

Educational Sessions for Strategic Property Planning

SESSION 5

EXAMPLES OF CONSENSUS ASSESSMENT APPROACHES

No matter how a religious institute operationalizes the term "consensus" for recommendations that come from its strategic property planning process, multiple approaches can be used to assess and test for consensus by obtaining structured input from membership. Some of these approaches are:

CONSENSUS ASSESSMENT – INDIVIDUAL MEMBER LEVEL

1. Simple choice with explanation and/or comments

	Example 1				
	1 I support this recommendation				
	2 I cannot support this recommendation				
	Please briefly explain why you selected the choice you did:				
	Example 2				
 I support this recommendation as it currently exists I cannot support this recommendation as it currently exists 					
	3 I can support this recommendation with the following changes or additions:				
	Explain why you cannot support the recommendation and identify changes or additions that, if made, would change your mind:				
2.	Simple choice with follow up contact				
	Example				
	1 I support this recommendation				
	2 I cannot support this recommendation because I have specific concerns about it				
	Please contact me to talk about these concerns:				
3.	"Likert" scale				
	Example 1:				
	Rate on the scale below your level of agreement with the following statement:				





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	Strongly disagree				Strongly agree				
		1	2	3	4	5			
		Explain why you gave this rating apple 2: (Eliminates central tendency bias and forces a non-middle choice) on the scale below your level of agreement with the following statement:							
	-								
1. I wholeheartedly embrace this recommendation.									
		Strongly of	lisagree 2	Stron	gly agre 4	e			
Explain why you gave this rating									
4.	Conse	nsus scale							
	Examp	nple 1 . Where are you personally with this recommendation?							
 □ +3 I think we MUST accept this recommendation □ +2 I think we should accept this recommendation □ +1 I have reservations about this recommendation but can accept it □ 0 I am neutral about this recommendation □ -1 My reservations about this recommendation make it difficult to accept i □ -2 I think we should not accept this recommendation □ -3 I think we MUST NOT accept this recommendation 									
		Note:	"we" into the	-	ces. It c	-	xplicitly interjects the explanatory commen		





5.

6.

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Example 2 1. What is	your level of support for this recommendation?
□ +2 □ +1	I am strongly in support of this recommendation I am in favor of this recommendation
	I am neutral about this recommendation
□ -1 □ -2	I am not in favor of this recommendation I am strongly opposed to this recommendation
Note:	This approach simplifies the scale, keeps the input at an individual level and can also be used with or without explanatory comments or a request for contact.
Open-ended qu	nestions
Example 1 1. What are	e your questions or concerns or suggestions about this recommendation?
Consensus asse	essment - small group discussion
Sma	as the leaning of the group after discussing the recommendation? all group supports the recommendation all group does not support the recommendation
Comments:	
Note: It is i	important to capture the number of members meeting in the small group and the number

of members who support/do not support the recommendation. A variation is to have



members meet in small groups for discussion then respond individually.