
A*CENSUS & ARCHIVAL LEADERSHIP

What does the data tell us????

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Leadership in Professions

- Boundary spanning
 - Positional/Reputational
 - Jurisdiction/Authority
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A*Census Context

- Heteronomous environment
 - Not everyone affiliates
 - A*Census scope
 - Extended beyond SAA
 - Limitations of A*Census data
 - Identification of categories of respondents, frequencies of occurrence, not individuals
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Analytical Framework

- Participation in professional activities
 - Attitudinal data
 - Demographic patterns

 - Type of archival institution
 - Category of position
 - Professional affiliations
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Professional Participation Data Collection

- A*Census questions
 - Conference attendance
 - Conference presentations
 - Workshop/seminar teaching
 - Publication authorship
 - Offices held
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Professional Participation Findings - 1

- Rate of attendance (5 year means)
 - Attendance highest at national/int'l meetings
 - Archival educators highest, followed by managers
 - Academic employees highest, followed by for profit
 - COSHRC members highest, followed by ACA, and SAA
 - Rate of presentation, teaching
 - Similar results
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Professional Participation Findings - 2

■ Rate of authorship

- ❑ Only 27% of respondents had published
 - ❑ Higher publication rate for archival educators, COSHRC members, ACA, and SAA members
 - ❑ Managers published at higher rate in each type of institution
 - ❑ Federal gov't employees published at slightly higher rate than academic employees
 - ❑ First career published at a higher rate
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Professional Participation Findings - 3

- Rate for holding leadership positions
 - ❑ 44% of respondents had held a leadership position at some point
 - ❑ Educators reported highest rate, followed by COSHRC members, ACA members, and SAA members
 - ❑ Managers reported higher rate than employees
 - ❑ Academic rate exceeded government; but state gov't employee rate exceeded federal
 - ❑ Higher rate for first career
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Strength of Ties to the Profession – 1

(Scale 1-7, with 7 highest)

- All – 5
 - COSHRC – 6.21
 - ACA 5.89
 - SAA – 5.51

 - Educator – 6.06
 - Student – 5.11

 - First career – 5.45
 - Not first career – 4.77
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Strength of Ties to the Profession - 2

- Academic: Mgr – 5.52; Empl – 5.17
 - Nonprofit: Mgr – 5.31; Empl – 4.98
 - Gov't: Mgr – 5.2; Empl – 4.94
 - For profit: Mgr – 5.2; Empl – 4.91

 - Manager 5.39
 - Archivist – 5.34
 - Other – 4.19
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Graduate Education as Primary Source of Archival Training - 1

- SAA – 46.9%
 - ACA – 42.2%
 - COSHRC – 36.4%

 - Educator – 44.1%
 - Academic: Empl – 40.8%; Mgr – 40%
 - For profit: Empl – 36.2%; Mgr – 27%
 - Nonprofit: Empl – 34%; Mgr – 33.3%
 - Gov't: Empl – 28.1%; Mgr – 27.1%
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Graduate Education as Primary Source of Archival Training - 2

- Archivist – 39%
 - Manager – 31.2%
 - Other – 27.4%

 - All: 35%
 - Ages: 25-29 – 68.3%; 60-64 – 19%
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Demographic Data

- Age of respondents: 55% are 40-60
 - Retirement prospects:
 - 8% in the next 3 years
 - 19.7% in 3-9 years
 - 22.9% in 10-19 years
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Future Directions???

- Steady stream via normal events/activities
 - Not easy to predict issues that will spur leaders
 - Certain settings facilitate opportunities
 - Attitude and affiliation are crucial
 - Attention to leadership development must be built into association goals
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