



Climate Update 2019

Sydney

21 Feb 2019

Summary

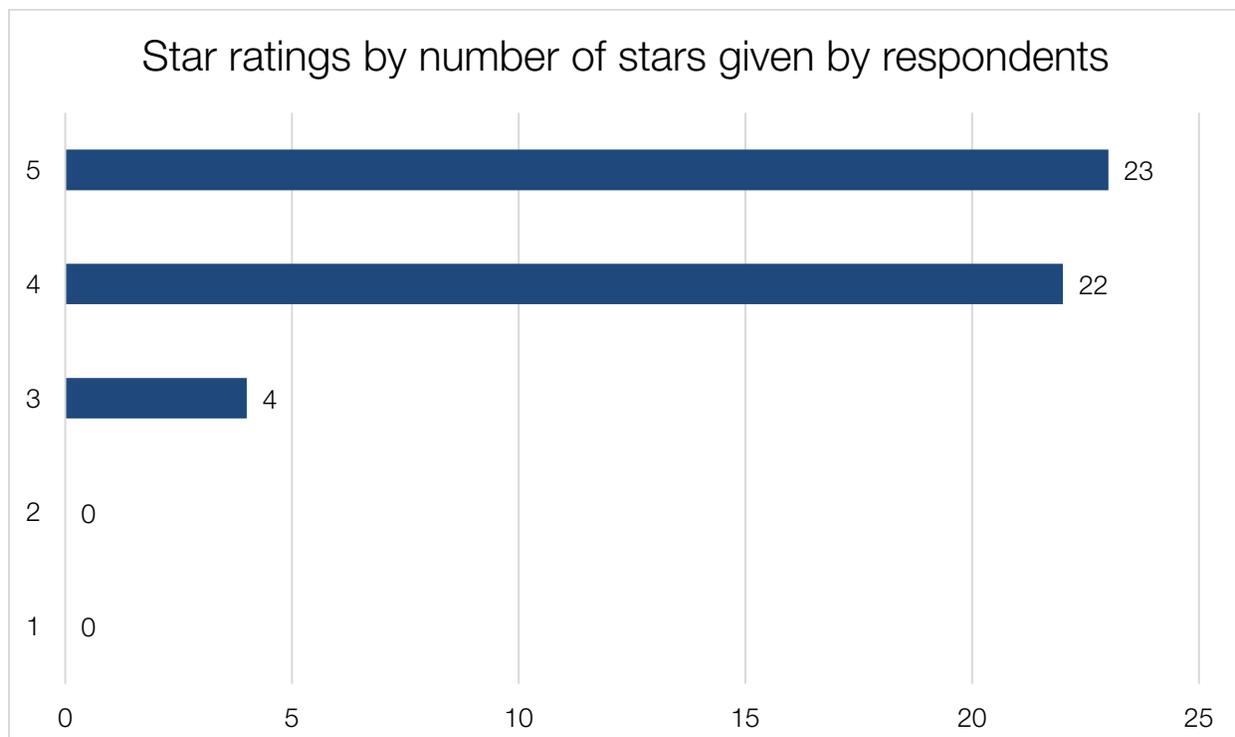
On Thursday, 21st February 2019, CCI and the UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures co-hosted the Climate Update 2019 in Sydney, a complementary event to one held in previous weeks in Canberra. The event was split into two consecutive sessions running from 6-8.15pm. A copy of the full program as well as copies of the presentations are accessible via this link - <http://climate.anu.edu.au/events/climate-update-2019-sydney>

Methodology

An online questionnaire sent out via email to all those who registered for the event. The event sold 306 tickets and 200 individuals attended the lecture. Of these, 54 (27%) completed the online survey that was sent to them via email (copy at the end of this report).

Star Rating

The survey form began with a chance for respondents to give the event a star rating out of a possible 5 stars. This question was also available on the email and acted as a link to the rest of the survey online. The event was given a weighted average of 4.39 stars overall. The breakdown of star ratings per number of stars is shown in the graph below.



Based on 91% of respondents answered this question

Satisfaction Ratings by category

Participants were asked how satisfied they were with particular aspects of the event. They were given a choice between Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Neutral, Dissatisfied and Very Dissatisfied. Each ranking was given a weighting of 5 (very satisfied) to 1 (very dissatisfied). Below are two graphs, one showing the weighted averages and the other the counts of each rating within each category. Respondents were also given the opportunity to comment on their ratings. These are listed below.

Comments left by respondents:

“Excellent quality of information and proceedings were professionally managed”

“You covered a wide range of topics -from global economic impacts measured in trillions of \$ vs bus shelter design & road surfacing.”

“I thought the event was extremely well run and the speakers were very well chosen.”

“Wonderful event. Great effort by speakers with resources available. More of them needed.”

“Met to exceeded expectations. Very informative summaries of latest research, very good balance of speakers and topics”

“I appreciate the need to take positive action for sustain the environment. Now we need to move forward to replace clean renewable and live sustainably. It is the way to go”

“The variety of speakers and topics was excellent, as was the clarity of their collective voices.”

“The speakers were all very good and the topics were interesting but I thought the agenda was too broad. It would have been better to have a few less topics and have been able to have more detail on those presented. I was hoping for more detailed presentation on the science as this was the key headline. I felt as if that presentation had to be rushed/condensed.”

“Fabulous range of speakers!”

“It was well run, if not a little bit more shallow than it could have been.”

“Mark, Tom, Bec & Brent's pptx were all excellent... Bec's content was the most valuable as takeaway and to motivate action, and that is the nature of her work. ANU is defo the leader in this field.”

“Air con was up way too high. Was freezing in theatre even with jacket.”

“Food was delicious and v generous and was healthy. Thank you.”

“Was hoping for more detailed content- what was delivered was interesting but high level and (I assume) already known to most people who would attend these kinds of forums.”

“Wayfinding could have been improved. To the humble outsider, UTS is a jumbled mess - and my default method of Google maps didn't help. Perhaps a link to a photo of the building, and calling it lower ground would take away my excuse for being late”

“Q/A in public events without screen for questions makes a long, uninteresting session. There are many online Q&A questions where questions can be posted, screened and then voted on. This will result in questions being relevant and interesting.”

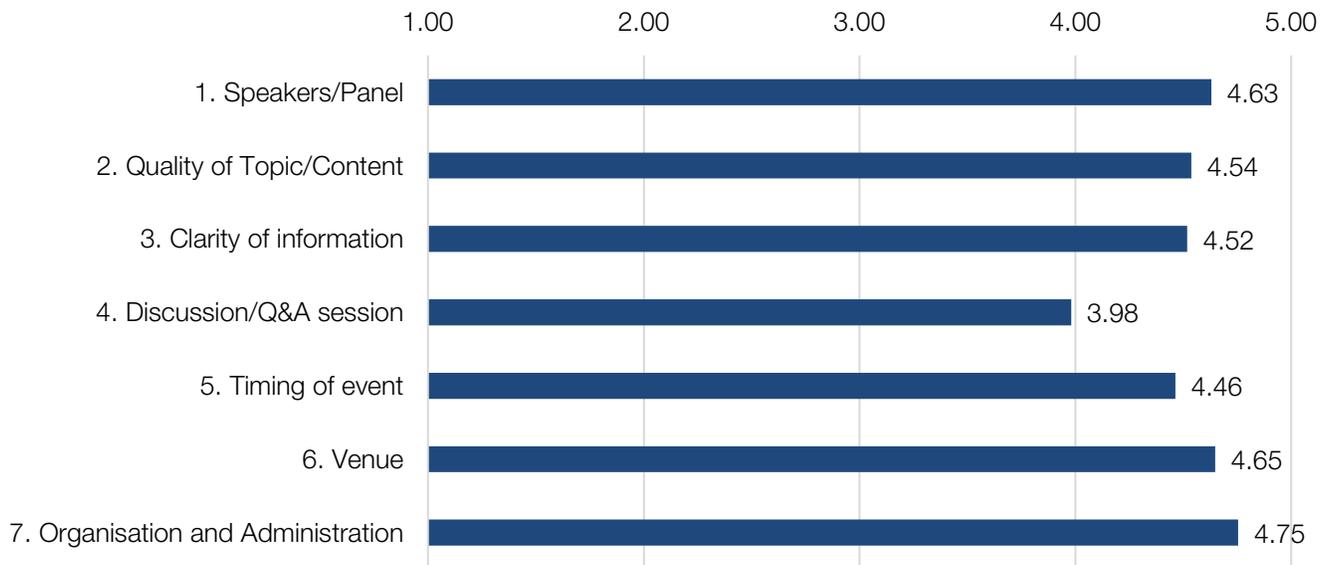
“More Q&A time”

“A sign at the foyer where 405 is would've helped. I went straight to Level 4.”

“The ASIC topic could have been much better if there had have been slides to go with the commissioner's presentation. It was an interesting topic, but delivery was not engaging.”

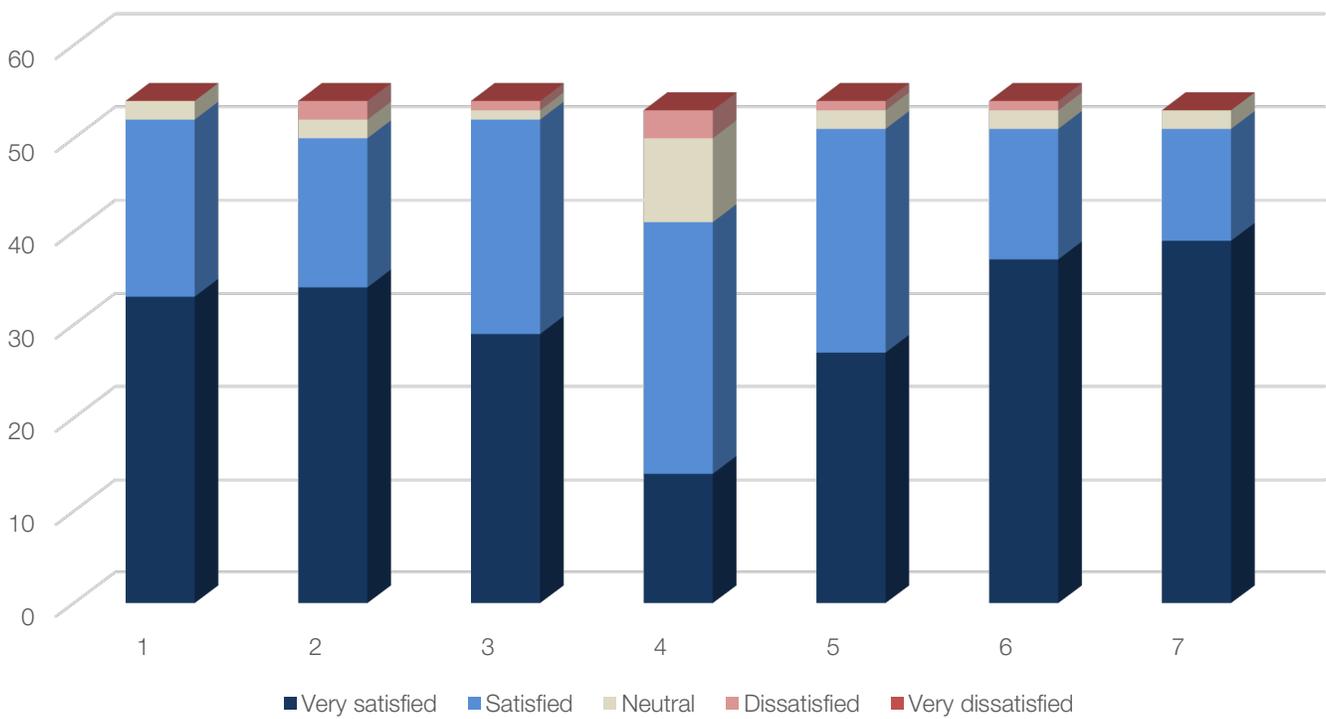
“There wasn't a discussion about animal agriculture or fossil fuels as if they are still taboo subjects to this day and age. Primary contributors for climate change have not been discussed at all and we were taught about political correctness.”

How satisfied were you with each of the following:



Based on 98-100% of respondents answered this question

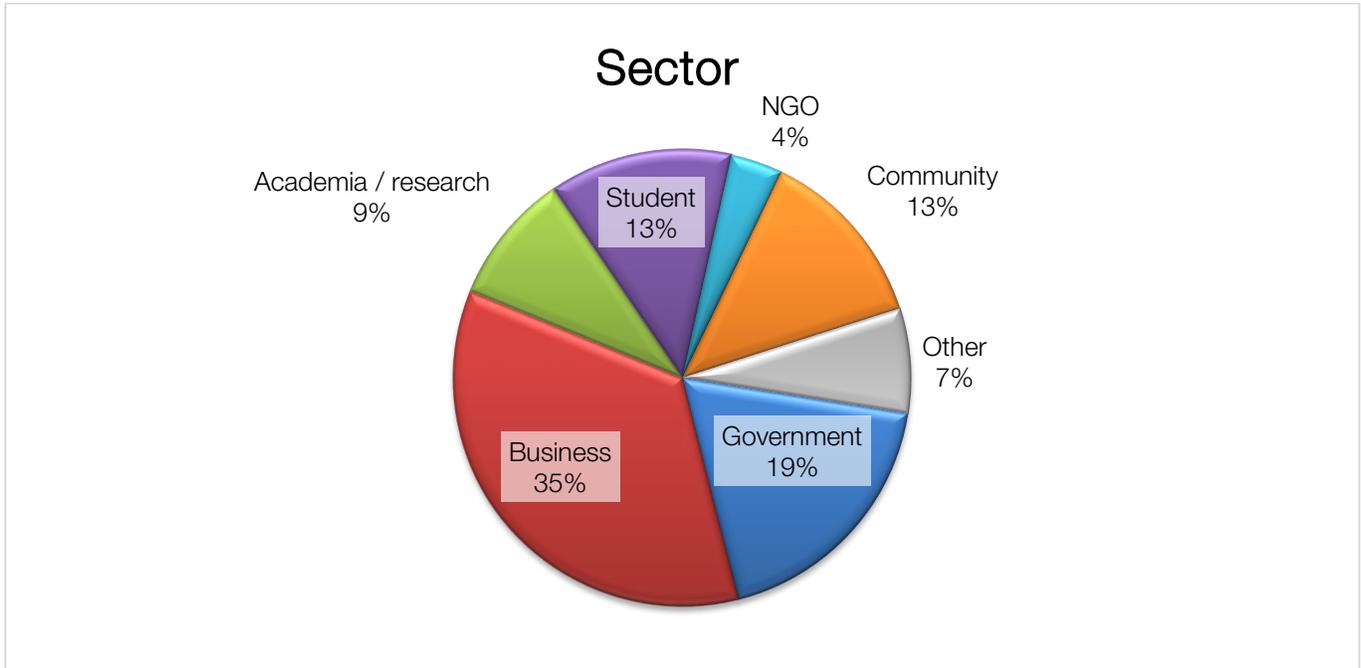
Satisfaction rating (by counts)



Based on 98-100% of respondents answered this question

Sector

Participants were asked what sector they best represent at the event. Respondents mostly identified as part of the Business sector (35%) followed by members of the Government (19%). Other respondents were from the Community (13%), Students (13%), Academia or Research sectors (9%), NGOs (4%) and those who identified as none of these groups (7%). This group had people from the media, construction industry and education professions.

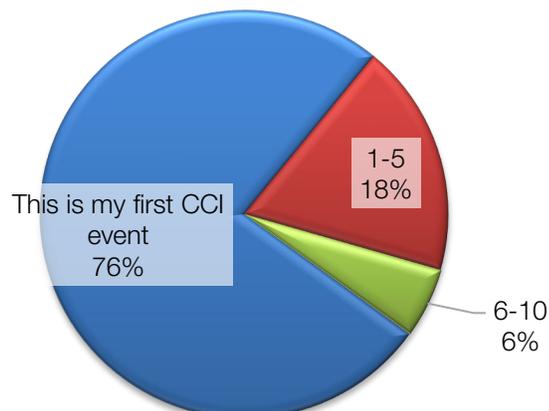


Based on 100% of respondents answered this question

Number of CCI Events attended

For more than three-quarters of respondents (76%) this was their first ANU Climate Change institute event while the rest had attended previous CCI events.

Approximately how many CCI events have you attended prior to this one?



Based on 100% of respondents answered this question

Impact of event on respondents

When asked if they would discuss what they learned from the event with others, the vast majority of respondents (92%) said yes. Participants were then asked if they would do anything differently as a result of attending the event and 69% of respondents said yes. They were asked why they felt this way and their comments are included below:

Comments left by respondents:

"I will incorporate insights and ideas into my service design practice/consultancy"

"Will add resources to knowledge hub & share with 100 program members"

"Change my method of communicating about climate change with peers."

"Pressure my investment managers to invest sustainably."

"I will try to frame my conversations around climate change from wider perspectives (eg. avoided costs of BAU) and using different language."

"Explore in greater depth a number of issues raised in the presentations."

"Attended as a Board Director; the session on Board responsibilities was particularly useful."

"I have made contacts with some of the presenters and audience members to explore opportunities to develop actions"

"Communication strategy on this topic will likely change for me, taking on board some of the principles of combating polarization and exclusion."

"Look into the framing of the discussion between identity groups."

"I will try hard to be less polarising/alienating/judgemental etc when dealing with deniers and pro-coal folk."

"Keep up to date with multi sector info to use in our dealings with local government and many stakeholders on mid north coast nsw"

"I manage climate science related projects in state government, I learned new research we can tap into and just that bit of more urgency to the work"

"To live sustainable. To help spread the message. I recycle waste and healthy eating. I have bottle of water on standby. I have rechargeable battery packs. I suggested my point to the department of housing where I live to have solar power. Battery power operated lawn mower."

"More focus on adaptation"

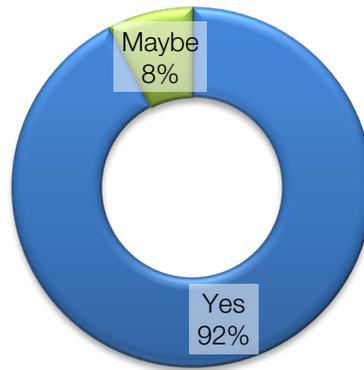
"Information to be utilised for internal presentations/training"

"I am keen to start pushing people to advocate for political action and to also keep implementing changes so I can help improve the situation"

"Use keywords highlighted by Mark Howden and Bec Colvin: Momentum. Solvable. These are simply yet effective"

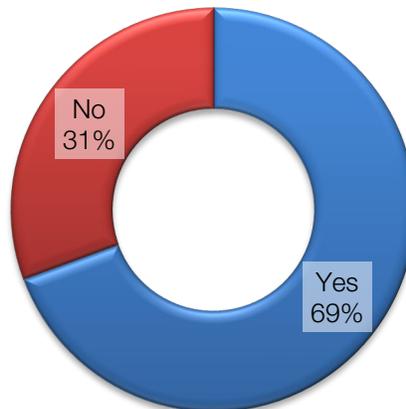
"We look for ways to incorporate emerging science into the delivery of planning outcomes in NSW."

Will you discuss what you've learnt from the event with others?



Based on 98% of respondents answered this question

After attending this event, will you do anything differently?



Based on 91% of respondents answered this question

“Further discussions on link between economic/societal system and the inaction on climate change; the resilience of communities faced with climate change and possible collapse of industrial civilisation; presentation of possible visions and development of decarbonated society / autonomous communities”

“I would like to see more practical and political discussions that can tie into the science and promote local and national action and engagement. There seems to be a disconnect between science and policy that would do well to be aired on a stage and scrutinised by citizens.”

“Debate on CC - those for and against. CC impacts on ecosystems - land and oceans.”

“Really enjoyed the perspectives of Dr Colvin. Communication is key to positive action.”

“UN sustainability goals. Examples of inspirational people who are taking action”

“Climate change and sea grass. And climate change and western Sydney”

“Reforestation, recycle program, electric vehicles, integrated public transport. Clean up toxic waste, and to encourage to live sustainable.”

“Business experience of TCFD implementation - happy to consider a presentation”

“Innovations and projects that the universities are working on to progress how we're solving for climate change issues; the psychology behind why although the majority of our population think urgent action needs to be taken, no action is being taken”

“State of our rivers, seas and agriculture.”

“Climate Economics and Development in regional Australia”

Additional comments

Additional comments were mostly to say thanks for the great event.

“Thanks very much”

“Outstanding event that gives hope in what can be a despair inducing topic”

“The food and drink spread was amazing”

“It will take a significant effort from Academia, Scientists, Business & Community to persuade Governments of all level to act, and there is only 20 years to do it globally”

“Thank you!”

“It would be great if you could somehow run a similar event with an audience of business leaders/executives - but you would have to market it differently to get them into the room and avoid preaching to the converted”

“Suggest some presentations on the issue of climate change be linked to the audiences age/life expectancy and that of their extended family (e.g. children, grandchildren) in order to make more "relevant" the future scenarios.”

“Thank you for your efforts. Keep up the good fight!”

“The best comment of the night was Mark's... "It's an Ice Age...but in reverse." This is a great way to cut through deniers' arguments. None can argue the Ice Age didn't happen, nor that it wasn't a catastrophe for many species.”

“Would be good to have access to power point presentations and links to other relevant info esp ASIC's stuff as Comm didn't have any slides re her key points”

“It focussed on a positive, hopeful message and that was good. Sort of the whole event was done like Bec Colvin's message of CC comms that it's difficult but solvable.”

“More walks and cycles plus tree planting and waterways.”

“Thanks to the presenters”

“Great event”

“Really handy venue as so close to Central.”

“Thank you!”

The ANU Climate Change Institute (CCI) is seeking your feedback on this event. We'd like to learn from you so that we can improve the value of future events for attendees.

By voluntarily completing this evaluation, you provide your informed consent to participate: *I have read and understood the Information Sheet you have given me about the research project, and I have had any questions and concerns about the project addressed to my satisfaction.*

Please complete the questions below and select submit when done.

Thank you for participating in today's event, and for taking the time to complete this evaluation. We really appreciate you sharing your perspectives with us. If you have any questions about this or future events, please email climate@anu.edu.au

1. How would you rate this event?



2. How satisfied were you with each of the following:

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Speakers/Panel	<input type="radio"/>				
Quality of Topic/Content	<input type="radio"/>				
Clarity of information	<input type="radio"/>				
Discussion/Q&A session	<input type="radio"/>				
Timing of event	<input type="radio"/>				
Venue	<input type="radio"/>				
Organisation and Administration	<input type="radio"/>				

Please comment about your ratings.

3. What sector are you from? (Please tick the sector which best represents you at this event.)

- Government
- Business
- Academia / research
- Student
- NGO
- Community
- Other (please specify)

4. Approximately how many CCI events have you attended prior to this one?

- This is my first CCI event
- 2-5
- 6-10
- 10-20
- >20

5. What were the best features of the event?

6. In what ways could this event be improved?

7. Will you discuss what you've learnt from the event with others?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

8. Will you do anything differently as a result of attending this event?

- Yes
- No

If yes, why?

9. Do you have any suggestions for topics, themes, or speakers you would like included in future ANU Climate Change Institute events?

10. Please provide any additional comments here.
