TMC Program Committee Minutes March 16, 2016

Evaluations + Informal Information collection from conference:

Pluses:

* TMC in Color Happy Hour
* Race Equity Workshop—many were nervous but came out with concrete ideas
* Panels uniformly rated 2.88 or higher on a scale of 1-4, with the average at 3.32. The highest rated panels were Stanley Nelson at 3.83, Investigating Race with Susan Smith Richardson at 3.78, and Keith Woods at 3.74

Minuses which are also Pluses

* People wanted more time to connect with each other, especially informal time
* People wanted more time to work on race equity, with some suggesting we should have expanded it to two days

Minuses:

* Internal Communications. For example, some people said they didn’t know they needed to pre-register for the Stanley Nelson event, even though we sent out 6 messages on our listserv to that effect.
* A few of the lower rated panels could have used better moderators and also better prep by TMC staff—they main problem with those panels was that the speakers talked too long and didn’t give enough time for discussion.

**Changes/ Ideas proposed for next conference:**

Communications:

* Use a facebook page for the conference
* Create a Google Calendar event for the conference
* TMC plans to install a member database and better communications, which should help conference communications

Open-ended Conference Time:

* Bring back the popular “unconference” time which we haven’t done since Chicago 2013.
* Possibly create a format that varies between formal and informal time instead of stacking all the informal time on one day

Race Equity:

* Continue the diversity of speakers that we had at this conference
* Ensure the program committee is inclusive of people from different genders, race, ethnicity, outlet-size, and staff/freelance so that equity is built into the conference from the ground up
* Create a session + informal time to present success stories on equity changes achieved and challenges outlets still face