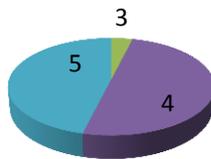


PebbleBash Evaluation Summary

From a total of 52 people who attended PebbleBash between 14-16 April 2014, 32 evaluations were completed at the end of the last day. Across the board delegates were extremely positive about the whole PebbleBash experience and all elements had a majority of responses of the highest rating.

Pre-conference Workshops

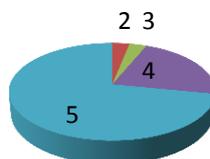
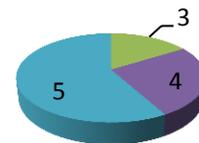


- 29 of the respondents attended one of the pre-conference workshops.
- On a Poor (1) to Excellent (5) scale, 96% scored the workshop as a 4 or a 5.
- Participants particularly appreciated the opportunity for sharing and discussing ideas and examples of practice.

PebbleBash Programme

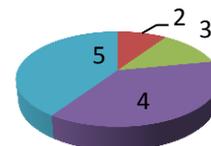
The following were rated on a Strongly Disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (5) scale:

- 84% agreed (4 or 5) that the keynote presentations were interesting and relevant

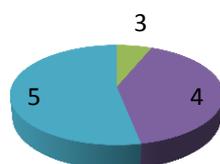


- 94% agreed that the focus on case studies was a useful approach

- 78% agreed that the format of the parallel sessions worked well



- The most common comment was that while parallel sessions are a good idea in theory and are required in terms of fitting everything into the programme, it was very frustrating and difficult to have to choose, knowing that many sessions would be missed.
- A number of respondents also suggested that some more time within and between sessions for questions and informal discussion would have been useful.



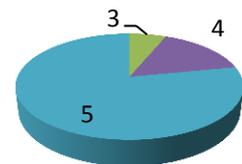
- 94% agreed that the programme was well balanced in terms of the mix of presentations, activities and opportunities for discussion and networking

- When asked what there was too much of the vast majority said nothing. A few people commented that there was generally too much of everything.
- When asked what there was too little of, the most common response was around time for reflection and informal sharing and discussion.

Our response: Developing a balanced programme is always one of the biggest challenges in putting together a conference. There is a tension between having too much to choose from on the one hand, and not enough variety on the other (even in the context of this packed programme a small number of delegates commented that there was too much repetition). On a practical level, with the current financial constraints in education many people are unable to gain funding to attend a conference if they are not presenting. Reducing the number of sessions is likely to have had a significant impact on the numbers attending and, as a consequence, the opportunities for learning and networking for all. We do agree, however, that there was too little time for informal networking and just enjoying the delightful surroundings we were in. We will definitely build in some time for this in future PebbleBash programmes.

Other Stuff

- The venue got a definite thumbs-up from delegates with 78% giving it an Excellent (5). Many of the general comments also complimented the choice of venue.
- Both the delegate packs and the case study books were highly valued with about 95% scoring them as a 4 or 5 on a scale of Poor (1) to Excellent (5).



Overall

- 97% of delegates said they would attend a future PebbleBash and 94% said they would recommend PebbleBash to colleagues.
- Things respondents would like to see included in the next PebbleBash:
 - More formal/research papers
 - Pecha-Kucha sessions
 - Hands-on/interactive workshops
- A small number of delegates commented that PebbleBash was very expensive

Our response: To a large extent the types of papers/sessions in the program is determined by the submissions received. For this conference we provided a range of options for submission types in the hope that we could have a good mix of sessions. However, we received almost all case studies and only a very small number of research paper and facilitated discussion proposals and only one pecha kucha.

In terms of cost, PebbleBash was highly subsidised by Pebble Learning with registration fees not even covering the actual conference costs (let alone the time

and travel of all our staff). As a bit of a comparison, early-bird registration for Members for Ascilite in Sydney last year was \$775.00. This is ONLY the conference fee. We think it unlikely that many people would be able to source two night's accommodation, all meals, and wine for \$200 in Sydney (or anywhere else). We believe the residential nature of our conference is very important and is partly what makes it the great event that it is and we subsidise it heavily to make this possible.

Some of the comments that make it all worthwhile

"Great opportunity for collegiality to share good practice and enthusiasm and also opportunities for problem-solving."

"Fantastic conference. Small enough to be personal. Excellent for networking. I hope I get to attend one in the future."

"Residential aspect worked really well. Excellent venue choice!"

"Brilliant conference - so much was great. Loved the small numbers, the venue and organisation, meeting helpful and hilarious colleagues. Very fun. Very stimulating. Thanks you all so much. I also loved meeting more of the PebblePad team, hearing about all the exciting new developments. Thanks again!"

"The conference venue was ideal. 10/10 Also, congratulations to all for forming such a supportive and positive community of practice."

"Everything was fabulous, stimulating and I am looking forward to trying out a heap of new innovations."