

The AAR Survey of Graduate Education in Religion and Theology

- Survey and Analysis funded by the Lilly Endowment
- This Presentation Based on Materials Discussed at SCURT Consultation, Atlanta, 4 October 2003

Prepared by

Terrence W. Tilley, University of Dayton and
AAR Academic Relations Task Force for the
2003 AAR Annual Meeting

The AAR Survey of Graduate Education in Religion and Theology

- Purpose of the Surveys:
 - Assessing the State of the Field
 - Analyzing Established Patterns and Emerging Trends
 - Planning Strategically for the Future
- Limits of the Survey and Presentation:
 - Single year data from 01-02; multi-year data is five year aggregate (95-00)
 - All figures “self-reported”
 - Some figures “derived” from data available to TWT
 - Survey covers all faculty in graduate institutions and doctoral students only

The Graduate Survey: Respondents

- **U.S. Schools Responding: 62 (57 offer Ph.D.)**
 - (includes all major U.S. Ph.D. programs)
 - Canadians excluded because of very low response rate
 - other doctoral degrees offered at some schools
 - other graduate or undergraduate degrees are offered at all schools; faculty figures (salary, workload, etc.) are presumably for all faculty and all programs
 - “types” of schools replying
 - 19 “Protestant” Schools
 - 18 “Private” Schools
 - 11 “Catholic” Schools
 - 8 “Public” Schools
 - 3 “Jewish” Schools
 - 3 “Missing replies”

The Graduate Survey: Faculty Hiring

- **Reported hiring over the last five years:**
 - **130** Faculty hired with tenure
 - **237** Faculty hired to tenure track
 - **117** Faculty hired non-tenure track
 - Approximately **347** Faculty retired, not retained or moved on to another institution
 - **Approximately 27-28 new jobs created per year or**
 - **Approximately two jobs at each responding institution over the five year period**

The Graduate Survey: Faculty Hiring

- **Expected NEW hiring over next five years (non-replacement hiring):**
 - Approximately **187** new positions anticipated
 - Approximately **37-38** new jobs anticipated to be created per year or
 - Approximately **three jobs** at each responding institution over the five year period
- **COMMENT:** Given the track record of the past five years (27-28 per year / 2 per institution) as reported, this estimate seems somewhat optimistic.

The Graduate Survey: Faculty Diversity

Gender

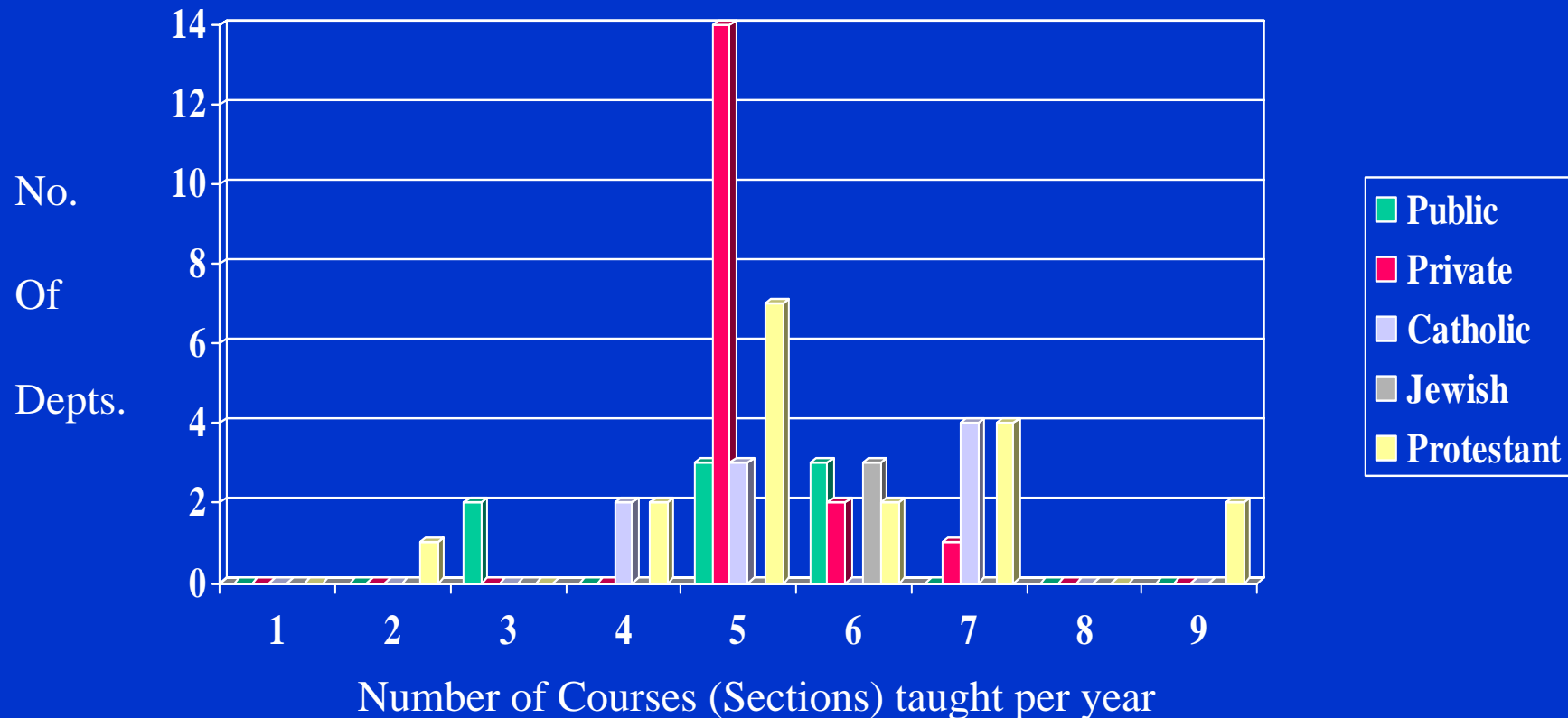
	#	%
M	1093	75
F	363	25

Age	%
<30	0.2
30-39	12.6
40-49	25.3
50-59	32.7
60-69	25.4
>70	3.8

Race/Ethnicity	#	%
Caucasian/Euro-American	1268	90.2
Black/African-American	72	5.1
Latino/Hispanic	28	2.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	33	2.3
Amer. Indian or Alaskan Native	3	0.3

The Graduate Survey: Teaching Load

Number of Courses per year for FT Faculty:



The Graduate Survey: Faculty Salaries

**Median Salaries in thousands of dollars
for Full/Assoc/Asst./ Instructors**

Public: 89 / 58 / 47 / 39

Private: 80 / 65 / 50 / 39

Catholic: 68 / 53 / 45 / 40

Jewish: 97 / 73 / 56 / 50

Protestant: 67 / 59 / 50 / 39

**Housing Allowances not included (some
Prot, Cath and Private institutions)**

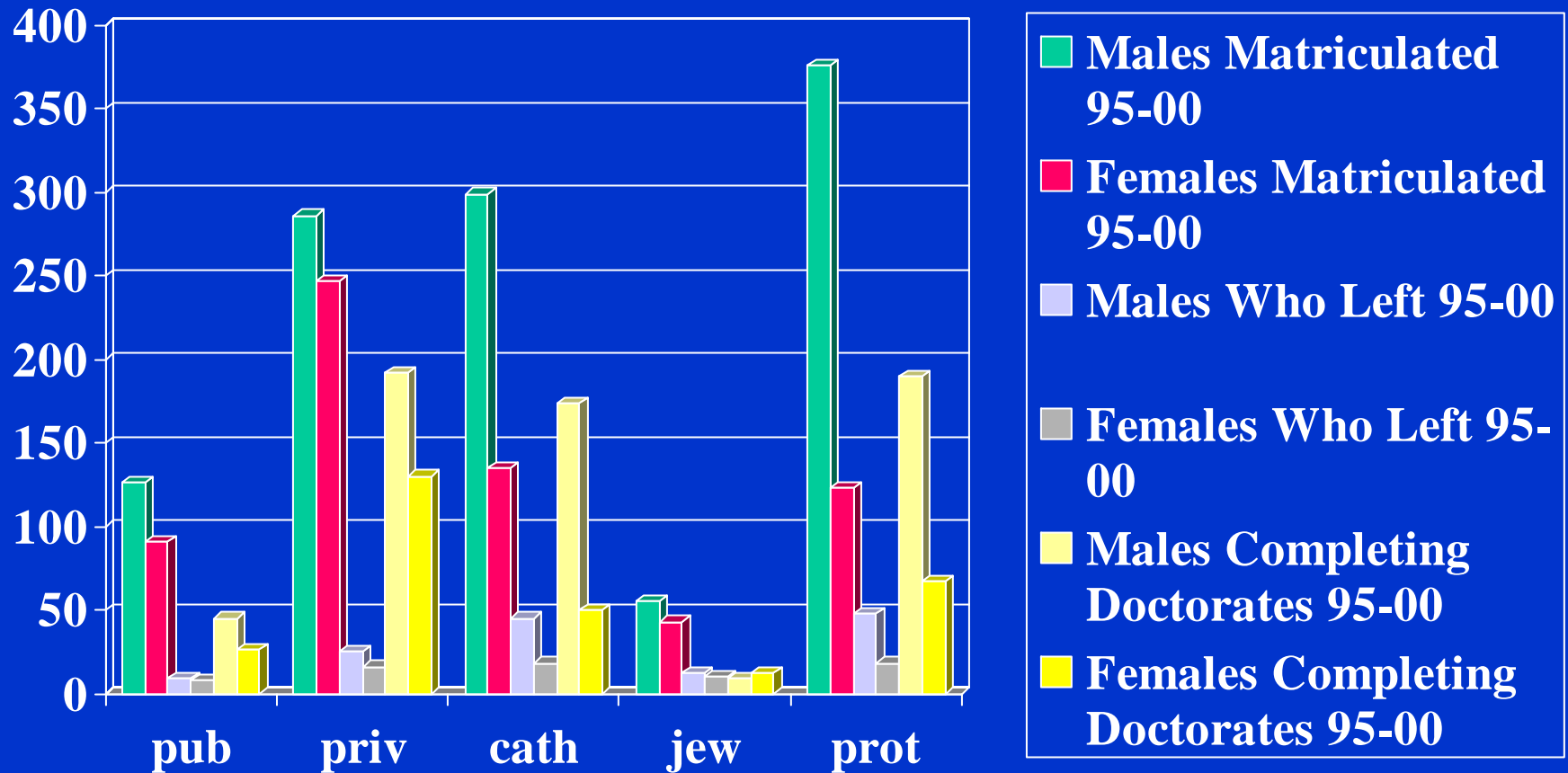
The Graduate Survey: Student Admits

Average Number of Applicants to Programs over past five years	3166
Average Number offered Admission over past five years	862
Average Number of applicants who received a financial aid offer	589
Average Number of Applicants who accepted admission offer	562

The Graduate Survey: Student Stipends

	Grading per course		TA Stipends per year	
		Opt		Req
Public	\$5836	1	7	\$11406
Private	\$4038	6	8	\$14500
Catholic	\$2738	4	3	\$10563
Jewish	\$3500	1	0	--
Protestant	\$3000	9	6	\$7700

The Graduate Survey: Students



The Graduate Survey: Areas of Study

# Stus	%	Areas of Concentration Reported
2171	75%	Identifiably Christian (all areas of study)
127	4%	Judaism
100	3%	Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity
86	3%	Philosophy of Religion
56	2%	Culture and Theory in Religion
53	2%	Buddhism, Japanese, East Asian Religions
51	2%	History of Religion/Comparative Study/Study of Religion
47	2%	Social Scientific Studies of Religion
43	1%	Hinduism/ South Asian Religions
43	1%	Ethics and Religion
33	1%	Islam/West Asian Religions
32	1%	Religion&Modernity/Religion&Social Change/Theology&Society
64 each	<1%	Other (8 Areas incl. Confucian, African, Rabbinics, Am. Rel. Hist)

The Graduate Survey: Student Diversity

**Doctorates
Granted
in
2001-02
by
Ethnicity
and
Gender**

White Males	233	54.4%
White Females	89	20.8%
Asian/Pac Males	47	9.3%
Black Males	28	6.5%
Hispanic Males	10	2.3%
Black Females	9	2.1%
Asian/Pac Females	9	2.1%
Others	1	0.2%
Hispanic Females	1	0.2%
Total 2001-02	427	

The Graduate Survey: Student Diversity

**Enrollment
Patterns
In
01-02**

White Males	1488	48.8%
White Females	731	24.4%
Asian/Pac Males	278	9.3%
Black Males	169	5.7%
Hispanic Males	82	2.7%
Black Females	82	2.7%
Asian/Pac Females	126	4.2%
Others	8	0.1%
Hispanic Females	24	0.8%
Total 2001-02	2988	

The Graduate Survey: Placement 01-02

• Number of Students on Job Market 01-02	430
• Number of Students Seeking ONLY Academic Jobs	220 (?)

• Number of Students placed in Research Universities	58
• Number of Students placed in Comprehensive Colleges	79
• Number of Students placed in Liberal Arts Colleges	92
• Number of Students placed in Community Colleges	2
• Number of Students placed in Post-Doctoral Programs	14
• Number of Students placed in Academic Administration	7
• Number of Students placed in Sems, Div, Rabbin. Schools	74
• Number of Students placed in Secondary Schools	8
• Number of Students placed in Non-Profit Organizations	27
• Number of Students placed in parishes, congregations	33
• Number of Students placed in other positions	23

The Graduate Survey: Placement Sum

• Number of Students on Job Market 01-02	430
• Number of Students Seeking ONLY Academic Jobs	220 (?)
• Number of Students Placed in Higher Education	326
• Number of Students with other placements	91
• Number of Students still looking for work	32

• Yes, these numbers don't add up perfectly. They may include students from earlier years, and other "fudging" factors.

• No, these numbers do not take into account the specific fields in which students seek employment.

• No, we do not have clear data here regarding FTTT/FTNTT/PT appointments.

The Graduate Survey: Initial Comments

- REMINDER:
- Purpose of the Surveys:
 - Assessing the State of the Field
 - Analyzing Established Patterns and Emerging Trends
 - Planning Strategically for the Future
- Limits of the Survey and Presentation:
 - Single year data from 01-02; multi-year data is five year aggregate (95-00)
 - All figures “self-reported”
 - Some figures “derived” from data available to TWT
 - Survey covers all faculty in graduate institutions and doctoral students only

The Graduate Survey: Initial Comments

- In what we study and who we are , we are predominantly
 - **White** (90% of Faculty, 75% of graduates of doctoral programs)
 - **Male** (75% of both Faculty and graduates of doctoral programs)
 - **Christian** (at least 75% of students' major areas of concentration)
 - Some figures suggest slight increases in diversity (e.g., white male enrollments are 6% less than white male graduates in 01-02).
- Gross numbers suggest that there is **not a glut of graduates**, despite the statistics reported by the Employment Information Service of the AAR (where ratio of applicants to jobs may be over 10:1 in Bible, Christian Theology, etc., but under 1:1 in “other” traditions).
 - Recent and future hiring patterns are rather encouraging, but this needs to be correlated more closely with the undergraduate survey and more/better information on actual hiring practices.
- It appears that there are great **disparities** in compensation and workload for faculty and in financial support for graduate students.