

2007-2008 Joint ALWD/LWI Survey Committee Final Report

The 2007-2008 ALWD/LWI Survey Committee submits to the ALWD and LWI Boards of Directors the following final report of the Committee's activities. This report supplements the Interim ALWD/LWI Survey Committee Report to the LWI Board dated May 27, 2008.

Committee Co-Chairs and Members. The Committee Co-Chairs for 2007-2008 were Phil Frost and Ken Chestek. Committee Members were Lyn Goering, Karen Koch, Karin Mika, John Mollenkamp, Judy Rosenbaum, and Jean Rosenbluth. The ALWD Board Committee liaison was Kristin Gerdy and the LWI liason was Ken Chestek.

Committee Activities. In December of 2007, the Committee reviewed the 2007 Survey and made changes to questions. Phil Frost also conferred by telephone with Lewis Downey, President of Cicada Consulting Group, our survey consultants, and Catherine Seppanen, our technical contact person at Cicada, about plans for the 2008 survey. We also polled the ALWD and LWI listservs for new "hot topics," and determined to use hot topic questions in four areas: legal writing and public interest issues; writing across the curriculum requirements; responses to the Carnegie Report; and sabbaticals. We finalized the survey revisions and hot topics and conveyed them to Cicada in February, 2008. In January and February, 2008, we revised and updated the list of prospective survey respondents, emailed or telephoned all such respondents, and gave Cicada a final complete list of 2008 respondent usernames and passwords. We launched the survey on April 2, 2008, with an initial closing date of April 11. That date was later extended to April 17 to accommodate some later responses. This survey period was later than the March 15 to April 10, 2007 period because in 2007 we needed to compile information earlier for the ALWD conference in June, as compared to the later LWI conference in July this year. Ken Chestek and John Mollenkamp compiled the survey response data. The Committee reviewed and edited the final Survey Report, which was made available on the ALWD and LWI websites. Phil Frost presented a summary of the report at the LWI business meeting on July 16, 2008.

Survey Fees and Costs. The Committee was advised in 2007 that ALWD and LWI had agreed to fund the survey jointly in future years. On December 21, 2007, the Committee submitted to the ALWD and LWI Boards a 2008 survey budget request of \$4,500.00. (Invoices from Cicada for the 2007 Survey were in the total amount of \$3,987.25.) The Committee received and forwarded to the ALWD and LWI Boards for payment Cicada invoices for the 2008 survey in the total amount of \$3,300.50. These includes the \$2,300 annual "hosting fee" per the 2004 Survey Services Agreement with Cicada, and \$1,000.50 in "service hour" fees for Cicada's survey administration activities. We understand these invoices have been paid.

Other Issues. The Committee does not at this time anticipate other issues or projects in connection with the current survey, other than reviewing our activities and compiling notes for next year's survey committee.

Philip Frost and Ken Chestek
Survey Committee Co-Chairs