

Collaborating with Stranger Workshop for Grant Seekers - October 2, 2012

Survey Questions in General

The Collaborating with Stranger Workshop survey has 7 Questions including 5 Likert scale questions (i.e. Q1-Q5) and 2 qualitative questions (i.e. Q6-Q7). The surveys were completed by 36 participants in the Grant Seeking CoLAB.

Survey Questions (Q1-Q8)

(Question 1) Was the Collaborating with Stranger Workshop?

Most participants (75.0%) thought that this “collaborating with stranger workshop” was adequate (see TABLE 1). Meanwhile, 19.4 % participants thought this workshop was too short. Among all 43 available responses, only 2 participants thought this workshop was too long.

TABLE 1

Too long	Adequate	Too short
2 (5.6%)	27 (75.0%)	7 (19.4%)

(Question 2) My overall evaluation?

When participants were asked to evaluate this workshop (e.g. My overall evaluation?), half of the participants gave this workshop “Excellent” evaluation. Meanwhile, half of the participants graded this workshop “Good” as their overall evaluation. None of the participants rated the CoLAB as “Fair” or “Poor”. This question results was shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
18 (50.0%)	18 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

(Question 3) I would attend a workshop like this again?

When participants were asked about whether they would attend a workshop like this again, most of them said “yes” (91.7%), while only 3 participants (8.3%) answered “no” to this question. This question results are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Yes	No
33 (91.7%)	3 (8.3%)

(Question 4) I would recommend this collaboration process to other students/faculty.

Table 4 presents the results of question 4 (e.g. “I would recommend this collaboration process to other studenta/faculty.”).The results of this question indicated that this workshop had a very positive feedback, since 34 participants out of 36 chose “Yes”, and only 2 participants chose “No”.

TABLE 4

Yes	No
34 (94.4%)	2 (5.6%)

Questions 5.1-5.2 are 5-scale Likert scale questions to evaluate participants’ self-evaluation outcomes after workshop. Options ranged from “Strongly Agree” to “Strongly Disagree”. The results of these 2-question series are shown as below.

(Question 5.1) CoLAB workshop results:

I feel more confident in my ability to approach people I don’t know.

Table 5 presents the results of question 5.1. Among all 36 participants, 33.3% participants (i.e., 12 participants) selected “Strongly Agree” option, and 44.4% participants (i.e. 16 participants) chose “Agree” option. Overall, 77.7% participants indicated a positive feedback on this question (i.e. 28 out of 36). The remaining responses were “Neutral” with nobody disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

TABLE 5

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
12 (33.3%)	16 (44.4%)	8 (22.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

(Question 5.2) CoLAB workshop results:***I am more comfortable with people in other disciplines.***

Table 6 presents the results of question 5.2. For the 36 participants, the response mirrored the responses to Question 5.1. That is, 33.3% strongly agreed, 44.4% agreed and 22.2% were neutral.

TABLE 6

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
12 (33.3%)	16 (44.4%)	8 (22.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

Open-Ended Responses

The responses to questions 6 and 7 below show that the CoLAB facilitation process did help most of the participants access new resources. The primary resource was connecting with other people in different disciplines. In addition, the most useful part of the workshop was moving people out of their comfort zone to talk to strangers and the consequent benefits of meeting potential collaborators.

(Question 6) Did the CoLAB facilitation process help you access new resources? If so, describe.

- Yes, I met with an economist who is interested in school funding, which is also one of my interests within teacher education.
- It definitely have help me to understand the enthusiasm of people what they are working on and how I have to explain myself as to why I am important in the discussion session. I have not gone through the whole website but I believe that would help me to find.
- It helped me to meet potential people who knew about different resources that would help me garner internships post-graduation.
- I got to meet new people from different disciplines backgrounds, who gave me new creative ideas that I might not have thought of on my own. It helped me get a different view of my research area which I might have never got working just with people from the same disciplines.
- In a certain way it did. Now I am aware of other sources of funding. But still did not apply for any of them. In terms of resources available at UF, the talks are so short that

you do not have the opportunity to ask the other person about the specific methods or materials that he/she have available in his/her units.

- Not this time. But I was able to recommend some new connections to other participants.
- Yes, it did. I found some people who I could possibly collaborate in research.
- Yes; I learned about other possible areas of interest. I might have and other majors, classes that would appeal to me.
- Yes, it helped me meet people that are different from me and that normally I wouldn't have the opportunity to socialize with.
- Yes, it was a good tool to talk to new people, who can be great resources. Also, one person told me about a class that sounds very interesting.
- It did. It gave me the opportunity to meet people who share my interests, and this may be helpful for networking and studying together.
- Yes! I met someone in the economics of housing area and we discussed the connection of housing education.
- Yes(met people interested in travel and resources for travel)
- Yes. I got lots of new ideas. A path which I might have been unaware of
- Not yet, but I think it will
- Not clear by now, but made me aware of some
- Yes, I found people with information and skills which I can utilize
- Yes, people
- Yes, new idea of my paper I am working on. Program I may apply for
- Yes, I met one person(faculty) with a student doing research I'm interested in
- Yes, I found some interesting people for future collaborations
- Yes, one of the participants known some one working in the same technology I am doing.
- Yes, somewhat the program is very helpful. Time limitation would be a difficult issues.
- Not yet sure
- Somewhat
- Yes
- Because we met many people
- Not sure yet. We will see
- Yes, I have a new collaborator

(Question 7) What was the most useful part of the workshop?

- Meeting others
- The charts
- Meeting people
- Idea table
- The talk with others
- I like the "meet strangers" session, but I think it's a bit long
- Increase confidence
- Meeting people
- Meeting people that can help with my career path

- Thinking about types of collaborators and being open to new ideas
- A 3-minute talk
- Meet more people
- Getting new ideas from hearing about other people's research/interests
- More information, more connections(even one) and exposure to new resources. Also always enriching to meet strangers
- Talk with people
- The people part
- You forced people to move out of their comfort zones. That was helpful, the other side was good!
- I am very shy and have trouble talking to strangers. This was an excellent exercise.
- Meeting people, the structure
- Talking to so many people with so many ideas
- Meeting people
- The debrief afterwards
- The posterboard questions combined with the individual discussions.
- That you find what you are good at. Explore everything of your opponenet in 5 min and let him also know how things you do are so important.
- The most useful part of the workshop was getting to meet people and especially being referenced by strangers to other collaborators who were more in line with what I was interested in.
- The part where we talk to other people exactly for 3 minutes is very useful as it provides adequate time yet not too long to read the profile and start a conversation. Having a conversation with 12-13 strangers in an hour has increased my confidence in approaching new people.
- AsI am a shy person, the exercise of talking with people was itself a great experience. Unfortunately, most of the attendants were grad students and I could not make the kind of connections I was looking for. In my opinion, you should do some of these events a bit more targeted for example CoLAB:internships, CoLAB:Meet other postdocs, CoLAB:Faculty sciences meet Faculty Humanities.
- The short conversations. Good format—couldn't have worked without the structure and discipline provided by the organizers.
- The design of the workshop that facilitated opportunities to interact with stranger without being too intrusive; Shared contact information.
- It was useful to be forced to talk to people I might not talk to otherwise. We often learn most from people who are outside of our "norms."
- Getting to know people in my research class.
- Gaining knowledge of other people, places, cultures. Makes it easier to speak with a total stranger.
- The most useful part was meeting everyone in the class which would have taken much longer without the workshop.