



Alistair Cockburn & Todd Little The Big Agile Conference turns 20





Agile ORLANDO JULY 24-28 2023

Start with What?



Stakeholders







XP Agile Universe









Agile Development Conference Vision, Purpose, Structure

Conference Design Goals:

Agile Software Development is an area where there is plenty to teach, exchange and research. We can use this venue to increase the amount of experiential data being presented, the cross-over communication between researchers and practitioners, and between different specialists. In priority order, the conference should develop

- 1. Community
- 2. Cross-pollination across disciplines
- 3. Easy entry to newcomers
- 4. A place for researchers to gather data about projects

The conference design should look across its constituencies, which cross

- experience levels (beginning / experienced),
- practice focus (practitioners / researchers),
- specialties (managers, developers, sociologists)
- nationality (U.S., Canadian, European, Pacific Rim)



A GUY WALKS INTO A BAR

STOP ME IF YOU'VE HEARD THIS

Setting: April 2002, Cambridge, Massachusetts

CUTTER CONSORTIUM

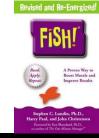
• Access to the Experts

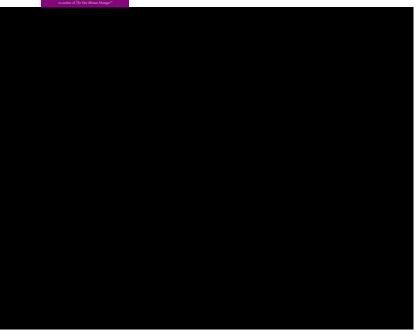




Fish Stories (Dan Reed)









Do you want to run a conference, or do you want to build a community?

You're Right! Let's do it!



Who says Agilists don't Document





Stakeholders







XP Agile Universe









Karen Wiley

Cindy Turnbull



The right people show up Pollyanna Pixton







Chair	Alistair Cockburn	Events	Todd Little
Chair2004	Todd Little	Events	Pollyanna Pixton
Treasurer	Mary Poppendieck	Events	Dan Reed
Website	Michal Patten	Volunteers	Pat Steigauf
Website	Michael Burlson	Tutorials	James Newkirk
Website	Nate Jones	Workshops	John Daniels
Website	Lisa Stewart	Research	Dave Thomas
Website	Kay Johanasen	Exp.Reports	Rebecca Wirfs-Brock
Admin	Karen Wiley	Open Space	Ellen Gottesdiener
Sponsors	Luke Hohmann	Open Space	Christine Moore
Sponsors	Ken Schwaber	Executive	Jim Highsmith
Planner	Cindy Turnbull	Executive	David Spann
			PRESENTS LUL J



Agile Development Conference Vision, Purpose, Structure

The question for conference design is how to provide value to the constituencies.

- Beginners get value from tutorials.
- Experienced people get value from trading notes with each other.
- Practitioners get value by listening to other practitioners' experience.
- Researchers get value for themselves by presenting and encountering research reports, and by encountering practitioner experiences as data for their research.

Attending to these constituencies yield the following 4 -track conference design.

Agile Development Conference Vision, Purpose, Structure

Track 1: Tutorials

The core value of the tutorials is to provide entry into a topic for someone not yet in it.

Track 2: Technical Exchanges

The core value of the workshops should be to allow experienced people to trade notes and learn from each other.

Track 3: Experience Reports

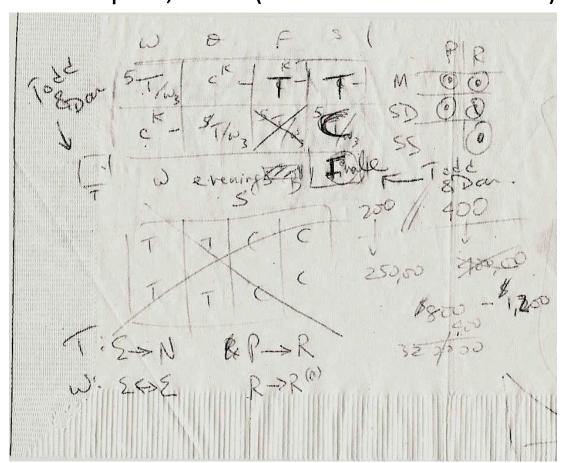
The core value of the Experience Reports should be to present thoughtful recent experience to the community.

Track 4: Research Papers

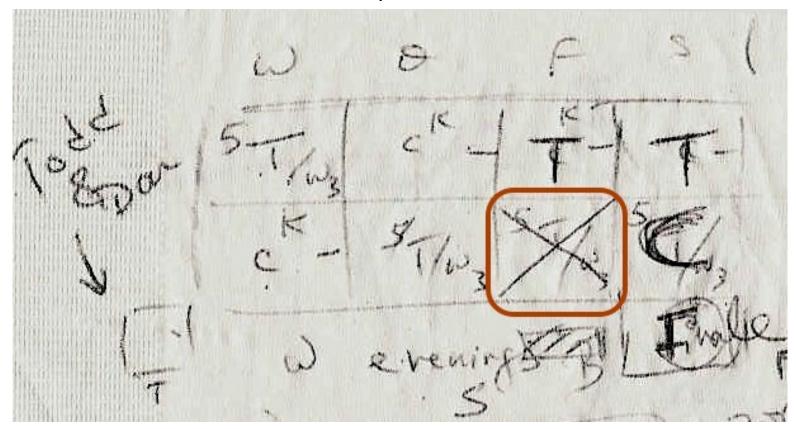
The core value of the Research Papers should be to advance or consolidate the framework of thought in the field.

#adc03

The Napkin, 2002 (drawn for Todd & Dan)



The Getaway Session Arrives



Ice-breaker

set a tone for the conference, letting people relax and find a low-barrier opportunity to meet new people











Getaway Session

give people a chance to spend concentrated time together in a social setting, building new friendships and following up on conversations started earlier in the week.







The Getaway Day (Alistair's hike)









Open Space

allow informal peer-to-peer examination of a wider range of topics,

- AgileAssessmentsBasa
- **ExploringMotivationSessionNotes**
- CanAgileWorkForRemoteGroupsAndLegacyCodeNotes
- Successful And Mostly Successful Xp Projects
- WhatAreAgileMetrics
- XpAsComplexAdaptiveSystem
- AnalogyFestBoundaryObjects
- **BusinessValue**
- HowDoWeConvinceManagementAboutAgile
- WhatIsAnAgileProjectManager
- AutomatedAcceptanceTestDemos
- ScrumKicksButt
- **PairProgramming**



AdcOpenSpace. **FrontPage**



Search

Refactor

Open Space Wiki

Agile Development Conference 2003

Salt Lake City, Utah

- * Browse the Open Space notes, or enter new notes, by clicking on OpenSpaceSessions.
- * Browse or edit the guest list here: OpenSpaceAttendees.

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* For more information on using this Wiki (formatting guidelines etc.) see FitNesse. WikiInstructions.



Open Space -- Agile Dev Conf 6-27-03







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People







#adc03

Organizer's Dinner





How did it go?

"I was told this conference would be a four-day conversation. That was only partly right. It was the four-day start to an ongoing, and fascinating, conversation with people around the world."

"... the four folks that attended the conference in Salt Lake City came away very enthusiastic. The general comment was that the conference was the best technical conference that they had attended."

- Texas Instruments

"This conference has a soul."

- Jeff Patton, Tomax

"This conference exceeded my expectations. I met far more intriguing, insightful and worth keeping in touch with people at this conference than any conference I have been to in a long time."

- Kevin Tate, Alias Wavefront

"The most valuable and most fun conference I have been to in my 15 years in IT."

- Michael Spayd, Qwest

"This conference had the highest proportion of people I wanted to talk with of any conference I have been to."

- Brian Marick





OVERVIEW Organizing Committee

SCHEDULE Tutorials Research Papers Experience Reports Technical Exchange **Executive Summit** Open Space

SPONSORS

The 2003 Agile Development Conference was a resounding success, begging for more similar occasions. One attendee said, "It was like something living, breathing. Not to hold it again would be like killing something." Others commented on the welcoming inclusiveness of the people: "No one was unwelcome. Everyone was included, no matter their role, experience or specialty." Ward Cunningham said, "At the last conference, we discussed how we got here. At this conference, we discussed how to go forward."

This web site now serves as an archival record and reference of the conference contents, to the extent we can manage it. Find here copies of the papers and presentations, summaries from Technical Exchange and Open Space sessions, and tutorial handouts, as the session organizers and presenters are willing to share them.

Enjoy your browsing and research. I hope you will find this site a useful resource in your work.

Alistair Cockburn, Conference Chair, on behalf of all of the organizers and participants of the 2003 Agile Development Conference





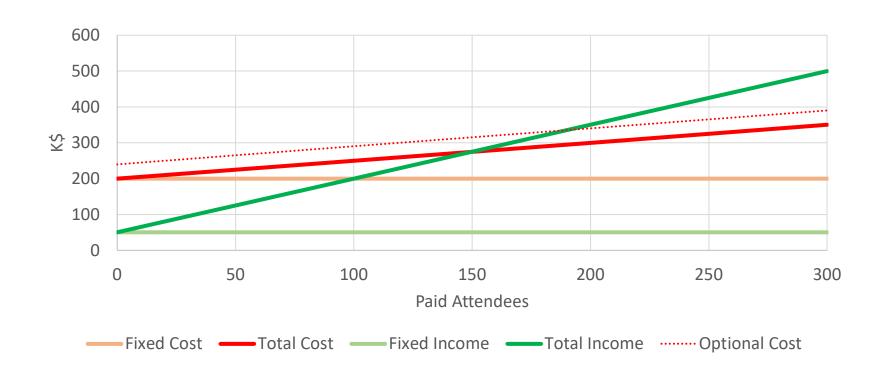
Uncertainty



Budget Challenges – Conference June 25th

- May 5
 62 paid registrations, budget says 150 breakeven. Yikes!
- May 15 AAPG/Westminster
- May 31 Cut to the bone Just serve sandwiches!
- June 2 Revised Budget Model Options

Beyond Budgeting – Building a Conference Financial Model



			100		150		Actuals
		Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals
Earlybird	\$1,389	30	\$41,670	60	\$83,340	15	\$20,835
List	\$1,489	40	\$59,560	60	\$89,340	38	\$56,582
Just In Time	\$1,689	8	\$13,512	8	\$13,512	0	\$0
Academic	\$549	20	\$10,980	20	\$10,980	16	\$8,784
Exhibitors	\$1,700	2	\$3,400	2	\$3,400	1	\$1,700
Total Paid Registrations		100	\$129,122	150	\$200,572	70	\$87,901
Total Expenses			\$257,644		\$272,137		\$248,247
Gross Profit	_	\$	(58,022)	\$	5 (1,065)	\$	(89,846)

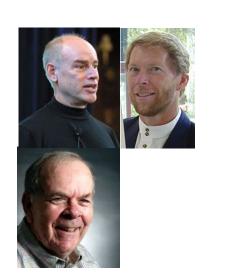
<u>Income</u>			To Date		∆Committed		∆Expected		Worst Case		Expected
Attendees		Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals	Qty	Totals
Earlybird Member	\$1,389	24	\$33,336		\$0		\$0	24	\$33,336	24	\$33,336
Group Rate or											
Presenter	\$1,359		\$0		\$0		\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Presenter not yet											
registered	\$1,359		\$0	3	\$4,077	7	\$9,513	3	\$4,077	10	\$13,590
EarlyBird											
Nonmember	\$1,464	57	\$83,448		\$0		\$0	57	\$83,448	57	\$83,448
Special - List	\$1,489	0	\$0		\$0	10	\$14,890	0	\$0	10	\$14,890
List - nonmember	\$1,589	0	\$0		\$0	10	\$15,890	0	\$0	10	\$15,890
Just In Time	\$1,689	.0	\$0		\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0		\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Academic	\$549	21	\$11,529		\$0		\$0	21	\$11,529	21	\$11,529
Academic not yet											
registered	\$549		\$0	5	\$2,745	2	\$1,098	5	\$2,745	7	\$3,843
Exhibitors	\$1,700		\$0		\$0		\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Paid											
Registrations		102	\$128,313	8	\$6,822	29	\$41,391	110	\$135,135	139	\$176,526
Gross Profit	<u>-</u>	\$	143,129	\$	(140,648)	\$	17,528	\$	2,482	\$	20,009

Budget Challenges – Conference June 25th

- May 5 62 paid registrations, budget says 150 breakeven. Yikes!
- May 15 AAPG/Westminster
- May 31 Cut to the bone Just serve sandwiches!
- June 1 Registration system error. 21 more registrants. Yippee!
- June 2 Revised Budget Model Options
- June 4 Cut 5 Tutorials and 3 Workshops to reduce expenses.
- June 5 Boland confirms \$10K sponsorship
- June 13 101 paid , 207 total solid break even
- Final reconciliation 129 paid 227 total. \$35k net profit not bad!

Then What?

2004 - Merge with XP Agile Universe







XP Agile Universe





Agile2006 - Minneapolis



Greg Harbaugh – 4 Shuttle Missions

Let me tell you about Open Space!

Engineering outside the box

Agile2007 - Washington DC



Agile 2008 - Toronto

15 years with
Elastic
Communications



Agile 2009 - Chicago



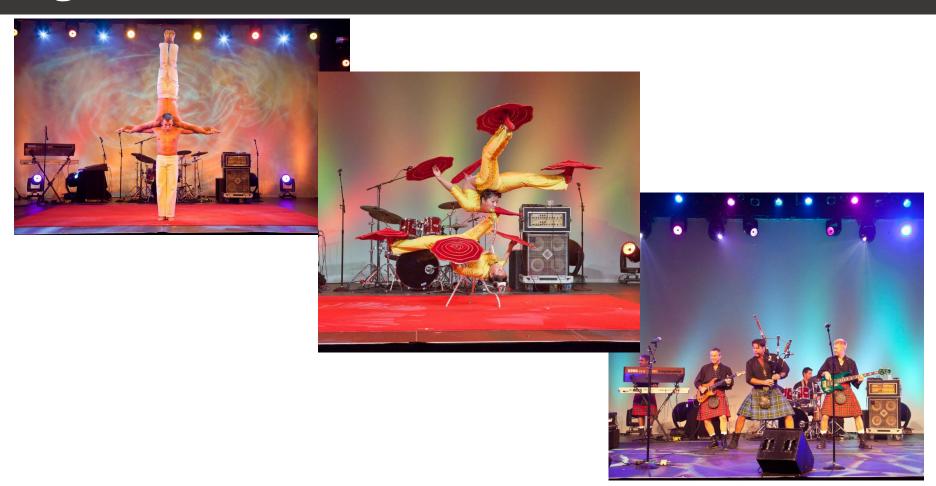




Nashville 2010



Agile2010 - Orlando





A Technical Conference Filled with Women



lynnlangit 17 Aug 2011 12:11 PM



Ok now that I have your attention (!), I am going to write a bit about my first experience at the international, annual Agile conference. Agile 2011 was held in Salt Lake City, Utah last week. I attended and spoke (on 'Teaching Kids to Program Using Agile Practices') and had a GREAT time. This conference had 1600 people, from all over the world. This year was the largest attendance at the annual conference on record.

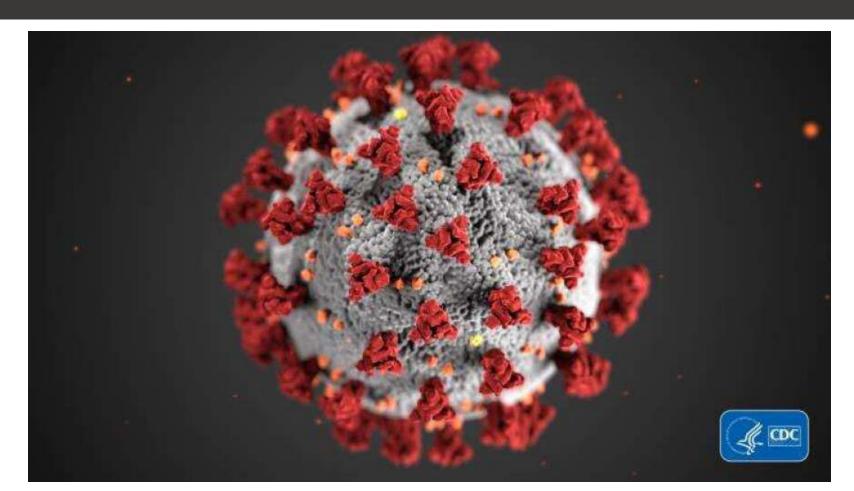


Attending and speaking at conferences is a large part of my job. On average 1 speak at one or more technical conferences PER WEEK, so around 50-100 PER YEAR. I have been doing this for around 5 years now. So, you can do the math on how many conference I've been a part of since I started working as an evangelist. Prior to attending the Agile conference, the best gender-balanced ratio I'd ever experienced at a technical conference was at the annual US SQLPass summit. However I am estimating that was around 25% women.

Agile 2011 was striking for not only the number of women attendees (nearly 50%), but also the number of women speakers. There were also both open and closing keynotes delivered by women too. As a technical women, what is the effect on me and the other women attending? I was struck by one feeling - comfort and the desire to participate. I noticed over and over that I was not the only one -- women participated more frequently during sessions, led scheduled sessions and even ran some their own sessions on an ad-hoc basis. So, how was this achieved? What did this conference 'look like'? As you may have guessed, it didn't look like any other technical conference I'd ever attended.

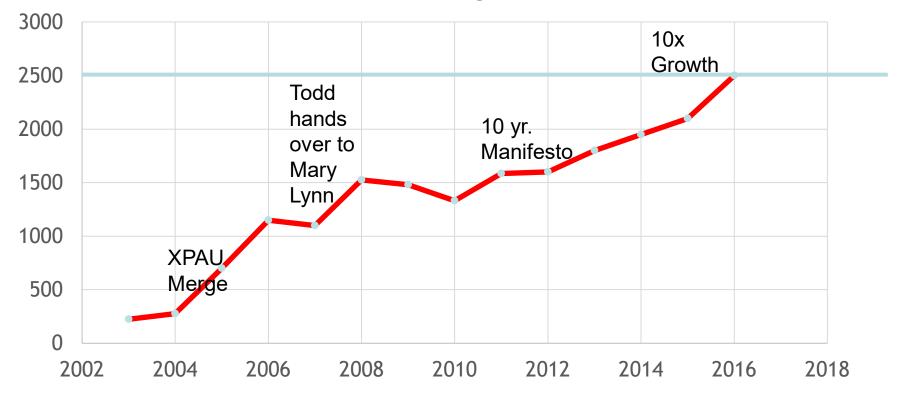
Agile 2013 Nashville

• #Agile2013



Predictions?

Attendees at Agile20XX







Your Turn

Restart: 2023 – 2030 Who is NOW the constituency?

Please form into discussion groups

Reflect on and discuss each of the following questions for a few minutes, then Tweet (or your favorite) out your groups best ideas.

Using the hashtag for each question set will help everyone find the answers from different groups.

Let's begin





At your tables

Reflect on and discuss each of the following questions for a few minutes, then work in groups

- What was your purpose(s) in coming to this conference (group top 3)
- How well did you feel those purposes were met so far (0-10)?
- Craft a vision statement for the conference you would want to attend.
- Tweet out your vision statement to #adc03 when done

Bonus: tweet out a picture of your compiled flipchart





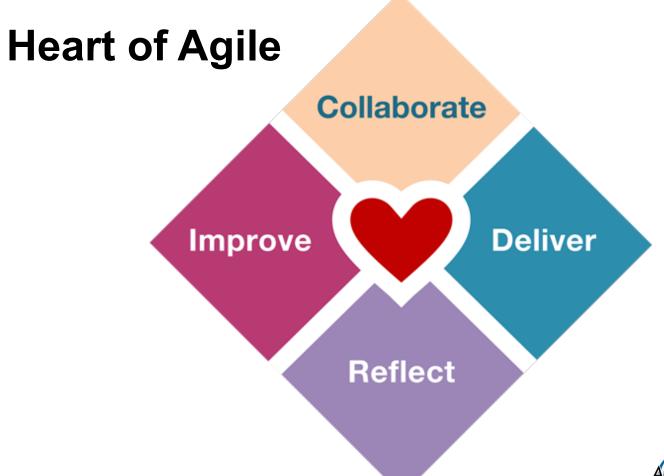
At your tables

- Given your disappointments and positive surprises ...
- What would you change in the STRUCTURE of the conference to better meet your vision?
- What would you change in the SOCIAL ELEMENTS?
- Tweet out to #adc03





















Linkedin



Alistair Cockburn

Co-author of the Agile Manifesto, created Heart of Agile. Creatively showing a human...





Todd LittleChairman at Kanban University

