

**Heartland Regional Genetics and Newborn Screening Collaborative
Fourth Annual Meeting
September 5-7, 2007
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Conference Evaluation

TOPIC	1	2	3	4	5
	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I. Pre-Conference Communications					
1. Travel and lodging arrangements were made without difficulty.	29	5	6	1	
2. Pre-conference e-mail and listserv communications were clear.	23	14	4		
3. Website information about conference was helpful.	27	11	3		
4. Registration instructions were clear.	24	12	4	1	
II. Conference Agenda					
1. There was sufficient time for networking during the meeting.	19	20	1	1	
2. There was time to address specific regional issues of concern.	9	29	3		
3. Topics chosen for discussion were relevant for the future of Genetics and NBS in the Heartland states.	21	20			
4. Information regarding the national agenda (from Shuger and Watson) was clearly presented.	13	22	5		
5. Sufficient time was allowed for work group meetings.	12	22	3	4	
6. Presentations to the related work groups were a better use of participants' time than presenting to the entire audience in a plenary session format.	16	15	5	5	
7. I learned something from a speaker or colleague that I intend to try in my state or practice.	17	17	7		
III. Conference Location, Accommodations and Frequency of Meetings					
1. The conference should continue to "move" around the region (versus selecting a central site like St. Louis or Kansas City).	21	14	4	1	1
2. The conference should continue to be held every year (versus every other year).	21	11	7	2	
3. Work groups should meet in person at least one other time during the year.	12	13	12	3	1
4. Skirvin Hilton accommodations met my needs.	29	6	6		
5. Vendor booths contributed to the overall resources at the conference and are worth having at a future meeting.	15	15	9	2	
6. The conference book in the 3-ring binder format is better than a spiral bound conference book.	18	13	1	9	
7. Staff at the Heartland Registration table were friendly, efficient, and helpful.	34	6	1		
8. Receiving the literature review by CD is more useful than printed in the conference book.	12	12	11	6	

Other Comments:

Speakers should really try to prepare their things for the allotted time. Also, several speakers tried to cover too much and should try to identify key points.

Could we have a speaker talk about LSD screening possibilities and to educate everyone about LSD and PSD disorders?

Well organized. Staff did awesome job! Congratulations on the great success!

Keep the pilot projects.

Work group should meet in person once a year.

The dinner was wonderful, thank you to the sponsors!

Thank you to the Heartland Staff for all your hard work!

Too many speakers first morning. Ten speakers in 4 hours is unrealistic and made a time crunch.

IBEM IS lecture not helpful, I hate someone going over forums during presentation.

Also, genetics and medical home was not helpful. That model is theoretical and has never been proven to work.

Poor time management throughout with speakers. More time to network, less being talked at and more talked with.

Ask presenters to avoid dark text on dark backgrounds in slides.

I think presenters should be presented in plenary sessions. Work groups could focus on discussion/planning.

Heartland RCC needs 1.0 FTE dedicated to the Quality Improvement initiative – Report card to really be able to move this along and or contract with a consultant such as Ann to move project along.

Loved the facility! Great rooms, food & service (temperature ultimately improved).

Excellent Conference!

A lot of committee info was provided last minute including speaker info.

Extremely well-organized; staff very available to participants, flexibility in meeting the specific needs of participants “on the fly.” Conversely, Need to respect the need for breaks-several breaks were shortened due to speakers running over-the length of breaks should be preserved regardless.

Needed HRSA’s handouts because you couldn’t read her info.

Linda Wilson, Brad Schaefer, Amy Brower all very good speakers.

Fantastic hotel and nice to have things to do so close by. Great accommodations!

I really enjoyed the staff updates-the best part! Better conference the last year. A parent panel would be a good idea-just a suggestion for upcoming conference. Thank you for handling the direct billing of the hotel and airfare and all the meals-made up for some problems with email communication reservations.

I enjoyed the broad range of topics and the different perspectives brought by the speakers with different training/areas of expertise. However, many of the speakers did not adhere to their allotted time limit, which pushed the session to go long, (especially in the plenary sessions). This is unfair to the later speakers, as the attention tends to diminish as sessions go on or lunch time approaches.

Meeting emphasized: Lay advocacy, State labs, and Publish, Publish, Publish! What about the rest of us?

Topics chosen for discussion were mostly relevant to the NBS, not as much focus on other genetics.

Consider hosting conference in Little Rock, AR. State updates were very informative. Meeting face to face was very helpful in setting goals and clarifying the direction we are moving.

More time for “working” is needed.

Should have promoted/announced what info was at tables.

Great event at museum.

Rooms for breakout sessions too small.

Nice hotel.

No info about current grant-funded projects.

Great location!

Tan Tarra, MO or AR would be nice to host. Not St. Louis-Yuck!

The conference should be held every other year.

Great place!

Prefer spiral to 3-ring binder.

Doesn't matter, but spiral bound is easier to pack-always use most cost effective.

Conference should be held every 18 months.

Never enough time to address specific regional issues of concern.

Not enough time was allowed for work group meetings.

Conference should be held in North Dakota.

Hotel accommodations were excellent.

3-ring binder format was excellent.

Literature review by CD is equally useful as the printed copy.