

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO DO THE RIGHT THING?

Engaging with Ethics in Curatorial Decision-Making

American Public Gardens Association Annual Conference | June 20, 2017

Shari Edelson, Alex Henderson, Cindy Newlander, Ben Stormes

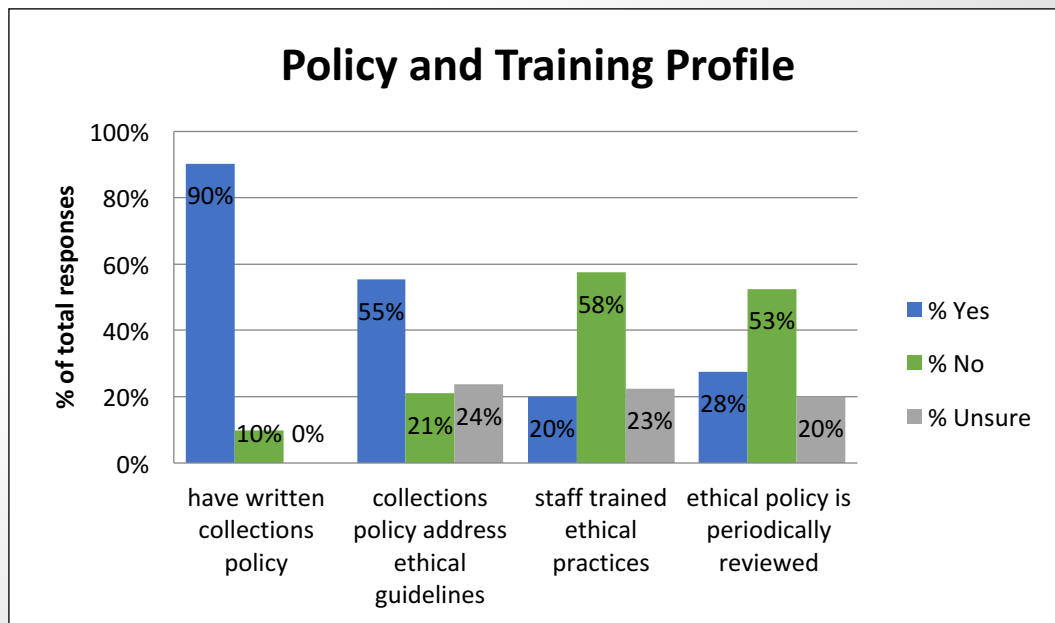
Curatorial Ethics Survey

Objectives

- Assess the presence of written ethical guidelines and/or training to help navigate ethical issues
- Identify the most commonly encountered ethical issues in collections curation and management

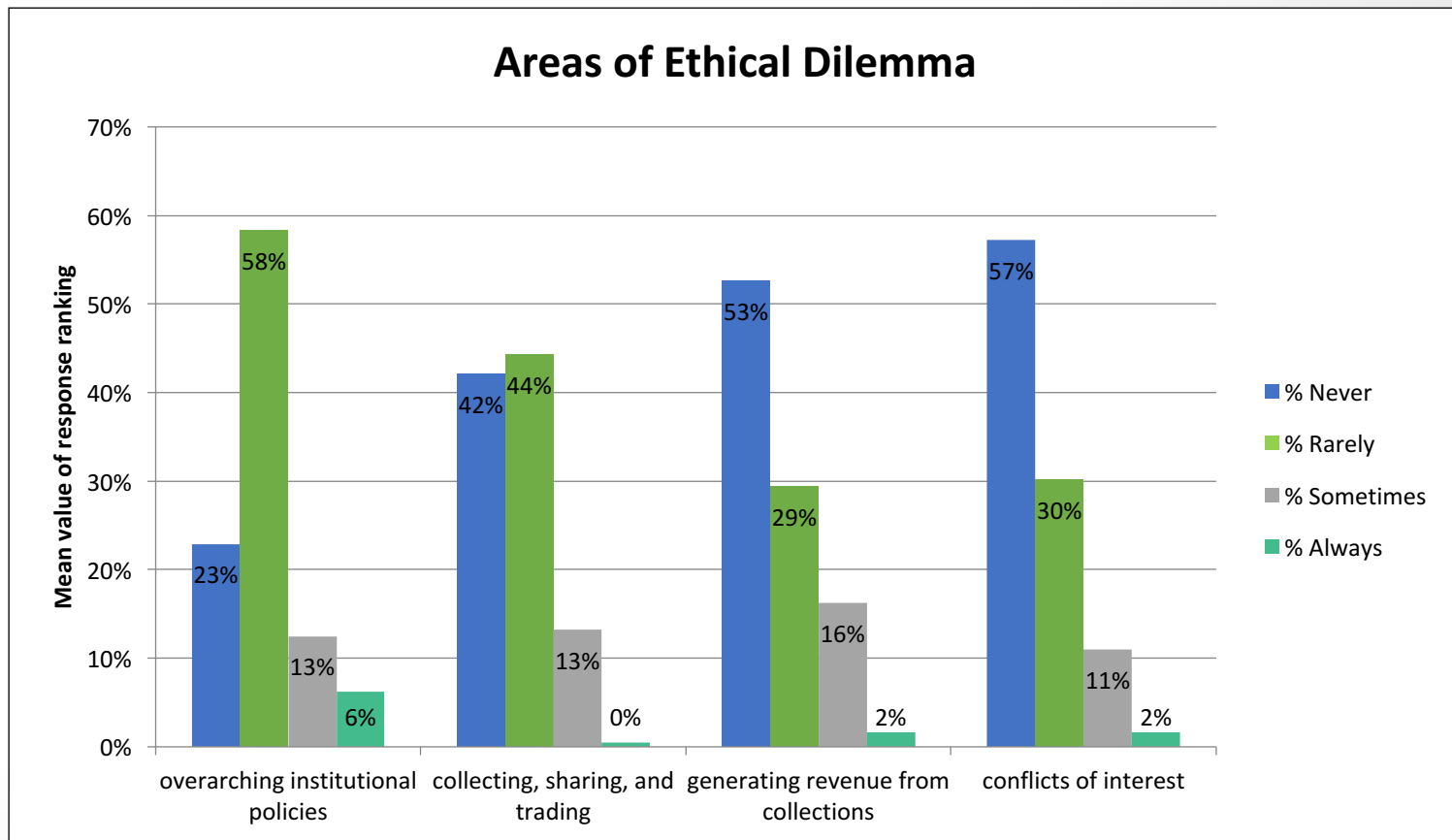
Outcomes

- 57 total responses, with a 56% completion rate
- Quantitative data gathered through yes/no and rating scale questions
- Supporting qualitative data gathered through optional open-ended questions

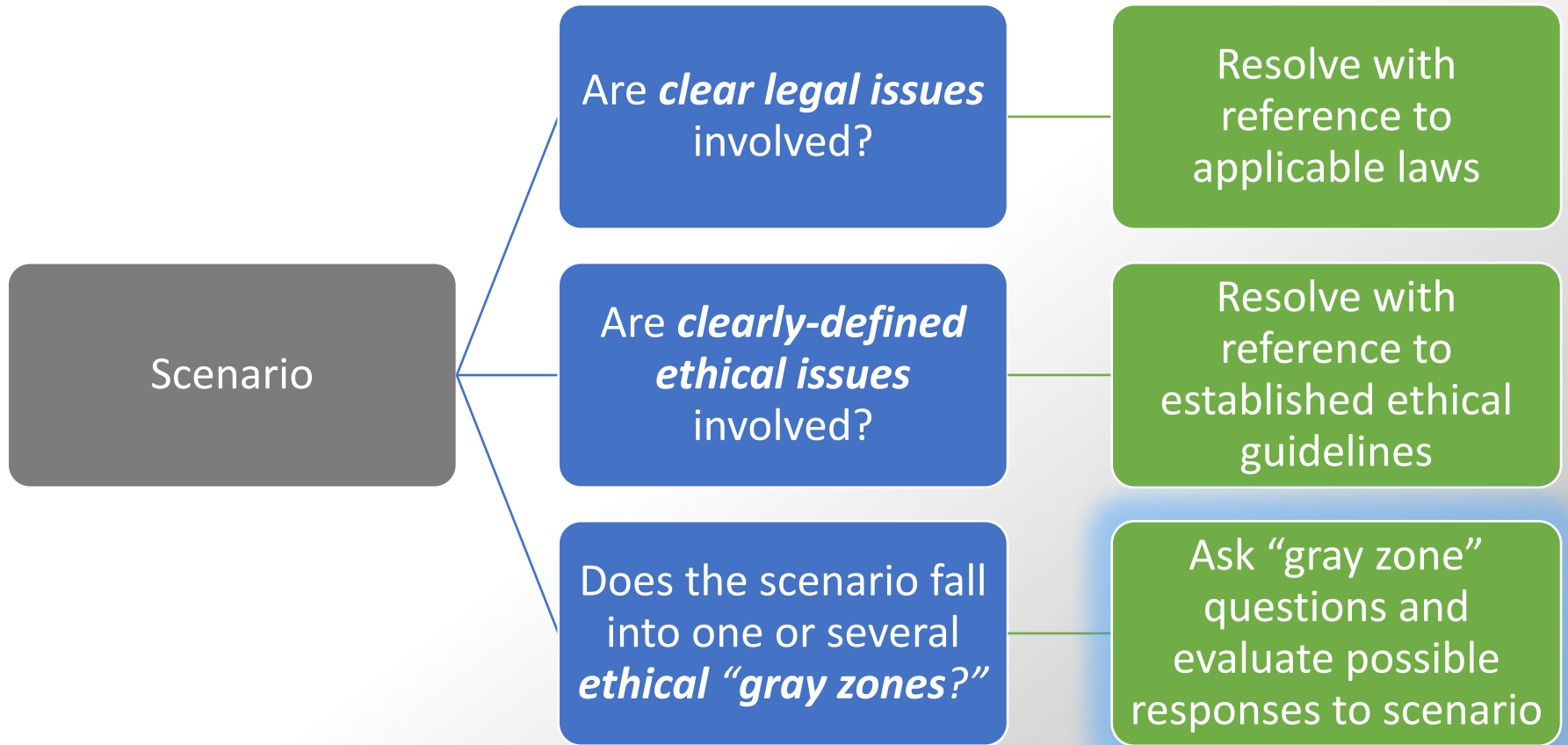


Curatorial Ethics Survey

Participants were asked to identify areas of curatorial and collections management work where ethical concerns were most likely to arise in their workplace.



Evaluating Ethical Scenarios: First Steps



Adapted with permission from "The Struggle is Real: A Game Plan for Ethical Conundrums," presented at the AAM 2016 Annual Conference, Washington, DC, 5/26/2016

Ethical “Gray Zone” Analysis

