

Q15 Please describe your overall impressions regarding your experiences at the 2019 Institute.

Answered: 139 Skipped: 59

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I enjoyed attending all of the sessions at the 2019 institute.	11/30/2019 10:16 PM
2	Very great experience which is well needed in the middle of this process.	11/30/2019 7:38 PM
3	Invigorating	11/30/2019 4:24 PM
4	The institute was great. It allows for me to be able to come and get rejuvenated and remember my why. I may be out numbered but coming here gives the strength to keep going.	11/29/2019 2:38 PM
5	Nothing but motivating	11/29/2019 1:27 AM
6	It was amazing. I was able to meet so many other scholars which richly enhanced my experience. I was truly energized, encouraged and informed on how to continue my graduate school journey!	11/27/2019 8:09 PM
7	Great institute and it was extremely refreshing to meet other scholars of color. I also enjoyed many of the sessions as they were super helpful.	11/26/2019 9:51 PM
8	I was surprised by what I did not know thanks to Mike.	11/26/2019 5:46 PM
9	I enjoyed the institute. Great info and tips. Some of the sessions that allowed for connection and collaboration among students and faculty with similar interests were very early in the morning, and I wonder if that impacted attendance.	11/26/2019 4:39 PM
10	My overall experience at the 2019 Institute was excellent.	11/26/2019 2:57 PM
11	The Institute was well-organized and made me feel like I was a part of something very special.	11/26/2019 2:36 PM
12	This was a good opportunity to meet other scholars. A lot of the questions are about finding out what it takes to be a faculty member but I think maybe that information was given during different breakout session that everyone may not have been able to attend. In the future, I think there should be fewer plenary talks and more opportunities to attend the breakout sessions as they were the most useful.	11/26/2019 2:14 PM
13	I LOVED it!!! It was the first time that I was able to openly and honestly discuss my concerns with others and not feel like the other!!	11/26/2019 2:04 PM
14	The talks and sectioned talks were nice. The speeches during the meals were way too 'wheepy' but I come from more humble beginnings than half of the people up there so that's natural.	11/26/2019 1:48 PM
15	Things that need improvement: when we entered the hotel from the shuttle, there was no one to greet us and direct us to Registration and check-in. We waited 35 minutes with the transportation service before we actually got on the bus and then we sat on the shuttle for 30 more minutes, so when we finally got to the hotel, it was too late to change out of our travel clothes before the first session and welcome reception. We walked in and saw empty rooms and an escalator. Registration lines were long and cumbersome. Re - badges, it would have been nice to have our universities printed larger and our major/area of study included. All of the rooms for the breakout sessions were way too small. All of them were packed to the point where a lot of people were sitting on the floor or could not fit in the room so they left. The keynote meals seemed to drag out since we waited until the meal was almost over to have the speaker come up and sitting in a room for that long after a meal made us drowsy and it was hard to focus on the speaker. At the welcome breakfast, we spent 15 minutes wading through the tables with our hands full of food to try to find the table with our state's name on it. The table tents were not up high on a stand so we had to physically walk to each table to see what state it was. Things that went great: The agendas were great. I appreciated the backpack/registration gift, the SREB staff were super warm and friendly and we felt very comfortable to ask questions. The food was good and the wait staff were friendly and accommodating for the most part. There were a lot of schools and organizations there to recruit and that felt great to see all of the opportunities. I enjoyed the content from the sessions and the many opportunities to network. Thank you for the opportunity to attend this great event and for the comfortable accommodations.	11/26/2019 1:43 PM
16	Overall great atmosphere. I appreciate having so many recruiters to talk as I am currently looking for jobs. Special shoutout to Indiana University Bloomington. The recruiter was able to connect me to a postdoc position and the deadline had just closed. I was still able to apply. I hope to get a job from this conference.	11/26/2019 1:27 PM
17	Dr. Abraham put it accurately when he said that the conference "is a place to recharge your batteries". It felt good to be in a place where I am not the only minority student; to not have to pretend to have been born with privilege. It was a valuable lesson to me to be around students who are just as passionate about education and the future of our country. I learned valuable lessons about the kind of educator I hope to be some day and I know my perspectives will continue to grow as I continue to attend this conference in the future.	11/25/2019 5:16 PM

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18	The 2019 Institute provided a very encouraging and supportive environment for students. There were great speakers and the leadership strongly encouraged us to network and make the most of the opportunities and information provided at the Institute. It was helpful to hear about others' viewpoints and experiences.	11/22/2019 6:20 PM
19	Grateful for all the opportunity to meet with other scholars. Also got a job offer which is awesome!	11/21/2019 8:49 PM
20	Awesome. Excellent. Informative. Honored to be a part of such a great organization.	11/19/2019 8:19 PM
21	Overall had a great time at the Institute this year! Plenary sessions had great speakers and a really great selection of workshops to choose from during sessions. Would have like more time available to visit the recruiting fair (i.e.: at least one workshop session time where the recruiters were expected to be at their tables, longer availability at the end of Saturday).	11/19/2019 6:58 PM
22	The plenary sessions were great as usual and motivating!	11/19/2019 1:51 PM
23	I appreciated the quicker format in the award ceremony but it wasn't nearly as emotional as it usually is. I also wish there were more opportunities for networking other than the tables. For instance, I wish we could select to have conference mentors where you can choose to be matched with a senior scholar (4th year and beyond) or a faculty member so that you don't feel as alone navigating the conference alone each time. Also this is the second year that I've been matched with a room assignment with a faculty member. It's super awkward especially after I listed students as my preference for room. I know it doesn't work perfectly but it would be nice to have a heads up if we are selected to be roomed with a faculty. I knew her name a week or so before but that wasn't enough information to determine if she was a faculty or not nor did I have any opportunity to reach out to inquire	11/19/2019 5:44 AM
24	I appreciated the different format of the graduation ceremony. Went by faster and smoothly and still got to hear the graduates say some words.	11/18/2019 11:35 PM
25	I liked the opportunity to network at the institute. Overall, I appreciated that we were in a space that did not make me feel isolated. Everyone was willing to engage in conversation with each other which is different from other conferences I've attended. Also, I liked the sessions on women in academia, professional and career development. However, I wish the sessions were in larger rooms, the speakers used microphones, and the presenters used slides. I ended up standing for the majority of them and the interactive sessions were difficult to hear since space was limited. It would've been helpful if a few presenters used supporting slides or microphones, so even if I stood I could garner the information. I would appreciate it if next year, we can have the wifi password available to us. The mandatory sessions for first-year students should be more detailed in regard to what that session entails. It didn't apply to me although I was a first-year student but I am funded through my institution and I did not realize it was a Q&A. I think if it was explicitly stated then I could either come with questions and understand better what everyone else was discussing. Overall, I thought the conference was nice. The food was good and accommodating, especially for vegetarians/vegans. The hotel was a nice place to host, although there were issues with room availability. I'm assuming it is due to the lack of check-in/checkout time.	11/18/2019 8:25 PM
26	Amazing! I can't wait for next year. I was impressed with the scholars and their testimonies about how they overcame and succeeded. I appreciated their honesty and commitment to help others do the same. I also thought the selection of sessions was wide in variety and scope. Many that I wanted to attend were scheduled at the same time, so I missed out. But then I realized that I can attend the ones I missed next year, so I didn't miss out. Also, hopefully the speakers at the sessions that I couldn't attend will post their presentations to the ITM website. Again, such an amazing experience!	11/18/2019 6:06 PM
27	The Institute did a fantastic job, I was not certain as to what to expect, but I was pleasantly surprised by how peaceful and safe the environment of the conference was and how it gave everyone a space to let their emotions out and feel and allow the audience to understand through the presenter's emotions and style, culminating into a community and friendly feel. I wish there were more conferences like this to help empower students (and faculty) to strive higher and reassert why they are on their chosen path. I hope to attend many more in the near future. Thank you for such a dynamic space.	11/18/2019 4:27 PM
28	I enjoyed the institute. I enjoyed the past two institutes a bit more though.	11/18/2019 1:33 PM
29	It was a great learning experience!	11/18/2019 11:08 AM
30	Best conference I've been to thus far. Very inspiring and informative for an underrepresented minority scholar at any stage in their career!	11/16/2019 8:33 PM
31	It was great! As a first time attendee, I found it enlightening and deeply motivating.	11/16/2019 7:00 PM
32	I absolutely enjoyed the conference! It was very informative, encouraging and personalized through the one on one sessions.	11/16/2019 3:27 PM
33	My experience at the 2019 was incredible! Each year, I strengthen existing friendship bonds and create new and potentially lasting relationships! SREB has been a key support to my successful completion of the Ph.D. and I am eternally grateful.	11/16/2019 12:57 PM
34	It was amazing. I always enjoy coming.	11/16/2019 3:56 AM
35	Fantastic!	11/15/2019 9:11 PM

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36	The sessions were a bit of a disappointment. This is my second year in a row attending the institute, and I was surprised that the sessions had not changed (many titles, presentations, and presenters were exactly the same). I went to more than one session expecting information on a particular subject which wasn't covered during the presentation. Many of them had a more inspiration/motivational focus rather than providing useful/tangible information that we can leave and implement. I believe that the institute is an incredible opportunity to see so many doctoral students who look like me. I was able to reconnect with grad school friends from institutions across the globe. The mission of the Institute is spot on, but I am not sure that it is beneficial for students who are not in the job search at this time.	11/15/2019 8:38 PM
37	Great information. More recruiters across the US would be great. More panels on LGBTQ people of color experiences.	11/15/2019 8:26 PM
38	This was my first time attending the institute. It was amazing to see so many people of color pursuing doctorate degrees and the breadth of disciplines represented. I focused more on sessions to refuel my soul which was much needed.	11/15/2019 7:55 PM
39	I believe the 2019 Institute was a great opportunity to connect with fellow scholars and esteemed faculty in the field. I welcomed the opportunity to connect with current/former administrators (deans, college presidents, faculty) and receive their insights on prospects for my future as a faculty member. I was excited to learn about the opportunities available at community colleges, a place I had never really considered for employment, and also speak to recruiters from different institutions.	11/15/2019 7:11 PM
40	Really helpful workshops, inspiring keynote speakers, and the career fair was fantastic	11/15/2019 6:18 PM
41	Being at the institute as a now graduate student was a completely new experience-but extremely informative. It was a great opportunity to learn about other scholars, where they're at currently and the work they're doing which informed my future aspirations.	11/15/2019 6:08 PM
42	I love attending the Institute. There's not another professional development conference in the world that offers such a nurturing environment for researchers of color.	11/15/2019 5:42 PM
43	The Institute was amazing, and I am glad I had the opportunity to attend, especially as an undergraduate student.	11/15/2019 5:41 PM
44	Through the experience at the 2019 Institute, I was able to explore opportunities for my future academic future and gave me motivation to stay focused and pursue my goals.	11/15/2019 5:20 PM
45	Excellent. I appreciate the shortened Graduate comments. I was a graduate.	11/15/2019 4:32 PM
46	It was great being able to network with faculty, universities and other scholars. I especially enjoyed the sessions on navigating the job market. However many of the other sessions seemed recycled.	11/15/2019 4:30 PM
47	It was a great discussion overall, but I felt like this conference was too long. It was also a phenomenal networking opportunity.	11/15/2019 4:04 PM
48	I had a great time at the 2019 Institute! The sessions were great, the meals were good, and the speakers were amazing. This conference gets better and better every time I attend.	11/15/2019 4:01 PM
49	It was an unique one. One of the best I have ever had.	11/15/2019 3:44 PM
50	The 2019 Institute was an incredible experience and I am so very grateful that I was able to attend. It was uplifting and motivational, as well as informative and helpful. I love being surrounded by other minority scholars, and especially love the speeches from the graduates, because it gives me hope that one day it will be me on that stage.	11/15/2019 3:31 PM
51	The conference overall was good. Being that it was all day at times I felt that the sessions were longer than they needed to be which then caused me to zone out every now and then	11/15/2019 3:20 PM
52	Great	11/15/2019 3:12 PM
53	Honestly it felt weird, from the 3 hour award lunch for a program admin who I'm sure was great but none of us knew, to the director bringing in his own wealth manager to peddle his snake oil to a packed room of naive grad students.	11/15/2019 3:10 PM
54	After attending the institute for three years now I can say that this year was rather disappointing. The logistics of the weekend were fantastic, the hotel was incredible, and everything ran smoothly. However, although the institute promotes diversity I think there was a poor job in promoting all diversity. Diversity means a host of things, and this includes things like first-generation students. I felt rather discouraged by the lack of diversity and inclusion at the institute among the plenaries and keynote speakers and would admire if this was addressed at future institutes. I would also identify ways for guest scholars to be more involved by having specific breakfast sessions and other sessions for them when other scholars have sessions as well. Perhaps it could be divided by first-generation students, by discipline, etc. but I think the guest scholars should have more than the opportunity to observe at the institute.	11/15/2019 2:50 PM
55	It gives the opportunity of building a community which you can relate with and have as support for the rest of your graduate studies.	11/15/2019 2:46 PM
56	It was great! Great location too!	11/15/2019 2:43 PM
57	Excellent	11/15/2019 2:42 PM
58	This was my first year as a "senior scholar" and I had a blast engaging with recruiters and university faculty! They were warm, welcoming, encouraging and enthusiastic!	11/15/2019 2:39 PM

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59	The 2019 Institute was well organized and had a great environment. The staff was friendly and really helpful. As a LSAMP student I attended the "Bootcamp" seminars hosted by Dr. Michael Westrate, which gave extremely useful information and were well prepared.	11/15/2019 2:37 PM
60	This was my first time attending and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I am looking forward to attending again.	11/15/2019 2:35 PM
61	This was my first institute. I enjoyed the conference, however, the sessions were not always what I expected based on the write up. The rooms were too small. Every session I attended the rooms were crowded and it was so uncomfortable. People were on the floor and in the hallways. It would be nice to get access to handouts of sessions I couldn't attend.	11/15/2019 2:34 PM
62	The Institute is a safe space that facilitates growth for any doctoral student, regardless of discipline.	11/14/2019 3:49 PM
63	I enjoyed listening to the speakers during the lunches and larger sessions but I found many of the smaller sessions to be misleading in their title.	11/14/2019 2:35 AM
64	Ideal platform to meet, interact and network with other scholars and prospective employers	11/14/2019 1:09 AM
65	Excellent. Cant wait for next years'.	11/13/2019 10:39 PM
66	I'm really glad I had the privilege of attending the institute this year. The conference is quite empowering.	11/13/2019 7:38 PM
67	Great Institute. Very informative.	11/13/2019 5:07 PM
68	My experience at the institute was excellent because I had opportunities to engage with other students, faculty, and employer. I also had opportunities to learn new things that I might not have been able to learn in the classroom or in the school environment. Hearing about the challenges of others and how they navigated graduate school successfully was very great and motivating. Lastly, I had an opportunity to attend the money management section, and I believe I have never learned this in school before. In fact, the school system only focuses on training, and not about money management to have a secured future. Therefore, my experience at the institute was an amazing one.	11/13/2019 4:46 PM
69	Very welcoming. Very informative. A lot of the required sessions were all "Q&A". Some type of guided discussion would have been helpful to form the conversation before it was opened to larger Q&A. I did not know which questions to ask as it was my first year. A purposeful networking event for scholars in the same fields would have been good.	11/13/2019 4:00 PM
70	Inspiring. Revitalizing. Visionary. Necessary.	11/13/2019 3:44 PM
71	I was really unsure what to expect when I was awarded this opportunity. I thought to inspire my student to pursue a higher education degree(s) and I found inspiration to check out a doctoral program.	11/13/2019 3:38 PM
72	It was overall an empowering and incredible experience. I enjoyed being there!	11/13/2019 4:28 AM
73	Great!!!!	11/13/2019 4:23 AM
74	My overall impression of the 2019 Institute was extremely positive. I met many academicians and I was quite impressed with their stories of hard work and dedication which ultimately resulted in success well beyond the PhD.	11/13/2019 3:30 AM
75	Collectiveness was invigorating though I wish I had been better prepared as a first year scholar to talk about my work. Overall it was amazing and I think it will be far more beneficial next year.	11/13/2019 2:43 AM
76	Full of information and great insight as to the best approaches for succeeding in acquiring funding and acceptance into graduate programs.	11/12/2019 10:59 PM
77	The environment was motivating and encouraging, especially because there were so many people of color in academia! This was my first time being in a room full of scholars of different disciplines, which really put into perspective the contribution of the organization. Overall, there was a sense of community, hope, and promise. I am honored to be able to call myself an SREB Scholar!	11/12/2019 9:05 PM
78	Motivational and inspiring	11/12/2019 8:24 PM
79	Great line up of topics and speakers. We may have tried to include too many things. The 7 am start time made it hard to fully engage with others (people were still waking up). I suggest a 7:30 or 8 am start time. Also, would like a few more exercises throughout the schedule that make participants intentional in learning and connecting with each other. Sometimes the conference can seem too large.	11/12/2019 8:19 PM
80	A motivating and transformative experience	11/12/2019 8:15 PM
81	I loved this year's institute. The speakers were amazing, and the variety of sessions was great. My only suggestion would be to not offer SO many of the sessions concurrently! Pretty much every session, I had to choose between two that I really wanted to attend. Often had to pick between a workshop that would help me land a faculty job or sessions geared more towards improving my teaching and mentoring skills. I think I would have preferred an extra couple of concurrent sessions, with a reduced number of workshops offered during each time slot. There were some good workshops that were poorly attended, I think in part because they were competing with so many other good offerings.	11/12/2019 8:07 PM

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82	The experience was wonderful. These are the things that allow myself personally to think about furthering my education. It is awesome to see people like you represented in higher education and demonstrating that these things are possible.	11/12/2019 7:55 PM
83	I enjoyed the conference and look forward going to the institute next year. We had a lot of great speakers, but I felt like the part where the scholars that walked across the stage went too quickly.	11/12/2019 7:23 PM
84	My overall experience with the institute was amazing. I was able to connect with scholars from different fields and network with colleges from around the country. I felt empowered and focused after I left and feel blessed that I had the opportunity to attend. One thing I would suggest would be to have more sessions on how to navigate the doctoral program with a family.	11/12/2019 6:54 PM
85	meh. Seriously, I could be verbose but there is something about the word "meh" that quite wonderfully sums up the entire experience.	11/12/2019 6:42 PM
86	The Institute was very well organized, all the speakers provided insights on topics of interest to students, and sessions were informative. I'm in Public Health and there weren't a lot of universities that offered this program. ITM was very much geared for PhDs in STEM fields.	11/12/2019 6:41 PM
87	I enjoyed meeting the PHD students. They offered me insight on what I can look forward to in grad school.	11/12/2019 5:59 PM
88	Great Conference!!	11/12/2019 5:29 PM
89	The experience provided a great opportunity for networking and gave other useful tips in a career after graduate school.	11/12/2019 5:25 PM
90	I had a great experience. I met a lot of fellow scholars and recruiters for potential jobs after graduation. With it being my first Institue I didn't know what to expect, but I had a great time.	11/12/2019 5:02 PM
91	Being my second time I had a different experience. My workshop more surrounded research and what happens after grad school. But many of the workshops happened simultaneously. I wish there were recordings that I could watch over the ones I didn't get to see.	11/12/2019 4:54 PM
92	Extremely motivating. It was comforting to hear from those who are towards the end of their journey and have completed their goals that they had the same hurdles to overcome and are still trying to overcome. Hearing the speakers also put into perspective the importance for me to be a role model for those trying to navigate academia as well.	11/12/2019 4:50 PM
93	Great opportunity to connect with others	11/12/2019 4:45 PM
94	I was inspired, motivated and left the conference determined to aim higher in my education. After the conference, I decided to pursue my PhD.	11/12/2019 4:35 PM
95	Amazing	11/12/2019 4:21 PM
96	A lot of the focused sessions I couldn't attend because the room was way to smaller and there wasn't even standing room. That was a huge drawback for me, as I couldn't even stand in the room it was so crowded, and because of this I missed out on great benefits and learning experiences.	11/12/2019 4:16 PM
97	Nice to see all kinds of people in different positions in one place learning and growing together.	11/12/2019 4:16 PM
98	The Institute had a lot of valuable sessions for a doctoral student considering next steps. The opportunity to network with other faculty or staff from various universities was beneficial also.	11/12/2019 4:04 PM
99	The 2019 Institute was very informative. Looking forward to attending next year.	11/12/2019 3:55 PM
100	I enjoyed the Institute overall, though it was mainly due to the people I connected with and the relationships I have developed and maintained over the last three years.	11/12/2019 3:42 PM
101	PHENOMENAL EXPERIENCE	11/12/2019 3:41 PM
102	My experience at the institute was inspirational. Meeting so many people that have overcome the same challenges I'm facing and came out with victory and go on to inspire people like me made me feel empowered, capable and motivated to go on and finish my degree, go to academia and inspire more people like me to make a difference in the world. We matter, we can and we inspire.	11/12/2019 3:40 PM
103	Very good experience. 2 issues: 1-shuttle did not leave at specified time and I had to Uber to the airport on departure day. 2-the meeting rooms were too small	11/12/2019 3:38 PM
104	The institute was very helpful but still felt slightly exclusive. The addition of more native-centered events would greatly improve the experience for indigenous researchers.	11/12/2019 3:32 PM
105	I enjoyed my experience at the 2019 Institute. As a junior in undergrad this institute was an eye-opening experience for opportunities to pursue a graduate degree and the career paths available. I also really enjoyed networking with the attendees. I can not wait for next year's institute!	11/12/2019 3:31 PM
106	I was able to make connection with students and faculty members.	11/12/2019 3:22 PM
107	Great meeting to meet others, be inspired, and learn more about academia	11/12/2019 3:19 PM
108	Absolutely enjoyed the uplifting attitude and energy of the Institute. I feel more confident in navigating my Doctoral Program and navigating a faculty position once I graduate.	11/12/2019 3:17 PM

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109	I really was impressed with the workshop leaders as well as just the other scholars. I really enjoyed getting to meet them and talk about our experiences in higher education and what led them to taking their chosen career path.	11/12/2019 3:14 PM
110	Great exposure to others students and schools Great discussions. Rooms where we have panels appear smaller at times to contain many people	11/12/2019 3:13 PM
111	It was a great first experience!	11/12/2019 3:10 PM
112	The 2019 institute, while providing great networking opportunities, felt uncomfortable and alienating for me. As a grad student who is currently struggling and wondering if her program is the right fit, it felt kind of preachy and like I had to be perfect to be successful in a career in higher education because I am a minority.	11/12/2019 3:08 PM
113	Great event. Especially enjoyed Dr. Bobb breakfast talk.	11/12/2019 3:08 PM
114	Everything was great!!! I learned so much and this pushed me to finish school, get my masters degree and go even further.	11/12/2019 3:06 PM
115	I had a great time at SREB. As always, it occurs during a time in the semester when morale can be a little low. But I left refreshed and ready to finish the semester.	11/12/2019 3:03 PM
116	I loved the 2019 Institute. I was a little worried about going because as a grad student, sometimes you are worried about whether or not you should be doing work or writing, but this Institute presented so many opportunities to learn about teaching, service, and meet with others who are also worried about the same things you are! It was such a good atmosphere of solidarity and support. I also liked how the entire Institute is geared towards professional development and I wish there were more opportunities like this in other conferences.	11/12/2019 3:03 PM
117	Overall, the institute present ample opportunity to network and hear about the impressive work of Black and brown future faculty throughout the region. I exchanged several business cards and phone number for SREB doctoral scholars.	11/12/2019 3:01 PM
118	It was a great experience. There were a lot of great presentations. It would be appreciated that if next year, presenters share their slides because some presentations overlapped.	11/12/2019 3:00 PM
119	I felt like I was also welcomed no matter where I went. I never felt out of place, which is a lot different than my experience in classes, labs, and other academic/research spaces. I loved all the talks that I went to. I learned something new in each one. I also got to interact with other scholars and we talked about our experiences in grad school, which was a comfort. Additionally, the schools at the networking tables were very friendly and informative.	11/12/2019 3:50 AM
120	The institute is a sustainer of my ability to push through the Ph.D. process. Without it, I would have quit.	11/11/2019 11:39 PM
121	I was empowered after leaving this conference. I enjoyed being in my "safe space" knowing that everyone in the room were there to cheer me on to the next hurdle. This conference was life changing. I taped many of the plenary keynote addresses to play when it gets a little rough on this journey. I have also made friends with others like me. I was the only woman of color in my discipline until this year. So I'm going to make sure that this new PhD student is not alone on her journey like I have been. THANK YOU doesn't feel like it is adequate enough to express my gratitude. Please continue this conference to show brown girls like me that we can do it!!	11/11/2019 2:23 PM
122	It was phenomenal, encouraging, and enriching! I went home and immediately started working on the last two chapters of my dissertation	11/11/2019 1:43 PM
123	Another great conference!	11/11/2019 1:31 PM
124	Overall, the experience was motivating and provided a great platform to network with universities who have a vested interest in increasing diversity among faculty.	11/11/2019 1:28 PM
125	It is always a joy to see so many scholars of color. The commitment to hold this event for 26 years is impeccable. My favorite sessions were related to navigating careers, writing the dissertation, and self-care/meditation.	11/8/2019 9:04 PM
126	I appreciate the opportunity to network with students and faculty of color from a variety of universities. These spaces are so rare in academia. However, I felt most of the emphasis was on teaching and administration and not many resources for STEM students. I also felt that some of the sessions did not provide sufficient advice for the attendees. For example, the how to write a thesis session was full of memes and not much content. It lacked advice to help trainees who will soon be writing their thesis. Unfortunately, the women of color session, provided very little content to support or strengthen women of color who are in academic spaces.	11/8/2019 2:52 AM
127	This was my third time attending the Institute, and I enjoy it and benefit from it more and more every year.	11/6/2019 12:19 AM
128	I absolutely loved it! I just wish I had known about it and been able to attend from day one of my graduate program.	11/3/2019 1:31 PM
129	The institute was really informative and exactly what I needed to help me finish my studies. The only issue I had is that there were many plenaries that were very motivational, but not very informative. I would highly recommend spreading the sessions into four a day and reduce the plenaries. There were so many sessions I wanted to attend, but I couldn't because they were happening at the same time.	11/3/2019 12:25 AM

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130	I loved it this year. I'm not sure what was different (maybe it was my group, maybe it's Dr. Bell's retirement, not sure!) but it had a different feel that was even more generative than last year.	10/30/2019 6:10 PM
131	I was a recruiter and was very impressed with the institute (the questions above did not really seem to apply to me)	10/29/2019 4:57 PM
132	The institute continues to appear much more equipped to support black and African American scholars. This is incredibly important, but it would be great to see more representation in presenters and programming for Latina/o/x scholars. As an institute dedicated to inclusion it seems valuable to have pronoun stickers for the nametags as well. Additionally with nearly 2/3 of participants identifying as women more about those particular intersectional challenges would be valuable.	10/29/2019 4:53 PM
133	This was my first year attending the conference and I am a Dissertation Year awardee. It was quite overwhelming with it being the first time and felt somewhat bittersweet since I am "on my way out," and feel that I would have loved to benefit from this type of community and network starting from a first year. That is nothing to do with SREB (my institution only recently began funding students), I just wish I was aware that this had existed. All the speakers were great, meeting the organizers of the conference was awesome, and the accommodations and food provided went above expectations. I think what I would have liked to see at the conference would have been something like "pow wow" sessions with other students at similar career points (e.g., those considering post-doc options, those beginning dissertations or theses, those just entering a doctoral program) to sit and talk and learn from others about their experiences. The sessions were all led by faculty or professionals, but I think what I needed more was just to have some place to commiserate and normalize my experience (personally, I think I am experiencing an existential crisis as I head toward the end of my program and feeling a sense of "what now??"). I saw a number of students talking to people privately over the weekend and either crying or being otherwise distressed (I spoke to two younger students who similarly expressed feeling at a crossroads and lacking confidence). While it is understood that the "road to a PhD" is not easy and students often consider stopping or often face emotional, mental, physical challenges, I think it could be addressed more purposefully. I think having a few moderated (by a recent graduate/newly appointed faculty member) sessions to have "real talk" about the challenges of a PhD but not to have students worry about being evaluated or that they're talking to someone who could potentially hire them. This is something that crossed my mind, even with this being my first year at the conference, because I think it made it so I could engage less with the conference because I felt really stressed and anxious about my "next steps." And while I do think there were good opportunities to talk to people about how to plan for my future, I also had moments when I would hear individuals speak at sessions or at plenaries and think "these were all the things I missed or didn't do or did wrong." This is a networking conference and a great opportunity for individuals to make connections, but I always feel that if you are too concerned with making a "good impression," you may not always ask the HARD questions or the questions you really want to get answered. For example, how much SHOULD we expect to get paid for an entry level faculty position and how do you ASK that question when applying to a job? I think having some purposeful, scheduled student-to-student interaction sessions (that go beyond the individuals you just happen to meet by coincidence) may be a good place for students to provide each other with support and talk about challenges. Other than that, I think the timing of the days could be used better. This is the first conference I have attended that started so early (events at 7am). In my opinion, it was not practical and I was exhausted for most of the conference because of this schedule. I have, however, been to conferences where programming begins around 9 and ends around 6:45 or 7 (sometimes later: e.g., poster sessions that go from 6-8, but include light appetizers). I think ending Saturday at 4pm but not ending the conference such that we have to stay until Sunday can be very difficult for students who have a number of responsibilities in their schedule. Yes, as a professional event, it is important to be able to juggle those things but as the lowest rungs on the totem pole, students do not as easily have the ability to ask for time off or tell someone "I can't do X this weekend." I found that I could not completely participate or enjoy the conference because I had to spend my evenings working on other work. If I had the option to go home on Saturday night I think I would feel less stressed about the coming week. In addition, all the large group sessions (plenaries, lunch and dinner meetings) started late and ran over time. This was an issue because most of what was scheduled AFTER these sessions were dedicated networking times. So, more than once, I lost an opportunity to go to the recruiter tables to talk because sessions ran over 20-30 min. In the future, it would be good if the coordinators more purposefully managed time by, for example, having someone with a placard to hold up time reminders (e.g., 15 min left, 5 min left, 2 min left) for speakers and to make sure that all events start on time and do not bleed into other scheduled event times.	10/28/2019 1:22 AM
134	Loved hearing the different stories, was very inspirational. Workshops had lots of useful tips and info for interviewing and negotiating.	10/27/2019 4:25 PM
135	Excellent institute. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I'm looking forward to getting my other claps next year. #OneClap	10/27/2019 2:15 PM
136	Great! Workshop rooms were too small however	10/27/2019 2:14 PM
137	Awesome	10/27/2019 2:10 PM
138	I come to the Institute every single year! It is always a slightly different experience as I grow into the person I need to be. And the Institute always has something no matter where on my journey I am.	10/27/2019 12:10 PM
139	Always the best feeling and best experience at SREB	10/26/2019 6:48 PM