ISCA Survey 2010 Summary
Overview of ISCA survey

Reasons why one attends Interspeech

• Majority said both:
  • meet and interact with speech researcher
  • learn about recent research developments in the speech field

• Many also liked:
  • present my research work in a major international forum
  • have my work published at a prestigious international conference

• In the comments, people noted as useful:
  • collaboration
Overview of ISCA survey

Positive/negative points about Interspeech

• Positive (several hundred answers) - Majority said both:
  • a major forum for relevant and recent developments in the speech field
  • good place to meet speech researchers

• Negative (no one answer had more than 100 votes)
  • No single complaint got more than 26% (of the fewer number of votes)
Overview of ISCA survey

Good mix of useful papers?

- Some really terrible special sessions
- The papers accepted are not up to the same standard as oral presentations
- Too many very weak papers
- Too noisy and crowded poster sessions
- Move plenary talks to start at 12:00 noon
- Related sessions were sometimes held in parallel
Expand the topics of Interspeech?

Numerous and diverse suggestions, including:

• More language and Industrial and applied technology exploitation topics
• More acoustic signal processing research, machine learning, and numerous other topics
• However, several comments noted that Interspeech is already rather inclusive
Overview of ISCA survey

Important to…?

• Lower registration fees? 69% (yes)
• Keep a welcome reception? 53%
• Have a banquet that is included in the regular fee? 45%
• Have a plenary room that seats at least 1000 attendees? 27%
• Have a student reception? 41%
• Have a reviewers' reception? 22%
Overview of ISCA survey

Interspeech paper formats

- Current 4-page format is preferred by 67%, with various minorities suggesting 4 +/- 1-2 pages, or a page exclusively for references
- As many favored shorter formats as longer ones
- Flash drives can readily allow more pages
- Nonetheless, 4 pages - a nice compromise still
- Review burden would rise if allow more pages
Overview of ISCA survey

Way you wish for Interspeech to operate

- Status quo: acceptance rate of 50-60% - top preference (51%)
- Lower acceptance rate (e.g., 40-50%) - next preference (39%)
- Highlighting the highest-rated papers - one-third said yes
- Main conference with a low acceptance rate, plus several workshops - one-fourth said yes
Overview of ISCA survey

Summary of useful action points

• In general, keep the basic mode of the current Interspeech (i.e., do not greatly lower the acceptance rate)
• Improve the quality of the reviews
• Look for ways to lower costs, and thus reduce fees, especially for students (and perhaps other "disadvantaged")
• Shrink the plenary room if it saves costs
• Look for ways to reduce the costs of social events
• Consider keeping the banquet optional