



# Evaluation Summary Report

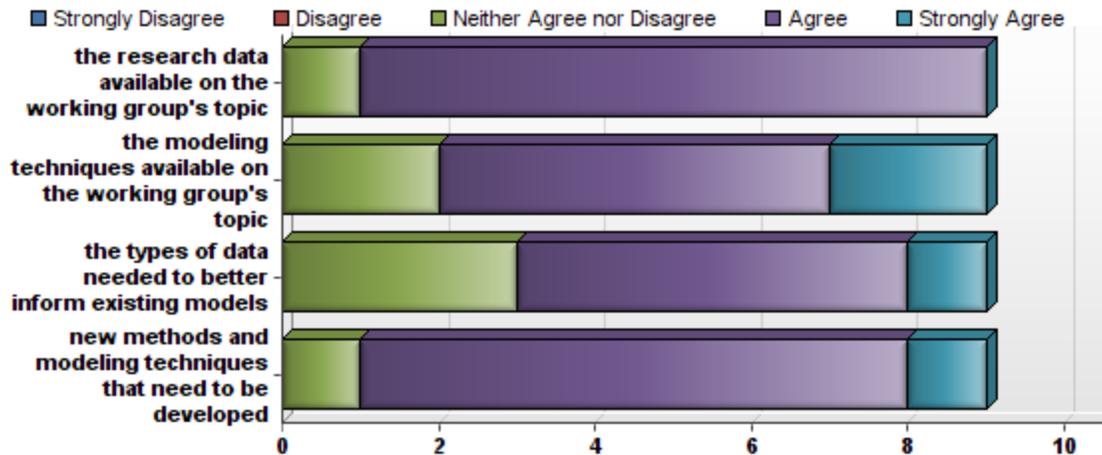
## Working Group: *Organisms to Ecosystems*

November 16-20, 2015

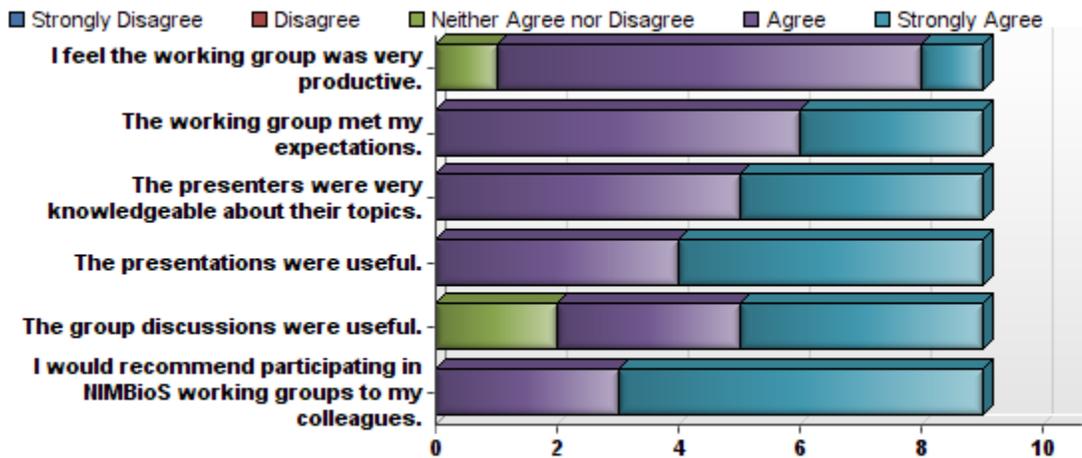
Pamela Bishop  
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National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis  
January, 2016

1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

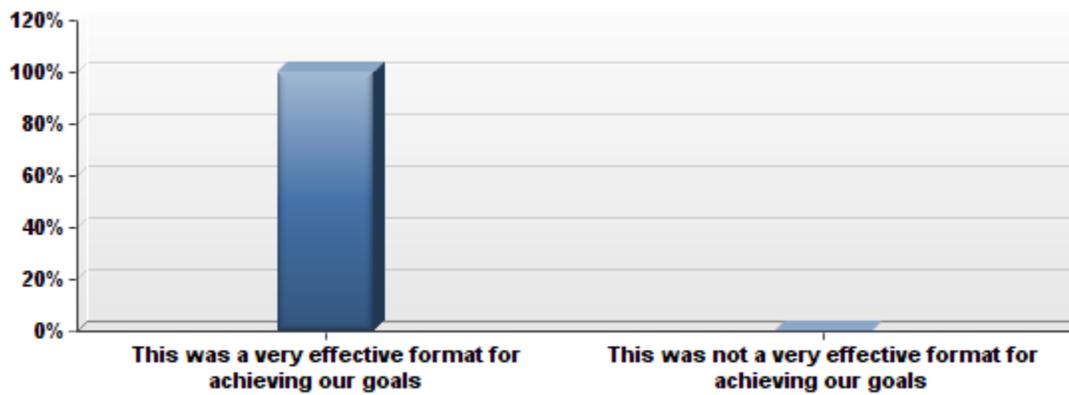
*As a result of participating in this working group, I have a better understanding of:*



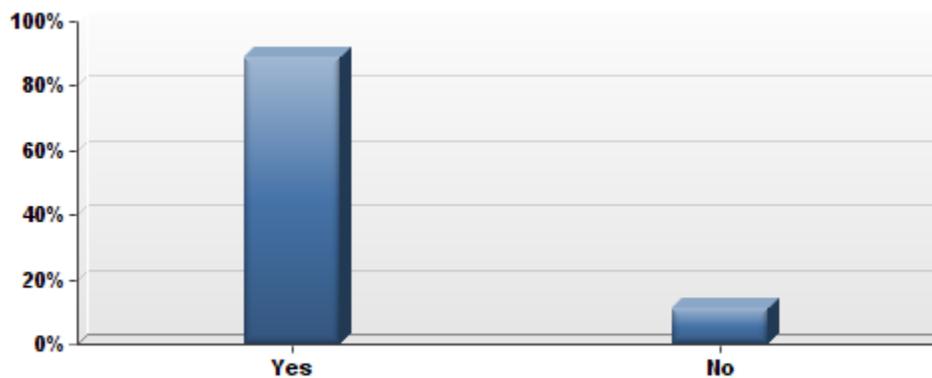
2. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about this working group:



**3. How do you feel about the format of the working group?**



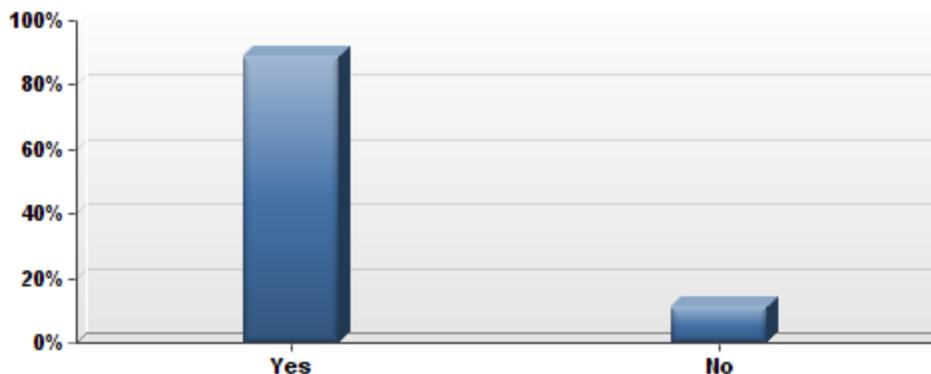
**4. Do you feel the working group made adequate progress, for its first meeting, toward finding a common language across disciplines in the research area?**



**Comments:**

*No comments.*

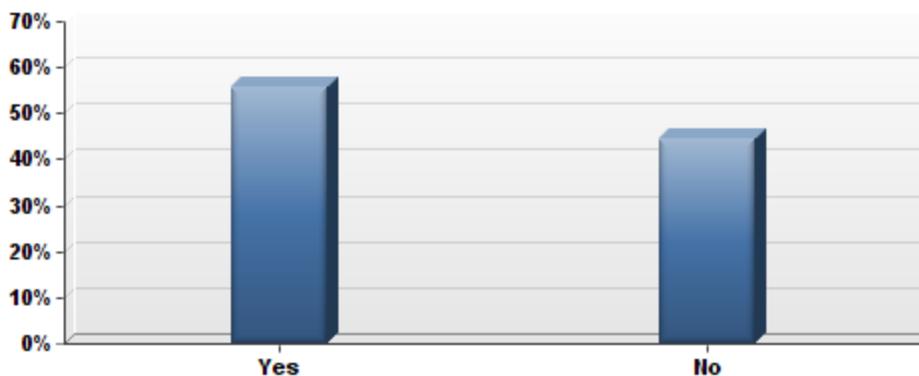
**5. Do you feel the participating in the working group helped you understand the research happening in other disciplines in the group's topic area?**



**Please explain:**

*The group is strong on the organismal to pop. modeling, relatively weak in resource economics and/or ecosystem services. Valery may add someone in the latter category.*

**6. Did you develop unanticipated plans for collaborative research with other working group participants?**



**Please explain:**

*We may be able to use data from a previous unpublished hedonic modeling effort that quantified value (activity days) associated with trout richness. Andrew Kanarek is potentially interested in working with one*

of my sturgeon models to evaluate new chemicals, so i'll present to his group on my next visit to DC in December.

I am not seeking more research plans--too many obligations already.

**7. Do you feel that the exchange of ideas that took place during the working group will influence your future research?**



**Comments:**

*The group was largely not familiar with ecosystem services and valuation terminology. However, despite this we reached consensus on two paths forward and an outline for a joint paper involving all participants.*

*The group leaders were very good at both allowing discussion and keeping the group focused on the task at hand.*

**8. Do you feel the expectations for the next working group are clear (in the sense that you are leaving this meeting with a good idea of what your contribution will be at the next meeting)?**



**Comments:**

*No comments.*

**9. What do you feel was the most useful aspect of the working group?**

*Interactions*

*Getting different stakeholder groups together to discuss how to progress.*

*Sharing expertise with people with very different backgrounds.*

*Having people with expertise across the range of topics we addressed, from molecular biology to energetics to ecology.*

*The opportunity to hear from people in various disciplines how they would approach the problem of modeling from molecules to ecosystem services.*

*The smaller (3-4 person) meetings*

*The overview that participants gained.*

*Identifying common interests, language and research needs*

*Meeting in person rather than telecommunicating*

## **10. What, if anything, would you change about the working group?**

*Meeting upstairs (larger room) tended to keep us together as a larger group and away from whiteboards - less visual brainstorming, more talking.*

*Nothing, I thought it worked really well.*

*As usual with such groups, there are a very few members who seem to want to steer the group to topics that are of interest to them but not related to the group's primary purpose.*

*The group was very well organized. I wish I had more time before the meeting to do the background reading.*

*At some point the two subgroups might want to meet and work together.*

*Nothing as of the moment*

## **11. Please provide any additional comments about your overall experience with the working group:**

*I had high expectations to the workshop and they were met.*

*Thanks for this opportunity.*

*Overall the organization by NIMBioS staff was great - very pleasant, professional, and efficient! The meals provided were excellent and sufficiently varied. The reception organized by NIMBioS was rather disappointing compared to previous. If funds are tight I would suggest to skip this and let participants organize their own get together.*

*NIMBioS is a very nice place to work.*

*NIMBioS staff was outstanding! Our working group was more successful than I thought we would be after our first meeting. The NIMBioS atmosphere, staff and support was a key to our success.*