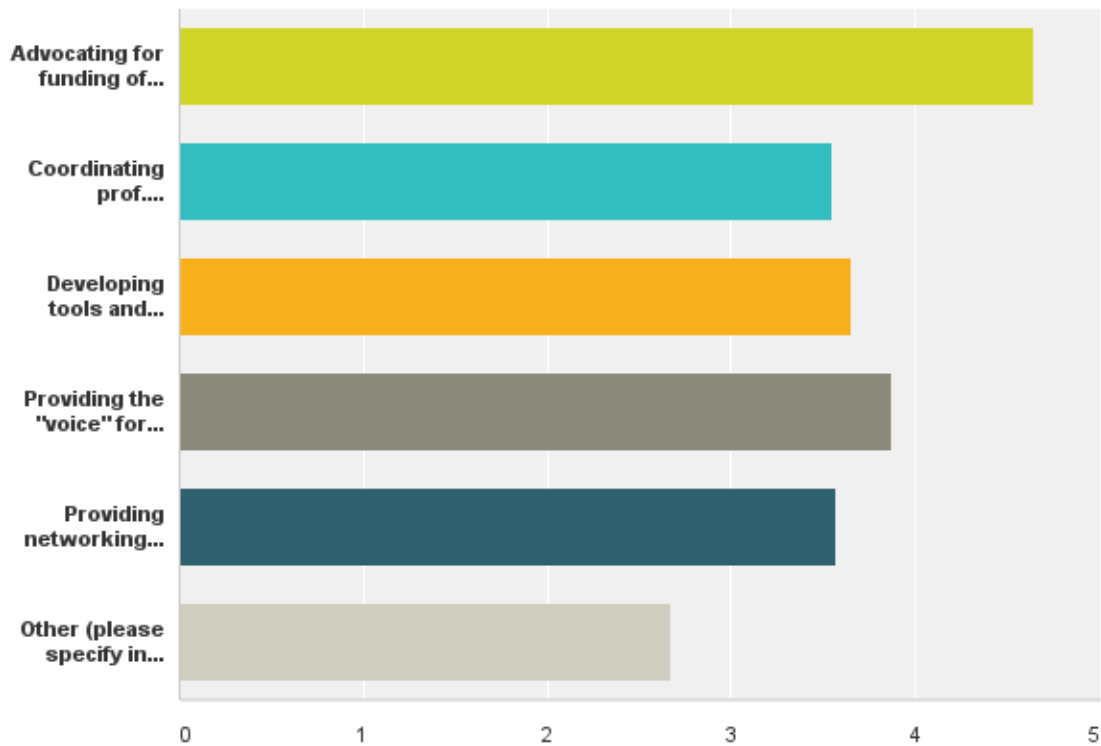# APPLS Strategic Discussion

Q1 If you think about the focus of APPLS for the next 5-10 years out, how would you rank the following in terms of priority to you?

Answered: 23   Skipped: 0
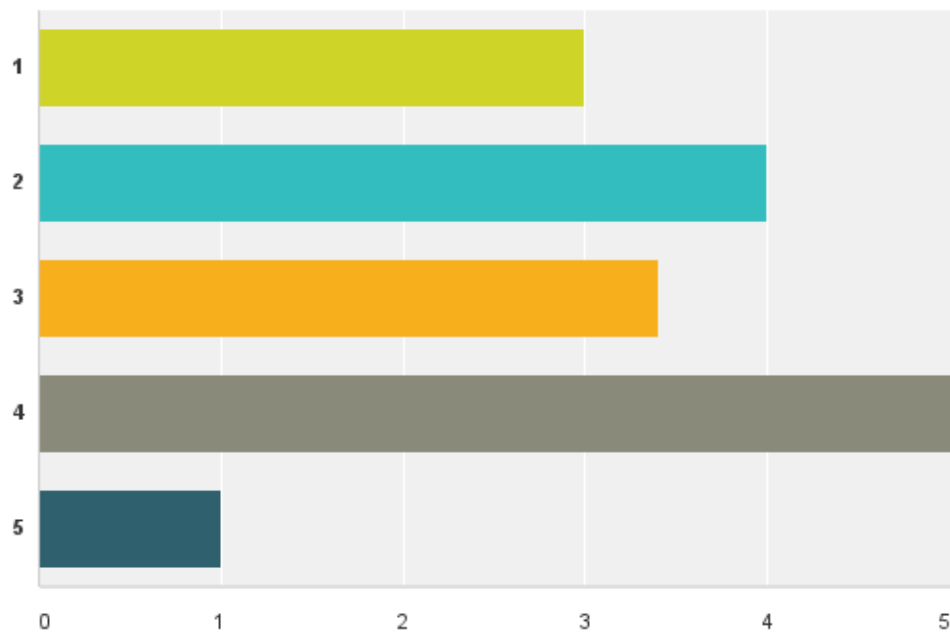

TEXT OF RESPONSES:

- *Advocating for funding of systems*
- *Coordinating professional development for system administrators and staff*
- *Developing tools and resources for systems*
- *Providing the "voice" for systems with the public and with stakeholders*
- *Providing networking support for system administrators*
- *Other (please specify in question following)*

Q2- Define "other":

- Working on industry standardization and regulation
- Focusing efforts on ONE huge idea/initiative that everyone can agree to and support long term.
- I think at some point in time (the strategic planning session led by Cathi Alloway??) one of our goals was to advocate for "system" as a structure for other counties that weren't organized on a countywide basis. I don't know if that's a realistic goal or not. I think we'd agree we think it's smart, but can we in fact influence other counties in their decision making?
- Best practices in maintaining "peace" among libraries/system

Q3 On a scale of 1-5 (with 1 being of highest importance) how important do you think it is for APPLS to become a 501(c) corporation?

Answered: 22   Skipped: 1

Q4 - What questions do you have about creating a legal status for APPLS?

- The added financial and staffing impact
- What costs are we looking at annually? What benefits will we receive? What do we want to do with a legal status?
- I've always been concerned with what it is we are trying to accomplish and identifying that. legal status may just help us in getting help to meet our goals
- At this time, I'd need more information on the benefits.
- Audits; Becoming an employer
- What are the associated costs?
- I don't think I can answer #3 at this point in time. I'm hoping the information gained in August will help me know.
- What is the up-front cost? Assuming that we create a legal status that implies to me that we would be staffing the group. Thus, what will be the on-going cost to each of our organizations? Which legal status would be best for our members? What are the advantages of becoming legal for us in terms of what we want to accomplish in regard to our mission?
- What is the cost vs. potential benefits for the organization and members?
- What is involved? cost? who is responsible?
- I don't have any questions about creating a legal status for APPLS, it seems to be a fairly straight forward process and since we are a membership organization without much revenue, doing the 990 wouldn't be too involved. I think for APPLS to grow, it needs to have legal status, and we need to have at least a dedicated part-time secretary/treasurer to help with consistency, follow up and project management
- I'm not certain that we can sustain APPLS at a level that justifies creating a 501 c 3. It is the membership of APPLS that has to drive our agenda and activity, and I don't see how administrative support will make us stronger.
- What is the cost for the process? Will paid staff be needed to manage a nonprofit organization? What are the benefits of becoming a 501(c)(3) for APPLS?

Respondents:

Adams County	Jefferson County Library System
Allegheny County Library Association	Lackawanna County Library System
Beaver County Library System	Lawrence County Federated System
Berks County Public Libraries	Lebanon County
Blair County Library System	Library System of Lancaster County
Butler County Federated Library System	Luzerne
Cambria County Library System	Lycoming County Library System
Chester County Library System	Union County Library System
Cumberland County Library System	Washington County
Delaware County	Wayne
Greene County Library System	Westmoreland County Federated Library System