

News Release: American Library Association

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Centennial Conference
American Library Association
July 18 - 24, 1976

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Although women constitute 61.3 percent of professional library staff members in U.S. academic libraries, only 35.6 percent are directors of libraries.

These data are part of the preliminary results of a survey of salaries of academic librarians in the United States conducted in 1975-76 by the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. The results were announced during the Centennial Conference of ALA in Chicago.

The survey indicates that 71.3 percent of non-administrative librarians and 67.1 percent of department heads in academic libraries are women.

On the average, women are paid less than men at every level of employment from beginning librarian to director. The difference ranges from 3.2 percent at the entry level to 23.3 percent at the director level.

Data also indicate that minorities constitute 9.5 percent of professional library staff members in academic libraries.

Responses were received from 1,209 libraries representing 13,152 professional library staff members. In general, the survey confirms the findings in previous studies that the salary structure of librarians is pyramidal and that their average salaries are significantly lower than average salaries of teaching faculty members.

The project is funded in part by the Council on Library Resources. The principal investigator is Beverly P. Lynch, Executive Secretary of the Association of College and Research Libraries. The Project Directors are Richard Talbot and Ann van der Lippe

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of the University of Massachusetts/Amherst Library.

The full results of the survey and the final report will be published in the fall.

Public Information Office

Confidential Conference
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July 18 - 20, 1978

through which constitutes 61.1 percent of professional library staff members in U.S. academic libraries, only 15.4 percent are directors of libraries.

These data are part of the preliminary results of a survey of salaries of academic librarians in the United States conducted in 1975-76 by the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. The results were presented during the Confidential Conference of ALA in Chicago.

The survey indicates that 71.3 percent of non-administrative librarians and 61.1 percent of department heads in academic libraries are women.

In the survey, women are paid less than men at every level of employment from beginning librarians to directors. The differences range from 7.3 percent at the entry level to 11.3 percent at the director level.

Data also indicate that librarians constitute 7.5 percent of professional library staff members in academic libraries.

Responses were received from 1,100 librarians representing 1,122 professional library staff members. In general, the survey indicates that librarians in academic libraries are paid less than other professionals in similar positions and that women librarians are paid less than their male counterparts.

The purpose of this study is to provide information on library salaries. The information is intended to help librarians and library administrators in their efforts to improve the compensation of librarians and to help the public understand the value of library services.