



RESEARCH NOTES

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FACULTY ACTIVITY SURVEY SUMMARY FALL 2003

The Office of Institutional Research at James Madison University conducts every other year a survey of faculty activity. While minor changes have been made to the survey forms from year to year, essentially the same information has been collected since 1972. Information from these surveys has been used for a variety of purposes, including accreditation studies, the SACS self-study, support of grant applications, and the clarification of the public's understanding of faculty workload and responsibilities.

Full-time faculty and all other individuals who taught a course for credit completed the Fall 2003 survey. The Office of Institutional Research identified a total of 718 full-time faculty as being eligible for inclusion in the survey. Of these, 497 returned usable survey forms for a response rate of 69 percent, a significant decrease from 89 percent in 2002. This was the third year the survey was conducted online.

Full-time faculty reported an average of 54.5 weekly hours of activity, slightly above of 54.2 in 2001 (See tables 1 and 6). In Fall 1985 the average was 52.4 hours. Departmental means ranged from a low of 48.0 to a high of 81.7 weekly hours. The average number of weekly hours devoted to direct contact with students in class meetings was 9.7 (11.4 in 1985) and the average number of hours spent in preparing for class was 15.2 (15.3 in 1985). This equates to about 1.6 hours of preparation for each hour spent in the classroom. In 1997 the survey was modified to more clearly delineate instructional activity beyond class meetings and preparation for class. Faculty reported an average of 3.6 hours in other contact activities such as individual study supervision, review sessions, thesis and dissertation advising, supervision of graduate student research, and supervising internships and student teachers. Faculty spent an average of 2.9 hours in pedagogical development, including curriculum development, mentoring junior faculty and teaching assistants, and activities related to enhancing their own teaching effectiveness. Faculty spent an average of 5.5 hours in advising and counseling, including office hours, academic program advising, writing recommendation letters, and non-credit instruction. Overall, instructional activities consumed 36.9 hours per week (31.3 in 1985), or 67.7 percent (59.8 in 1985).

The proportion of time devoted to research, professional development, and scholarly activities by full-time faculty was down from 18.7 percent in 1995 to 16.7 percent in the Fall 2003 survey. In Fall 1985 the percentage devoted to research, professional development, and scholarly activities was 17.9. However, some of the decline in research, professional development, and scholarly activities may be due to the fact that the proportion of full-time faculty whose rank is instructor has increased from 5.5 percent in 1995 to 10.5 percent in 2003, and instructors typically devote the majority of their time to instruction. As a group, professors, associate professors, and assistant professors devoted 12.3 percent of their time to these activities. Professional development of faculty is part of the University's planning priorities. For the fourth time we asked faculty to report the average number of hours spent in professional development. The average full-time faculty member spent 1.6 hours (2.9 percent of total time) per week in professional development. The percent of hours devoted to research, professional development, and scholarly activity has been relatively consistent for more than ten years; however, it has moved up from 5.6 percent of reported time in 1972.

For the second time, an analysis was made of the average hours and percent of effort by academic rank (tables 4 and 5). Professors tend to spend a higher percentage of their time in Academic Support and

Institutional Support. This is to be expected because department heads tend to be professors and spend more time in managing the departments and working on committees. Also as expected, instructors tend to spend the vast majority of their time on instructional activities (82.6 percent). Instructors are hired to teach and typically do not have research and scholarly activity expectations.

An additional 107 individuals with faculty responsibilities returned usable survey forms (See tables 8 and 9). Of these, 65 were part-time faculty who averaged 6.9 weekly hours of direct contact with students in class meetings and 24.0 hours in all instructional activities.

Questions regarding this and previous faculty activity surveys should be deferred to the James Madison University Office of [Institutional Research](#).

TABLE 1
AVERAGE HOURS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY

Year	Respondents	Class Meet	Class Prep.	Other Instruction ¹	Total Instruction	Research/Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Institutional Support	Total
1976	369	11.8	17.1	5.5	34.4	7.6	2.2	4.6	3.3	2.7	54.8
1978	403	12.2	17.2	4.8	34.2	8.7	2.2	4.5	1.8	3.2	54.6
1981	421	12.0	16.3	4.5	32.8	8.3	2.2	4.1	1.9	3.0	52.3
1985	419	11.4	15.3	4.6	31.3	9.4	2.4	4.5	1.9	2.9	52.4
1987	437	10.7	15.1	5.0	30.9	10.7	2.2	4.9	1.8	3.4	53.8
1988	452	11.0	14.6	7.2	32.7	9.5	1.9	4.6	1.7	3.8	54.3
1991	467	10.5	17.9	5.0	33.4	9.5	1.8	4.3	1.6	3.4	54.0
1993	483	10.3	18.2	4.7	33.2	9.9	1.8	4.9	1.0	2.8	53.5
1995	493	10.6	18.1	4.6	33.3	10.0	1.5	4.8	1.1	2.9	53.7
1997 ¹	495	10.0	15.2	11.7	36.9	9.5	1.4	3.9	0.7	2.7	55.2
1999	457	9.0	17.0	12.9	38.9	7.7	1.5	3.0	0.7	3.2	55.1
2001	589	10.0	15.7	12.2	37.9	8.7	1.2	3.4	0.6	2.3	54.2
2003	497	9.7	15.2	12.0	36.9	9.1	1.3	3.9	0.9	2.4	54.5

¹ A more precise definition of “Other Instruction” introduced in the 1997 survey may have resulted in the shifting of the number of hours from “Academic Support” and “Student Support” to “Other Instruction.” The revised definition allowed JMU’s data to be compared to a faculty study conducted by SCHEV.

TABLE 2**PERCENT OF TOTAL TIME BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY**

Year	Respondents	Class Meet	Class Preparation	Other Instruction	Total Instruction	Research/Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Institutional Support	Total
1976	369	21.6	31.2	10.0	62.8	13.9	4.0	8.4	6.0	4.0	100.0
1978	403	22.4	31.4	8.7	62.5	15.9	4.1	8.2	3.4	5.9	100.0
1981	421	22.9	31.1	8.7	62.7	15.9	4.1	7.9	3.7	5.7	100.0
1985	419	21.8	29.2	8.8	59.8	17.9	4.6	8.6	3.6	5.5	100.0
1987	437	19.9	28.0	9.4	57.4	19.9	4.1	9.0	3.3	6.3	100.0
1988	452	20.3	26.8	13.2	60.3	17.5	3.5	8.5	3.2	7.0	100.0
1991	467	19.5	33.2	9.2	61.9	17.6	3.3	7.9	2.9	6.3	100.0
1993	483	19.2	34.0	8.8	62.0	18.4	3.3	9.1	1.9	5.2	100.0
1995	493	19.8	33.7	8.6	62.1	18.7	2.8	9.0	2.1	5.3	100.0
1997	495	18.1	27.6	21.2	66.9	17.2	2.6	7.1	1.4	4.8	100.0
1999	457	16.2	30.7	23.2	70.1	14.1	2.7	5.6	1.2	6.4	100.0
2001	589	18.5	29.0	22.5	70.0	16.0	2.3	6.3	1.1	4.3	100.0
2003	497	17.8	27.8	22.1	67.7	16.7	2.5	7.1	1.6	4.4	100.0

TABLE 3**PERCENT OF TOTAL TIME BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY
BY COLLEGE, FALL 2003**

College	Number of faculty	Respondents	Class Meet	Class Prep.	Other Instruction	Total Instruction	Research/Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Institutional Support	Total
Arts & Letters	281	200	18.8	29.7	20.6	69.1	17.7	1.7	6.0	1.6	3.9	100.0
Business	111	63	15.6	27.6	21.2	64.3	18.1	2.4	7.8	1.9	5.5	100.0
Education	43	36	15.6	25.0	26.7	67.3	13.0	4.8	8.2	1.0	5.6	100.0
Integrated Science & Technology	175	118	17.2	25.6	23.9	66.8	14.7	3.6	8.2	1.9	4.8	100.0
Science & Mathematics	105	79	19.1	27.6	21.6	68.3	18.2	1.8	7.2	1.4	3.2	100.0
General Education	3	1	6.3	31.3	31.3	68.8	6.3	4.2	10.4	0.0	10.4	100.0
Total	718	497	17.8	27.8	22.1	67.7	16.7	2.5	7.1	1.6	4.4	100.0

TABLE 4**AVERAGE HOURS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY
BY RANK, FALL 2003**

Rank	Respondents	Class Meet	Class Preparation	Other Instruction	Total Instruction	Research/Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Institutional Support	Total
Professor	171	8.9	13.0	12.0	33.9	8.6	1.35	5.55	0.82	3.46	53.7
Associate Professor	128	9.5	14.3	12.5	36.2	9.5	1.59	3.96	0.75	2.53	54.6
Assistant Professor	161	10.3	16.7	12.3	39.2	10.4	1.09	2.58	1.16	1.46	55.9
Instructor	37	11.5	21.6	9.8	42.9	4.6	1.65	1.59	0.41	0.81	51.9
Total	497	9.7	15.2	12.0	36.9	9.1	1.3	3.9	0.9	2.4	54.5

TABLE 5**PERCENT OF TOTAL TIME BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY
BY RANK, FALL 2003**

Rank	Respondents	Class Meet	Class Preparation	Other Instruction	Total Instruction	Research/Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Institutional Support	Total
Professor	171	16.6	24.3	22.3	63.2	16.0	2.5	10.3	1.5	6.4	100.0
Associate Professor	128	17.5	26.1	22.8	66.4	17.5	2.9	7.3	1.4	4.6	100.0
Assistant Professor	161	18.4	29.8	22.0	70.1	18.6	1.9	4.6	2.1	2.6	100.0
Instructor	37	22.1	41.6	18.8	82.6	8.8	3.2	3.1	0.8	1.6	100.0
Total	497	17.8	27.8	22.1	67.7	16.7	2.5	7.1	1.6	4.4	100.0

TABLE 6

**DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT BY COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT
IN AVERAGE HOURS PER WEEK, FALL 2003**

	No of Faculty	No	Class Contact	Class Prep.	Other Instr.	Total Instr.	Research/ Prof. Dev./ Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Instit. Support	Grand Total
College of Arts and Letters												
English Department	30	21	9.1	18.1	9.5	36.7	8.7	0.2	3.3	3.3	2.4	54.6
Foreign Lang. and Literatures	15	11	12.0	16.8	11.4	40.2	13.0	0.8	4.7	1.5	2.2	62.4
History	29	28	9.1	19.3	12.9	41.3	9.4	1.4	2.2	0.8	2.4	57.5
Philosophy and Religion	19	16	8.9	16.9	9.0	34.8	15.4	1.9	2.3	0.2	0.7	55.3
Political Science	20	10	9.3	20.2	10.5	40.0	12.6	0.2	3.4	0.1	2.9	59.2
School of Art and Art History	26	14	11.6	11.4	14.5	37.5	12.9	0.8	3.8	0.6	3.3	58.8
School of Communication Studies	30	13	11.8	22.2	12.3	46.3	2.6	1.5	2.0	0.2	1.3	54.0
School of Media Arts and Design	18	15	8.1	13.1	12.3	33.5	6.9	0.7	1.9	0.7	4.2	48.0
School of Music	37	29	14.5	12.5	9.7	36.7	10.9	1.0	4.5	0.7	2.4	56.2
School of Theatre and Dance	12	12	10.5	11.2	11.8	33.5	9.8	0.8	5.3	0.9	1.8	52.1
Sociology and Anthropology	21	14	7.5	14.3	12.4	34.1	11.8	0.9	4.4	0.5	1.8	53.4
Technical and Scientific Comm.	5	3	10.0	21.0	22.7	53.7	15.3	0.7	7.0	1.0	4.0	81.7
Writing Program	19	14	12.3	23.9	10.9	47.1	3.9	0.3	2.7	0.1	0.4	54.6
COLLEGE MEAN	281	200	10.5	16.6	11.5	38.6	9.9	0.9	3.4	0.9	2.2	55.9
College of Business												
College of Business-Instruction	111	63	8.3	14.7	11.3	34.3	9.6	1.3	4.1	1.0	2.9	53.3
COLLEGE MEAN	111	63	8.3	14.7	11.3	34.3	9.6	1.3	4.1	1.0	2.9	53.3
College of Education												
Adult Degree Program	1	1	3.0	3.0	23.0	29.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	40.0
Education Programs	42	35	9.2	14.9	15.3	39.5	7.7	2.9	4.8	0.5	3.3	58.7
COLLEGE MEAN	43	36	9.1	14.6	15.6	39.2	7.6	2.8	4.8	0.6	3.3	58.2
College of Integrated Science and Technology												
Comm. Sciences and Disorders	9	5	8.6	12.2	18.8	39.6	9.2	0.6	2.2	0.2	2.4	54.2
Computer Science	18	9	6.4	14.4	10.8	31.7	11.3	2.0	5.2	0.4	1.2	51.9
Health Sciences	27	21	9.2	13.1	13.0	35.4	5.7	2.1	2.9	2.6	3.2	51.9
Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services	3	1	2.0	1.0	22.0	25.0	30.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	59.0
Integrated Science and Technology	46	23	9.3	14.8	12.2	36.3	8.7	2.0	5.3	0.7	1.8	54.9
Nursing	10	9	12.1	14.7	12.0	38.8	4.0	1.3	2.3	1.0	4.4	51.9
Psychology	21	20	9.6	14.2	12.4	36.1	10.5	2.1	5.1	0.8	1.9	56.3
Psychology, Graduate	21	13	7.8	9.8	12.2	29.8	8.1	2.2	4.4	0.1	4.7	49.2
Sch. of Kinesiology and Recr. Studies	13	10	11.0	14.3	15.7	41.0	4.8	1.4	4.3	1.6	2.3	55.4
Social Work	7	7	9.9	17.9	11.1	38.9	4.7	2.6	8.0	0.9	1.3	56.3
COLLEGE MEAN	175	118	9.2	13.7	12.8	35.8	7.9	1.9	4.4	1.0	2.6	53.6
College of Science and Mathematics												
Biology	31	24	9.6	13.5	12.1	35.3	9.7	0.5	5.0	1.1	1.3	52.9
Chemistry	16	12	9.2	16.0	12.9	38.1	9.5	0.8	4.6	0.5	1.5	55.0
Geology and Environmental Science	10	8	10.3	15.5	14.4	40.1	8.1	1.3	2.6	0.3	3.0	55.4
Mathematics and Statistics	34	22	10.9	13.7	9.0	33.5	9.6	0.9	2.5	0.5	1.1	48.2
Physics	14	13	9.2	14.5	9.4	33.0	9.2	1.8	3.4	0.8	2.4	50.5
COLLEGE MEAN	105	79	9.9	14.3	11.2	35.3	9.4	0.9	3.7	0.7	1.6	51.7
General Education	3	1	3.0	15.0	15.0	33.0	3.0	2.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	48.0
UNIVERSITY MEAN	718	497	9.7	15.2	12.0	36.9	9.1	1.3	3.9	0.9	2.4	54.5

TABLE 7

**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT
BY COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT, FALL 2003**

	No of Faculty	No	Class Contact	Class Prep.	Other Instr.	Total Instr.	Research/ Prof. Dev./ Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Instit. Support	Grand Total
College of Arts and Letters												
English Department	30	21	16.7	33.1	17.4	67.2	16.0	0.4	6.0	6.0	4.4	100.0
Foreign Lang. and Literatures	15	11	19.2	27.0	18.2	64.4	20.8	1.3	7.6	2.3	3.5	100.0
History	29	28	15.8	33.5	22.4	71.8	16.4	2.4	3.9	1.4	4.2	100.0
Philosophy and Religion	19	16	16.2	30.5	16.3	63.0	27.8	3.5	4.1	0.3	1.2	100.0
Political Science	20	10	15.7	34.1	17.7	67.6	21.3	0.3	5.7	0.2	4.9	100.0
School of Art and Art History	26	14	19.7	19.4	24.7	63.8	21.9	1.3	6.4	1.0	5.6	100.0
School of Communication Studies	30	13	21.8	41.2	22.8	85.8	4.8	2.8	3.7	0.4	2.4	100.0
School of Media Arts and Design	18	15	16.9	27.4	25.6	69.9	14.4	1.5	4.0	1.4	8.8	100.0
School of Music	37	29	25.8	22.3	17.2	65.3	19.4	1.8	8.0	1.2	4.2	100.0
School of Theatre and Dance	12	12	20.2	21.4	22.7	64.3	18.9	1.4	10.2	1.8	3.4	100.0
Sociology and Anthropology	21	14	14.0	26.7	23.1	63.9	22.1	1.6	8.2	0.9	3.3	100.0
Technical and Scientific Comm.	5	3	12.2	25.7	27.8	65.7	18.8	0.8	8.6	1.2	4.9	100.0
Writing Program	19	14	22.5	43.8	20.0	86.4	7.2	0.5	5.0	0.1	0.8	100.0
COLLEGE MEAN	281	200	18.8	29.7	20.6	69.1	17.7	1.7	6.0	1.6	3.9	100.0
College of Business												
College of Business-Instruction	111	63	15.6	27.6	21.2	64.3	18.1	2.4	7.8	1.9	5.5	100.0
COLLEGE MEAN	111	63	15.6	27.6	21.2	64.3	18.1	2.4	7.8	1.9	5.5	100.0
College of Education												
Adult Degree Program	1	1	7.5	7.5	57.5	72.5	7.5	2.5	7.5	5.0	5.0	100.0
Education Programs	42	35	15.7	25.4	26.1	67.2	13.1	4.9	8.2	0.9	5.6	100.0
COLLEGE MEAN	43	36	15.6	25.0	26.7	67.3	13.0	4.8	8.2	1.0	5.6	100.0
College of Integrated Science and Technology												
Comm. Sciences and Disorders	9	5	15.9	22.5	34.7	73.1	17.0	1.1	4.1	0.4	4.4	100.0
Computer Science	18	9	12.4	27.8	20.8	61.0	21.8	3.9	10.1	0.9	2.4	100.0
Health Sciences	27	21	17.7	25.3	25.1	68.2	10.9	4.1	5.6	5.0	6.2	100.0
Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services	3	1	3.4	1.7	37.3	42.4	50.8	1.7	3.4	0.0	1.7	100.0
Integrated Science and Technology	46	23	16.9	27.0	22.2	66.1	15.8	3.7	9.7	1.3	3.2	100.0
Nursing	10	9	23.3	28.3	23.1	74.7	7.7	2.6	4.5	1.9	8.6	100.0
Psychology	21	20	17.0	25.2	21.9	64.1	18.6	3.6	9.0	1.3	3.4	100.0
Psychology, Graduate	21	13	15.8	20.0	24.7	60.6	16.4	4.4	8.9	0.2	9.5	100.0
Sch. of Kinesiology and Recr. Studies	13	10	19.9	25.8	28.3	74.0	8.7	2.5	7.8	2.9	4.2	100.0
Social Work	7	7	17.5	31.7	19.8	69.0	8.4	4.6	14.2	1.5	2.3	100.0
COLLEGE MEAN	175	118	17.2	25.6	23.9	66.8	14.7	3.6	8.2	1.9	4.8	100.0
College of Science and Mathematics												
Biology	31	24	18.1	25.6	22.9	66.7	18.4	0.9	9.5	2.0	2.5	100.0
Chemistry	16	12	16.7	29.1	23.5	69.2	17.3	1.5	8.3	0.9	2.7	100.0
Geology and Environmental Science	10	8	18.5	28.0	26.0	72.5	14.7	2.3	4.7	0.5	5.4	100.0
Mathematics and Statistics	34	22	22.5	28.4	18.7	69.6	19.9	1.9	5.2	1.1	2.3	100.0
Physics	14	13	18.1	28.7	18.6	65.4	18.1	3.5	6.7	1.5	4.7	100.0
COLLEGE MEAN	105	79	19.1	27.6	21.6	68.3	18.2	1.8	7.2	1.4	3.2	100.0
General Education	3	1	6.3	31.3	31.3	68.8	6.3	4.2	10.4	0.0	10.4	100.0
UNIVERSITY MEAN	718	497	17.8	27.8	22.1	67.7	16.7	2.5	7.1	1.6	4.4	100.0

TABLE 8

**DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT IN AVERAGE HOURS PER WEEK:
OTHER PERSONNEL WITH INSTRUCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES,
FALL 2003**

	No	Class Contact	Class Prep.	Other Instr.	Total Instr.	Research/ Prof. Dev./ Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Instit. Support	Grand Total
E&G Administrator & Classified	32	4.1	6.5	8.8	19.3	1.6	1.2	3.7	0.9	3.0	29.8
Auxiliary AP & Classified	7	3.6	3.6	2.3	9.4	0.9	1.1	1.1	11.0	2.4	26.0
Sponsored Programs & Classified	3	4.3	9.0	11.3	24.7	9.7	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.3	35.7
Part-Time Instructor	65	6.9	11.7	5.5	24.0	4.9	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	30.8

TABLE 9

**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT:
OTHER PERSONNEL WITH INSTRUCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES,
FALL 2003**

	No	Class Contact	Class Prep.	Other Instr.	Total Instr.	Research/ Prof. Dev./ Scholarly	Public Service	Academic Support	Student Support	Instit. Support	Grand Total
E&G Administrator & Classified	32	13.7	21.7	29.5	64.9	5.5	4.1	12.4	3.0	10.1	100.0
Auxiliary AP & Classified	7	13.7	13.7	8.8	36.3	3.3	4.4	4.4	42.3	9.3	100.0
Sponsored Programs & Classified	3	12.1	25.2	31.8	69.2	27.1	1.9	0.9	0.0	0.9	100.0
Part-Time Instructor	65	22.3	37.8	17.8	77.9	15.8	3.6	1.0	0.6	1.0	100.0