

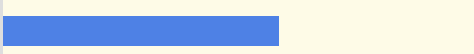


## 2015 Joint Strategic Initiatives Conference - Evaluation Summary





This document supplements the February 17, 2016 *ANR Update* message from the Strategic Initiatives Leaders about the 2015 Joint Strategic Initiative Conference key findings and leadership response.

### Respondents

**Response rate:** The conference survey link was provided in participant packets as well as emailed out to 353 people. We received 82 responses. The rate of response is 23.2%, without subtracting the organizers who intentionally did not respond.

**Summary of demographics:** Over half of the respondents are from Northern California. About a third of respondents are very new to ANR, a third has been with ANR for 3-15 years, and a third has been with ANR for more than 16 years.

Region		%
Northern California		58%
Central California		25%
Southern California		17%
Total		100%

Years with ANR		%
0-2 years		32%
3-6 years		19%
7-15 years		15%
16+ years		34%
Total		100%

## Overall Conference Satisfaction

The table below shows that a large majority of respondents were satisfied with the logistics of the conference. The top four items with the most positive ratings were the conference facilities and networking opportunities (both 99%) and conference geographic location and length (both 97%).

Question	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Conference geographic location	0%	3%	46%	51%
Conference facilities	0%	1%	45%	54%
Length of conference (Monday P.M. - Wednesday A.M.)	0%	3%	58%	39%
Registration process	1%	4%	32%	63%
Conference website content	0%	9%	45%	46%
Participant packet	1%	6%	49%	43%
Monday poster reception with strolling dinner	2%	5%	35%	58%
Tuesday stakeholder reception with posters and strolling dinner	0%	6%	35%	59%
Conference as a networking opportunity	0%	1%	18%	81%
Lightning round presentations	0%	10%	36%	54%

### Exploring the data: Satisfaction with geographic location by respondents' location

This cross-tab shows that there was not a lot of dissatisfaction by central and southern respondents that the conference was held in Northern California. However, this should be interpreted with caution as there were fewer respondents from central and southern California.

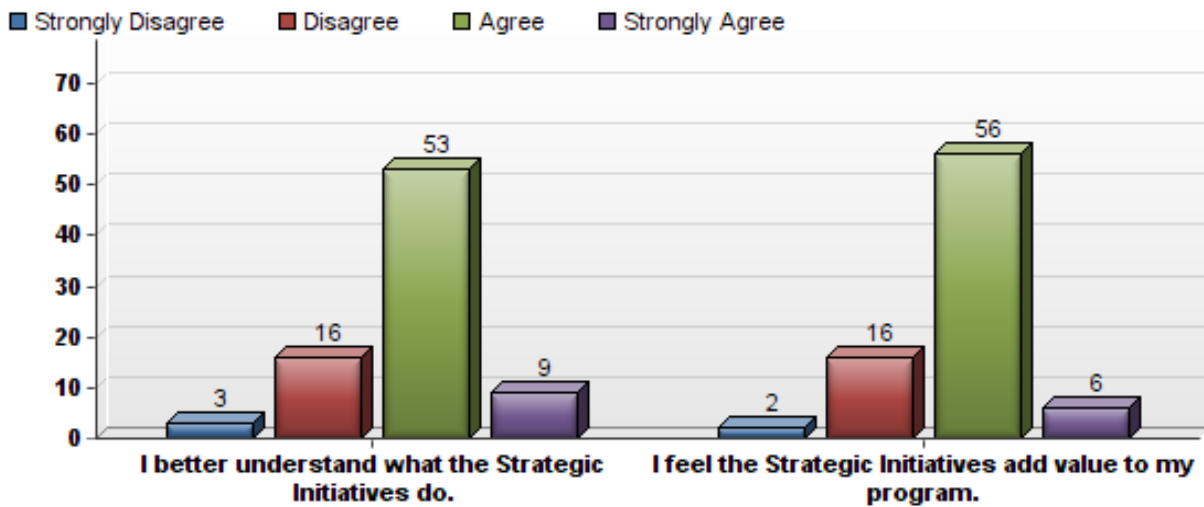
	Indicate your satisfaction with the following: - Conference geographic location				
	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Not Applicable
Northern California	0 0.00%	0 0.00%	20 48.78%	21 51.22%	0 0.00%
Central California	0 0.00%	1 5.56%	7 38.89%	10 55.56%	0 0.00%
Southern California	0 0.00%	1 8.33%	5 41.67%	6 50.00%	0 0.00%

## Strategic Initiative Roundtable Discussions

**Summary:** About 77% of respondents better understand what the Strategic Initiatives do and 78% feel they add value to their programs.

**To what extent do you agree with the following statements:**

Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I better understand what the Strategic Initiatives do.	3.70%	19.75%	65.43%	11.11%
I feel the Strategic Initiatives add value to my program.	2.50%	20.00%	70.00%	7.50%

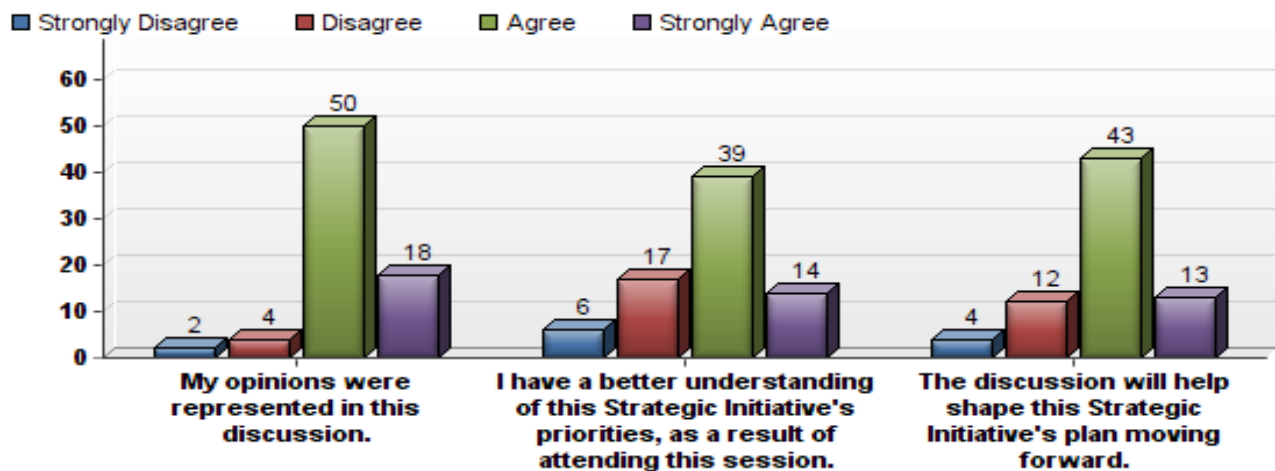


## Strategic Initiative Concurrent Sessions

**Summary:** Most respondents were from Healthy Families and Communities (23) and Sustainable Food Systems (20). Endemic and Invasive Pests and Diseases and Sustainable Natural Ecosystems each had 14 respondents and Water Quality, Quantity, and Security had six. The following chart and table indicate that 92% of respondents felt their opinions were represented; 70% have a better understanding of the SI’s priorities; and 78% feel the discussion will shape the SI’s future plans.

**To what extent do you agree with the following statements:**

Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
My opinions were represented in this discussion.	2.70%	5.41%	67.57%	24.32%
I have a better understanding of this Strategic Initiative's priorities, as a result of attending this session.	7.89%	22.37%	51.32%	18.42%
The discussion will help shape this Strategic Initiative's plan moving forward.	5.56%	16.67%	59.72%	18.06%



## Highlighted Research Projects

**Summary:** There were 15 presentations of selected ANR Competitive Grants Program funded projects to highlight the ANR Strategic Initiatives impact for California. Most respondents rated the presentations they attended positively in terms of having clear impact (67-100% positive), being interesting (78-100% positive), and learning something new (75-100% positive). There were mixed reviews about the project's relevance to the respondent's work (25-100% positive). *Nevertheless, even if presentations were not deemed relevant to respondents' work, they found them interesting and learned something new, which contributes to raising awareness of ANR's broad and diverse program areas.*

1A: Promises and Pitfalls: Adapting New Technology for Water Management, Subsurface Drip Irrigation in Alfalfa - Dan Putnam
1B: A Multi-Component, School-Based Approach to Supporting Regional Agriculture, Promoting Healthy Behaviors, and Reducing Childhood Obesity - Sheri Zidenberg-Cherr
1C: Ecosystem Services Interpretive Trails and Curriculum - Interpreting the Value of Working Landscapes to the Public and Policy Makers - Sheila Barry
1D: Creek Carbon: Sequestering Carbon with Watershed Restoration Conservation Practices - David Lewis
1E: Risk Assessment and Extension Education to Prevent and Control Pneumonia in Dairy Calves - Sharif Aly
2A: Thousand Cankers Disease and the Walnut Twig Beetle: A Rapidly Emerging Invasive Threat to Walnut in California - Richard Bostock & Steven Seybold
2B: Improving Irrigation and Nitrogen Management of Coastal Vegetable and Berry Crops - Michael Cahn
2C: Root-Knot Nematode Species Identification Using Mitochondrial DNA (2011-2013) - Valerie Williamson
2D: Informing Land-Use Planning with Interactive Soil Survey Apps - Toby O'Green
2E: Risk Assessment, Economic Analysis, and Extension Education for Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing Disease Management in California - Beth Grafton-Cardwell
3A: Resources for Outdoor Hog Production - Theresa Becchetti
3B: Wild Native Bees Attracted to Constructed Diverse Agro Ecosystems for Pollination Services - Gordon Frankie
3C: Helping Youth Thrive: A Randomized-Controlled Trial of a Community-Based Positive Youth Development Program - Kali Trzesniewski, Shannon Horrillo & Kendra Lewis
3D: New Winter Annual Oilseeds are Promising Alternative Crops for Food, Feed, and Biofuel in California - Stephen Kaffka
3E: Putting Youth on the Map: Youth Well-Being and Vulnerability in California - Jonathan London & Nancy Erbstein

## Policy Impact

**Summary:** Most responses were positive (73-85%) regarding understanding of the ANR grant program’s impacts on policy, learning something new, finding the presentation interesting, and having relevant information. However, it should be noted that 33% of respondents indicated that they did not have a better understanding of how research can translate into policy.

**To what extent do you agree with the following statements:**

Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I gained understanding of the ANR competitive grants program's impact on policy and decision-making.	0.00%	26.67%	61.67%	11.67%
I have a better understanding of how research can translate into policy.	3.33%	30.00%	48.33%	18.33%
This presentation was interesting to me.	1.67%	13.33%	70.00%	15.00%
I learned something new.	0.00%	16.39%	65.57%	18.03%
The information presented is relevant to my work.	1.67%	20.00%	58.33%	20.00%

