

CLSA Membership Survey

The CLSA/RCDS membership committee (Eric Reiter, Allyson Lunny and Lyndsay Campbell) conducted an online survey in the winter of 2014 to provide the organization with information about our membership.

We surveyed about 250 people and received 47 responses.

Membership class and duration

- 27 of 47 had individual memberships, 17 had student memberships, and 3 had emeritus memberships.
- We had five options for length of membership in the CLSA (46 responses):
 - 4 respondents had been members for less than 1 year
 - 8 had been members for more than 1 but less than 2 years
 - 11 had been members for more than 2 years but less than 4 years
 - 10 had been members for more than 4 years but less than 10 years
 - 13 had been members for more than 10 years

Membership Patterns

- We asked about membership in other associations (46 responses):
 - 2 belonged to no other associations
 - 10 belonged to one other association
 - 26 belonged to two or three other associations
 - 7 belonged to four or five other associations
 - 1 belonged to six or more other associations
- We asked what other organizations our respondents belong to (40 responses):
 - Law and Society Association: 25
 - Canadian Sociological Association: 2
 - Canadian Political Science Association: 4
 - Canadian Historical Association: 7
 - Canadian Association of Law Teachers: 11
 - American Society for Legal History: 7
 - Canadian Anthropology Society: 3
 - Canadian Bar Association: 3
 - Association of Law, Property and Society: 2
 - American Society for International Law: 2
 - Canadian Council on International Law: 2
 - Osgoode Society: 2
 - Lots of others had only one representative among our respondents

- We asked about type of scholarly affiliation (46 responses, but some people had more than one affiliation):
 - Law faculty: 24
 - Law and society program: 9
 - Other academic department or program: 20
 - Criminology / criminal justice: 6
 - Socio-legal / Justice studies: 4
 - Law graduate program: 1
 - Anthropology: 2
 - Political Science: 2
 - History: 3
 - Sociology: 1
 - Women's Studies: 1
 - Geography: 1
 - Legal practice: 3
 - Government: 1

- We asked about academic rank and tenure status (40 responses, one per respondent):
 - Professor emeritus: 3
 - Professor, tenured: 5
 - Professor, unspecified tenure status: 2
 - Associate professor, tenured: 11
 - Assistant professor, tenured: 2
 - Assistant professor, tenure-track: 3
 - Assistant professor, unspecified tenure status: 2
 - Unspecified, tenure-track: 1
 - Graduate student / sessional instructor: 1
 - Doctoral student: 7
 - Graduate student (unspecified): 3

- We asked what degrees our respondents held and in what disciplines (46 responses):
 - LL.B. / J.D. / B.C.L.: 27
 - M.A. / M.S.: 17 (one person indicated 2 fields)
 - Criminology: 1
 - History: 3
 - Sociology: 2
 - Equality studies: 1
 - Socio-legal studies / Jurisprudence & social policy: 3
 - Law: 1
 - Political science: 2
 - Anthropology: 1
 - Women and gender studies: 1
 - Russian and East European studies: 1
 - Unspecified: 2

- LL.M.: 21
- Ph.D.: 21
 - Sociology: 4 (including one sociology of criminal law)
 - Socio-legal studies: 1
 - History: 4
 - Criminology: 2
 - Law: 5
 - Anthropology: 2
 - Women and gender studies: 1
 - Political science: 1
 - Puzzling response: 1
- J.S.D. / S.J.D. / D.C.L.: 4
- Other: 8
 - People mainly identified bachelor's degrees here, in anthropology; history & political science; mathematics; law (2); law & society; philosophy; and an unspecified BSc.

Our Members' Research

- We asked, "In your research, how would you describe your methodology or methodologies?" (46 respondents)
 - Doctrinal analysis: 17
 - Historical or archival: 19
 - Theoretical: 27
 - Comparative: 15
 - Transnational: 9
 - Interdisciplinary (empirical): 24
 - Interdisciplinary (non-empirical): 16
 - Other (4 responses):
 - Qualitative: 1
 - Discourse analysis: 1
 - Quantitative: 1
 - "Historical research often includes many of the things listed here": 1

- We asked where our respondents usually submit their research for publication (38 respondents):
 - Canadian Journal of Law and Society: 11
 - Canadian law journals: 26
 - Canadian journals in other disciplines: 11
 - American law journals: 2
 - American journals in other disciplines: 9
 - Other (15 respondents, some identifying more than one):
 - Journals related to law and society research, criminology: 2
 - Journals related to law and health: 2
 - International, European, UK, Australian journals: 7
 - Feminist journals: 2

- Sociology journals: 2
 - History publications: 2
 - It varies / don't know / no response: 4
- We asked whether our respondents had applied for a SSHRC grant (44 responses):
 - Yes: 35
 - No: 7
 - Unclear: 2