

AAIA's 28th Annual Conference 5th – 7th October 2017; 3 Day Delegates

32 three-day conference evaluations were completed – about 4/5 were left on Friday afternoon and went missing along with the one day evaluations. Colleagues from the same school/LA may well have completed one overall evaluation.

Day 1	High			Low
Session 2: Chris Weadon	28%	68.75%	3%	
Session 3: Ofqual - Naomi Nicholson	12.5%	56.25%	31.25%	3%
Session 4: National updates – Will Emms	40.6%	34.37%	18.75%	3%
Session 5: Ofsted – Sean Harford	78.12%	18.75%		
Day 2				
Session 1: Andy Griffith	68.75%	28.12%		
Session 2: Dr. Barry Hymer	81.25%	15.62%	3%	
Day 3				
Session 1: John Coxhead (28 ticks)	18.75%	43.75%	12.5%	12.5%
Table discussions: (28 ticks)	31.25%	28.12%	21.87%	6.25%
Session 2: Mary Myatt (31 ticks)	56.25%	31.25%	9.37%	

Day 1

Session 2: Chris Weadon

- Very exciting – very positive. Spoke with purpose and clarity. Enthused to join in.
- Informative session. Lots of food for thought
- Greater research is required with this approach. Discussion must form a vital part of moderation process
- Helped bring stats to life and further explain the process
- Interesting but lots of questions to be addressed
- Definitely be looking further into this
- Very informative and clearly explained
- Great content – poorly presented
- Good to put some flesh on the bones of CJ
- Interesting but hard to listen to – very soft voice
- Needed discussion time on this, on the day – maybe a panel?
- I know about this already but the findings were useful and knowing his next steps
- Looking further into CJ
- Interesting, but difficult to see some slides – so much in them
- Prompted great discussion and deep/challenging thinking re CJ
- Interesting to get a heads up on alternative process for judging/moderating writing
- Important to know about – complex issues. AAIA to develop a considered response?
- Only criticism – heavy on the statistical side without reference to its role in formative assessment ie identify next learning steps; seemed more of a summative judgement.
- Interesting but I'm still bemused by the point of it. His brief should have included how CJ can/cannot support moderation
- Useful to know about this approach. Lots of doubts about its function and purpose?
- Still needs time for more development/research into whether CJ ensures valid, accurate and reliable judgements
- Interesting but raises more questions than it answers
- Didn't expect to agree with him – and didn't! But thought provoking!

- Difficult to read some of the graphs

Session 3: Ofqual

- Good to have Ofqual – she did a great job in a short time
- Very useful clear info
- Much better than equivalent last year
- Needed a break before she presented - it was a long time before a break. Wanted to know more about outcomes of reviews
- Recognize that this was delivered at a rapid pace due to timing issues
- Very short – would be better to have time for Q&A
- Not sure of purpose, was a bit rushed especially with no question time
- Too little time – not fair on speaker
- Rushed
- Would have liked more detail re effectiveness of Ofqual
- Very brief. Not enough time to deliver
- Could have been emailed in - not sure what it added

Session 4: Will Emms

- I'm always so happy to find out that Will Emms is one of the speakers. He is full of useful and current information that is vital to me as a deputy. I know he listens and will honestly get back to us on any points raised by us
- Helpful info. Appreciate not all info can be shared yet. I value STA input at these events
- Highly informative
- Useful to have an opportunity to comment/ask questions re new/updated assessment arrangements
- Helpful to hear messages related to last year (including apologies). Useful info looking forward
- Always good to have Will here – even if he can't give any answers!
- Always worth listening to
- Good to have him here this year
- Imparting of info useful but frustrating that there were few answers to questions from the floor
- Good to be kept abreast of and have opportunity to ask questions/make suggestions.
- Good to reflect on the changes and have some clarity ie timeline
- Appreciate him turning up this year. Still a few questions that remain unanswered. Will wait until Tuesday I guess and the next update
- If there is nothing to say there is no point!
- Lots of what we already know
- Much info from the past/what has happened before; changes for future were quite brief
- Timings/dates etc not clear; not sure of point other than interesting to touch base. We need info earlier from STA – less ministerial interference!
- Nothing new but useful to have some indication of publication release
- Pity Will couldn't say more – didn't learn anything new
- We still need to communicate with DfE/STA how unacceptable the current situation is, he seemed to think having the TAFs is all we needed
- Nothing we didn't already know and as always didn't have the answers to any questions
- Central part of AAIA concerns
- Told us lots of stuff we already knew. Could not read a single thing on many of the slides
- A lot of time spent telling us what we already know

Session 5: Sean Harford. [Would it be an idea to share these comments with Sean as quite a few comment on the lack of consistency across the Ofsted inspection team?](#)

- I wish all inspectors had the same views
- It is always useful to get Ofsted's input/perspective especially given that 19th Sept is when the new framework is due
- Excellent, very engaging

- Very interesting
- Informative & reassuring – as long as ALL Ofsted inspectors carry out
- Useful, if only all Ofsted sang from the same hymn sheet
- If only all Ofsted inspectors were like this
- Very clear & informative. Adds confidence to the inspectoral process
- Informative, engaging, useful. Motivating speaker, good research thread - wish it would translate to the ground
- He would be good as part of a panel as well as a keynote
- Excellent, good content & delivery. Responded well to questions
- A useful insight into the focus of Ofsted's priorities
- Good speaker. Always interesting to hear from Ofsted
- Let's hope that all Ofsted inspectors hold these views
- If only all Ofsted inspectors could be like Sean
- We need Sean every year
- Honest presentation
- Very positive
- Not very assessment focused, but useful and entertaining
- Highly informative
- Appreciate the opportunity for questions & discussion
- Very engaging. Talked sense, albeit with a curriculum slant, not an assessment focus

Day 2

Session 1: Andy Griffith

- Brilliant! Practical and full of common sense. Things you can easily implement in school
- Engaging. Content most relevant for day delegates
- Excellent. Well structured. Good balance of research and practical activities
- Superb CPD delivered in an engaging way – the time flew
- Covered known areas in a refreshing way. Good food for thought
- Practical ideas, very engaging
- Useful reminders of good practice for class teachers
- Wow! Informative, engaging. Great ideas
- Interesting approach – particularly liked 'CATER'
- Excellent. Gained a lot from this session that will feed into my work with schools
- Excellent, really useful ideas/resources for use in the classroom
- Although many of the things he was saying were not new, he was very engaging and the session was very enjoyable
- Very appropriate for audience on day conference and classroom practitioners etc. pulled together range of known strategies purposefully
- A good replacement for Shirley Clarke. Thank you!
- Brilliant! Practical, evidence based research translated into classroom practice. It was excellent to get a variety of practical ideas. Humour added to an already fantastic presentation
- Excellent presentation – very practical and useful tools to bring back to school
- Excellent session – practical, well-paced and from someone who has his finger on the pulse. New ideas gained but also consolidation. Accessible with down to earth nature and use of humour
- Very informative. Lots of great golden nuggets. I will take away lots of elements and deliver to my staff to ensure they are being effective
- An interesting presentation but perhaps more pertinent to practicing teachers
- Well-presented but nothing new..... what we've been delivering for 15+ years
- Good speaker. Wrong audience for me but right for teachers
- Content was good bit not sure the focus was right for AAIA members who are not teaching

Session 2: Dr Barry Hymer

- It's always good to see Barry – very important messages
- Mirrored and matched Andy's presentation (but didn't duplicate) really well.
- Excellent! Can we have him again next year?
- Excellent – information delivered with humour; very well presented, thought provoking
- Excellent as always
- Also excellent. A lot of sophisticated ideas shared in an engaging and accessible way
- Very good session – had not heard Barry speak before and his approach to formative assessment matches mine exactly
- Really innovative – thank you!
- Extremely thought provoking
- Very good combination of research and practical strategies for the whole audience to use
- Highly engaging, again revisiting known agendas
- Excellent – very relevant, useful and thought provoking. Great opportunity to revisit and move on
- Good speaker. Interesting more so than 1st speaker for me
- Fantastic! Best part of the conference so far
- Really thought provoking
- Entertaining & engaging whilst giving a clear distinction between intrinsic and extrinsic motivation
- Very entertaining. Lots of reinforcement of key messages. Would have liked more on classroom ideas
- Powerful and interesting messages. Very enjoyable. Intrinsic motivation is so important
- As always an informative and thought provoking, high quality presentation
- More theoretical, but made you think and challenge your own perceptions and vision of assessment

Day 3

Session 1: John Coxhead

- Useful to know we can join blogs/groups if we wish
- Interesting to hear about Teacher Reform Group
- Informative
- Useful background
- Good to know that STA are listening
- Interesting but nothing new
- Interesting and reassuring
- Useful to hear how TRG operates and can be link from AAIA to DfE
- Didn't know about this but pleased I do now. Thanks John great professional conversations
- Interesting to know how the TRG works
- I didn't really understand what the purpose of this was – to get ideas on reducing workload – no benefit to us. This could have been an email
- Great to know of AAIA members on consultative groups and to learn about routes to influence/feed into DfE
- It would have been better to ask/answer questions

Table discussions

- It always depends on who is in your group. Luckily we had a good table. Sue had lots of very good points
- Discussions/processing time really important in a rich, packed conference. Quality of discussions obviously a bit of luck depending who's on the table
- Good opportunity to explore themes/ideas arising from the conference
- Good to have time to discuss specific issues
- May be dependent on who is at the table! Very interesting sharing of ideas as well as different views/stimulated thought. A lot of questions raised, no answers ... yet
- Liked time to debate ... intersperse with speakers throughout sessions
- Very good to have a chance to talk & hear a variety of views
- Useful to compare notes with colleagues
- Fundamental disagreement between members about the direction assessment in schools should take need to be ironed out to inform policy

- Only 2 questions to focus on
- CJ great. Role of AAIA – naïve
- It was a shame this only focused on 2 aspects from Thursday and didn't draw on the really rich ideas & concepts from Friday
- Lots more time needed to discuss issues
- Hard to focus with train problems

Session 2: Mary Myatt

- Very useful revisiting of some concepts
- Quality speaker
- Really interesting thoughts
- Excellent. Really thought provoking & good to incorporate discussion time as table
- Very thought provoking! Excellent - would like to hear more
- Thought provoking and inspirational
- A number of connections made in relation to the points discussed by previous speakers. Very thought provoking.
- Pace and progress of learning – current thinking?
- Sensible and reassuring
- Points well made
- A shame this repeated some similar part of other speakers' presentations
- A little static and nothing new. Some research drawn on is (sorry can't make out word) dated
- Excellent. All strong points made. Saw Mary last weekend in Greenwich. Wonderful to hear her again, picked up so much more
- Excellent points made
- Thought provoking and a good speaker to end the conference
- It's a shame this was a shorter session but was very insightful and thought provoking
- Superb. Best part of the conference. Inspirational. Thank you
- Excellent ending to conference – important, big messages (bringing it all together) & lovely style
- I totally agree with everything Mary said. Very important and essential messages

General comments re conference:

- Thank you everyone & very well done
- Disappointing that key speakers pulled out. Table discussion not valuable – this could happen at local meetings. Need to stick to timetable. Quality of food not as good as in the past. Bags seem a waste of money. Last year's cloth bags better. [This is the only comment on this evaluation form.](#)
- I came primarily because of Shirley Clarke and Ruth Dann so I am extremely disappointed and felt that there should be a later date for both of them at no additional cost. Andy Griffith was the only one who stood out. [Majority of ticks indicate the 2 'low' boxes apart from Sean Harford who nearly got a high and Andy who got 4 ticks in high!!](#)
- Access to a range of speakers allows me to keep abreast and deliver CPD to staff including leadership team, in an effective, highly informed way
- As usual, very well organized and up to date and thought provoking. Thank you!
- Despite all the issues a very good conference
- Despite all the difficulties – ill speakers, train problems etc conference very well organized as always, pleasant venue, good food and company, very good quality content. Thank you – see you in Peterborough
- Thank you as always
- Fantastic conference. Lots of ideas to take back to school
- Well done all. This was an incredibly valuable and worthwhile conference. High quality input and speakers, opportunities for networking and discussion. So much to reflect upon on the way home! Thank you!
- Well organized apart from having to switch rooms. Some great speakers.
- Well organized and enjoyable. Thank you for all your hard work in arranging it.
- Thank you for the organisation of a worthwhile conference

- Really well organized – despite transport issues! Good hotel value. Really wide range of speakers this year – jam packed & great value for money. Thank you!
- I think credit should be given to organisers – well done & thank you. Please stop providing useless bags – waste of money in my opinion.
- Much food for thought. Thank you.
- Good conference. Plain cotton bags please.
- I don't think the bags are necessary. Do we need to have sessions Saturday morning? Thank you for organising the conference
- Food was very average
- Despite the last minute changes to the agenda, I feel the conference was worth every minute. An excellent opportunity to professionally engage with like-minded colleagues to discuss and reflect on the things that really matter.
- Excellent organisation from start to finish. The best CPD I have had in years. Thank you.
- Brilliant! Feel very comforted that others are grappling with similar dilemmas. Well organized and excellent value. THANK YOU!
- An excellent conference as always. AAIA website a wonderful resource for all members.
- Thank you to the exec team for organising everything – much appreciated. Hotel: convenient location; food quality – not as good as other Marriotts
- So well organised! Thank you!
- Thank you Deb, Liz and Jenny for organising it. Thank you Ben for including a sing song at the end. Thank you David for making all the resources available.

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12.10.17