



Micro-51 Survey Results

October 20 – 24, 2018

Fukuoka, Japan

<http://www.microarch.org/micro51>

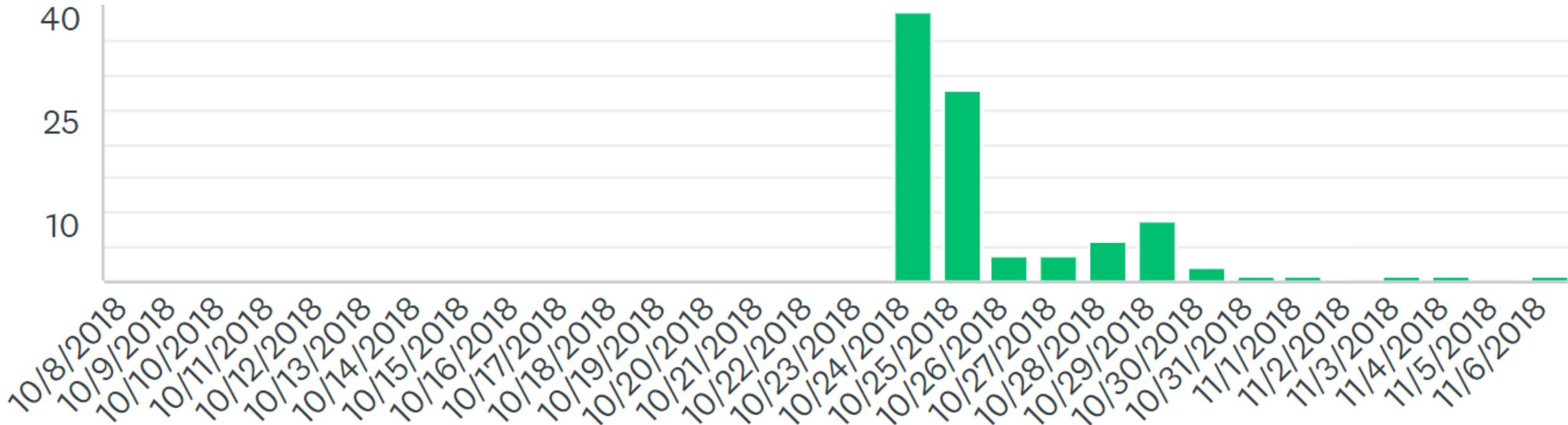
Survey Questions

1. What was your overall impression of MICRO?
2. What was your impression of the MICRO Workshops and Tutorials?
3. What was your impression of the poster session?
4. How were the opportunities to network at Micro-51?
5. What was your impression of the Grand Hyatt Fukuoka Hotel for conference activities?
6. What was your impression of the Tuesday excursion to Koro-kan?
7. What was your view of Fukuoka as a venue for Micro?
8. Micro offered childcare. Please indicate if you used it and if so, your view of it?
9. Earlier this year John Hennessy and David Patterson were recognized with the Turing Award - computing's Nobel. Please list any others in computer architecture you think should be considered for this recognition.
10. Please provide any other comments

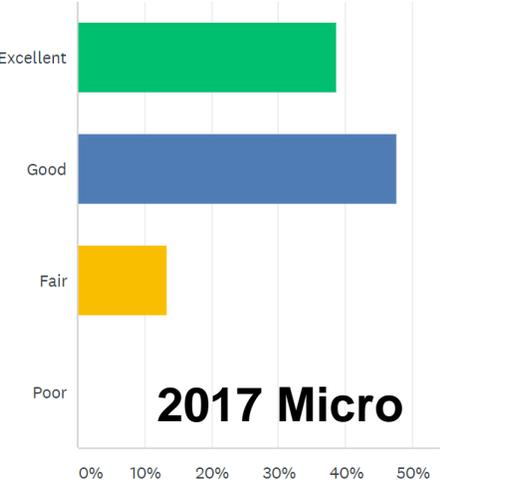
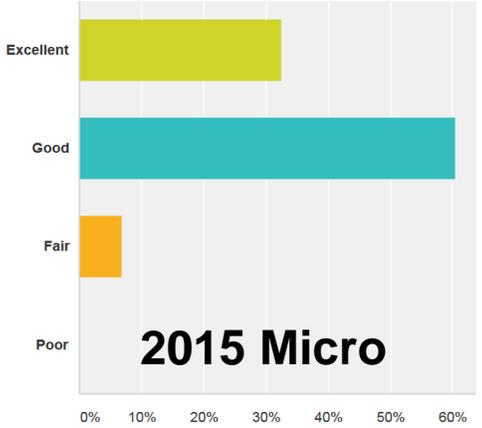
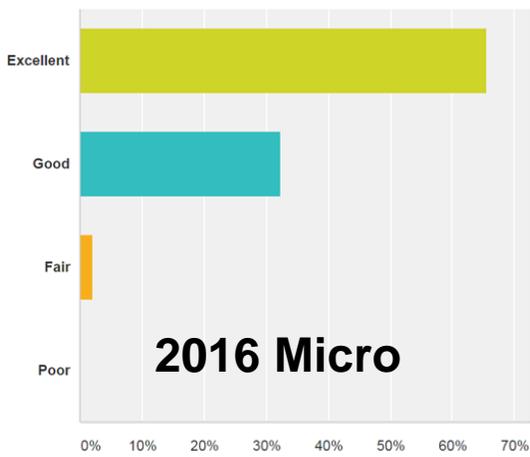
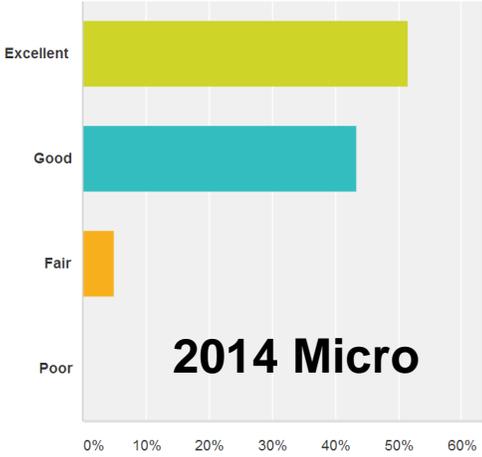
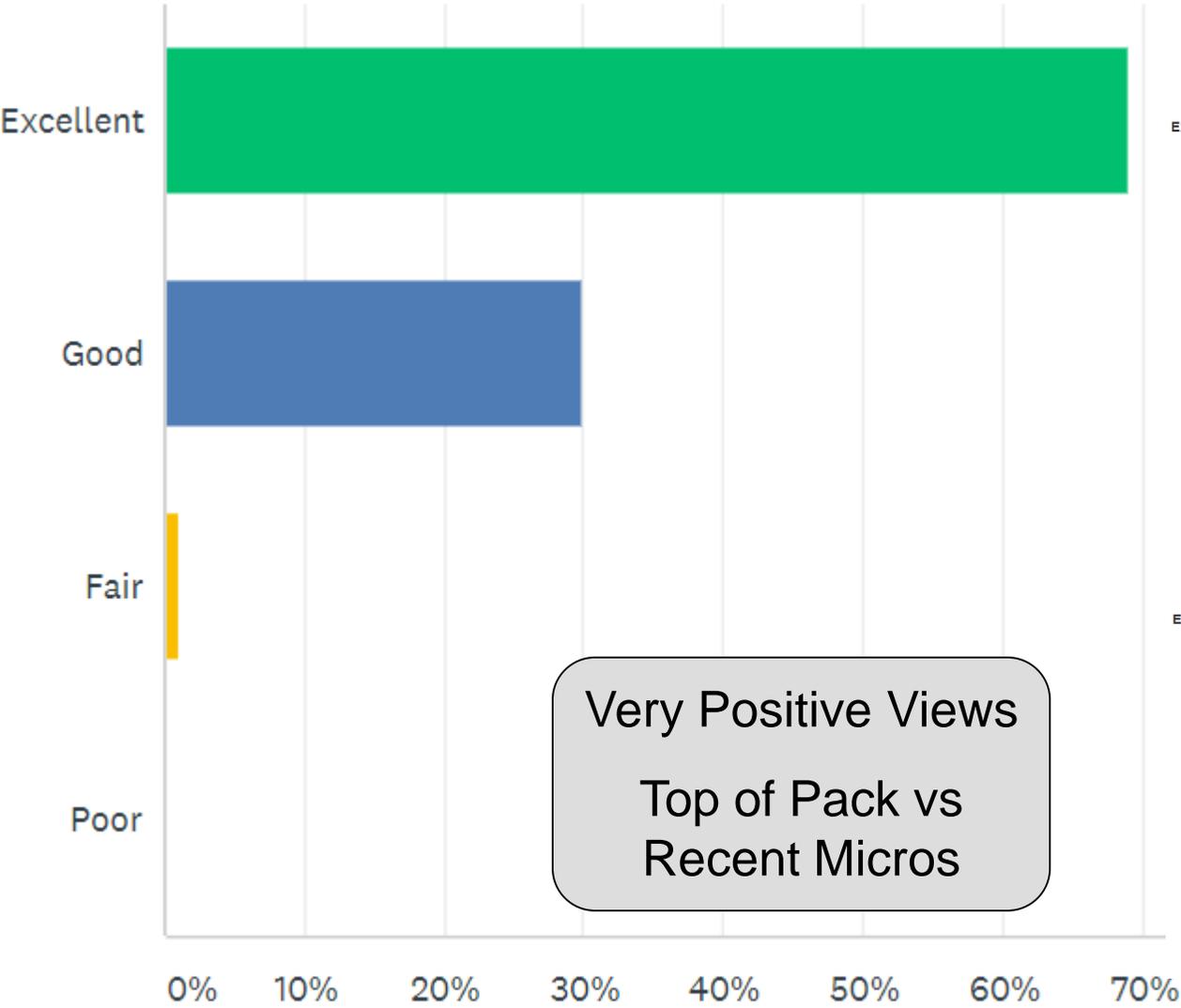
Broad Themes in Responses

1. Excellent view of conference from most attendees.
2. Suggestions: “Meet a Senior Architect” sessions like ISCA + Designated Meeting Spaces.
3. Some concerns about venue too small for 600 attendees.
4. Many comments about lack of space at posters – a recurring problem at Micro.
5. Overall positive sentiment on workshops/tutorials, but several specific concerns.
6. Complaints about having talks while people eat at Awards Lunch.
7. Votes for Turing Award: *(4) Jim Smith, (3) Bill Dally, (2) Yale Patt, Joel Emer*

Survey Response over Time



1. Overall Impression of Micro



1. Overall Impression – Positive Comments

1. The best conference I have ever attended
2. Good food
3. Great organisation
4. Especially impressed by the technical program.
5. The organization was exceptional - excellent location, great venue. I found the technical program rather unexciting and there seemed to be fewer-than-usual senior members of the community to interact with. Perhaps that's inevitable given the remote location.
6. Great conference organization, venue, size, and program
7. Overall local organization was excellent, things worked very well. Considering the larger than usual attendance, the General Co-Chairs and local arrangements teams should be very proud of their accomplishments. A great event, with no doubts.
8. Overall the conference was good. More specific comments follow *[with later questions]*.
9. Thank you so much!

1. Overall Impression of Micro – Mixed and Negative Comments

MIXED

1. Keynotes 1 and 2 were embarrassingly bad. The lack of real toilets at the excursion and no information about what we were seeing was kind of gross. Having the parallel tracks in rooms right next to each other was excellent. [\[More on Question 10\]](#)

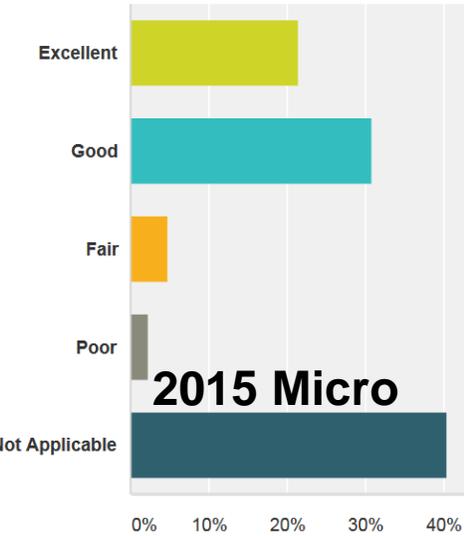
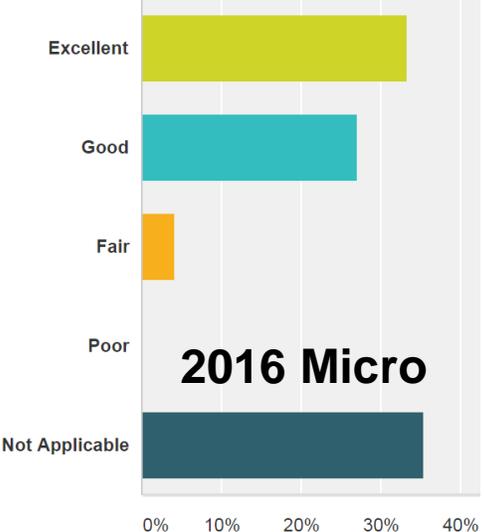
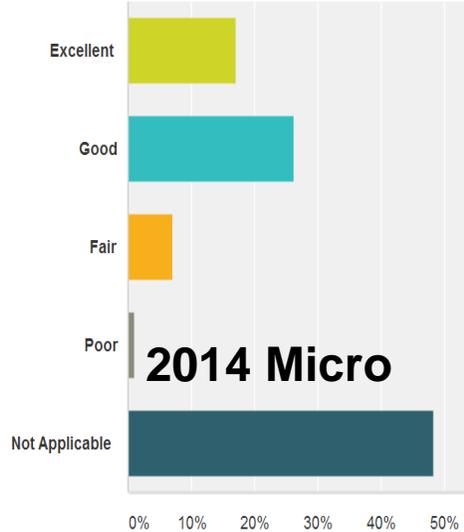
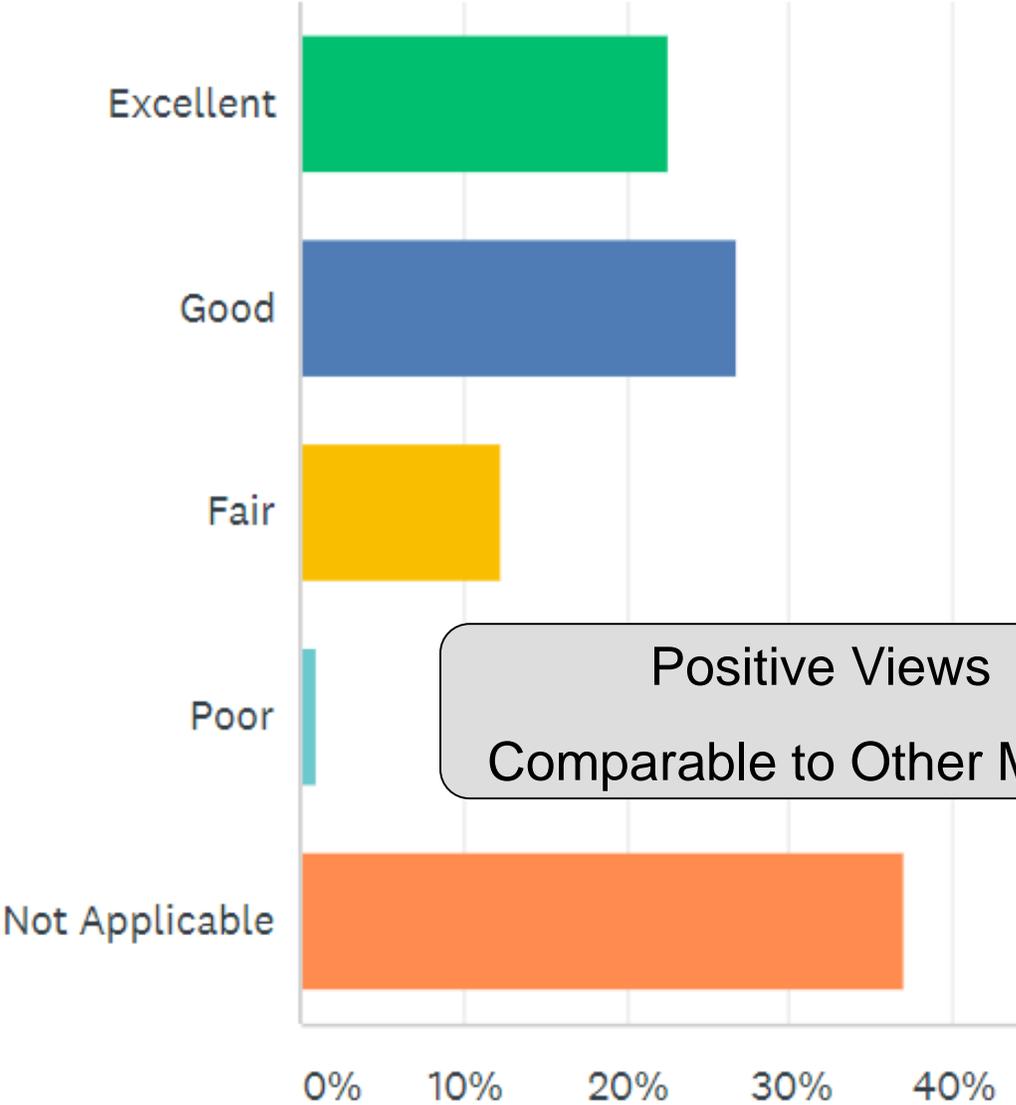
BAD - CROWDED

1. Too crowded, less community feel than prior micros
2. The conference was overall held at a venue that was too small to support the 600+ attendees.

BAD – AWARDS LUNCH

1. Why were the awards given during lunch? Nobody was paying attention to the speakers, and we weren't allowed to talk during lunch because of the talks. What is this, Catholic school?

2. Workshops and Tutorials



2. Workshop and Tutorials - Comments

POSITIVE

1. I only participated in one of them, briefly peeked into another. Topics for these sessions were very good.

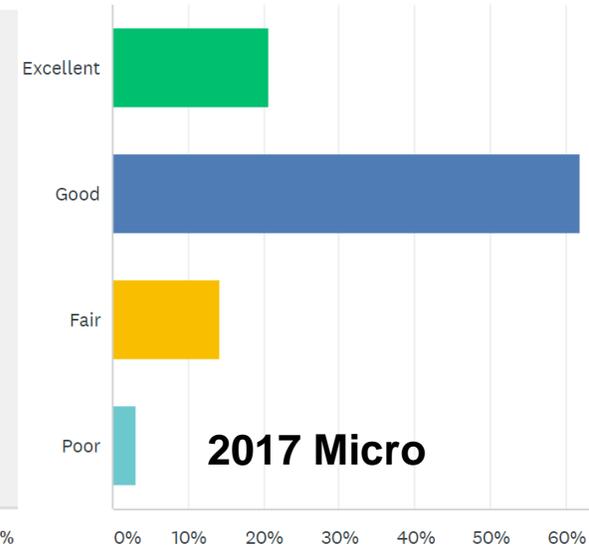
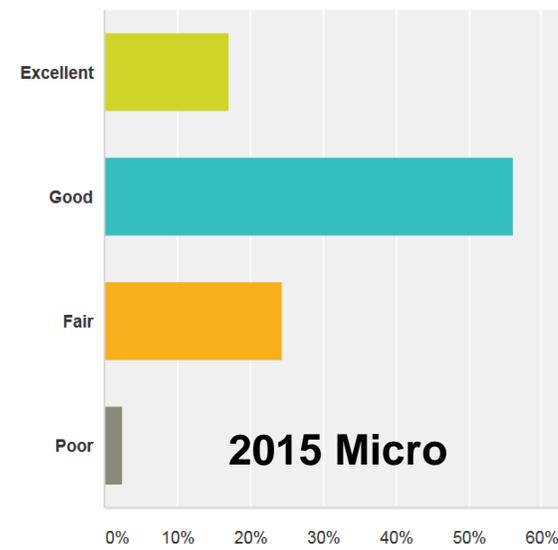
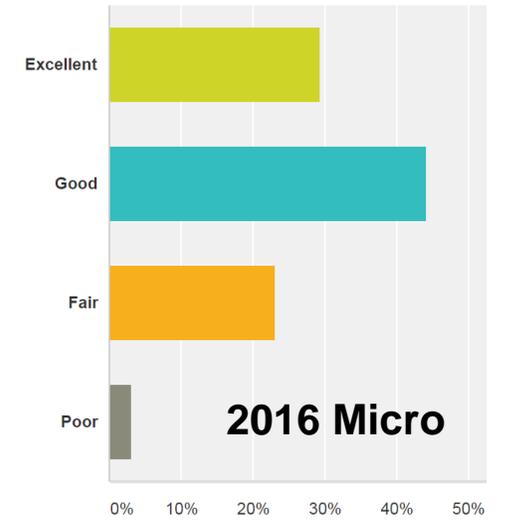
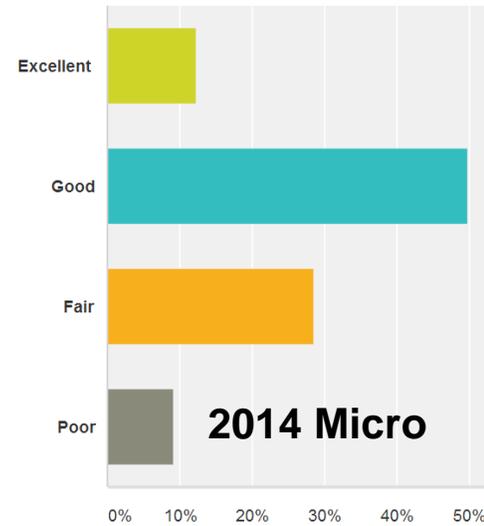
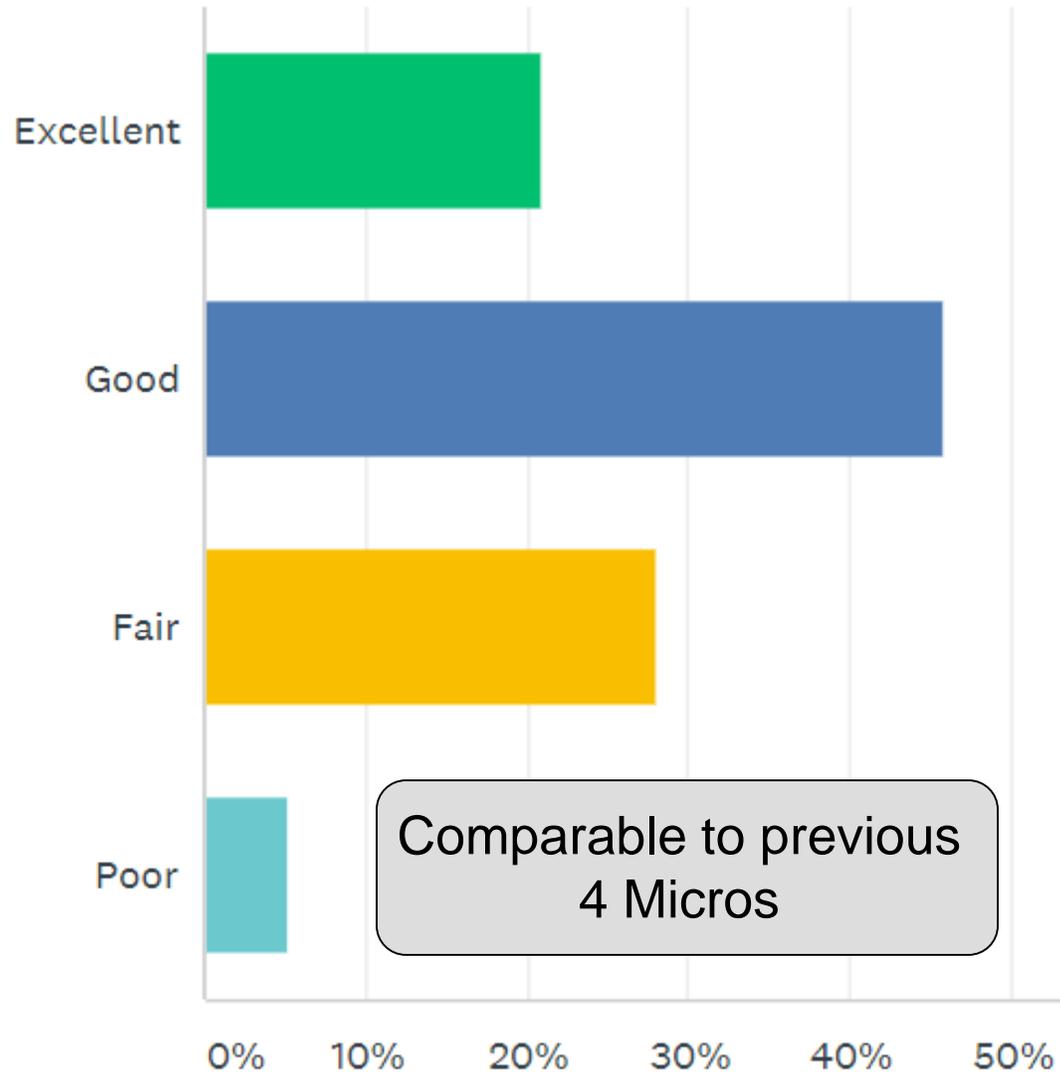
MIXED

1. I attended RISC-V workshop, which was not worth for 22,000 yen. If it were free, it would be good.

NEGATIVE

1. It would have been nice if we had a separate larger room for lunch.
2. Seems like less than usual -- were some canceled?
3. I could get various points of view for career. It seems less points about the relation between Academic and (especially) Industry.
4. The NoC workshops were not very well organized
5. Workshops and tutorials were sub-par compared to other conferences
6. It would have been good to have more deals available for the tutorials which included hands on sessions

3. Poster Session



3. Poster Session – Mixed Views / Suggestion

1. Very nice because we can talk with authors directly. Please use more wide space for poster session. Also, I want more time for poster sessions.
2. Great idea, but the room was terrible. As much as I love conference poster sessions, I did not spend any time in the room because of the utter lack of space.
3. At least one session was inside a room too small, thus too crowded. The other sessions in the open area were much better
4. Idea/content were great, but needed more space!
5. The rooms were cramped although I also understand that attendance was so high that this may have been inevitable.
6. Too crowded -- also the afternoon session was at the same time with talks, as a result rooms were empty because people were still at the posters. Combining posters and reception (food in the middle, posters in the perimeter of the room) is a typical setting in systems conferences that works really well. Consider it next time. I usually love to go by the posters, this time it was way too crowded.

3. Poster Session – Negative Views (1)

1. Crowded
2. Too crowded
3. Too crowded.
4. too crowded
5. Too crowded
6. Very crowded
7. Very crowded room
8. The room was too congested!
9. Small room
10. The room was very small.
11. The room was very small.
12. The space was too small
13. The room was too small and stuffy.
14. Room was too small
15. The space is too small
16. Small rooms made it hard to talk to presenters
17. A bigger room might have helped
18. The space could have been better.
19. Rooms were too crowded, it was hard to navigate
20. Space is limited, a little bit crowd in the room
21. The space was too cramped for 600 conference attendees
22. The poster session was really crowded! A bigger space was needed.
23. The room was small. It might be better to hold the sessions in the third floor.
24. The room was way to small, too hot (where was the air conditioning?)
25. It was too crowded and there was not enough space in the room.

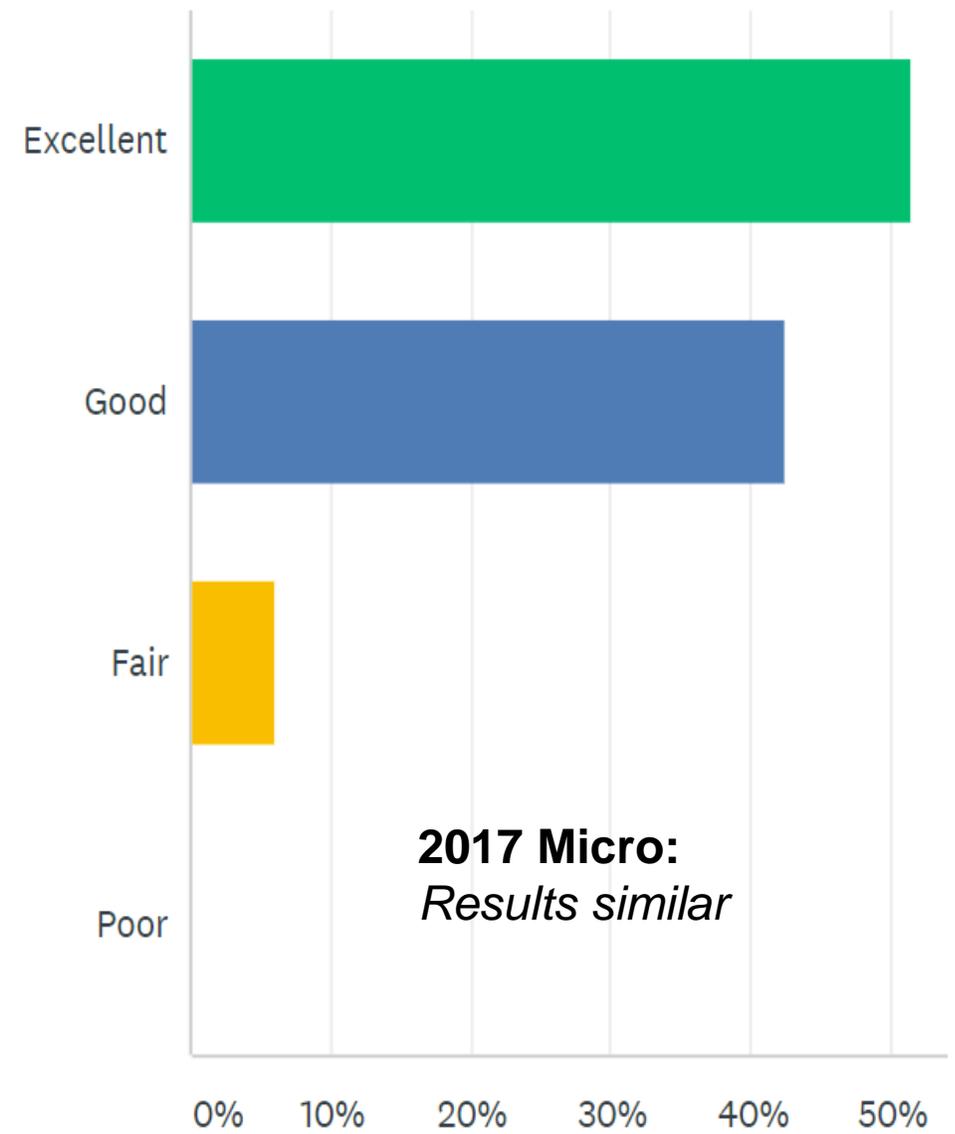
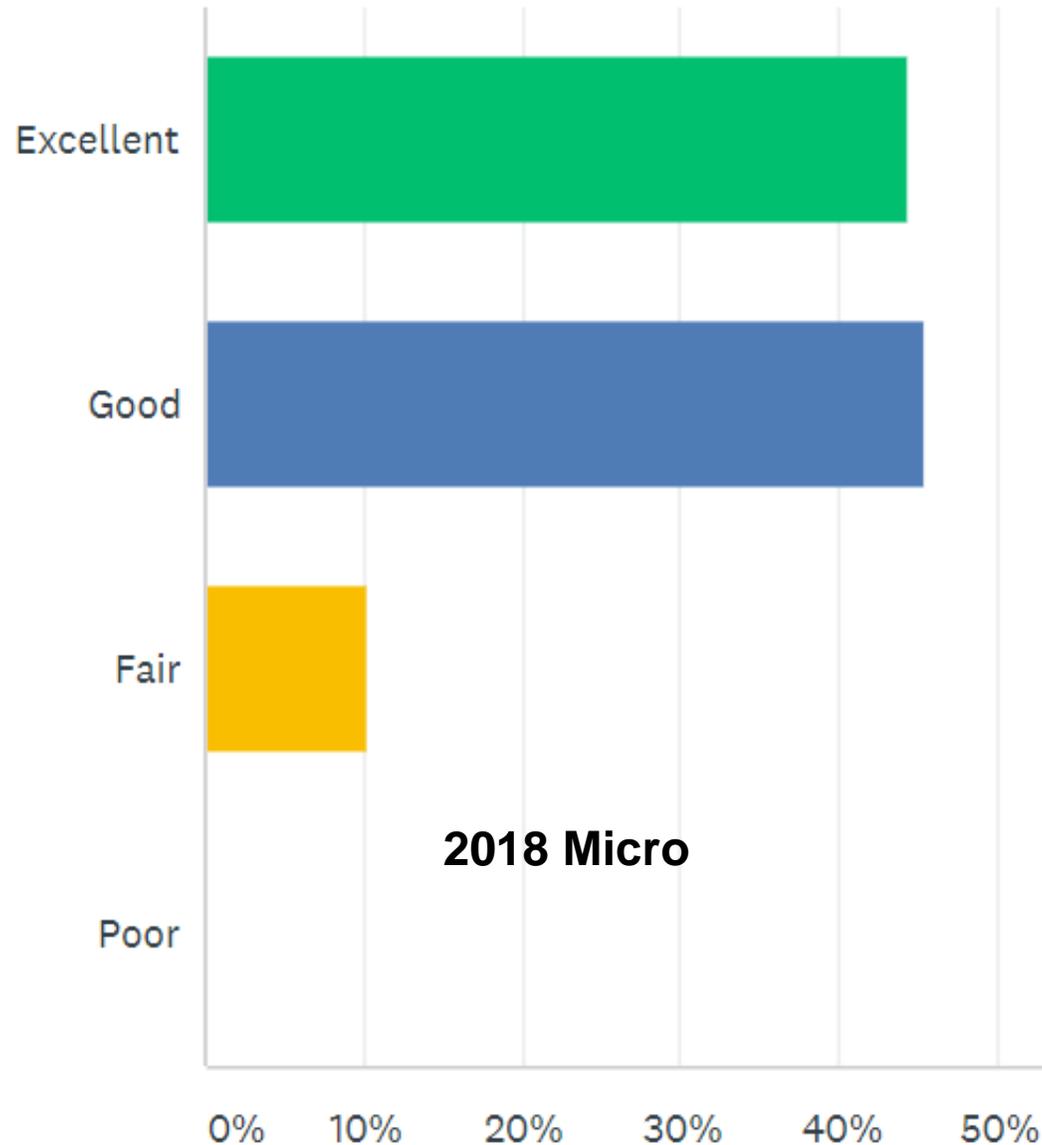
3. Poster Session – Negative Views (2)

- 26. The room is too small. And the time arrangement is not good - a lot of people got stuck in the poster room, and only few people went to the presentation in the Tuesday afternoon.
- 27. Small space made for a rather crowded experience. Because of that, some people, myself included, found it difficult to stay inside for as long as we would have liked.
- 28. The place did not consider the large number of attendees and it was hard to walk inside to see the posters
- 29. The poster sessions were held in very small rooms and it was difficult to move around.
- 30. Space was a bit cramped. Seems like it would have been better to also make use of the common area.

- 31. Hard with SRC held during lunch
- 32. placed away from the main program location
- 33. lack time

Concerns other than crowding and space

4. Networking Opportunities



4. Networking Opportunities

POSITIVE

1. The use of the Whova app was very nice.

SUGGESTIONS

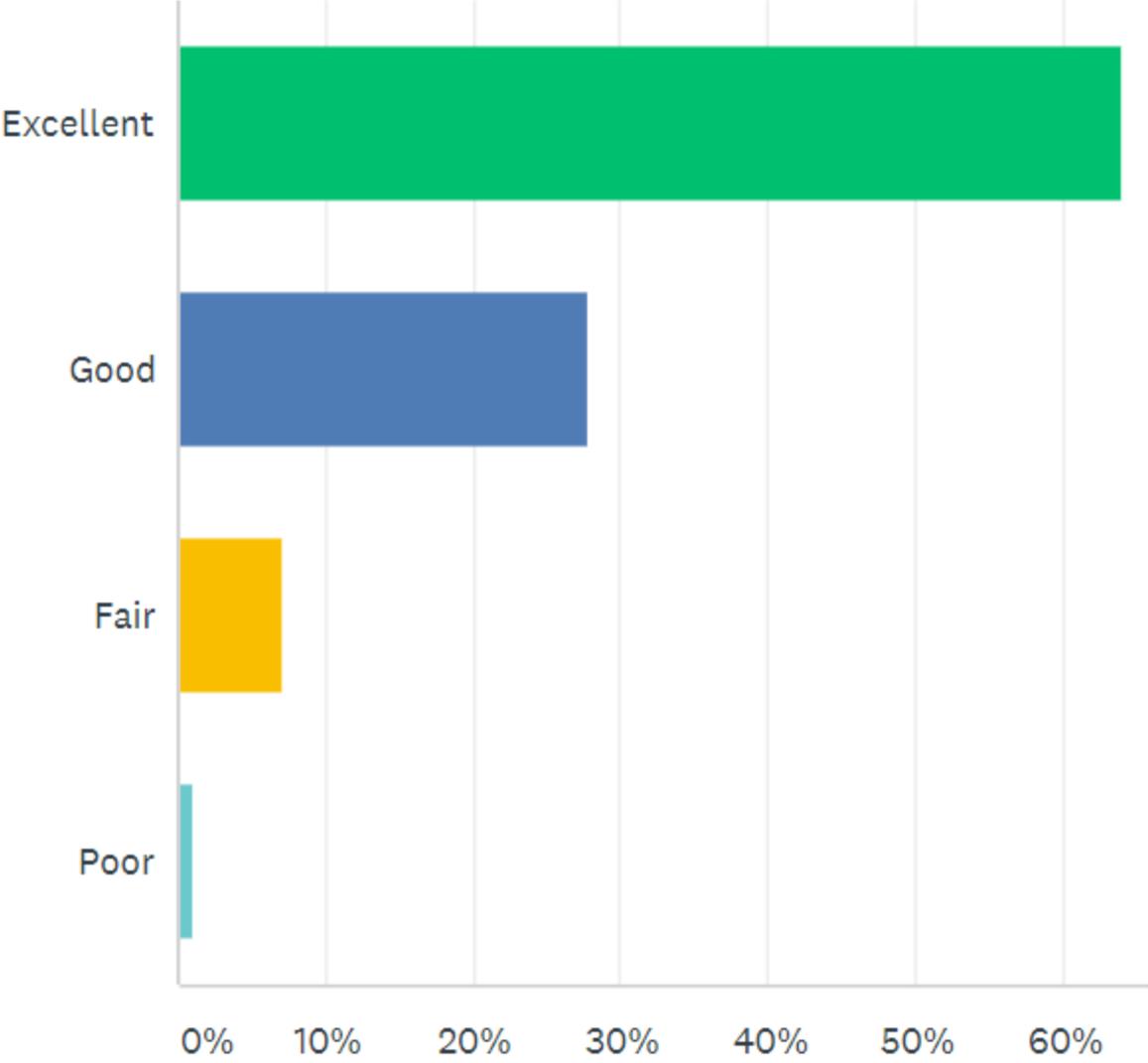
1. Having a meet a senior architect might have helped a bit more
2. Meet a senior architect like feature (ISCA-18) Should be introduced
3. There was not much space for sit down networking. Some more quick meeting space would have been nice.

CONCERNS

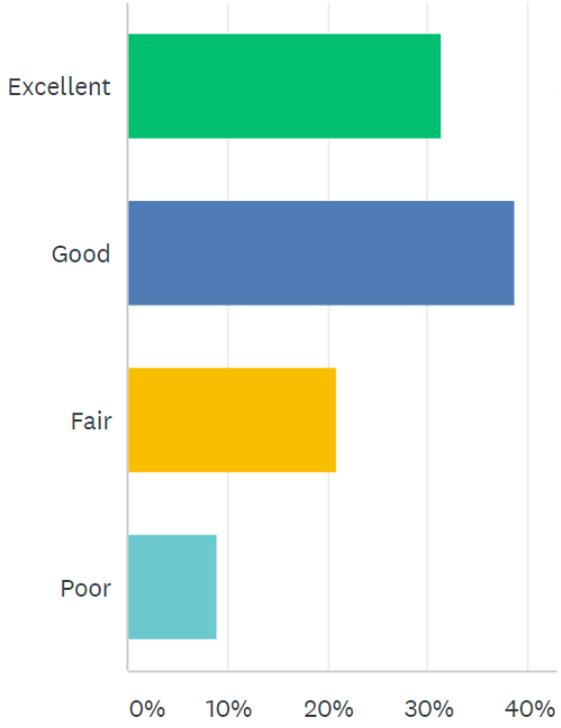
1. Only few participants from companies.
2. Name tag didn't show the job title
3. Too crowded
4. More breaks would have helped.
5. It was always very noisy and there weren't many sit-down meals
6. Nowhere to sit down.
7. There was not sufficient space outside of the sessions to meet with people.
8. Too much testosterone! Too many programmers! I can really see why this community has so many young women attendees and then attrition becomes inevitable.

5. Impression of Hotel

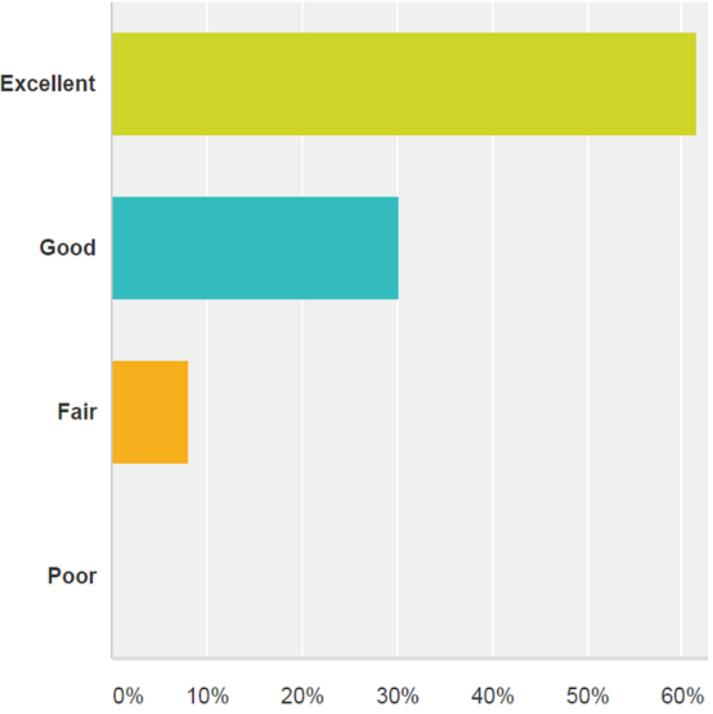
2018 Grand Hyatt Fukuoka



2017 Hyatt Regency



2016 Howard Hotel



5. Impression of Hotel

POSITIVE

1. Everything worked. The staff were helpful. Good location.
2. Good network service
3. Space available, services provided, all were very good.

MIXED

1. Other than space limitations it was good.
2. Handled the more-than-expected attendance very well. Facilities good, but awards lunch speakers were not audible, and break food was too sweet.
3. *[Overall rating, "Excellent"]* However, the food during the breaks was underwhelming

NEGATIVE

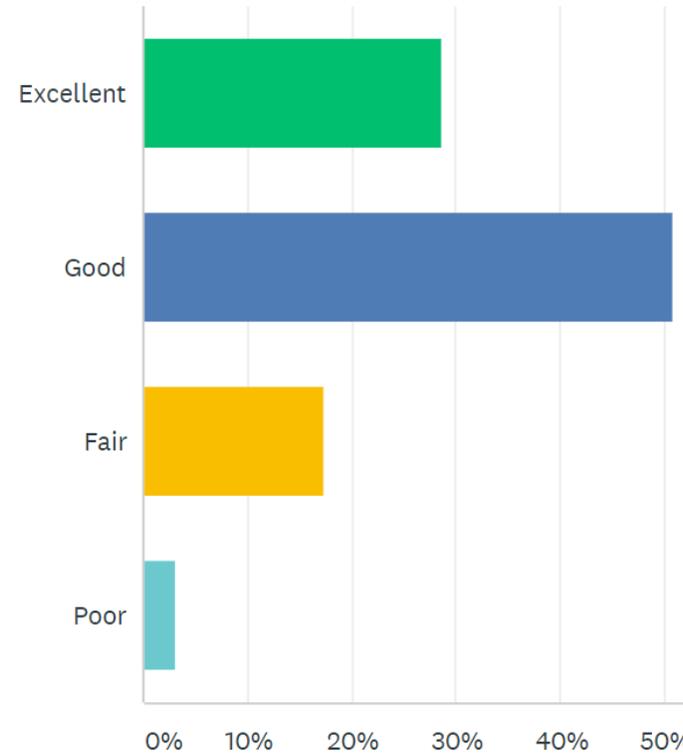
1. expensive
2. Not enough rooms
3. Nowhere to sit down
4. a bit complicated structure and not easy to find escalators
5. The hotel was okay, but especially during the award lunch, the staff were way too loud. Also during lunch on Monday, the staff were too passive, they didn't act quickly enough to fill the empty menus.
6. Can't get to the conference venue (3rd floor) from hotel rooms without going through the second floor where other events are happening; Award lunch was bit unorganized;

6. Social Events

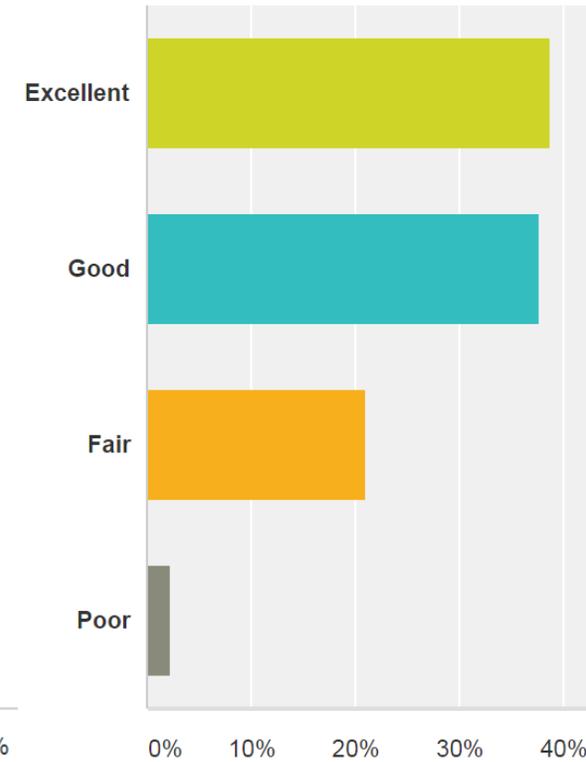
2018 Excursion to Koro-kan



2017 Boston Aquarium, Evening Panel



2016 Shung Ye Museum, Natl Palace Museum?



6. Social Excursion to Koro-kan: Positive

1. Thanks for organizing this! It's very nice :)
2. The entertainment was very novel and impressive.
3. Great excursion. Banquets should always be outdoors!
4. Good food, good show.
5. Liked performances over just fancy dinners
6. Very well planned, with great activities, food, and drinks
7. could experience the Japanese traditional foods and activities
8. Nice food. The location was ok
9. The food during the conference was excellent but not as much at the excursion to Koro-kan
10. Loved the casual opportunity to move around and mix. Great food options. Fun entertainment: the drummers were amazing!

6. Social Excursion to Koro-kan: Non-Positive

MIXED

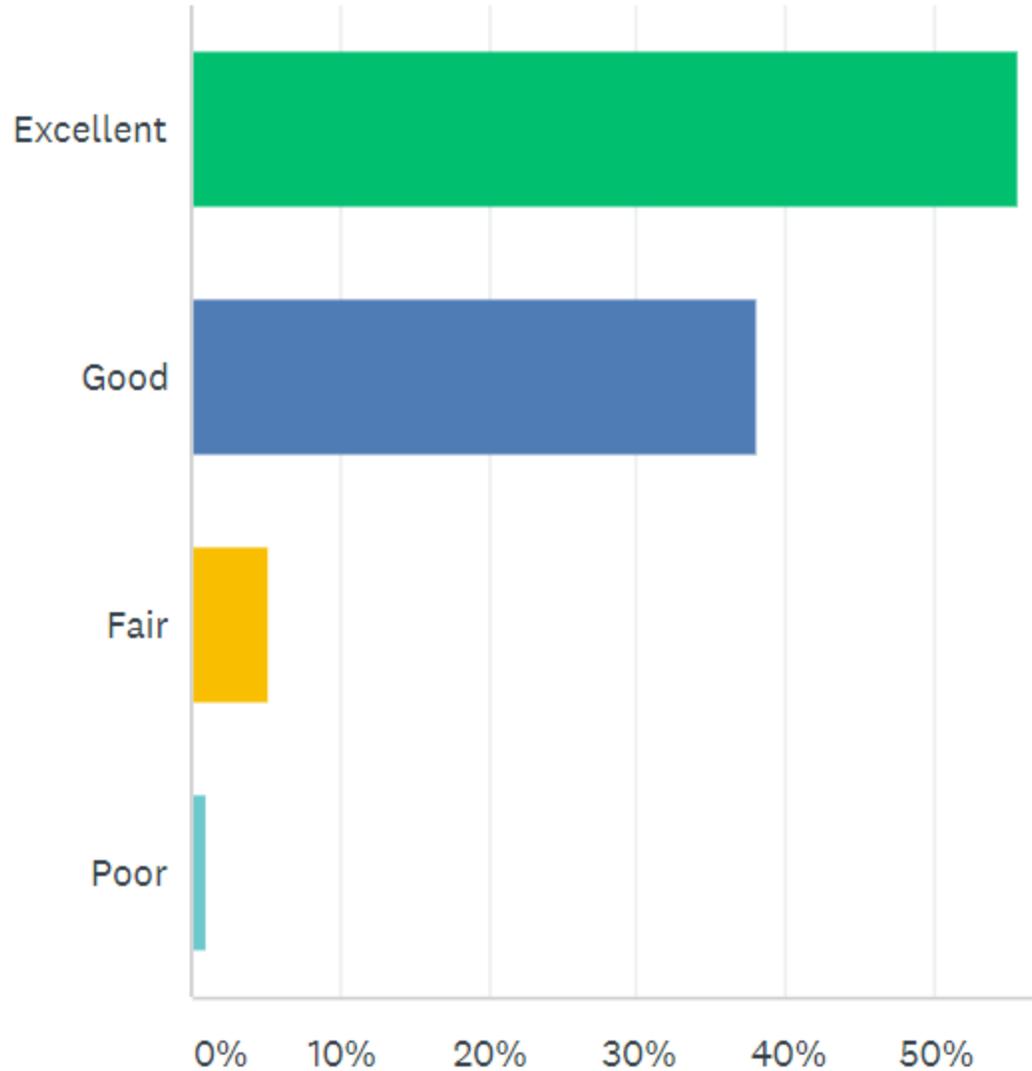
1. Excursion was good, but hard to find people and some of the food seemed to have run out quickly.
2. Although the dinner experience was great in that it simulated a food street like experience, the location was not so well chosen, the excursion was below expectations. The food was also not as good as expected.

NEGATIVE

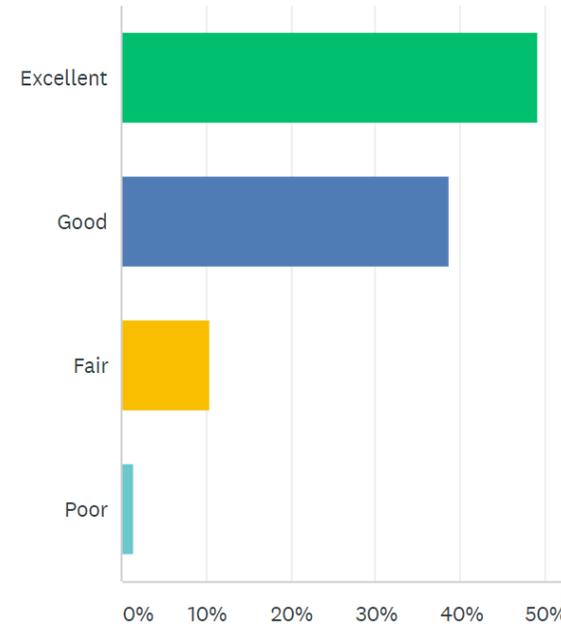
1. Rain should have caused it to go inside
2. the ground was bit muddy. Not expected.
3. The food setup was a bit unclear to start
4. Food could have been better. I got to the line early, and a lot of the food was already out.
5. No information about what we were seeing, where to go (map), or what the program was. The toilets were outright disgusting (hole in the ground, no soap, smelly). The lack of seating and walking in the mud was unpleasant. The drumming was awesome.
6. While everything at the hotel was great, the excursion was a low point (weather did not help either)
7. Definitely one of the worst excursion venue; Muddy ground; Nothing worth seeing for non-Japanese

7. City Chosen for Venue

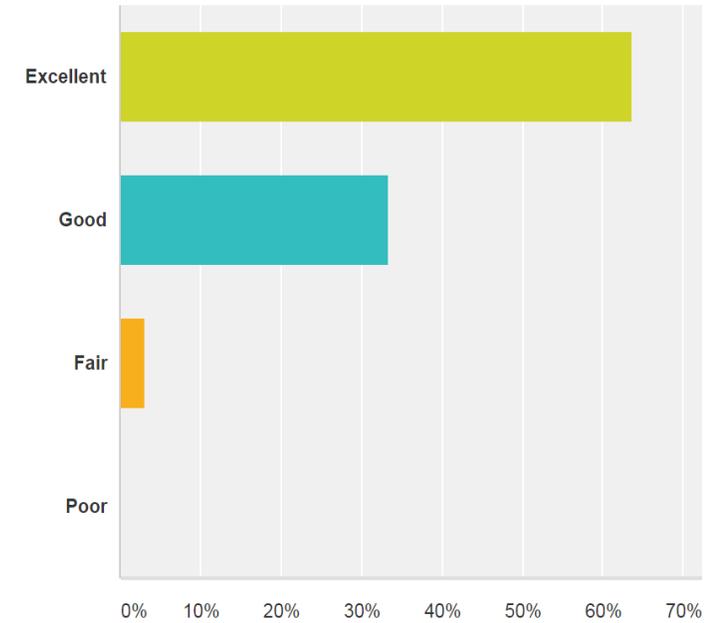
2018 Fukuoka



2017 Cambridge / Boston



2016 Taipei



7. Fukuoka as City for Venue

POSITIVE

1. Interesting city.
2. Great transportation link and very conveniently located from the downtown
3. The city is very good. The only caveat is that it's hard to find English speakers.

MIXED

1. Very nice place to walk around, but really hard to do anything without a Japanese speaker.
2. Hard and expensive to fly there, but amazing once there!
3. A bit less exciting than other prior MICRO locales, but otherwise a good and very welcoming city.

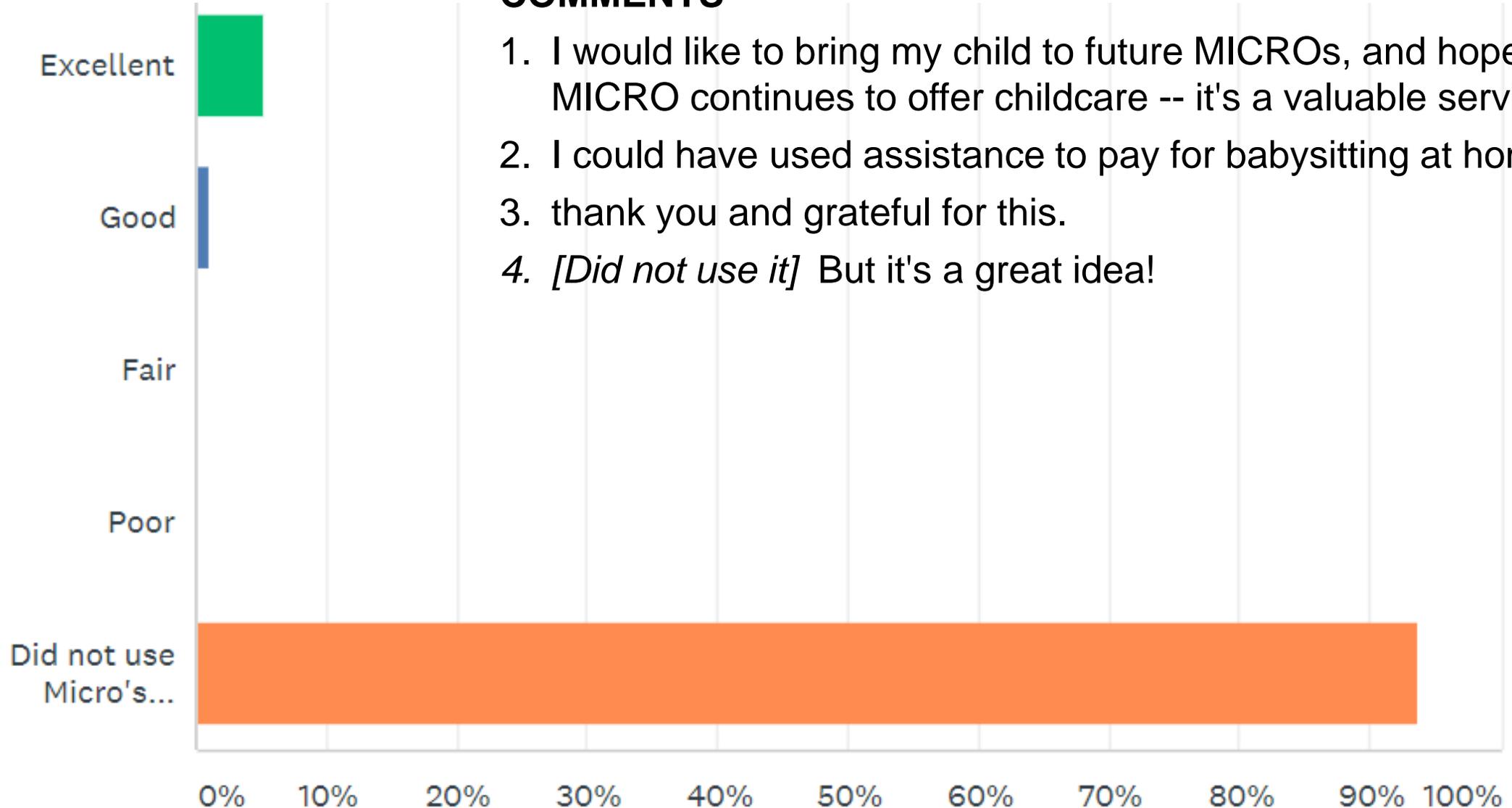
NEGATIVE

1. The hotel was a bit far from train stations.
2. I think a bigger city would be better.
3. For a overseas venue, I believe that both the variety of food, and the variety of places to visit is crucial. I think Fukuoka only satisfies the former.

8. View of Childcare Offered at Micro

COMMENTS

1. I would like to bring my child to future MICROs, and hope MICRO continues to offer childcare -- it's a valuable service!
2. I could have used assistance to pay for babysitting at home.
3. thank you and grateful for this.
4. *[Did not use it]* But it's a great idea!



9. Earlier this year John Hennessy and David Patterson were recognized with the Turing Award - computing's Nobel. Please list any others in computer architecture you think should be considered for this recognition.

Verbatim Comments

1. Gordon Moore, **James E. Smith**, Gurindar Sohi, Trevor Mudge
2. **James Smith**
3. **Jim Smith.**
4. Yale Patt, **Bill Dally**, **Jim Smith**
5. **Joel Emer**, **Bill Dally**, Mary Jane Irwin
6. **Bill Dally**
7. **Yale Patt**
8. **Joel Emer**
9. Margaret Martonosi (Princeton)
10. None
11. Can't think of anyone.

TOTAL VOTES	
4	Jim Smith
3	Bill Dally
2	Yale Patt
2	Joel Emer
1	<i><Multiple></i>

10. Other Comments - Praise

1. Thanks!
2. Great job!
3. The location and hospitality are hard to match. The local general chair did raise the bar!
4. Excellent planning in every aspect. I don't have any dietary restrictions so I don't know how other people thought, but it was perfect for me.
5. The Career Workshop For Women was great. However, I hope a new branch of MICRO Conference subject to the Women, too.

10. Other Comments – Awards Lunch

1. Award luncheon was very noisy and it was very rude to the speaker.
2. I thought the award lunch was terrible. Not the food, I don't care about that. Ravi was trying to give a speech for a prestigious award and we couldn't hear him. I really wanted to hear what he had to say but also thought he deserved more respect than that. Please consider changing the schedule so this doesn't happen again.
3. Scheduling the test-of-time award acceptance speech along with lunch was a bit inappropriate. There was continuous noise in the hall which was very distracting and may have been discouraging for the speaker. It could have been scheduled better.
4. The Awards Lunch structure should be reconsidered for future events, in particular if the conference remains as large as this one. The presentation by the Bob Rau's honoree should get better attention. Either have a separate Awards Session (as it was at MICRO-50), or make the Awards Lunch longer so that people can have lunch and the awardee's presentation follows afterwards. The session with Best Paper candidates would be better if it took place on either one of the first two days. Some people do not stay for the last day; those papers deserved the best attention. Perhaps that session should take place on the first day.
5. I don't know if it was due to the larger-than-normal number of first-time MICRO attendees (in particular the large number from Japan and Korea), but I was really annoyed by the disrespect of the audience to Ravi Iyer during his Rau awards talk. I appreciate that the GCs apparently tried to go around a bit and quiet people down, but it was largely ineffective. I think it's also partly due to the packed schedule, but I seem to recall that typically the awards lunch is longer, which gives people more time to eat and talk before anything really starts, which means by the time the awards part is happening, most of the clanking of forks and knives has died down which makes it easier for everyone to stay quiet.
6. Why was the SRC poster session during lunch? Almost nobody stopped by the posters since lunch was in a different floor. What's the point of even bringing a poster if we don't get any feedback from the community? We also received no feedback from the judges. It would be useful to know what they did and did not like, even if it's just the scores.

10. Other Comments – Food, Keynotes, Outing

1. food options were not inclusive and no wide varieties.
2. The food selection was sometimes subpar. Breakfast was excellent! However lunches were subpar, particularly for those with dietary restrictions (e.g., vegetarians)
3. The first two keynotes were a deep embarrassment to the community. The first one was all “here is what I did” with essentially no “and this is what we learned.” It seemed very selfish. The second one, even after seeing a vote that almost everyone understood Spectre and meltdown, spent most of the time explaining them poorly, and essentially no time on insights and take away messages. I was shocked that we could have two presenters who did such a bad job. The third was excellent. The outing was kind of unpleasant with wandering around aimlessly on wet ruins and the standing around cold in the mud. That should have been thought through more carefully. [*\[Also complained about keynotes in Question 1\]*](#)

The End