

ADRA's 1997 Conference EVALUATION

The objectives of the conference were to:

- A) Increase the belonging and unity of our professional association
- B) Exchange ideas and information in a broad range of areas of ADR and ADRA's role in that process
- C) Acquire important critical information in a range of areas of ADR and to allow you to be current and up to date
- D) Recognise and acknowledge the success of the past 10 years
- E) Broaden your horizons on possible future directions for ADR

Question 1

How would you rate the conference in meeting the above objectives (please tick)?

Excellent Good Fair

Question 2

What did you think/feel about the style of this conference i.e. hypothetical/workshop?

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Question 3

a) What part of the conference did you find ?

Stimulating?.....

Able to participate in?.....

Enjoyable/fun?.....

Would like to have repeated at a future conference or seminar?.....

b) What would you like to see done differently next time?

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Question 4.

Will you be taking action as a result of the conference? If so, briefly describe the incentive and in which area the action will take place?.....

ADRA's 1997 Conference

EVALUATION

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES FROM 16 FORMS

Question 1:

How would you rate the conference in meeting the above objectives?

excellent =	1
very good =	1
good =	11
fair =	3

Question 2:

What did you think about the style of this conference ie hypothetical/workshop?

generally positive =	6
positive and negative =	6
generally negative =	1

Question 3a:

What part of the conference did you find...

stimulating?

Adam Farrer = 4
Joe Riordan = 2
Lawrence Boule = 2
hypothetical = 2
all = 2
afternoon workshop = 1
networking = 1

able to participate in?

all = 6
Lawrence Boule = 1
L Boule & A Farrer = 1
small groups = 1
final work shop = 1
hypothetical = 1
Joe Riordan = 1
3/10 = 1

enjoyable/fun?

meeting people = 3
lunch = 3
hypothetical = 3
L Boule & A Farrer = 1
'yes, very good...' = 1
all = 1
5/10 = 1
small groups = 1
last session before panel = 1

would like repeated?

hypothetical = 3
negotiation workshop = 1
L Boule & A Farrer = 1
opportunity to attend more than one concurrent session = 1
workshops style activities = 1
L Boule = 1
more time to acquire information = 1

Question 3b:

What would you like to see done differently next time?

on balance of sessions = 8

- more time for individual workshops/concurrent sessions = 5
- more small group discussion/tackling more practice issues = 1
- no hypothetical, more small groups and better facilitation = 1
- have two small group sessions/hypothetical entertaining but a bit of a gabfest = 1

on content = 6

- more information, short sessions from practitioners relating to experiences and styles of mediation/more emphasis on the practice of ADR = 2
- concrete outcomes from group discussion, issues, possible solutions, decision, implementation framework/more focused

objectives in general discussion group = 2

- would like to see ethical dilemmas related to ADR/mediation field presented so there is an opportunity to develop a code/have streams in the conference that connected with wider practice = 1
- shorter keynote talk, less discussion of the future of ADRA, some of this could have been done at an Annual Meeting = 1

on organisation = 1

- be on time for starts, printed copy of keynote speech and earlier communication, booking etc ie 12 months = 1

Question 4:

Will you be taking action as a result of the conference.....?

get involved in ADRA = 4

- I would like to involve myself with ADRA/may be active part in ADRA = 2
- I wish to become involved in ADRA and to that purpose have listed my name to have a discussion with the Committee on the future of the Australian Association = 1
- prepared to participate in workshop on national body = 1

personal action = 4

- agitate for better pay = 1
- become an effective negotiator in addition to being a competent mediator = 1
- report of conference, increased involvement with ADRA, networking with other states in peer mediation = 1
- continuing the reaching out to the wonderful people I met, continuing the dialogue = 1

ADRA action = 1

- would like to see the Newsletter describe the training courses for all out information since they were published in the last Newsletter/in particular in regard to the last session by Frank Astill which presumed certain concerns and are these real = 1

Question 5a:

Further comment in regard to how we could improve or what you would like to see result from this conference?

on approach = 4

- if the purpose is information exchange then maximise opportunity for that/if purpose is to achieve a plan for future action then let's get that on the table/make the purpose clear then achieve it = 1
- would have been helpful if some matters could have been put to Conference to achieve a mandate for the Committee to move forward on issues without further consultation = 1
- raise level for experienced mediators = 1
- possibly a chance for individual mediators to meet ie different interest groups = 1

on relevance of speakers = 3

- invited speakers need to know the topic and make it relevant to the participants eg ethics speaker might have more time to link

broad ethical issues to ADR practices = 1

- have topics that are more relevant to our skills development as mediators/whilst I liked Adam Farrer's talk very much it could have been the keynote address for a number of conferences = 1
- some skill based learning sessions = 1

on outcomes = 2

- think that this was covered in the session before the panel, would hope that the action plan actually transforms into a result and today seemed to carry it further than it has gone before = 1
- ADRA following up its Action Plan, Alan Parker was a great help, lovely atmosphere and quality throughout the day = 1

on organisation = 1

- reaching more people in mediation and giving them some incentive to come to this conference = 1

Question 5b:

What do you need or want to see ADRA involved in on your behalf in the future?

on support for a national body = 6

- to pursue the establishment of a national peak body for ADR = 1
- get some form of peak body established to at least get some structure involved = 1
- would like to see ADRA have truly national identity eg members, office bearers, information in the newsletter/apply for funding to employ people eg like AAAE = 1
- many of the speakers in the hypothetical expressed very clear views on how ADRA should represent the interests of members/I think a strong push towards a national association seems vital, a drive for more members seems a requirement for funding and for credibility purposes = 1
- continue with Action Plan for national body and continue lobbying federal government for changes to or broadening of the Act regarding educational qualifications for family mediators = 1
- a firm nation-wide structure, fully representative with ethical code, standards, membership in place and a newsletter or professional journal = 1

on expansion/identity = 3

- I would like to see ADRA broaden its terms of reference rather than as demonstrated at this conference it being rather 'clubby' and away from the legal/commercial mainstream = 1
- identifying areas for targeting ADR to eg nursing and shipping and what process is applicable = 1
- getting clarity on whether we are only mediators or something wider, deeper = 1

on industrial action = 3

- I was disappointed ADRA was not active in lobbying Family Court/it needs to represent all mediators in various fields = 1
- working conditions, work place facilities = 1
- issues related to the use of mediators as casual employees of government services = 1

other action = 1

- recognition of variety of specific areas/talents/skills of members and include updates in newsletters, at conferences etc. = 1

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Question 5

a) Further comment in regard to how we could improve or what you would like to see result from this conference?

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b) What do you need or want to see ADRA involved in on your behalf in the future?

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We appreciate your willingness to return this evaluation to ADRA at the registration desk at the end of the conference.

Thank you for your participation in the conference.