

Shaping Post-Pandemic Software/IT Conferences

Please take ten minutes to provide your feedback and suggestions for how conferences might best evolve to serve your needs post-pandemic. Thank you in advance. (Survey © 2022 Steven Fraser & Dennis Mancl)

1. What region do you call home?

- Africa
- Asia
- Australia/New Zealand
- Europe/UK
- North America
- South America
- Oceania/Other

2. What is the size of your company or university?

- Very Big ($\geq 10,000$ employees)
- Big (1,000 to 9,999 employees)
- Medium (100 to 999)
- Small (5 to 99)
- Very Small (< 5 employees)

3. What is your primary role?

- Coach/Consultant
- Educator/Trainer
- Manager/Executive
- Journalist/Media/Influencer
- Software/Product/Service Developer
- Student
- University Researcher
- Industry Researcher
- Other _____

4. What are your professional memberships for 2022? Please check all that apply:

- ACM and/or ACM Special Interest Groups
- Agile Alliance
- IEEE and/or IEEE Computer Society
- Project Management Institute
- Scrum Alliance
- None
- Other _____

5. What type of conferences attract you most (please check all that apply)?

- Association sponsored conference (ACM, Agile Alliance, IEEE/CS, ...)
- Commercial conference (organized by: CES, O'Reilly, QCon, TED, ...)
- Developer conference (Amazon, Apple, Google, Meta, Microsoft, Oracle, Nvidia, Salesforce, Siemens...)
- Researcher centric meetings (topic specific, university hosted, local affinity group, ...)
- Other _____

6. Pre-pandemic (2015-2020) what conferences did you regularly attend? Please provide a list of comma separated conference acronyms or answer "none".

-- long text answer

7. In a post-pandemic world, how would you prefer to attend conferences?

- Prefer a return to in-person attendance options
- Prefer hybrid attendance options (conference supporting both in-person and virtual attendees)
- Prefer virtual attendance options
- Not planning to attend future conferences

8. In 2021 how many conferences did you attend?

- In person -- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+
- Hybrid ----- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+
- Virtual ----- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+

9. In 2022 how many conferences do you plan to attend?

- In person -- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+
- Hybrid ----- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+
- Virtual ----- 0, 1, 2, 3, 4+

10. What conference topic area is likely to be of greatest interest to you in 2023-24?

- Agile, Kanban, Lean, PMBOK, Scrum, Six Sigma, XP, ...
- AI/ML (Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning) Applications
- Company Specific Platform Computing (AWS, Apple, Cisco, Google, Microsoft, NVidia, Salesforce, ...)
- Edge/Cloud Computing
- Blockchain
- High Performance Computing
- Mobile Computing
- Robust/Reliable/Trustworthy Computing
- Security/Privacy
- User Experience (UX)
- Other

11. What attracts you to a conference?

	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not a factor
Conference series/community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning about emerging ideas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Location (physical) - a nice place to visit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Location (virtual) - ability to attend without travel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Networking and discussion with colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Presenting my work and receiving feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. What are the biggest challenges to your VIRTUAL conference experience?

	Major issue	Minor issue	Not an issue
Expensive conference registration fees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fatigue due to long virtual meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inconvenient schedules due to global time zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ineffective tools to support interactive discussions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ineffective support for casual discussions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not being an invited speaker or a presenter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participation conflicts with work/home responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor internet connectivity/tech-support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. What are the biggest challenges to your IN-PERSON conference experience?

	Major issue	Minor issue	Not an issue
Government regulations: visas, quarantines, testing...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Micro-aggression/harassment issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not being an invited speaker or a presenter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ongoing pandemic related health risks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing my travel carbon footprint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration and travel costs are too high	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time away from family or work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. What do you find most valuable post-conference?

	Most Important	Important	Less Important	Not a factor
Accessing papers/presentations/videos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citeable (proceedings) content for my research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feedback on material I presented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Networking and discussion with colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New ideas and/or connections to attendees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. In a world of virtual conferences, what have you found most useful?

	Most useful	Useful	Less useful	Not experienced
Access worldwide content without expensive travel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Live presentations, panels, keynotes, tutorials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Networking events and discussions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-demand presentations with recorded talks & Q&A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-recorded presentations with live Q&A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virtual social events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16. Please suggest how post-pandemic Software/IT conferences might be made more valuable to you? -- long answer

(Survey initially posted on Google Forms on February 14, 2022)