

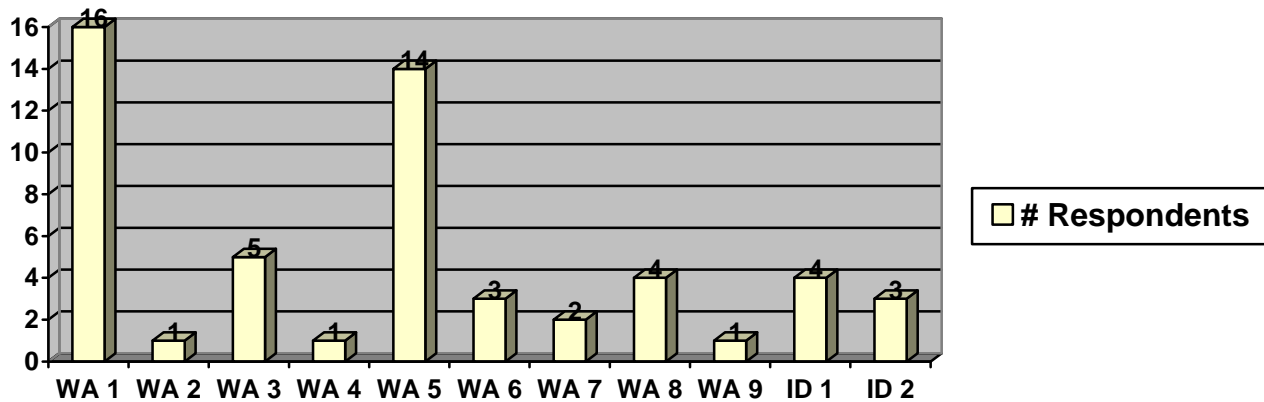
# 2007 Dialogue for Democracy Event Evaluation Summary

## Demographics

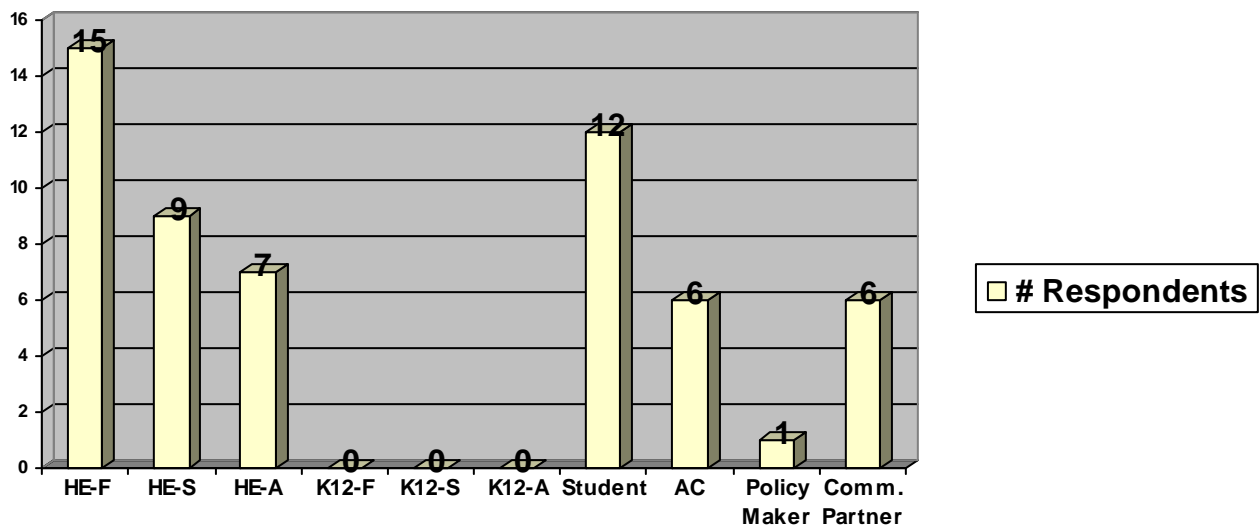
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Total # of survey respondents: 56

### Survey Respondents per Congressional District



### Survey Respondents per Cohort



## Quantitative Responses

Survey respondents were asked to indicate the degree to which they agreed (or disagreed) with a series of statements (domains) as related to their *Dialogue for Democracy* experience. Following are the domains, listed in order of most favorable to least favorable responses.

Domain	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Overall, my <i>Dialogue for Democracy</i> experience was meaningful.	<b>32</b> (58%)	23 (42%)	0	0	0
The keynote address was meaningful for me.	<b>35</b> (64%)	14 (25%)	5 (9%)	0	1 (2%)
I was able to interact with various stakeholders.	<b>30</b> (56%)	22 (41%)	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
I was satisfied with staff communication leading up to the event.	<b>20</b> (49%)	17 (41%)	4 (10%)	0	0
I was satisfied with the meals/refreshments.	<b>27</b> (49%)	24 (44%)	2 (4%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)
I was satisfied with the registration process.	17 (43%)	<b>20</b> (50%)	3 (8%)	0	0
I shared ideas and/or strategies to address critical community issues with other participants.	22 (42%)	<b>26</b> (50%)	4 (8%)	0	0
The team breakout by region was meaningful for me.	<b>26</b> (47%)	23 (42%)	4 (7%)	2 (4%)	0
The cohort breakout discussion was beneficial.	<b>27</b> (51%)	15 (28%)	11 (21%)	0	0
I have developed a deeper understanding of engaged democracy.	<b>23</b> (42%)	<b>23</b> (42%)	8 (15%)	1 (2%)	0
I think I am more committed to local issue-oriented action planning.	<b>22</b> (41%)	<b>22</b> (41%)	10 (19%)	0	0
The role education serves in fostering an engaged democracy is clearer to me.	19 (36%)	<b>25</b> (47%)	9 (17%)	0	0
I gained new ideas for addressing critical community issues.	19 (35%)	<b>26</b> (48%)	8 (15%)	1 (2%)	0
My understanding of how engaged democracy addresses critical community issues has increased.	18 (33%)	<b>28</b> (52%)	7 (13%)	1 (2%)	0
I developed a better understanding of current critical issues facing Washington communities and education.	16 (29%)	<b>29</b> (53%)	9 (16%)	1 (2%)	0
I was satisfied with the event venue (e.g. seating, lighting, acoustics, ventilation, location).	18 (33%)	<b>25</b> (45%)	5 (9%)	7 (13%)	0
The large group reflection activity was beneficial.	6 (15%)	<b>21</b> (51%)	11 (27%)	3 (7%)	0

## ***Qualitative Responses***

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### **Survey respondents indicated the following *Dialogue* aspects as most meaningful for them:**

- Keynote (21 respondents): inspirational; moving; motivating; thoughtful; engaging; passionate; provocative; visionary; spoken with care and clarity; insightful approach to topic; set tone for day; strong: ideas, delivery, impassioned call to all people, especially educators; especially part about transforming our culture/proximity to pain; higher education's higher mission
- Group discussions; chance to interact/network (16 respondents)
- Regional discussion (10 respondents): lively, constructive, informative, interesting
- Team/institution discussion (9 respondents)
- Cohort discussion (6 respondents)
- Variety of perspectives, discussion angles, levels within educational community, etc. (6 respondents)
- Discussion guidelines/questions (2 respondents)
- Hearing about community issues (2 respondents)

Other, less common responses included (a) having a forum to communicate with trustees/elected officials; (b) listening; (c) understanding the connections between SL, engaged campuses, and engaged democracy; (d) value; (e) compassion; (f) action planning; (g) talking with people impacted by the grant; and (h) talking with WACC staff.

### **Survey respondents indicated the following *Dialogue* aspects as least meaningful for them:**

- Regional discussion (5 respondents): too large for good discussion/effective work; purpose unclear; questions led to very generalized discussion; one group included only one institution
- Cohort discussion (6 respondents): unfocused
  - Note: 3 of these were specifically commenting on the student/AmeriCorps cohort discussion group, describe as weak, lacking structure, and dull.
- Keynote (4 respondents): nice but fluffy; attack on private property; hard to follow; disconnected; not relevant to how to go about engaging in SL
- Team/institution discussion (2 respondents):
- Large group reflection (2 respondents): lack of time; would have liked more participant comments
- Repetition of questions (2 respondents)
- Scribbling (2 respondents)
- Sam Reid's introduction (1 respondent): "it made me feel like being young made me lazy"

### **Participants offered the following recommendations for future *Dialogues*:**

- Venue:
  - Find a venue where groups can hear each other better (e.g., sound restrictive rooms; more space)
  - Hold the event closer to the airport
  - Have better parking
- Pre-Event Communications:
  - Offer more explicit focus on higher education/SL
  - Provide more advanced literature to invite stakeholders sooner
  - Notify of additional funding request sooner
  - Send pre-event packet with key discussion themes

- Structure, Format, & Content:
  - Add another speaker; invite more speakers like Dr. Grace
  - Bring Dr. Grace back again
  - Don't bring Sam Reid
  - Extend time for regional discussions and action planning
  - Shorten by one hour
  - Break up the large groups
  - Group smaller districts together
  - Spread out groups to improve sound
  - Have less breakouts
  - Offer a facilitated break-out session for new SL professionals
  - Have an expert speak or mediate the student discussion
  - Provide more facilitation
  - Offer facilitator training
  - Offer more focused questions
  - Build more action steps into the questions
  - Have student scribes for each group
  - Have campus/team breakout discussion last
  - Include presentation of core ideas after group discussions
  - Include examples of best practices/challenges from different campuses
  - Provide more grounding/studies
  - Make this a SL conference
  
- Other:
  - Include K-12 teachers, more community partners/leaders, legislatures, and local businesses
  - Distribute contact list of participants
  - Have better food
  - Have better vegan food options
  - Provide articles/issues to take back

**Additional comments:**

- “A wonderful keynote address for its appeal to intellect, emotion and the call to integrate them in civic responsibility and engagement. Thank you.” (HE adm)
- It was hard to hear due to venue/set up (5 respondents)
- Other logistics: bad lighting, cold, bad location (Seattle is congested), parking was bad
- The K-20 staff cohort was largely made up of people new to the profession
- I wish we had more time for the cohort breakout session – only made it through 3 questions
- “I want to take Dialogue for Democracy back to my campus. It was nice to be with teachers and other staff. I have [gone] to leadership retreats, but this was the most meaningful.” (student)
- “I think we can take some of what we got back to effect campus change. This was cool.” (HE staff and student)
- Dialogue for Democracy come to campuses to talk in small groups
- Networking and participant list is very useful
- Would have liked more info on how to create programs
- Glad info from discussions will be accessible online
- “I am glad I came.” (student)
- Thanks
- Thank you for hosting this event.
- Thanks for organizing this dialogue
- Great time