

SIGML Member Survey June 2009

Executive Summary

In May/June, 2009, SIGML surveyed its members. The total number of respondents was 139 and almost exclusively from North America (94.2%). The ratio of female-to-male respondents was about 2-to-1, and respondents were primarily ages 41 and up (65.5%). Technology coordinator was the most chosen profession, followed by elementary and secondary teacher. 43.9% of respondents said they had been ISTE members for 2 years or less, and 41% respondent they belong to an ISTE Affiliate as well.

Interests in mobile learning seemed to focus on several topics, including:

- Anywhere, anytime access to information and learning, including classroom application, online learning, and just-in-time/on-demand learning.
- Learning more about the digital tools that students already own and what it takes to be able to use them in the classroom.
- Potential of mobile technologies.
- Student engagement.
- Need for professional development.
- Keeping informed on the latest trends in (educational) technology

In addition, quite a few respondents said that they are currently involved in a mobile learning project. Interestingly, some named 1-to-1 laptop projects.

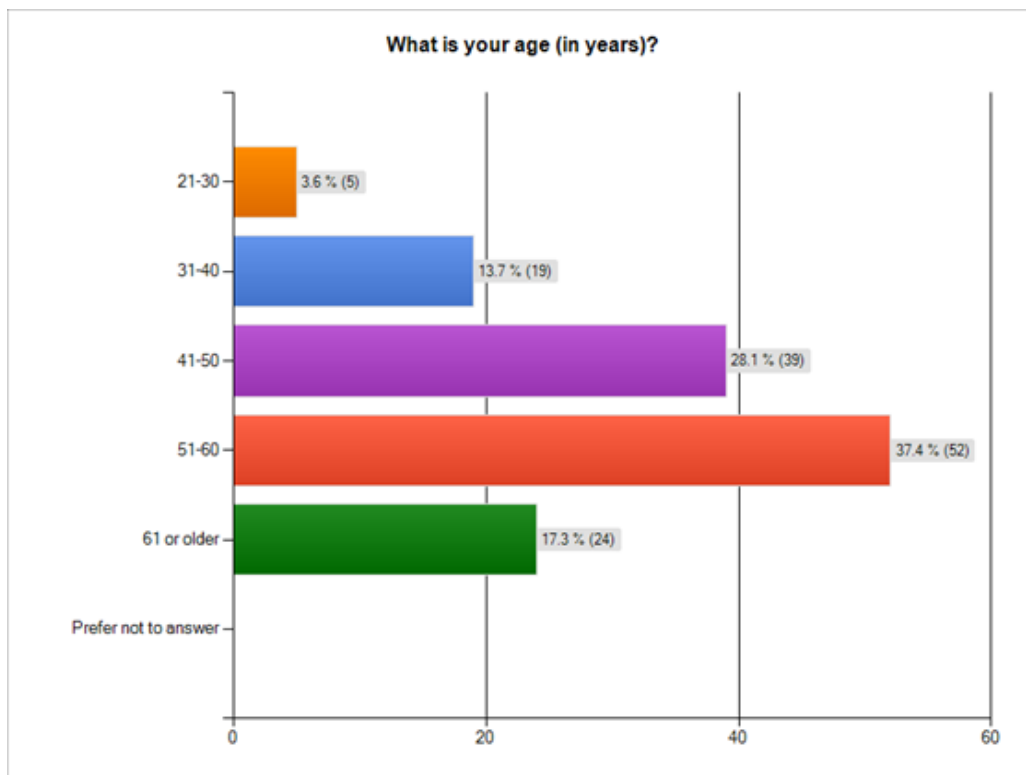
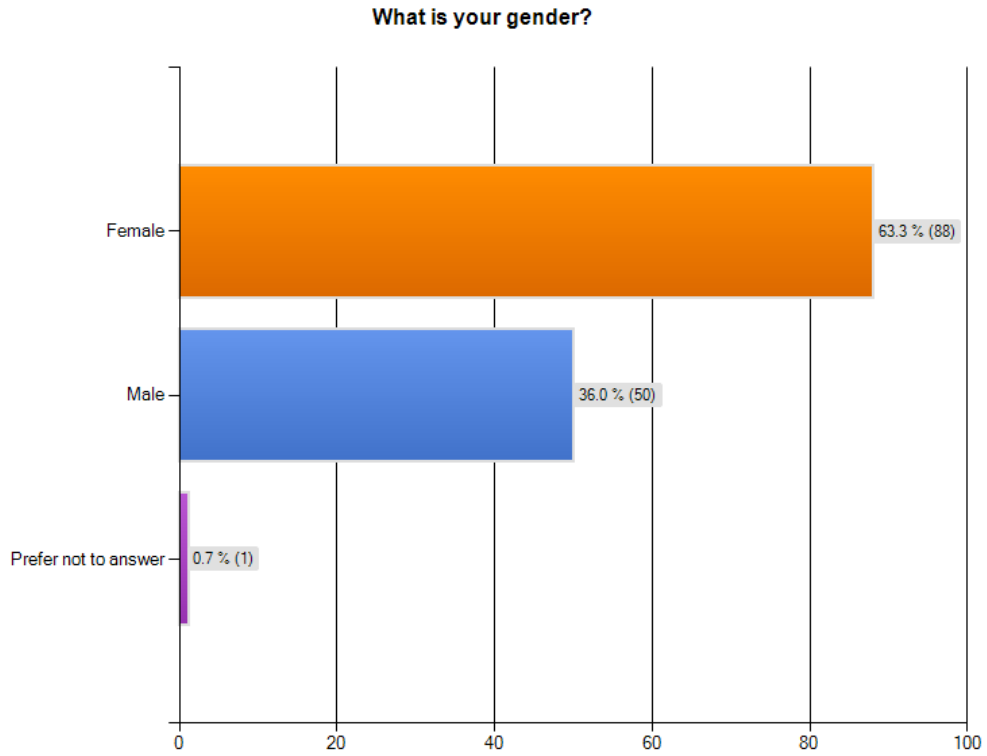
With regards to participation in SIGML, most respondents (58.2%) stated they joined SIGML within the last year, and joined because of an interest in mobile computing (82%) and networking (30.6%). Most members read the newsletter (60.6%), website (33.0 %) or listserv messages (23.9%), while also mostly preferring these three modes of communication. With regards to participation in the SIG, the top two responses were contributions to the newsletter and the ustream.tv session with Tony Vincent in April 2009.

For participation in SIGML activities in 2009-2010, respondents favored professional development, a digital project (podcasts), contributing to the newsletter/wiki/website, and a book discussion. About 60% of respondents said they would be attending NECC in Washington DC. The SIGML picks were the most-cited choice of SIGML activities (42.3%), followed by not attending any SIGML events (32.4%) and the SIG-sponsored session (28.2%)

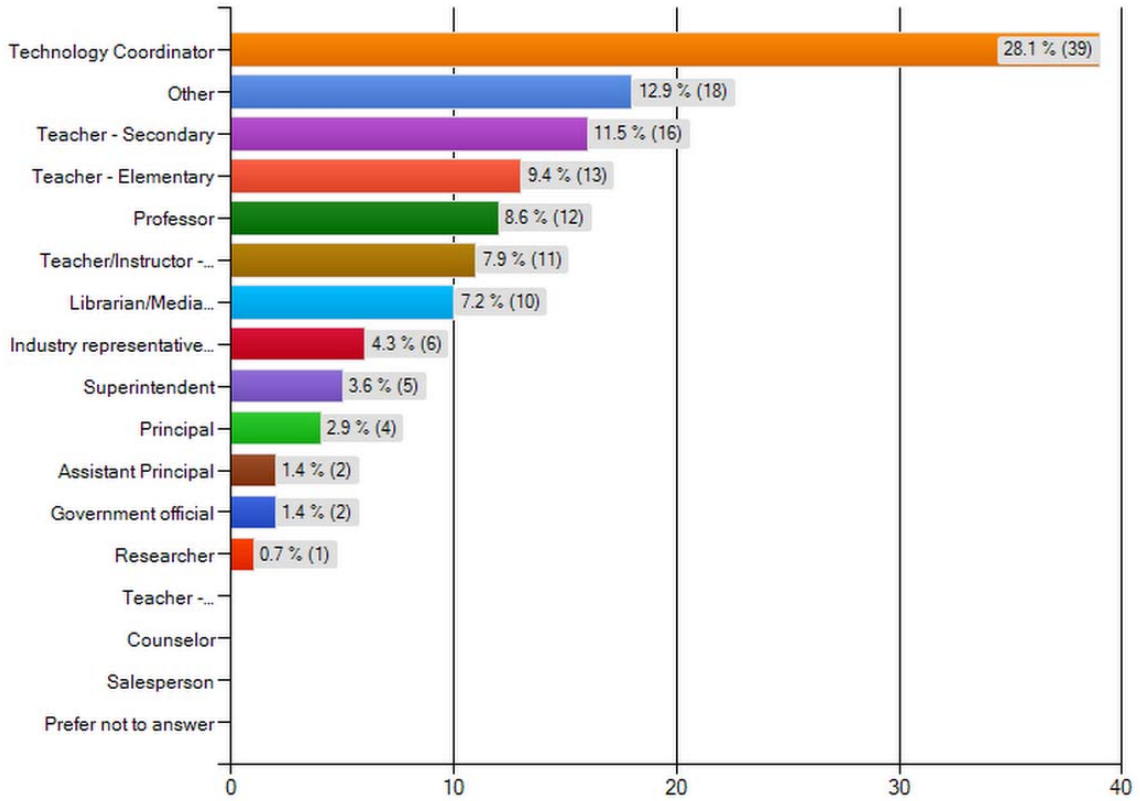
Finally, the overall level of satisfaction with SIGML is good to excellent (62.9%). Members think that SIGML's strengths lie in its communication with members. At the same time, SIGML needs to improve on activities outside of NECC, as well as providing information about current trends and best practices.

The remainder of this document provides more detailed survey responses.

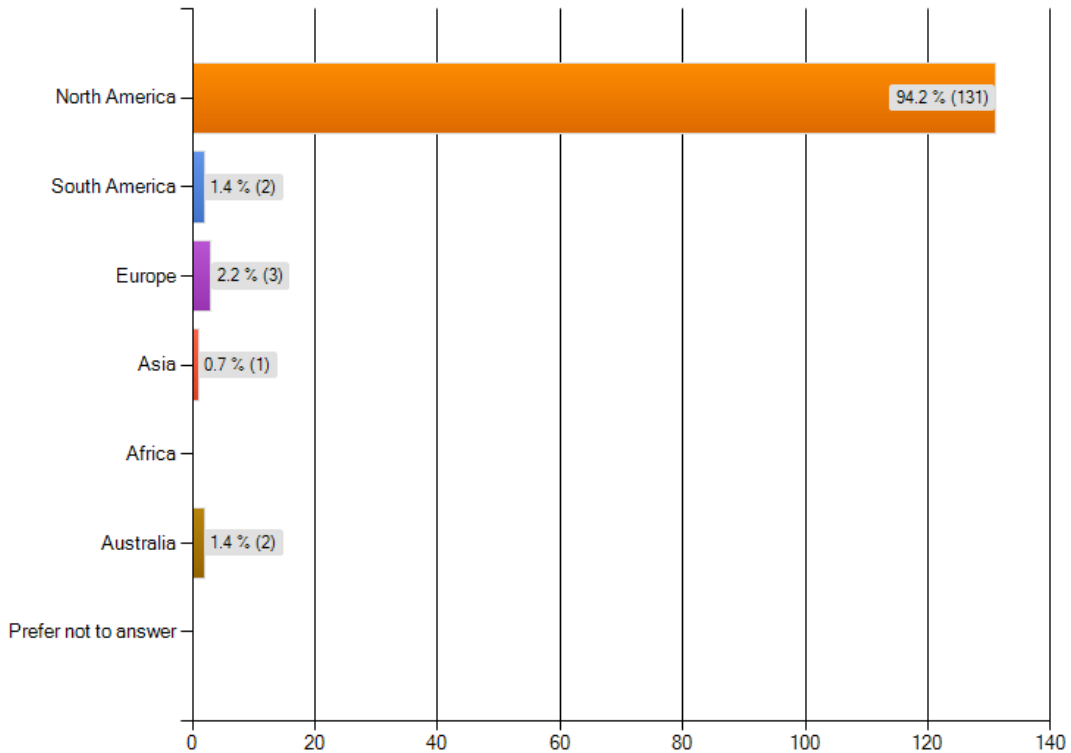
Part 1: Demographics:



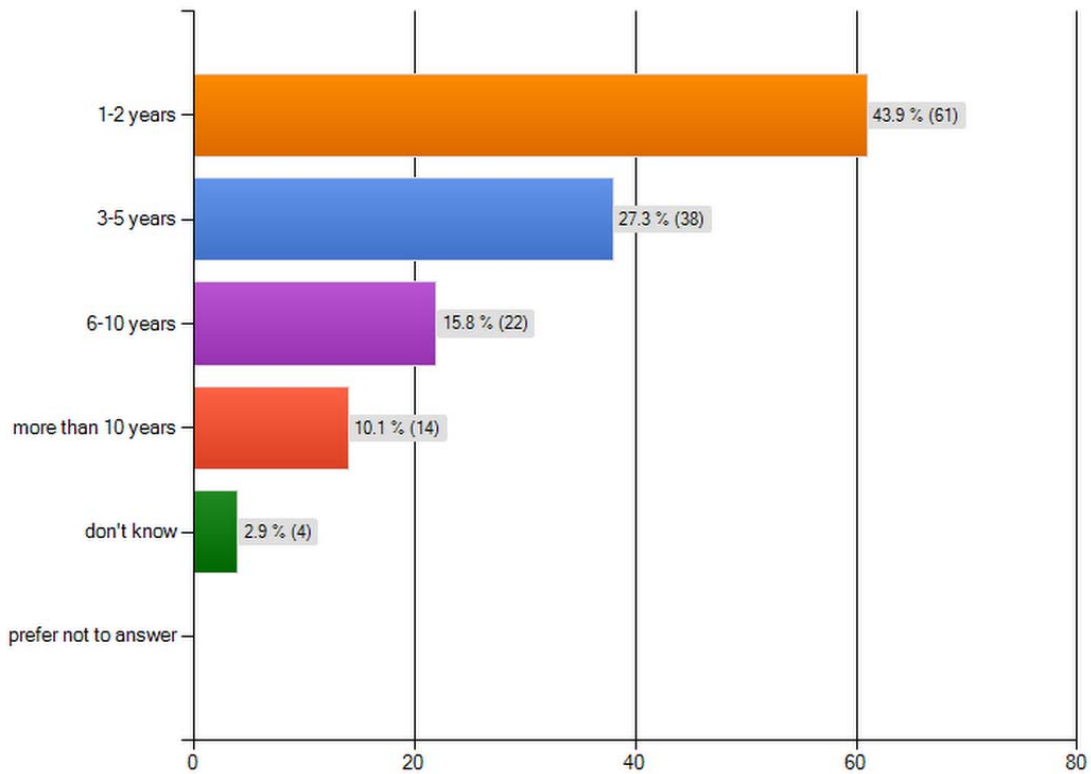
What is your primary profession?



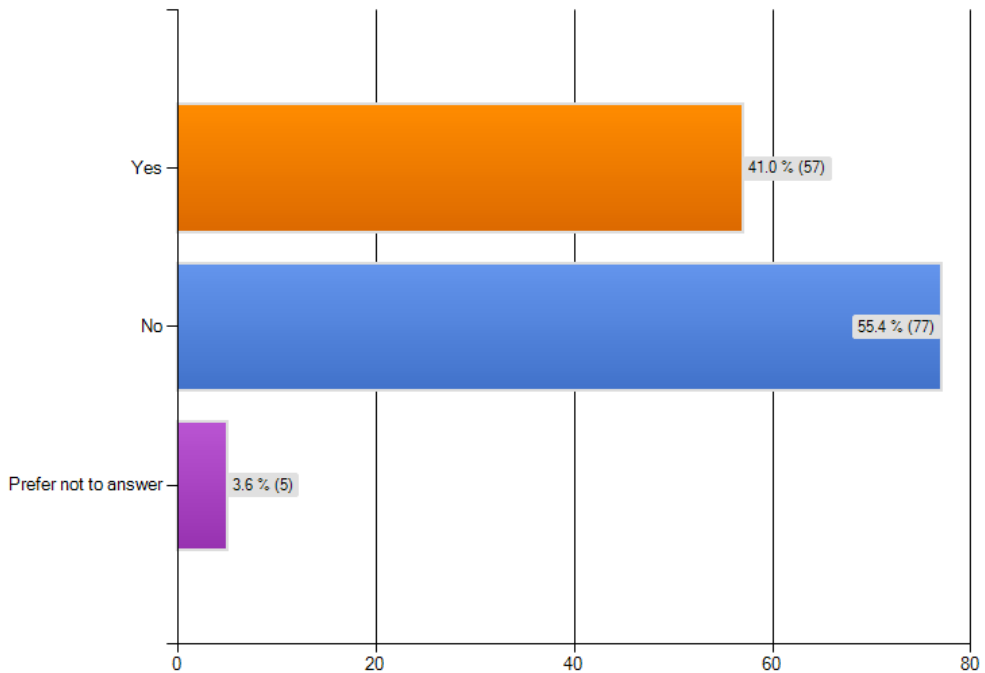
In what continent do you live?



How long have you been an ISTE member?



Are you a member of an ISTE affiliate (for example your state technology organization; see www.iste.org/affiliates/ for more info)? If so, which one?



Members listed a total of 23 different affiliates, including MICCA (7), VSTE (6), and NYSCATE (5)
 SIGML Membership Survey, May/June 2009

Part 2: Mobile Learning

1. What interests you about mobile learning? (107 responses)

Answers seemed to focus on several topics, including:

- Anywhere, anytime access to information and learning, including classroom application, online learning, and just-in-time/on-demand learning.
- Learning more about the digital tools that students already own and what it takes to be able to use them in the classroom.
- Potential of mobile technologies.
- Student engagement.
- Need for professional development.
- Keeping informed on the latest trends in (educational) technology

2. Are you currently involved in a mobile learning project? If so, please provide a brief description of this project and what your role is in it (e.g. teacher, administrator, researcher, tech support, curricular support, professional development, etc.) (99 responses)

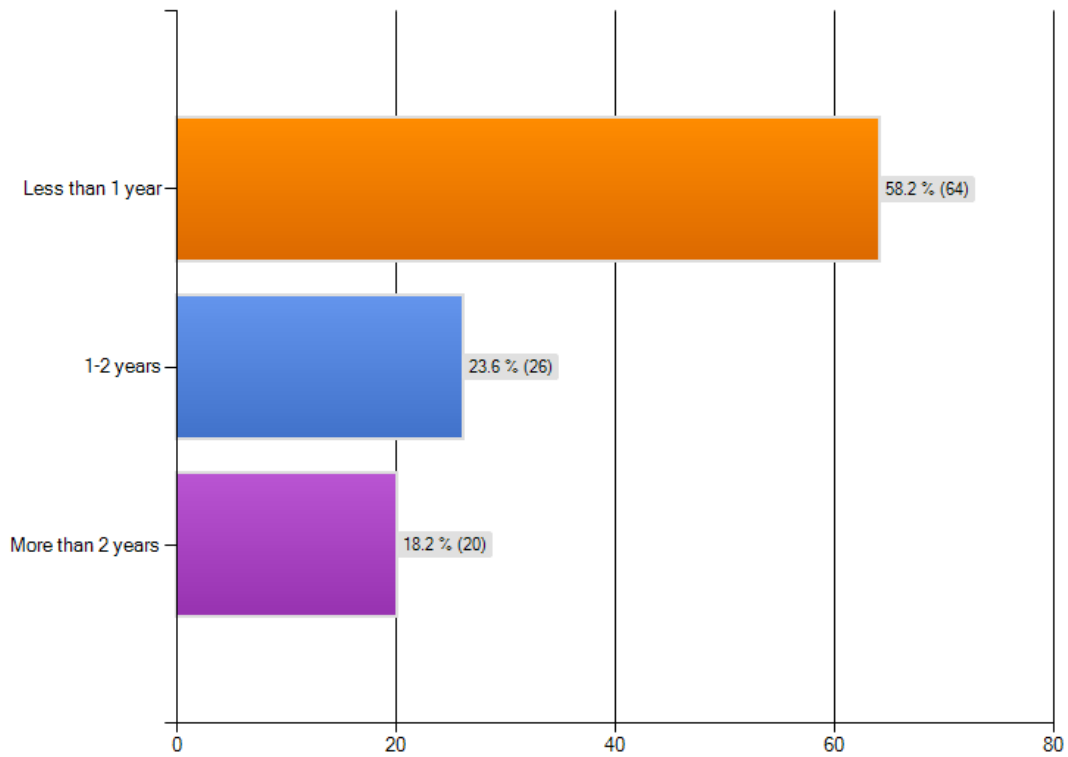
5. 1 to 1 Learning Project (laptop project) - district contact
7. I have been training LPN students in using Palms as part of their clinical work.
8. My district is currently introducing iTouchs to many of our campuses. There are numerous applications that can be utilized in centers as drill and practice or extension activities. Teachers have also begun creating podcasts of lessons that will be loaded onto iTouchs for students to use as a reteaching tool or to assist with makeup work after being absent.
10. I am working on my doctorate. For my dissertation I am focusing on mobile learning. To date, I have conducted a qualitative study of students who were in my class in the Fall of 2001 and participated in the Palm Education Pioneers program. These students are currently juniors and seniors in college and from the information that I gained from their interviews, I am now creating a pre- and post-test instrument to administer to two groups of students [one group consists incoming freshmen and the other consists of doctoral students] who will be receiving iPod Touchs to use in the classroom this fall.
16. working on developing student assessment tool for Media Specialists
18. I am working with faculty to help them take advantage of students' handheld devices.
19. yes - exploring geospatial technology with a museum partner
20. I am an IT Coordinator. We have 2 sets of 11 iPod Classics with Belkin mics that are being piloted by teachers. Several teachers have used them to create podcasts. One is using them to teach math. We are in the early stages of this project.
22. no; however next year we are going to start a STEM program and the goal will be to have an iTouch/student
25. I was, I wrote my doctoral dissertation on the use of mobile learning as a method of teacher training
28. LEARNING MODELS.
29. I'm currently working on my doctorate of curriculum and instruction and my study will focus on iPods in education with a focus on anytime, anywhere learning.
32. I am involved in a pilot project with handheld devices. Our plan is to use three classrooms ranging from elementary to senior high to support the personalization of learning. I will also be building an online course offered through our LMS to support teachers in the pilot and throughout the system in this work.
33. Investigating the usefulness of the iPod Touch in the SPED classroom

34. I just wrapped up a couple of mobile learning projects. One was having students text their opinions about my classroom. I also did a GPS unit on our school campus.
35. My school got a grant where we have access to eluminate and thru elluminate I am able to post class discussions as they are happening and even converse with another teacher in another classroom.
- I am involved in several projects. I am working on my dissertation in mobile learning and I have recently completed the qualitative portion. I interviewed several of my former students who were part of my Palm Education Pioneer group in 2001-02. At present, I am drafting a survey tool that I will use to gain information from all [or as many as possible] the students who were involved in the original project.
36. Additionally, I am involved in two other mobile learning projects.
 #1. I am working with one of my professors on a grant. For this we are giving iPod Touches to students in her Introductory Qualitative Research classes, for their use in interviewing and recording data.
 #2. I am working with another grant that will give iPod Touches to incoming Hispanic freshman who are required to take proficiency classes. For this I will be creating/delivering staff development plans.
37. In the process of developing one for my class next year.
38. wiki building among different sections of my classes
 students who do not sit side by side in class collaborate
39. No, but will soon set up a virtual school and hopefully retain/sustain some student who would otherwise drop out.
40. teaching in hybrid
41. We are involved in developing the use of digital games using consoles; wii, psp,ps3 with COTS and web based games on either laptops or IWB's.
42. hand held devices for student teachers during their in-classroom experience -used in "e-supervision" role - involving university professors to communicate via mobile device and the classroom master teacher - 24/7.
46. 1:1 project with selected schools. I do not have a primary role.
50. Only a small project making a persuasive video showing lessons involving cell phones. I am a building trainer and the computer electives teacher at my school and the kids requested this project.
54. We are planning a 1-1 laptop pilot at our high school next year, but we are also looking into the use of additional tools like cell phones (technology integration coordinator).
- Yes. As part of the Calgary Board of Education's Learning Resources Strategy, this pilot project will inform and guide the use of a variety of digital devices, both student owned and school deployed, which may include but are not limited to cell phones, GPS units, iPod Touch, video conferencing, laptops as part of classroom instruction and learning. This project will inform teachers about new strategies to personalize learning.
55. This initiative will begin with three classes in different areas from K-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Initial classes will be selected from different divisions to ensure representation from a variety of stakeholders. The Curriculum and Learning Technologies research team (<http://www.innovativelearning.ca>) will support the documentation of the successes and challenges of this initiative.
58. I will be supporting a pilot program in our district to test classroom use of iPod Touch and netbooks. I will be providing prof. devel., curricular support and oversee the budget.
59. With wireless cards and tiny laptop computers my soldiers access coursework worldwide. I am reviewing their speaking skills for foreign language online distance ed. classes. I am the primary researcher...dissertation.
66. on an iphone investigation committee
68. I am a district trainer for instructional technology - professional development. Our principals use Palms for walkthroughs and some schools have classroom sets for teaching. I help train administrators in the correct use/apps, etc. and help teachers with the integration of this technology into their curriculum.

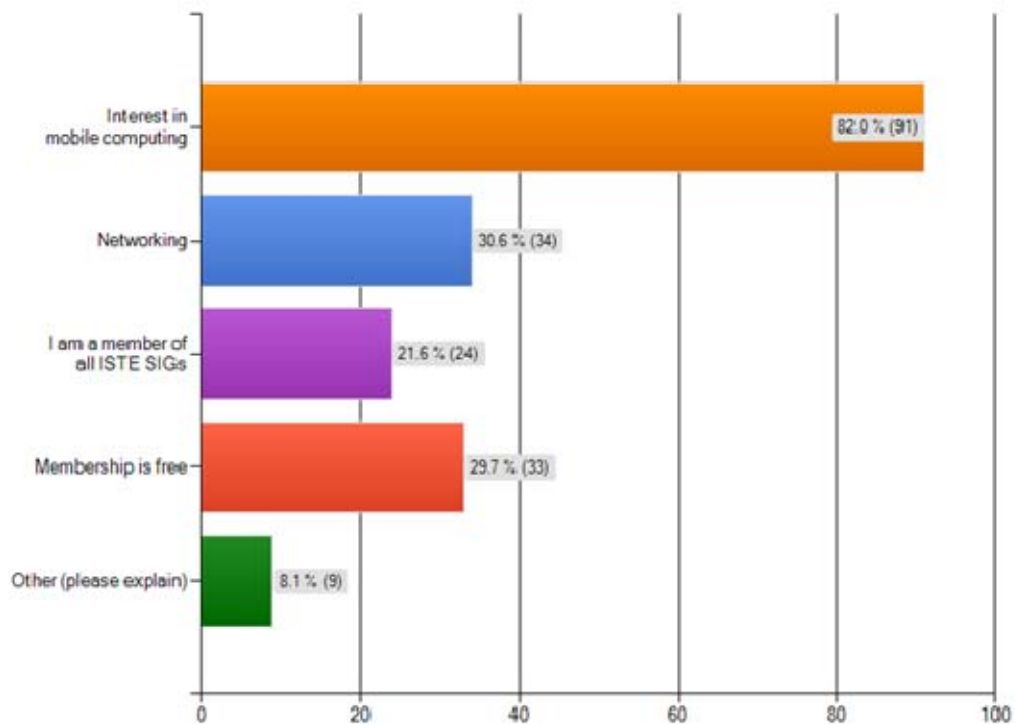
- For the school year 09-10, I will participate in a research group in our technology consortium, Shenandoah Valley Technology Consortium, to conduct research and develop a pilot program for iPod Touches in our region. The second year of the project will involve training teachers and setting up a mobile lab of the iPod Touches. Within our school division, we are also considering a pilot with the touches. In the SVTC project, I am
72. a participant. Within our school division, if the project is fulfilled, I will be the leader of the project, training teachers and setting up the project. I am also working on delivery of training to staff through digital delivery for topics such as new teacher technology orientation, email, and Internet Safety. I also assist with the technology and planning for a video conference project with Holocaust survivors and eighth graders. I am assisting two teachers in our division to seek out grants for netbooks to set up one-to-one computing in their classrooms.
74. instructional technology specialist - have led a pilot with the use of handhelds/pdas for 2 years at the middle school level, the first 1 1/2 years was spent on professional development with the teachers until they determined they needed to focus on their students' needs and had difficulty integrating the handhelds into instruction, thus, a new group of teachers has begun to learn how to use the pdas and are incorporating them into their instruction. PD and support will continue to occur during 2009-2010 and hopefully more teachers in this school will begin to use the pdas.
78. I am principal in a building with a grade 6 one-to-one laptop project. The purpose of this is to change teaching practice so our pd has been on instructional practice and pedagogy in 21st Century skills. This project fits our total school focus on Assessment for Learning and teacher has planner, coach, and judge.
80. flat classroom projects as teacher
81. Notebooks available for students
85. researcher, Using distributed cognition and IPHones to increase travel autonomy in students with cognitive disabilities
89. Yes, our school system is implementing iPod Touches next year.
93. Yes. we provide a mobili cart to all of new schools by grade. We are start buying mobil labs to replace fixed labs. I'm assistaantsuperintendent of IT.
97. I am currently working with several teachers to identify a meaningful mobile learning project for our school community.
99. As state ed tech director, I am working with educators in the field on a small grant initiative which puts iPod Touches into the hands of teacher / tech leaders in K-12 schools. They are exploring possible uses of iTouch applications for their own professional work.

Part 3: Participating in SIGML

How many years have you been a member of SIGML?



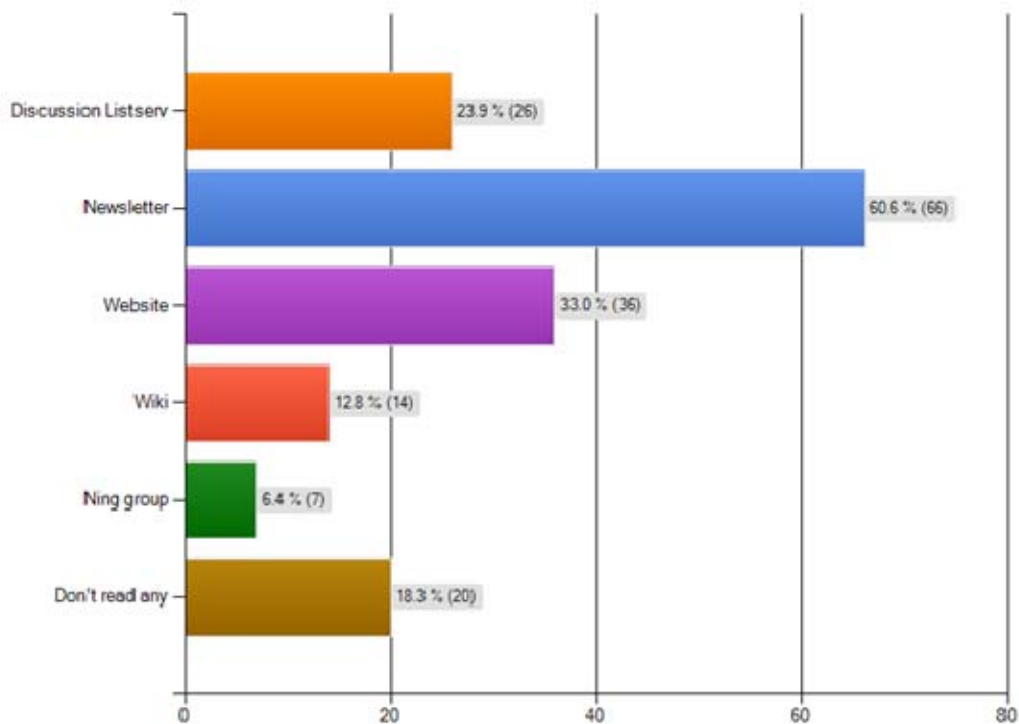
Why did you join SIGML? (Choose all that apply)



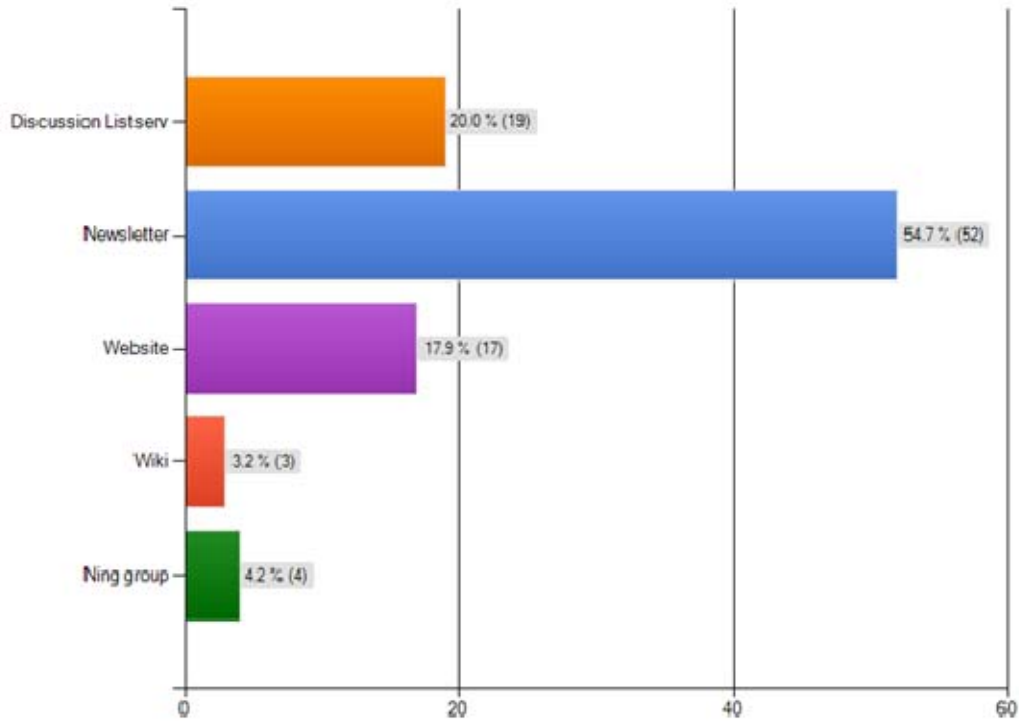
Other answers included:

1. I'm coming to NECC and signed up for as much as I could.
2. Wish to find input to develop my project, as well as find grants
3. good newsletter
4. I signed up for a conference and this membership was included
5. test the format
6. I wanted to learn more about mobile learning.
7. To keep updated with new technology.
8. I'm a technology teacher who tries to bring new ideas to the subject area teachers.
9. NECC

Which of the following SIGML communication tools do you read to get your information?

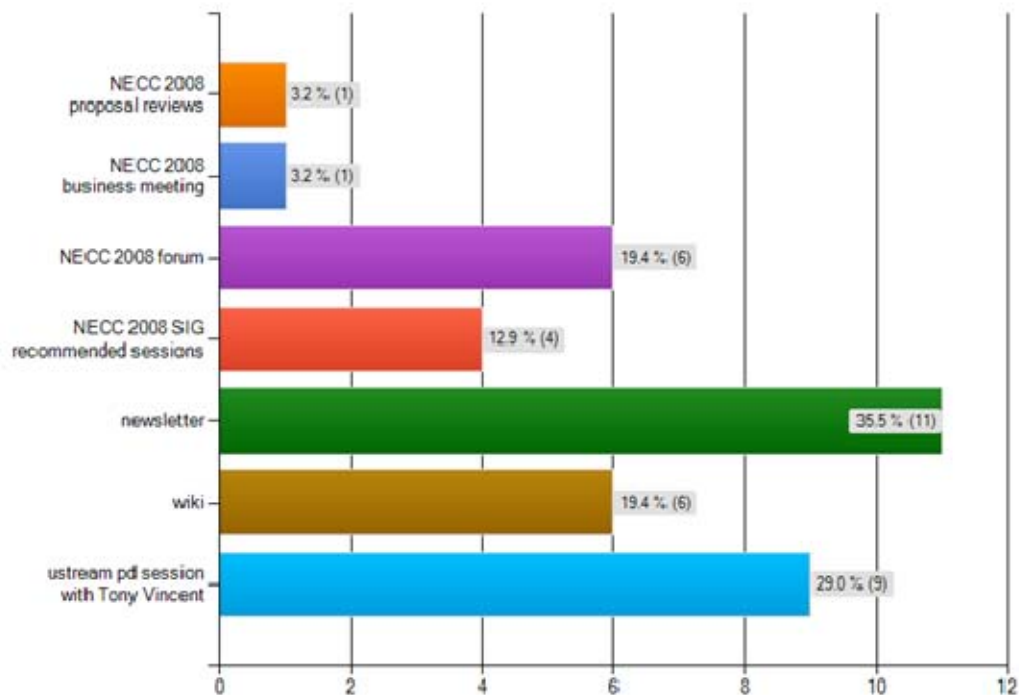


Which of the following SIGML communication tools do you like best?

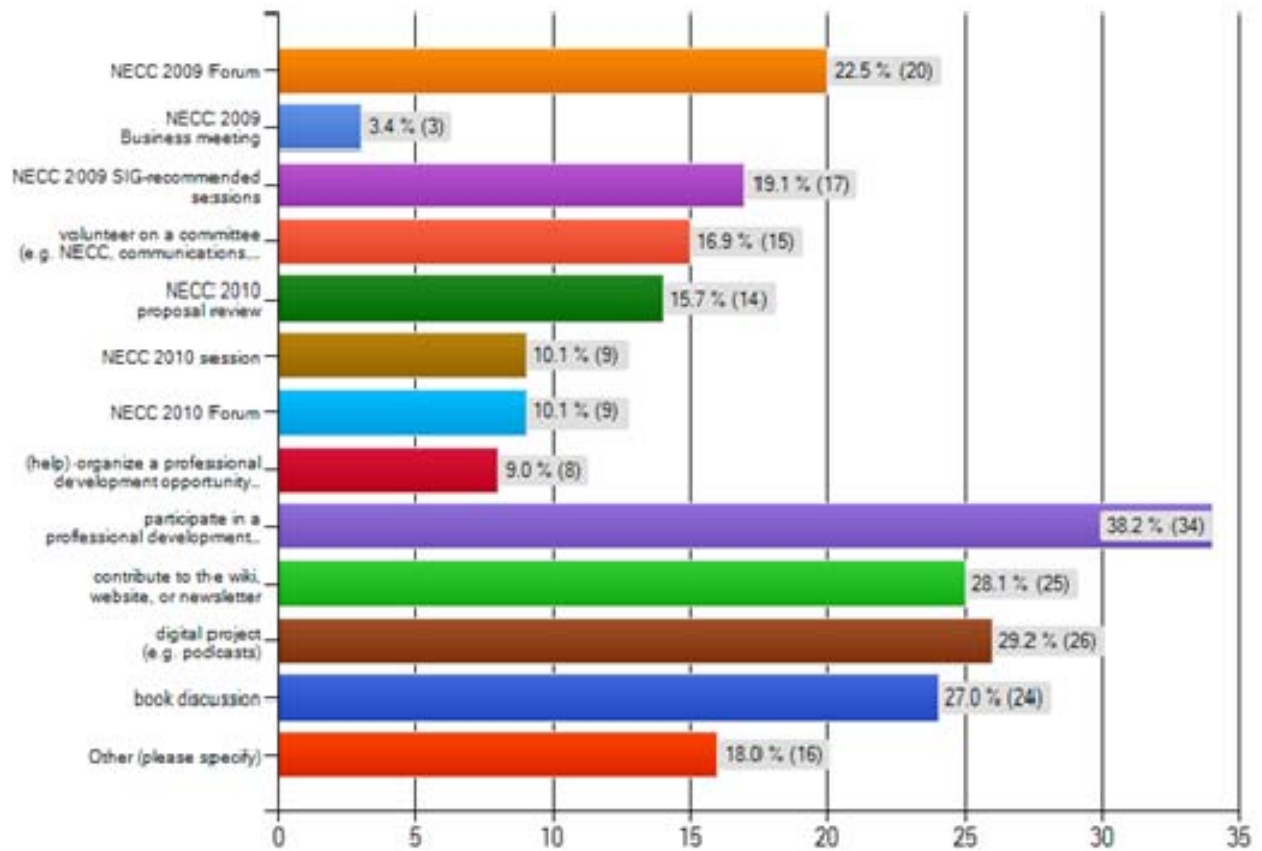


Respondents said they preferred the listserv and newsletter because they are delivered to them, and they don't have to remember to go to the website or wiki.

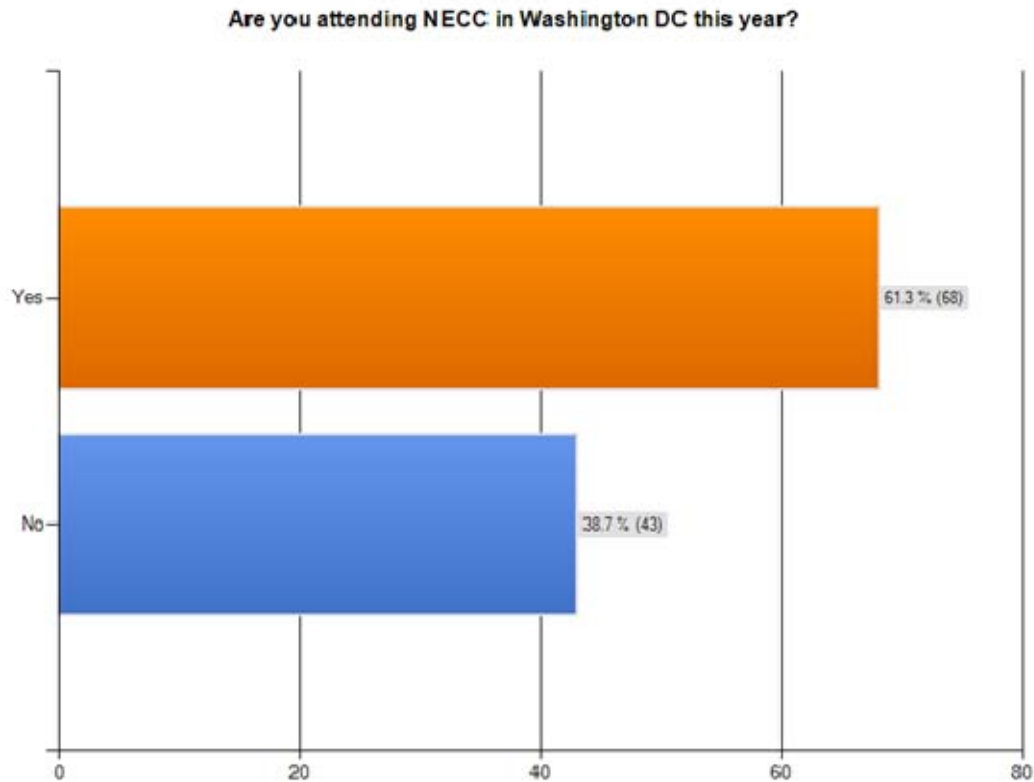
Which of the following SIGML activities have you participated in/contributed to in the past year?



Which of the following SIGML activities would you like to participate in/contribute to in the coming year?

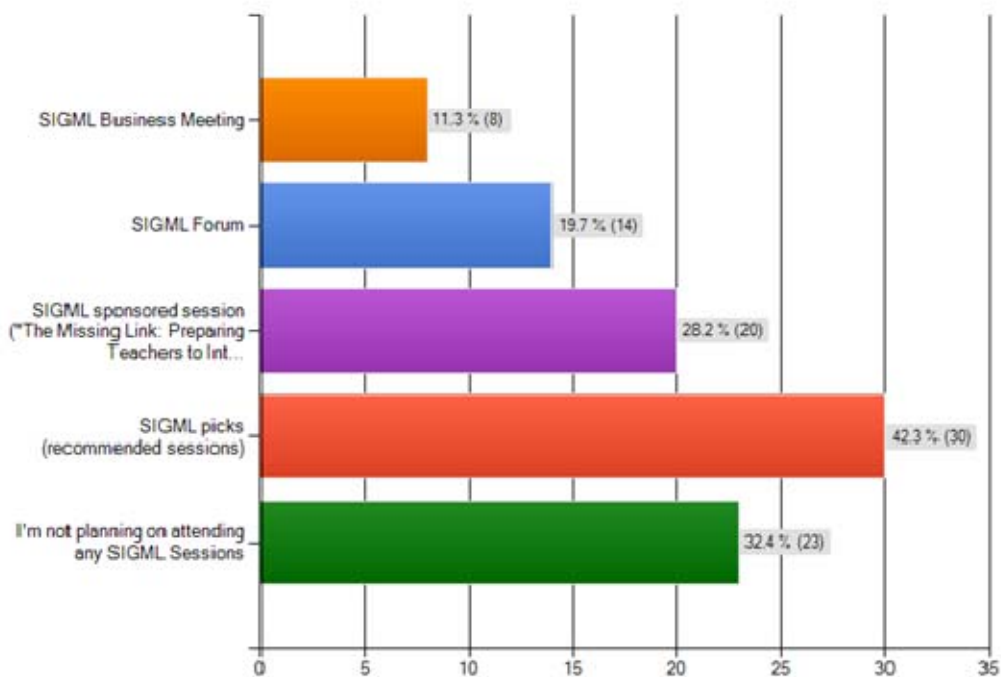


Part 4: SIGML and NECC 2009



Reasons for not attending included the cost, time, and family commitments.

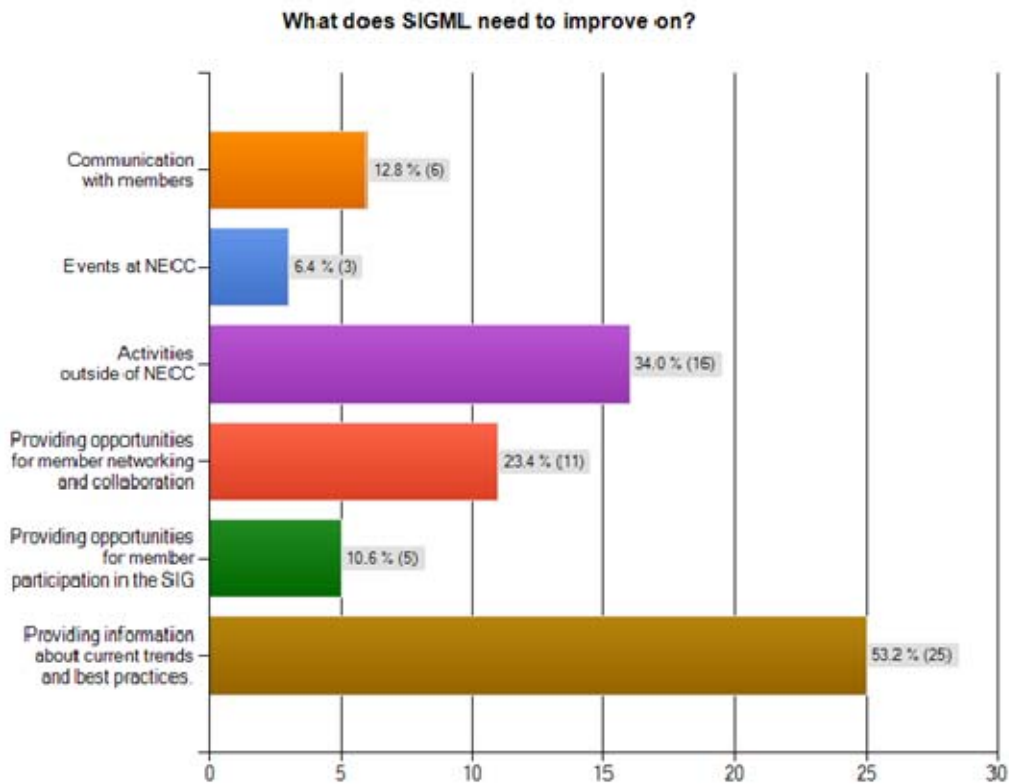
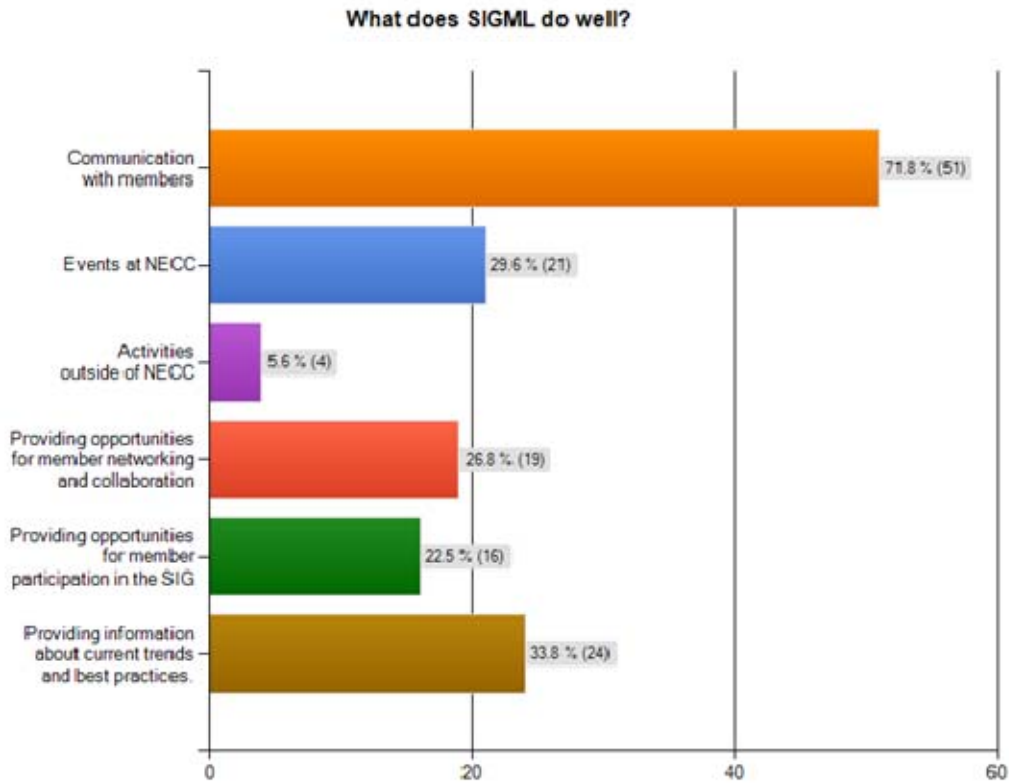
If you are attending NECC, which of the following SIGML events do you plan on attending? For information on the different SIGML events, please see <http://sighc.iste.wikispaces.net/NECC2009>



3. What topics would you like to see discussed at the SIGML Business Meeting? (this is your chance to provide input, whether you are attending NECC or not)

4. The need to get governments to spend money on education. If we can prepare our students to become life long learners with a chance at a decent job, we could cut funding to all the support services needed to help the adults who did not become life long learners.
5. Increasing input and coverage directed towards media specialists and information literacy. Development of student assessment for research and reference skills
6. future of mobile learning, new directions
8. anything relative to mobile learning
9. FREE SOFTWARES.
10. How do we celebrate successes and involve more ISTE members in contributing to the SIG, L&L, and ISTE 20101 Conference.
11. How to get school administrators to all cell phone use in the classroom.
12. Research! We need to get quality information on benefits of ML published so that more institutions like ACU will be brave and utilize this learning environment.
13. Hardware platforms - good/bad/ugly - research for ongoing PD for K-12 teachers - grades 6-12 student generated mobile content, Administrator tools, school safety communication tools, health and social service for "out f the pocket" on campus decisions.
14. I like to keep up to date on the newest products and what they contribute to improving technical skills for students.
15. Regular virtual meetings in SL.
16. I would like to explore more effective ways of helping public school personnel understand that smartphones and other portable digital devices are not "evil" and to be confiscated immediately.
18. newest technology, curriculum integration
20. Help in categorizing and prioritizing types of mobile learning and what info is desired by membership.

Part 5: Overall Opinion of SIGML



Respondents indicated in the open-ended part that they “I would like to see more BYOL events for SIGML”, that SIGML should “Provide podcasts of current trends and video links of what is happening in the field”, as well as “Documented research on current trends and best practices.”

What would you like to see SIGML do that it currently does not do (especially outside of NECC)?

Answers to this question included:

- 6. WORK MORE WITH LOW INCOME STUDENTS.
- 7. I enjoy the member highlights of the SIG newsletter which focus on the ways mobile devices are being used in education, but it would be good to hear about other countries. From what I've read in 'Pockets of Potential' the US is lagging behind the rest of the world...tell me more about this and show me how I can become a mobile learning advocate.
- 8. This is one of the more collaborative SIG's and a model for others.
- 9. More interaction between members such as a personal ning or meeting in second life.
- 10. bring the conference to my laptop, 24/7, set up back room chats for breakout sessions
- 11. Provide access through local teacher service centers.
- 12. ISTE has an island in Second Life, can we meet as SIG members there?
- 14. I do not know what is offered, but I hope that resources through sessions, Ning, etc. will be made available so that I can continue to learn from those with more experience.
- 16. Providing information about current and future trends - what's the buzz?

