

MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON DIGITAL MEDIA CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 2009

"I hope every NWU member gets a chance to listen to the audio version online," said Lucy Sutherland. "It will truly change your perspective in critically important ways."

"The conference raised the National Writers Union's profile around Boston, and on the national level too, because of our net presence," said conference organizer Jason Pramas, "and it kicked off some good conversation on potential directions for the union by way of response to the many problems plaguing our industry."

"The conference was a fantastic breath of fresh air," said Lucy Sutherland. " Like many freelance writers I have struggled to understand the shifting media landscape and how I can capitalize on it. I was looking for practical advice, not just theoretical discussions, and the conference really delivered."

"I think it's great that we were part of a conference that dealt with such a cutting-edge issue that concerns every writer," said Elaine Gottlieb, "And it's great that we joined forces with other organizations to make this event happen."

"I had a chance to meet some interesting new people and reconnect with people I hadn't seen for a while," said Patrick Gabridge, "and it was nice just to spend the whole day thinking about writing stuff."

"The conference was terrific: thought provoking and helpful with lots of resources and a great mix of folks," said Angela Beeching. "I was very glad I attended and I hope you do this again!"

"I loved the conference," said Carrie Dearborn. "I especially loved that we were mixed in with younger techie types, who were kind, generous, and totally comfortable around old fogies like me." \

Feedback was overall very positive and NWU President Goldbetter considers it "a model for a possible national conference." But participants who looked forward to the session on the future of journalism as a career, were disappointed that the speaker didn't show up (he was sick). One member noted the absence of discussion of Kindle or other e-readers and how they will impact the book world and what authors should know, in terms of legal rights, and also in terms of possibly selling their own book-length work through e-reader sites. Books (www.cddbooks.com)