

MHSLA Telecommunications Survey: the results

Leslie Burke

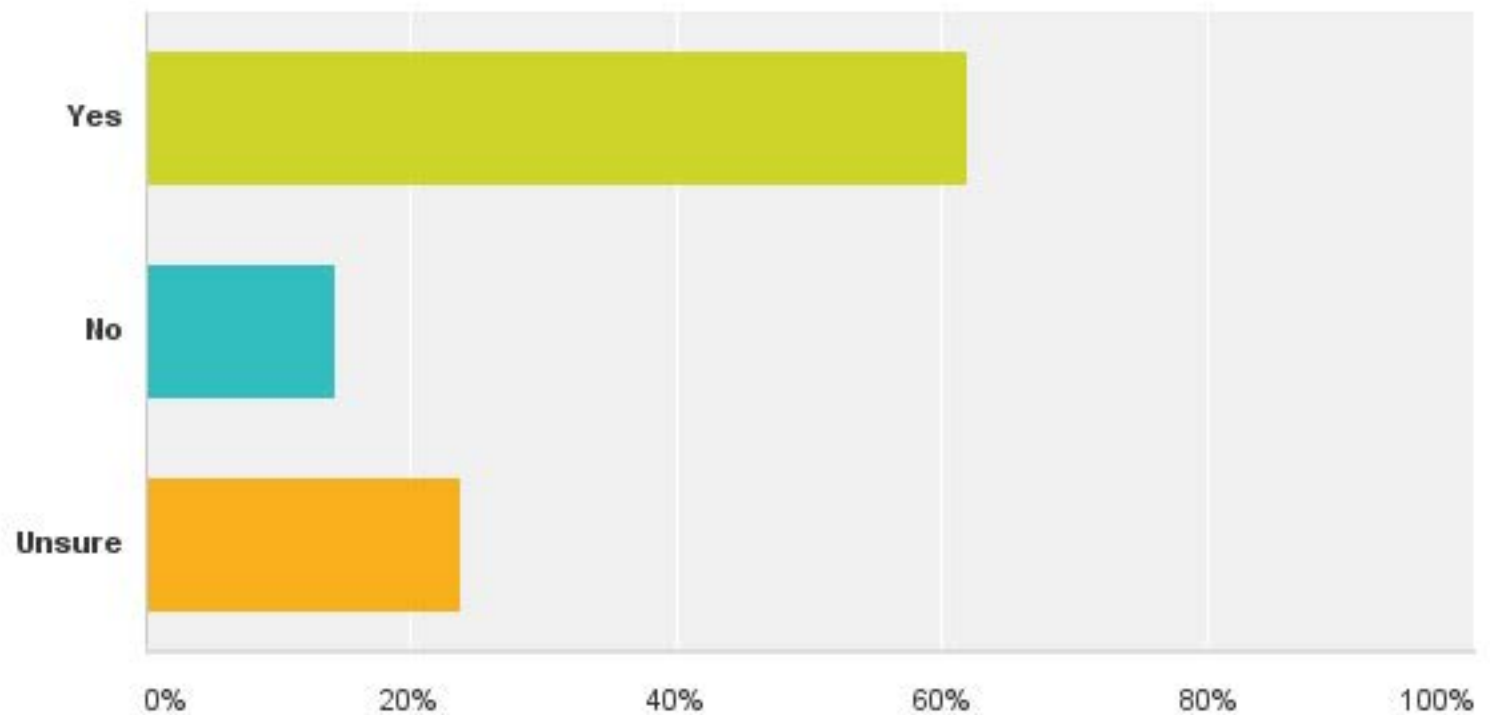
Past-President 2012-2013

Q1 - What telecom/videocon software is in use at your organization?

- Adobe Meeting/Connect – 6 (may be hosted by vendor)
- Not sure/I don't know – 5
- WebEx – 4 (some are hosted by vendor)
- Videoconferencing/Polycoms - 4
- Google Hangouts – 3
- GoToMeeting – 2
- Skype – 2
- OTN – 2 (only in Ontario)
- None – 2
- Fuze -1
- Special software for distance students – 1
- Only at remote sites (webinars or telecon) - 1

Q2 Are you/your staff allowed to use or access the software in use by your organization?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

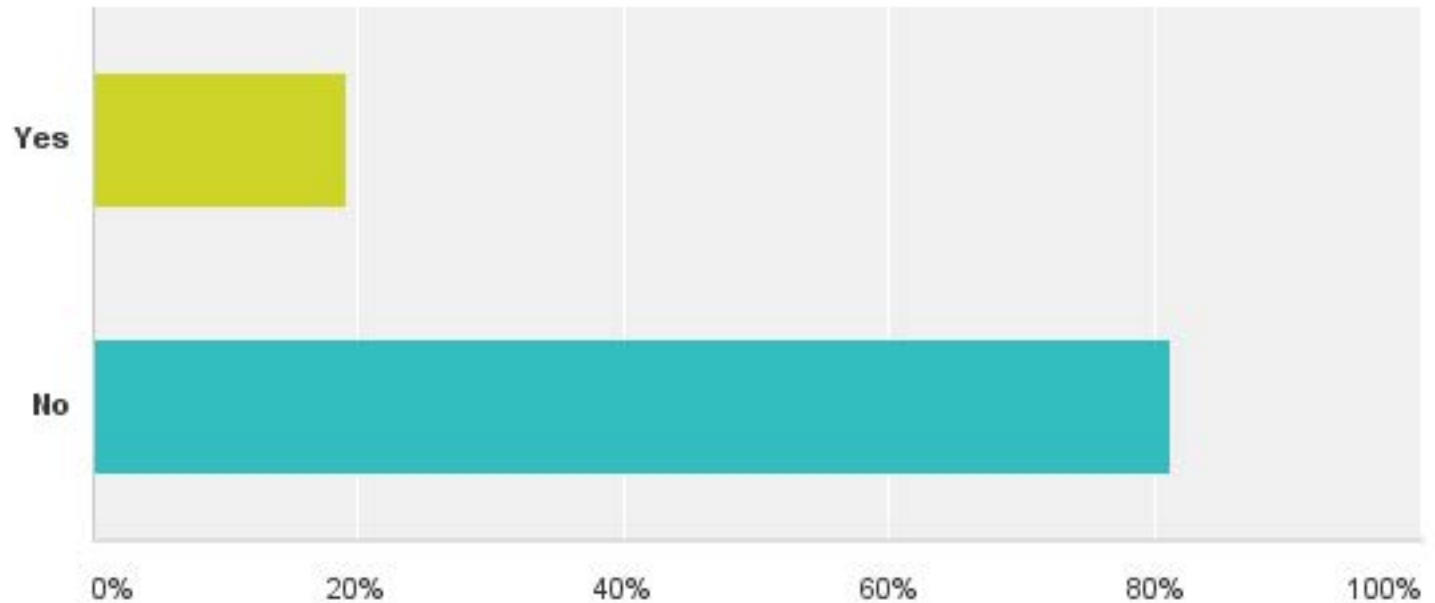


Q2 Comments

- Unsure – “can use the WebEx setup (through Medical Education) . Not sure about...videoconferencing.
- Able to use televideo conferencing equipment and polycoms
- “We can use our technology to dial in to webinars. For videoconferencing, I use Skype or Google Hangouts on my iPad (belongs to work) or iPhone (personal) because those...devices that have cameras.”
- “Programmed by IT and it’s seamless. I only use it—don’t know anything about it.”
- “Library is administrator for” Point to Point videoconferencing.
- “Depends on what it is needed for. Have used for NCBI workshops when presented at our institution and transmitted to 14 other institutions in Michigan and beyond.”

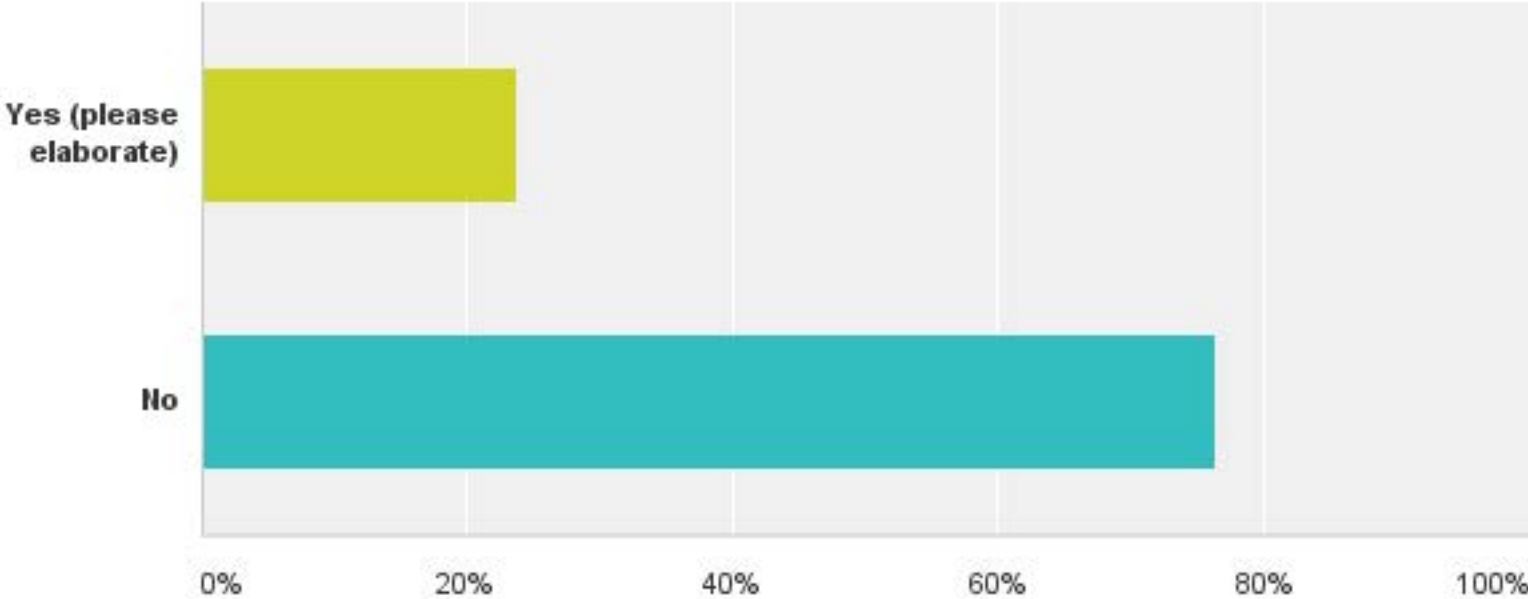
Q3 Do you know of any free videoconferencing software or web meeting software?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0



Q4 Are you aware of any pros/cons for the software mentioned in question 3?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

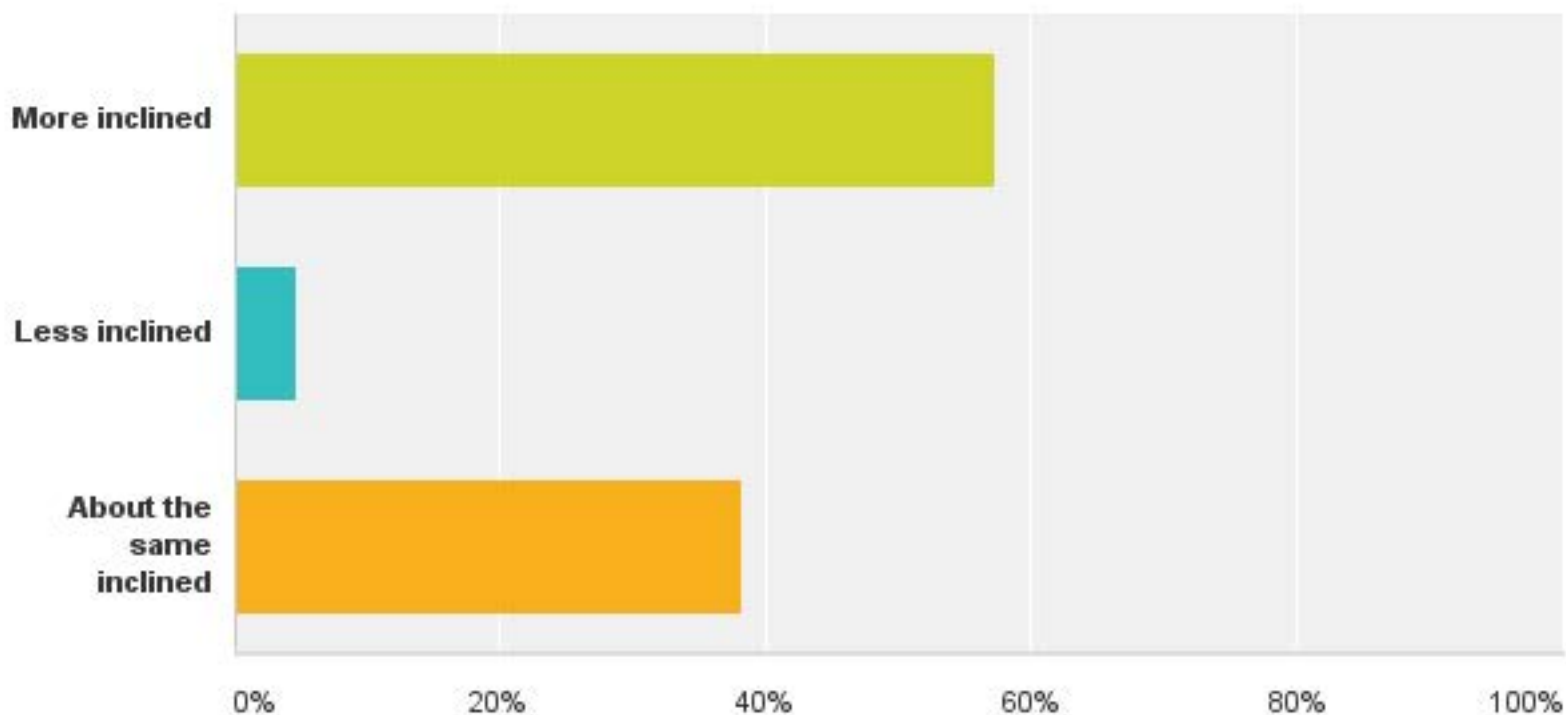


Q.3 Comments – incl. Pros & Cons

- “I don’t know much about this area”
- Free: Anymeeting.com; WebEx Basic; Google Hangouts
 - “Anymeeting.com’s free account has ads, but supports up to 200 users...no recording capabilities though. Google Hangouts is also free, but requires users to have Google accounts (gmail) and has a bit of a learning curve.”
 - “No use of many of the software packages such as Skype. Bandwidth issues are one reason given by IT.”
 - “Google Hangouts will host up to 10 people for free. They’re easy to use and fun. Limits to group size for Hangout. The usual bandwidth/connectivity issues for video.”
 - “from what I’ve heard has the caveat that it’s not completely private. Maybe the public wound’t be able to see/hear the meetings, but the software makers can, and maybe they may not be interested, but I think that marketers who buy access would be. Also, do we want to be discussion finances...”
 - “usually lack robust functionality so I don’t utilize (reports)”
 - “Don’t know nothin’ ‘bout no software”

Q5 If the MHSLA Executive Board held some of their bi-monthly meetings via videoconference or web meeting software, would you be more inclined, less inclined, or about the same inclined to be willing to serve on the Executive Board or a committee?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0



Some final thoughts....

- Based on this survey (23 respondents), it would seem that if MHSLA pursued an organizational license to one of the major web-based webinar/meeting software, most members would be able to avail themselves of web meetings.
- “Free” software would be limiting, less functional and have privacy and ads issues
- MHSLA members might need to use personal devices or “attend” a meeting off complex if institutional set-ups are too restricting.

Next Steps



- Decide top 3 commercial web meeting software applications
 - Web account ; vendor hosted
- Get pricing for MHSLA sized accts
- Decide on which to pursue
- Ask Board for money to purchase license (like Survey Monkey account)



The End

Respectfully submitted by

Leslie Burke

9/16/2013