

2023 HBCU Library Alliance Membership Engagement Survey - Two-Page Brief

Key Findings:

- **Survey Participants:** 63 respondents participated in the survey, representing a diverse group of HBCU institutions and library professionals.
- **Primary Roles:** The majority of respondents (56) identified themselves as Deans/Directors of the Library/CEO, showcasing strong leadership engagement within the Alliance. Additionally, there were contributions from Archives and Special Collections (1), Technical Services (2), Information Literacy and Instruction (2), and other roles (2).
- **Previous Participation:** A significant number of respondents had previously participated in various programs, including Membership Meetings and other events.
- **Desired Programs:** The survey revealed a keen interest in various types of programs and events, with workshops or training sessions and webinars ranking as top choices.
- **Preferred Program Frequency:** Respondents preferred programs to be held either quarterly (38) or annually (22).
- **Potential Speakers/Facilitators:** A notable percentage of respondents expressed their interest in contributing as speakers or facilitators for future professional development events.
- **Utilized Professional Development Opportunities:** The Alliance's professional development opportunities, including workshops, webinars, and conferences, have been actively utilized by respondents.
- **Interest in Professional Development:** Respondents expressed interest in several professional development areas, such as leadership and management skills, collection development and management, digital tools and emerging technologies, and research and scholarship.
- **Access to New Content:** A monthly (30) or quarterly (29) access to new professional development content was preferred by most respondents.
- **Preferred Access Method:** Live webinars (48) and in-person events (34) were the preferred methods for accessing professional development content.
- **Rating of Current Resources:** Most respondents rated the current professional development resources provided by the Alliance as either "Good" or "Excellent."
- **Top Challenges:** The top three challenges identified by respondents were budget constraints, staffing, and technological resources.
- **Resources to Address Challenges:** Respondents expressed interest in monetary support and additional staff resources, especially for archival training.
- **Feedback and Suggestions:** A few respondents provided feedback and suggestions for improving the Alliance's support, with some expressing their new director's status and requesting more information.
- **Interest in Grants/Funding:** An overwhelming majority (61) expressed interest in grants or funding opportunities to support their institution's library projects or initiatives.

- **Desired Areas for Grants:** Respondents were interested in grants for various areas, including research projects, continuing education and certification, professional conference attendance, community outreach initiatives, digitization projects, and more.

Conclusion:

The 2023 HBCU Library Alliance Membership Engagement Survey revealed high engagement and interest among respondents in various programs and professional development opportunities. The survey results highlight the importance of continued support and offerings addressing the needs and challenges of HBCU libraries. Respondents also strongly desired grants and funding opportunities to support their initiatives. The HBCU Library Alliance must leverage these findings to enhance programs and services, focusing on the most sought-after professional development areas and providing support for addressing budgetary and staffing challenges.

Note: This two-page brief provides a concise summary of the key findings from the survey. Specific data points and responses have been condensed for brevity.