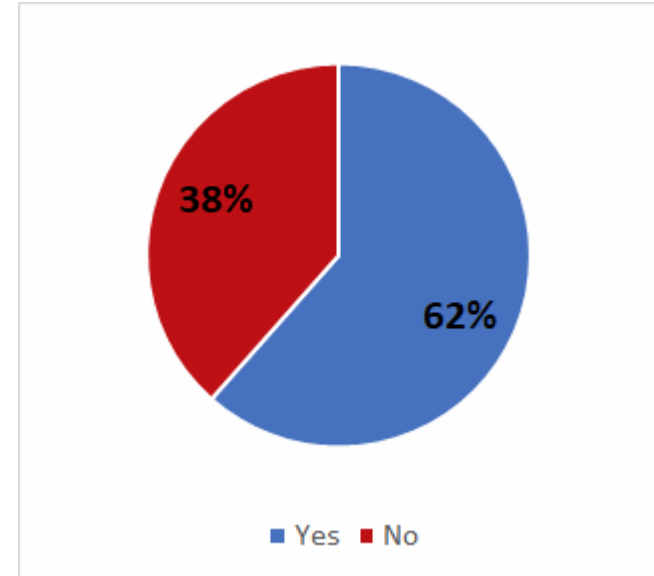


SIGs web presence

A few of these that have a web page also have their website



But most of these also have a social network presence



SIGs initiatives reported

- **Structural Racism SIG** was created in 2020, and they seemed very active in their debut year. They conduct regular meetings, webinars and they actively promoted submissions among its peers to the ISDC 2021.
- **A few SIGs** developed a library database to share published literature related to the topic of interest among its members and the Society as a whole (e.g., Asset Dynamics, and Conflict, Defense, and Security).
- The **Water SIG** is trying to set the foundations to connect to existing water-related networks through a joint program called AccelNet. The Water SIG was one of the main partners in a proposal approved by the National Science Foundation.

SIGs challenges reported

- Managing and maintaining membership list
- Leadership transition
- Hosting regular meetings with members (annual or monthly)

For 2020/2021 - SIGs

In general, we believe that the SIGs of the Society need to further evolve into a more effective and coordinated network. This means that we need to better integrate the membership management activities, the events calendars (and how they are announced), and the knowledge sharing between the SIGs and the Society. In turn, this also implies an assessment of which of them are still “active”, the ones in the process of changing leadership, and the ones that need to be reborn, put on hold, or even terminated.

Additionally, as we have to consider the tight relationship between SD membership and local SIGs' membership, as we do have to offer services to local chapters, this year we started discussing the “membership harmonization” process between VP Chapters and SIGs and VP Membership, which will also impact the number of members and the overall incomings.

VP Meetings - The Future of Meetings



Len Maczynski
University of New Mexico

VP Meetings



Sara Metcalf
University at Buffalo

AVP Meetings

2023 Conference Venue

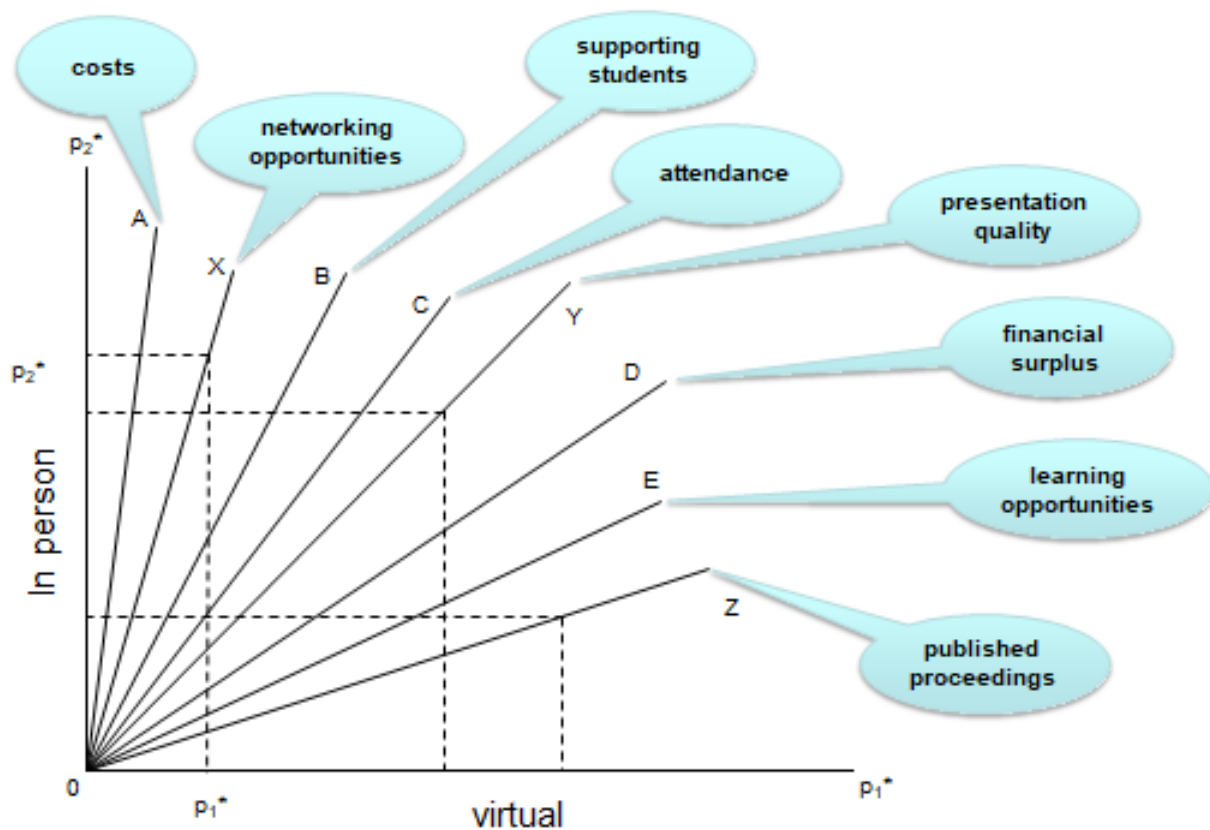
Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois

- **Compromise reached with the hotel. Agreement is ready to be signed. Any objections?**
- Contract will be shifted to 2023 and we will have NO LIABILITY for 2020.
- The following concessions were made by the Hotel
 - Room nights reserved halved to 385 (75 peak per night)
 - Food and Beverage minimum halved to \$27,500
 - Room Reservations stayed the same
 - Right to Cancel if Labor Dispute Clause Added
 - Right to Cancel if Renovation Clause Added
- Missing clauses we tried to add but they refused
 - Food and Beverage cancellation damages limited to profit (30%)
 - Mitigation Clause (resell cancelled rooms)
 - Compliance with Guidelines (e.g. covid)
 - New and Improved Force Majeure
 - Change in Management Clause
 - Hotel Cancellation Clause

Conference goals



Managing a conference: many attributes



Hybrid?

Making Site Decisions for Future Conferences

Should all future conferences have a physical site? A virtual component?

Is there an hierarchy of attributes?

e.g. costs to participant, quality of content, interaction with attendees, other?

Who is responsible for making the decision?

e.g. Executive committee, VP Meetings, Policy Council

Is there a reason to continue to promote and expect in-person site proposals?

What should be expected of such proposals?

Virtual Conferences: Asynchronous and Synchronous

DG.O 2020

WELCOME

welcome

program

best-paper-award...

feedback-attende...

meet-participants

vr-lounge

closing-thank-you

DIGITAL GOVERNMENT'S...

PLenary SESSIONS

SPONSORS

AI CHALLENGES AND IM...

AI FOR INNOVATING SM...

BEYOND BUREAUCRACY

DATA DRIVEN SOCIETY

GOVERNANCE OF TECH...

june-16-session

welcome

Welcome to DG.O 2020

This is the beginning of this server.



Luis Luna 06/11/2020

Welcome to the Conference!
<https://youtu.be/KSEou-DW10I>

YouTube

Luis Luna-Wyes

Welcome to dg.o 2020

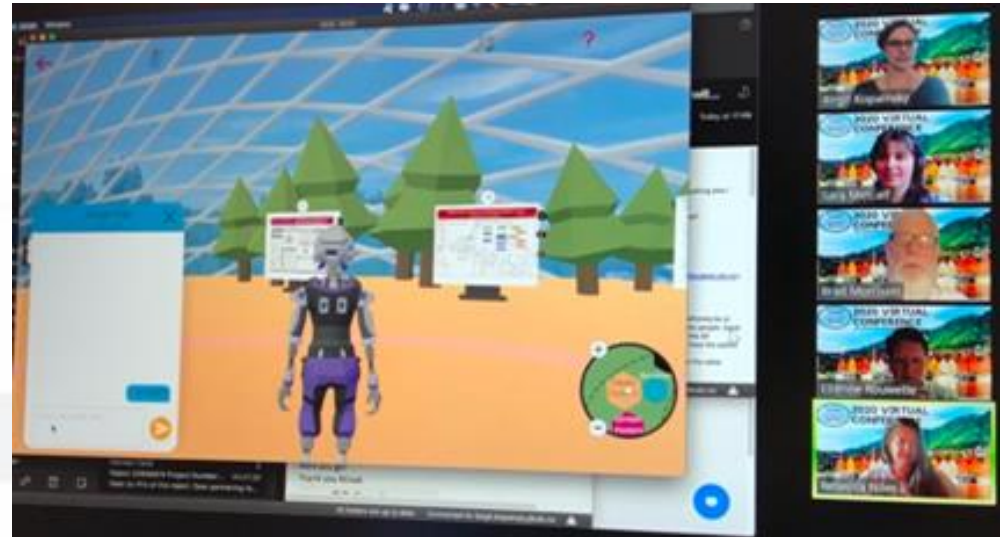


Luis Luna 06/11/2020

Welcome to the Discord server for dg.o 2020. You can find information about the program and program updates at the #program channel. Paper and plenary presentations will be posted every day during the week on the different channels in the server.

Most presentations will be pre-recorded, and Q&A are asynchronous, similar to a discussion board. When asking a question, please use the @ symbol to talk to a participant. For example, you can ask questions directly to me using @Luis Luna. If you need help or have a question about how to move around in Discord or the program, you can ask a question to #mentor, which is a group of participants that have volunteered to help.

ENJOY THE CONFERENCE!!!



Communication Affordances by Conference Type

Affordance	In-person Conference	Asynchronous Virtual Conference	Synchronous Virtual Conference
Immersion (Listening)	Conditional on conference venue attributes such as geographic location, meeting rooms and AV equipment.	Use of VR platform (e.g., Discord) to facilitate viewing of recorded sessions within organized chat threads.	Attendance at live virtual meeting sessions, use of VR 3D app for special events, and access to conference website.
Presence (Voicing and Suspending)	In-person gathering is the “gold standard”, although limited by time and space.	Pre-recorded presentations allow for strong voicing potential. It breaks the limits of time and space.	Potential is as strong as the capability of the platform (e.g., Zoom) and how it is used (i.e., session moderation). It breaks the limit of space, but is still limited by time.
Sense of Community (Respecting)	Generally strong from opportunities to socialize and network at conference events such as poster sessions, coffee hours, banquets, etc. Limited to participants who are able to attend in person. Facilitation design plays a key role across modalities.	Virtual format has the potential to enable greater interaction. More can be said in chat, it's easier to express, it's more accessible, it's more democratic, and participants may share useful information and hyperlinks. Persistence of online record enables a sense of community to extend the conference experience beyond the event at a point in time.	Potential for “flattening” power dynamics and equalizing international communities. Feeling of proximity from video conferencing. Chat messages add to participant experiences during live sessions, and some may find it easier to type than unmute to ask questions. Additional discussion sessions used to include participants across time zones.

Virtual Conference Goals and Recommendations

Immersion: maximize accessibility

- schedule live sessions in a way that allows globally diverse attendees to engage in dialogue from across different time zones
- record live presentations or include pre-recorded presentations in the program
- include audio transcripts
- make content available in advance whenever possible
- be mindful of issues of intellectual property of all materials

Presence: manage platform effectively

- use a familiar platform and/or allow practice opportunities to gain experience
- green room setup for presenters and session chairs
- use of breakout rooms
- include a technical organizer to support moderator in managing the session
- use the chat, polls, emojis, or like functions as tools to increase participation

Sense of Community: facilitate professional networking

- enable virtual spaces (synchronous and asynchronous) that can be visited 24/7
- schedule specific virtual coffee breaks on the virtual spaces
- use virtual boards to support the coordination of smaller gatherings in the virtual space
- participant directory with linked sessions, pictures, bios, and contact info
- allow live and asynchronous chat
- make sure to establish a set of rules of engagement that include aspects of respectful conversation, privacy and security

Future Hybrid Conferences: Integrating Online and In-Person Conference Events

Goal: Deliver a high quality online experience with access to in-person events

Online experience enhances in-person event (recordings, 24/7 access)

Specific events may be offered entirely online or initially in person, or **both together**

In-person presentations should be streamed live and recorded

Whether/how in-person and online presentations could be combined in a session

Networking events could be fully hybrid with sufficient tech

Multiple venues may host in-person events along with online events

A multi-nodal conference: 1 online node plus n place nodes



Implementing a hybrid conference

Two venues: in-person and online

In-person => higher costs: food, space, live transmission of meetings

Online => lower costs

Can in-person costs be minimized?

Suggest that attendees find their own lodging

Eliminate conference banquet, self-organize meals

Acquire access to low cost space: universities, hotels with conference facilities

Seeking input from Policy Council members

Breakout rooms

Describe your ideal hybrid conference- try to use specific attributes

Polling

Develop list of questions and possible responses

Poll PC and/or entire membership

Emailing comments

Last time one person responded

Preferred: In-person every 2-3 years

Breakout Discussion of Future Conference Scenarios

Group	Conference Overview	Immersion	Presence	Sense of Community
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				

Breakout Group 1

Overview of Ideal Hybrid Conference Scenario

Affordances

Immersion: some activities are just virtual, plenary speakers may benefit from virtual (as will we from their participation)

Presence: Important but so is inclusiveness

Sense of Community: local groups will find it hard to participate in virtual meetings due to noise, privacy, etc.

Breakout Group 2

- Overview of Ideal Hybrid Conference Scenario
- Hybrid good solution if executed seamlessly
- Internet broadband crucial for site selection
- Social aspect of virtual participants is challenging
- Need to prevent having two different conference experiences (one for virtual and a different one for physical attendees)
- Must carefully think through providing benefits of coming physically to the conference to encourage folks to attend in person (given the substantial additional costs of travelling to a physical site)
- Need to preserve the social aspect of the conference to keep the value proposition for attendees. This can unravel if enough people stop attending physically (we might end up with only Americans at conference locations in NA and only Europeans at conference locations in Europe)
- The networking and social aspects of the conference are the most important components of the conference for many attendees
- Posters would be a major difficulty in a hybrid context
- Maybe include minimum features in the virtual component rather than the full access. this encourages folks to still attend physically

Breakout Group 4

Overview of Ideal Hybrid Conference Scenario

Good idea to change it from year to year- perhaps parallel not necessarily both if the overhead burden is too high. Might give us experience with each.

Maybe alternating between hybrid and virtual. Long term, any conference should have ability to have people join virtually as seamlessly as possible.

Affordances- Need another breakout session for this

Immersion

Presence

Sense of Community

Breakout Group 6

Overview of Ideal Hybrid Conference Scenario

hybrid aspect positive as it would allow broader participation. Concern with questions from the audience. We discussed the need to have the presentations and more importantly the questions transcribed.

socially - interest in attending the conference physically. Preference for single location, as opposed to multiple ones. Concern with organization burden if multiple physical locations would be proposed.

Affordances

Immersion

Presence

Sense of Community

Breakout Group 7

Overview of Ideal Hybrid Conference Scenario

Everyone to be welcome and able to participate as a remote or in person participant.

Price?? Higher for in person vs virtual

Good to pick places that support virtual; leverage smaller venues

seek more flexible contracts

Affordances

Immersion

Presence

Sense of Community



SPOC Update



Sara Metcalf

University at Buffalo

SPOC Chair

Program Guidelines

- Version 6 revisions in progress (link to [draft](#))
 - Clarification of roles, session types
 - Clarification of conference record options
 - Added virtual format details

Thread Management

- Need for consolidation and balance
 - Considering possible revisions
 - Smaller set of threads with different focus areas
- Thread Review session held on June 29 with TCs, SIG reps

SPOC Debriefing:

Tuesday August 10, 9am Chicago time

SPOC Members:

Juergen, Ignacio, Camilo, Len, Nici

Questions?

Announcements

2021 Policy Council Meetings

Last Wednesday of Each Month (4 - 5:30pm New York, 9-10:30pm London, 7-8:30am Brisbane)

No meeting in July - register for the conference!

August 25, 2021 - DRAFT (bolded items are solid)

(4 - 5:30pm New York, 9-10:30pm London, 7-8:30am Brisbane)

- **0:15 VP Finance - Eliot Rich (2020 Financials Report) - report already submitted**
- **0:05 Investment Committee (New Policy/Risk/Plan Discussion) #1**
- **0:30 Harmonization of Chapters and SIGs - (Stefano)**
- **0:10 China Chapter Membership Proposal (Iris and Helen)**
- 0:30 Membership Discussion Followup (Asmeret)
- ??? VP Meetings - Conference Report (Len)

Adjournment