



Criteria for Selection of Professional Development Events

FAIC has collected thousands of recommendations for educational programming. The 1050 course suggestions made by members in the 2006 Survey and the 1138 education suggestions made in the 2001 Survey spanned a wide range of topics. Over 450 additional topics were collected in the 2009 needs survey. Approximately 1000 suggestions were collected on workshop evaluation forms between 2001 and 2005, and even larger numbers from evaluation forms since 2005. Few specific suggestions are repeated by more than twenty respondents. To help prioritize topics, the AIC Education and Training Committee developed a set of criteria. In selecting workshops for professional development, FAIC will aim to provide those that might closely fit several of the following criteria:

- Be accessible: offered in a way that includes members from all parts of the U.S., whether that be by offering scholarships, having offerings in multiple locations, and/or through distance learning technologies
- Be affordable, roughly \$150 per day (with an increase of no more than about 5% annually)
- Be led by recognized experts in the subject
- Be led by effective instructors
- Respond to identified needs of the membership
- Be based on the best research available
- Cut across Specialty Group interests when feasible
- Help advance the conservation profession
- Be aimed at mid-career practicing conservators (priority will be given to helping conservation professionals keep up to date with advances since their initial training.)
- Focus on hands-on training (when appropriate)
- Follow “best practices,” including AIC Code of Ethics, AIC Guidelines, and health and safety considerations
- Not be readily available elsewhere

The Education and Training Committee reviews proposed projects according to the above criteria, with input from Specialty Group representatives as appropriate.