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Program Evaluation Tipsheet #5

Listening Posts

Annual Conference used a method of evaluation different from the type I utilize. Can you tell me more about it?

The "Listening Posts" consisted of a group of volunteer conference participants who agreed beforehand to "post" themselves in the meeting rooms, corridors, and break rooms at the Scanticon and record what conferees told them about the conference as it unfolded. Employing listening posts is an informal yet structured way to get feedback at a conference or workshop without making participants use pencil and paper.

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Kiernan, Nancy Ellen (1999). How to Evaluate a Conference Informally Using Listening Posts. Journal of Extension 37(6). Available at: <u>http://www.joe.org/joe/1999december/iw1.html</u> Current as of January 12, 2005.