

Collaborating with Stranger Workshop - October 26, 2011

Survey Questions in General

The Collaborating with Stranger Workshop survey has 8 Questions including 5 Likert scale questions (i.e. Q1-Q5) and 3 qualitative questions (i.e. Q6-Q8). Besides survey questions, this survey provides 8 demographic questions to investigate participants' background information.

Participant Background

48 participants were recorded to answer this survey. Participants #38, #39, #40, # 45, #46 were not available. Therefore, in practice, 43 participants answered this survey. Among all 43 participants, 29 graduate students, 10 professors, 3 undergraduate students and 5 others were included (see TABLE 1).

TABLE 1
Are You a:

Faculty	Graduate Student	Undergraduate	Other
10 (23.26%)	29 (67.44%)	3 (6.98%)	1 (2.33%)

Among all 43 participants, 20 participants come from US domestic areas, the other 23 participants come from foreign areas including 9 from Far East (e.g., 7, China; 1, Taiwan; 1, Japan; 1, Korea), 6 from India, 3 from south America (e.g. EL Salvador, Guatemala, and Colombia), 2 from mid-east (e.g., 1, Iran; 1, Saudi Arabia), and 1 from Canada.

Participants' research areas are widely spread out including: Mechanical Engineer, Agriculture & Biological Engineering, Public Relations, Journalism, Chemistry, Fine Arts, Special education, Entrepreneurship, English, Industrial& system engineering, Sociology & Humanities, African studies/development, Occupational therapy, Physics, Geography, Library, Animal sciences, Electrical Engineering, Computer engineering, Sport Management, Theatre/classics, Transportation Engineering, Pharmaceutic and pharmaceuthery, Art & Antoropology, Smart/Green buildings, and Information systems & operations management.

Survey Questions (Q1-Q8)

(Question 1) Was the Collaborating with Stranger Workshop?

Most participants (76.74%) thought that this “collaborating with stranger workshop” was adequate (see TABLE 2). Meanwhile, 20.93 % participants thought this workshop was too short. Among all 43 available responses, only 1 participant thought this workshop was too long.

TABLE 2

Too long	Adequate	Too short
1 (2.33%)	33 (76.74%)	9 (20.93%)

(Question 2) My overall evaluation?

When participants were asked to evaluate this workshop (e.g. My overall evaluation?), 30.23 % participants gave this workshop “excellent” evaluation. Meanwhile, 60.47% participants graded this workshop “Good” as their overall evaluation. Only 6.98% (e.g. 3) participants thought this workshop was at “fair” level. None of the participants believed this workshop was poor. This question results was shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
13 (30.23%)	26 (60.47%)	3 (6.98%)	0 (0.00%)

(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” (90.7%) , while only 3 participants (6.98%) answered “no” to this question. This question results are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Yes	No
39 90.7%	3 6.98%

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

Table 5 presents the results of question 4 (e.g. “I would recommend this collaboration process to other student/faculty.”). The results of this question indicated that this workshop had a very positive feedback, since 39 participants out of 43 chose “Yes”, and only 2 participants chose “No”, with 1 “no response”.

TABLE 5

Yes	No	No response
39 90.70%	2 4.65%	1 2.33%

Questions 5.1-5.3 are 3 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 3-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 6 presents the results of question 5.1. Among all 43 available responses, 25.58% participants (i.e., 11 participants) selected “Strongly Agree” option, and 51.16% participants (i.e. 22 participants) chose “Agree” option. Overall, 76.74% participants indicated a positive feedback on this question (i.e. 33 out of 43). Besides, 33 positive responses, this question received only 1 “Disagree” response, with the other 9 “Neutral” responses. No “Strongly Disagree” response was received from the workshop participants.

TABLE 6

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
11 (25.58%)	22 (51.16%)	9 (20.93%)	1 (2.33%)	0 (0.00%)

(Question 5.2) CoLAB workshop results:

I am more comfortable with people in other disciplines.

Table 7 presents the results of question 5.2. Among all 43 available responses, 27.91% participants (i.e., 12 participants) selected “Strongly Agree” option, and 34.88% participants (i.e. 15 participants) chose “Agree” option. Overall, 62.79% participants indicated a positive

feedback on this question (i.e. 27 out of 43). Besides, 27 positive responses, this question received only 2 “Disagree” response, with the other 14 “Neutral” responses. No “Strongly Disagree” response was received from the workshop participants.

TABLE 7

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
12 (27.91%)	15 (34.88%)	14 (32.56%)	2 (4.65%)	0 (0.00%)

(Question 5.3) CoLAB workshop results:

I intend to apply for micro grant with a collaborator I met today.

Table 8 presents the results of question 5.3. Among all 43 available responses, 6.98% participants (i.e., 3 participants) selected “Strongly Agree” option, and 23.26% participants (i.e. 10 participants) chose “Agree” option. Overall, 30.23% participants indicated a positive feedback on this question (i.e. 13 out of 43). Besides, 13 positive responses, this question received only 6 “Disagree” response (13.95%), with the other 18 “Neutral” responses (i.e., 41.86%). The “Strongly Disagree” option also received 6 responses (i.e. 13.95%) from the workshop participants. The possible reason of this result might be most of the participants are either undergraduate students or newly enrolled graduate students.

TABLE 7

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
3 (6.98%)	10 (23.26%)	18 (41.86%)	6 (13.95%)	6 (13.95%)

Open-Ended Responses

(Question 6) Why did you choose to participate in this workshop?

Answers:

1. Looking for possible collaboration
2. I wanted to meet people who have other backgrounds.
3. I am looking for opportunities to broaden my network & work outside of my department
4. Sounded interesting
5. I like to meet new people
6. It's something I would never do, but I think it's an excellent idea.
7. Interesting idea
8. I'm new in US. So this is a good way to build networks and meet other students, hear new ideas.
9. I want to meet people who have passion.
10. To practice networking and find out what people in other disciplines are doing.
11. I am beginning my dissertation research and would like to apply for grant to support future work. I'm looking for collaborations.
12. I like to make friends with different people with diverse backgrounds.
13. I'm taking my comp exams this semester. I wanted to talk to different people about my project.
14. meet interested people
15. Interacting with people in different areas
16. I wanted to see the CoLAB process in action. I also wanted to meet people from different fields. Because UF is such a big place!
17. networking
18. To meet other faculty members of UF
19. Just moved here and haven't really been meeting anyone
20. I was curious about how this might work, interested in possible collaborations
21. Practice my English, gain ability to approach people I don't know.
22. I wanted to meet others doing interdisciplinary Research
23. Curiosity. I wanted to meet people from other disciplines
24. to meet other people and know about research at UF
25. I think it's a good chance to learn how to communicate with a stranger. By the way, it's also a good chance for my English practice.
26. meet new people
27. because I wanted some ideas on topics that I am not knowledgeable in , that might help me with my research.
28. To practice my oral English, and meet more people from different disciplines.
29. meet more people, get what they think
30. meet different people, be more outgoing, improve my communication skills
31. To meet new people I may see somewhere along the future.

32. to know new people
33. I want to meet different people here. I want to know their different interests.
34. needed people from different area of expertise for an idea I have
35. professional networking
36. To meet people outside my concentration area and school.
37. To see if I find a random good collaborator outside of my area
38. I wanted to help and participate in inter-department/class mining + idea generation
39. I like the idea and motive behind the workshop
40. To meet more people from different departments different perspectives
41. I want to talk with others and be confident. I also want to practice my English
42. I was asked to help out. I really enjoyed participating.
43. N/A

(Question 7) Did the CoLAB facilitation process help you access new resources? If so, describe.

Answers:

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. Yes. I met other people with similar interests approaching the same problem in different ways
4. N/A
5. Yes I met a group of people who have different background.
6. Yes. What I got out of this wonderful experience was just learning about other fields of study I didn't even know existed.
7. No. too diverse. I would suggest separating them into different themes-interaction, woman health, cultural studies, etc. So, people can pick a session when they will be more likely to attend.
8. Yes, association that I doesn't know
9. Yes. I found people who are interested in each other.
10. N/A
11. I met several people with similar interests and different backgrounds that might be willing to work with me in the future.
12. Yes. Some mechanics students are very interested in business, which I am major in
13. No much, but someone did tell me about possible funding opportunity
14. Not yet. We'll see.
15. Yes.
16. In a way. I met lots of folks from engineering and I got a bit of an inside perspective on this very different college. Is that a resource? It is for my own understanding of UF.
17. N/A
18. Not really-as faculty-many students are not ready for grant..

19. Yes, I learned about a prof. who I may be able to work with
20. Yes. I met two people I will contact for further information about their work or theoretical sources.
21. no
22. Yes. I learned about IGEM
23. Names of an artist who can be ink-graved into the "science". I am interested in.
24. to present myself better, think about different aspects of my works
25. Yes. I got several new friends.
26. yes
27. Unfortunately no. I would suggest to try next time to be able to select the people on areas you need
28. Yes. I meet people from different disciplines, and some of them provide me with useful information in my area, such as useful website and related people they know.
29. People are the best resources
30. No
31. Yes. New areas of interest were explained
32. I realized that I have to focus on the other persons with specific topic to know them.
33. N/A
34. Yes. I talked to a varied group & explaining them my idea gave me new perspective about my own works.
35. Meet people with similar interests-sharing resources
36. Meeting people
37. N/A
38. Yes. I met a lot of people who have good ideas. They want to get their word out, but have few communication/journalism skills.
39. N/A
40. N/A
41. Yes. I learned from others about their major, and I feel not so nervous when I talk to a professor
42. No. I don't think there was enough time for that.
43. N/A

(Question 8) What was the most useful part of the workshop?

Answer:

1. Met new people & research area
2. I met people with similar interests. I met people with different cultural backgrounds.
3. The bios are short. It introduces you to their field quickly. You are able to ask more specific questions starting out.
4. Facilitation of it.
5. Talk to distinct people
6. Getting out of my comfort zone and interacting with others. Students were a bit more nervous talking to faculty, I noticed. Or so I was told.

7. Interesting to meet lots of students.
8. To explain my motivation and my field of study.
9. Talking to people.
10. Developing a concise introduction of self and developing questions to ask others on the fly.
11. meeting members of the campus community
12. Come to a stranger, talk with them.
13. I have a suggestion how to improve: have these speed meetings organized by disciplines/colleges/ chemistry and foreign languages don't have much in common.
14. talking to people you know are interested in making connections
15. knowing people
16. Speeding time talking to students. It speeds too much time of other faculty.
17. Yes. I made contacts people who are from particular places I am interested in and who possess skills that will be useful for future projects. Journalism, video tutorials, Columbia & Iran
18. Learning about research interests across UF
19. Coming in contact with people that I wouldn't normally have the opportunity to meet.
20. Having a few minutes to think about research/work other than mine! Exposure to other colleges.
21. meet many people
22. Meeting other scientists and people who have different backgrounds.
23. Relaxing activity with potential benefits
24. The best part was talking with somebody from a different discipline.
25. I can meet many people and make friends with them.
26. N/A
27. I had fun.
28. To make me feel comfortable and confident when meet strangers.
29. know different people in different area, get different idea
30. Talk to strangers to improve communication skills
31. I have always been a performer so theatre is a passion I have been involved in since I can remember. With classics I found a profound connection to it my senior year of high school. I love the history of mythology with various origins pertaining to the location.
32. To express myself frankly.
33. Breaking the ICE of meeting new people phobia
34. variety of research groups people
35. meet people with overlapping methods
36. meeting different people
37. N/A
38. Getting to know the people I see walking around campus at all given time.
39. discussion, get together, information session
40. The interaction with the people. Even though it only lasted 3 mins!
41. Talk to each other in 3 minutes. I need to think fast and say fast.

42. It was great meeting people from various parts of UF.
43. N/A

Appendix:

Besides 8 survey questions, this survey provides 4 open-ended questions to investigate participants' background information (within 8 demographic questions). All the supplementary question results are shown as below.

Q1: What is your area of study or research interest and why are you passionate about this work?

Answer:

1. My research interest is in application of decision analysis to manufacturing. The research has practical applications and the potential to make a positive contribution.
2. My research interest is to explore efficient ways to generate & use energy. I am passionate about energy because it is the driving force of nearly every activity in the world.
3. Energy saving measures in low income homes. Residential energy use is a large portion of energy use in the US. There are more existing homes than now. So upgrades to existing homes for energy saving are necessary.
4. Hydraulics, because it's water modeling. Mathematics, because it's the language of science and engineering.
5. corporate social responsibility, public expect corporations to perform reasonable & PR are good of build organization image & reputation
6. I study the news habits & non-news habits of young adults (18-29)
7. Analytical chemistry/ provides an opportunity to have a major impact in many areas (health, environment, etc.)
8. Tourism economics. It's a complex industry that involved a lot of sectors, help and could help to the people and the economy of my country
9. Synthetic biology. I want to answer "what is life?"
10. Fine Arts/Photography. I like to share what I see in the world, to be used as critique and catalyst for change and inspection.
11. Higher Education opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Equal access and continuing education is important in order to improve outcomes for adults.
12. I am pursuing MSE program in business school. I really want to have my own business in a long run.
13. I am studying the role of class in literature. Specifically, I am looking at working class portrayals in African American and anglophone Caribbean women's contemporary novels. I want to know how literary artists are joining in on the changing class statuses that are taking place during this time of modern globalizations.
14. Connecting faculty & students to art
15. I used to focus on mathematical modeling and find optimal solution. However, now I focus on interest programing. To provide different service through website or phone

device. Someone told me that I have talent on programming and I really enjoy it.
16. How can we harness digital/media technology to further critical discussion and learning? Universities-what is our mission? Why?
17. reading the cards
18. Gerontology
19. Control theory and robotics/enjoy being hands on and fixing problem with creative solutions. Enjoy math and science and its application to real life.
20. How special education teachers understand, explain and enact their roles. Interest in school/ed. Reform. Years of teaching in public schools and being buffeted by change
21. Fluid mechanics. I want to pursue a career in new energy resources.
22. Biophysics is the area of study I am most interested in. Biology is exceptionally interesting and mysterious and complex. Physics is mathematically intensive and concrete.
23. Relationship between people and its environment, conservation and development ,fire management, environmental institutions
24. Get involved with other research at UF. I am a grad student. I do mechanical modeling, especially in small scale. I like math
25. Photoacoustic imaging
26. N/A
27. I am currently studying the relationship between calcium, Immune function and uterine disease in dairy cows.
28. Electrical engineering-signal and system design. I am interested in programming and speech & image processing. And I enjoy solving problems with programming tools.
29. My research interest is handling the algorithm that applied on the real system to speed-up the computation. I am passionate about it because you can see how your research helps scientific computation in many areas.
30. My major is sport management. I'm intersted in sport or entertainment events operation. As well as sports marketing. I love sports because it's fun and everytime when the event I helped with is successfully held. I feel rewarding!
31. I have strong communication skills and I think I am a natural born leader. I like to write and read a lot as well. On another note, I have mastered skills necessary to become a dancer and learning the skills to become an actress.
32. I am studying transportation engineering which deals with transportation-related services by focusing on congestion relief road safety, development of bus system, etc. I've been working for a highway company in Korea for about 10 years, so I want to use the knowledge in my work.
33. My research interest is in drug-herb interaction and I feel it is so important due to many reasons. First, the use of herbal supplement for medical purposes increases every year around the globe. Second, herbal supplement considered a dietary product. therefore, they don't screen for their interaction which raise the point that supplement might have significant interaction.
34. My area of interest is embedded systems. I have around 3 years of experience in relevant industry I believe embedded system principles can be applied to various new areas not explored so far. I can very much interested in that and keep looking for out of box approaches & theoretical models.

35. information behavior psychology culture
36. Bio & Cultural anthropology. I like to know why humans look how they do. Do things they do, etc.
37. system modeling, central dynamical systems
38. Old media, new media, and how to intertwine the two. Innovative archives. Photojournalism/experimental film. There are endless experiments & no "right" answer.
39. My area of research is carbon nano-electronics. I love it.
40. Energy harvesting: super capacitors & solar cells
41. I don't know why I love to study something about business. I am sensitive to numbers. I feel there are a lot of things I don't know
42. I am interested in how students learn from library instruction, especially online video tutorials.
43. Information literacy. Games-based learning, 21st century skills

Q2: What are your strongest skill (Narrative or list)?

Answer:

1. Analytical and numerical abilities/ experimentation
2. I have spent 3 years in energy industry, hence have some knowledge regarding different generation systems of thermal power
3. writing efficiency, Public speaking
4. Problem solving-analysis
5. Communicate with different kinds of people/ strategic planning for online public relations/social media enthusiasm.
6. Survey research/ experimental research/ writing
7. Vision, mentoring
8. Good with numbers, experience with develop projects, leader skills
9. Tenacious vitality
10. Organization, curiosity, problem solving
11. Networking, organization, collaborating
12. Singing folk song (I have learned Chinese folk song for 11 years) communication, cooking
13. I am a strong writer and teacher. I am also tenacious and I encourage others to pursue their goals as well.
14. Verbal & written communication skills(not spelling). Creative problem solving
15. Programming
16. Writing, qualitative research. Baking chocolate
17. Governance & development in Africa
18. Team player/task-oriented, determined. critical thinking
19. creative, funny, hardworking
20. Listening for meaning/collaborating
21. I can learn a sport very fast
22. data analysis, math

23. time management/organizational goal oriented/ self-motivated, languages
24. solid mechanics & Dynamic behavior modeling , programming, mathematic interested in bio& smart material
25. Self-learning, especially sport. Thinking quickly
26. N/A
27. bovine reproduction, epidemiology, uterine health, artificial insemination/embryo transfer, reproductive physiology
28. Programming and debugging, drawing and handwriting (Chinese style). Singing, reading, and I love cartoons.
29. Look deep into the problem, logical analysis, Pay attention to details. Don't easily get angry to the others.
30. teamwork, organization, time management, office, SPSS, tennis
31. university of Florida performing arts national society of collegiate scholars
32. I am a 100% positive person- pursue changes. Enjoy working steadily
33. Teaching, reading, lead student organization and voluntary organization, interviewing people. Lead a discussion
34. Programming, digital & analog design system development, computer hardware
35. Logical thinking/reasoning/clear communication
36. being passionate about what I do
37. Figure out the problem from a bunch of extraneous details
38. Creativity-making something at/of anything. Communication. Being nit-picky/trending to details. Developing ideas
39. Strong orator
40. I can easily get along with people. Team player, public speaking
41. I read fast. I am curious about lots of things and have passion.
42. Writing (formal and professional) customer service, creative arts, making video tutorials
43. project planning, creativity, organization

Q3: What groups or networks are you involved in or support (narrative or list)?

Answer:

1. American society of mechanical engineers society of manufacturing engineers
2. ASME CODE. Youth hostel
3. Program for Resource efficient communities IFAS Extension offices
4. American Society of Agriculture & Bioengineers American society of civil engineers SIGMA, XI, American Indian society for engineering and science
5. International Chinese students/ Under 30 PR professional
6. Online news association/ association of Educations & Journalism & Mass communications
7. Chemistry/CLAS/UF faculty senate/ board of governors
8. Environment protection/ animal rights, belly gator, dance activities, Fulbright
9. Young Biochemistry Researchers' society (Japan), IGEM (international Genetically

Engineered Machine competition) @ MIT, Boston
10. FACC, University Gallery
11. SESPECS/CEC/AERA
12. a language teaching association at UF, MSE group
13. black grad student organization/ English grad organization MELUS
14. Faculty & Student across campus/ fine arts, engineering, nursing.
15. ISE
16. Humanities center, qualitative research community, data management, civic engagement
17. Communication. Networking, critical thinking, problem solving, passion and hard work
18. Aoto 21,International society of generatechnology
19. the Tundra/SPCA/SMIS
20. Qualitative support group. CEC
21. MAE
22. N/A
23. Typical TCD, SAFE-Student association of fire ecology
24. grad student in MAE
25. the schoolmates network
26. I-CUBE/ ETHICS
27. American Dairy science association, American college of therioegeology/animal science Qradurate student association
28. Facebook, twitter
29. Facebook/ Linkedlin China
30. Gainesville sports commission car sports associates
31. Most people do not know how badly I want to learn how to hunt and succeed in living outdoors to fend for myself.
32. international road federation fellow
33. Association of Saudi Arabian student at UF (ASAS), JJ Finley Elementary school activity, The American society of clinic
34. N/A
35. library west, Political science department
36. bridges across Borders, Art &science club
37. none
38. Libraries! FLEX film festival. National press photographer's association. Maine organic farmers and gardener's association.
39. IEEE
40. World wildlife fund/PETA/Greenpeace
41. N/A
42. American library association (instruction section). Association of college & research libraries. Florida library association. Weekly drawing groups community theatre
43. Library, honors program, educational technology. VIVO(NIH)gaming against plagiarism(NSF GAP)creative campus, UF faculty senate

Q4: What's one thing that most people don't know about you?

Answer:

1. I am very superstitious.
2. I am initially shy when working in teams. But will pick up later.
3. I started college in the Theater Arts department
4. Nationality
5. I play basketball very well.
6. I design websites, I am a former graphic designer. I teach multimedia journalism. I was born in Gainesville
7. N/A
8. belonged to the national synchronized swimming of EL Salvador (8 years).
9.
10. naturally shy
11. My first adult work experience was as an industrial electrician apprentice in a steel mill.
12. I love cooking
13. most people don't know my age
14. I would rather be playing basketball.
15. I got my bachelor degree in business.
16. closeted Glee Fau
17. center for African studies, African studies quarterly master's in development practices
18. I was a good badminton players.
19. I spent last year teaching 6th grade at a small school on the Navajo Reservation and how much I miss it.
20. I've worked with populations of students/persons with disabilities from birth through adulthood.
21. I can be a talker when I was with my best friends or I was in some topic I am really interested.
22. I love photography and I have 4 children
23. I sing to my food.
24. so patient!
25. N/A
26. N/A
27. I love dance.
28. Most people think I am a quiet, great student. But I am not really quiet, and I like to hang out with my friends. I would sing out loud when I am all alone. And I am not very confident as people think.
29. I easily get nervous especially when narrating something, It is hard for me to clearly describe something like a story or a process, etc.
30. I'm addicted in watching the Ellen show!
31. N/A

32. diversity
33. I have an interest in journalism and communication.
34. I am constantly looking for embedded application in automative domain to build a model for a system in the same area
35. I have a wide range of interests-only a few are expressed in any one setting.
36. very open but also reserved
37. full of self-doubt behind a confident exterior
38. I'm organized, I swear!
39. My self-confidence
40. I would love to be a wildlife/fashion photographer!
41. I like numbers. I like to think a lot of things that wouldn't happy fantasy
42. I enjoy life drawing.
43. I have a girl scout brownie troop.