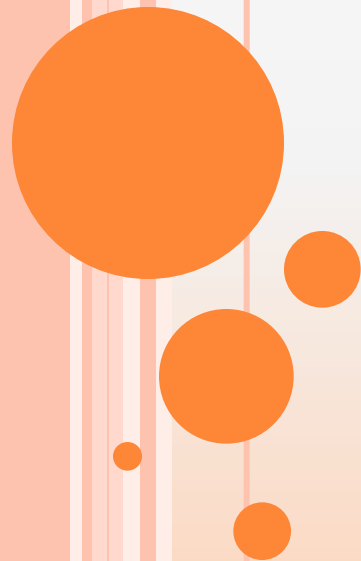


# THE EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND OF ACADEMIC LIBRARY DEANS



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# ABSTRACT

- This study uses quantitative methods to study the degrees and majors of all 123 academic library deans at Association of Research Libraries (ARL) institutions.
- Statistical analysis shows trends in the educational background of library deans at the premier academic libraries of North America. Factors considered include presence or absence of a library science degree, presence or absence of a doctoral degree, length of time in the dean position, major subjects of study, and Carnegie classification of the institution at which the degrees were earned.
- This study shows trends in hiring deans as well as commonalities among those interested in administrative library positions.



# METHODOLOGY

- sample details/size (ARL library deans)
- document analysis:
  - library websites
  - university directories
  - university catalogs
  - faculty profiles
  - CVs
  - press releases
  - remaining information from emails



# RESEARCH QUESTION / HYPOTHESES

- Are newer deans more likely to possess a doctorate? An advanced degree in addition to the masters in library science?
- What percentage of deans have a masters in library science?
- Are deans with PhDs more or less likely to also possess a masters in library science?
- How many deans' PhDs are in library science?



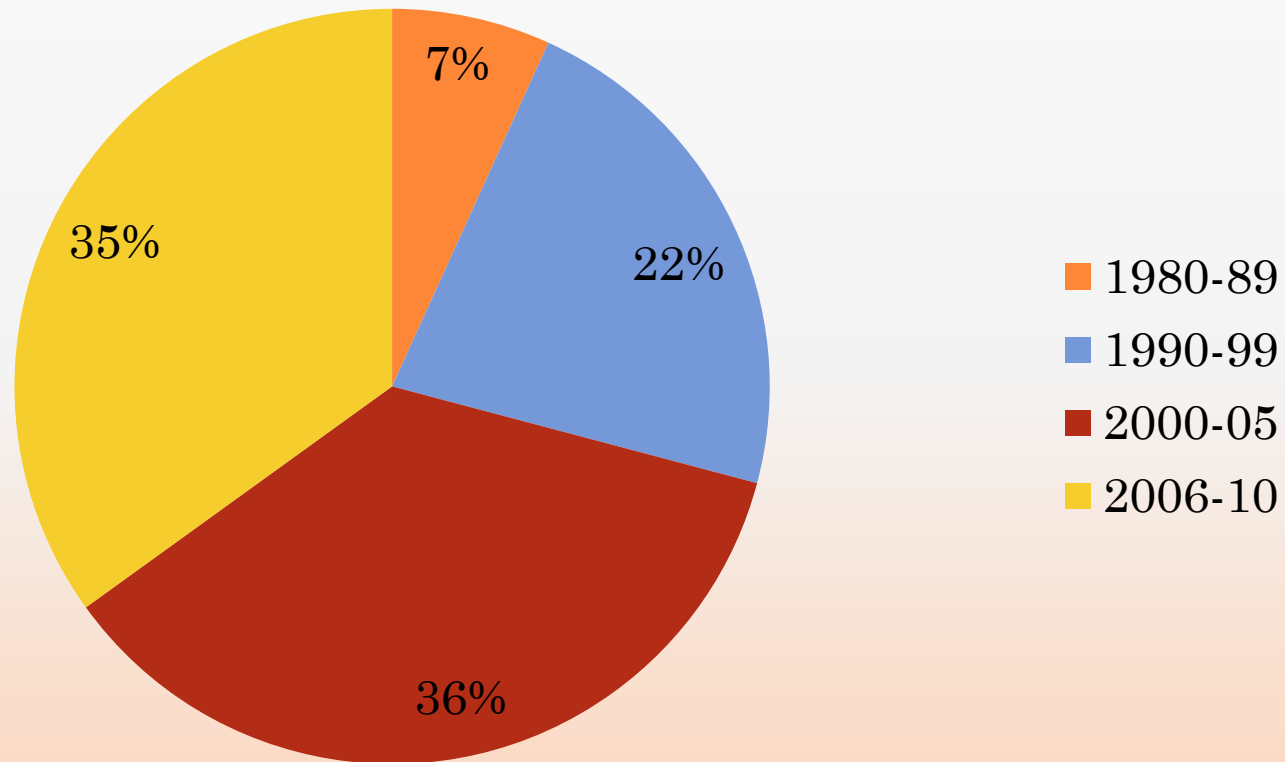
# DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

- Total ARL Deans / Directors
  - 56 male
  - 69 female
- Current study includes 104
  - 45 male
  - 59 female
- 71 % hired for current position after 2000
- 68% of doctorate holders were hired after 2000
  - Only 24% have doctoral degrees



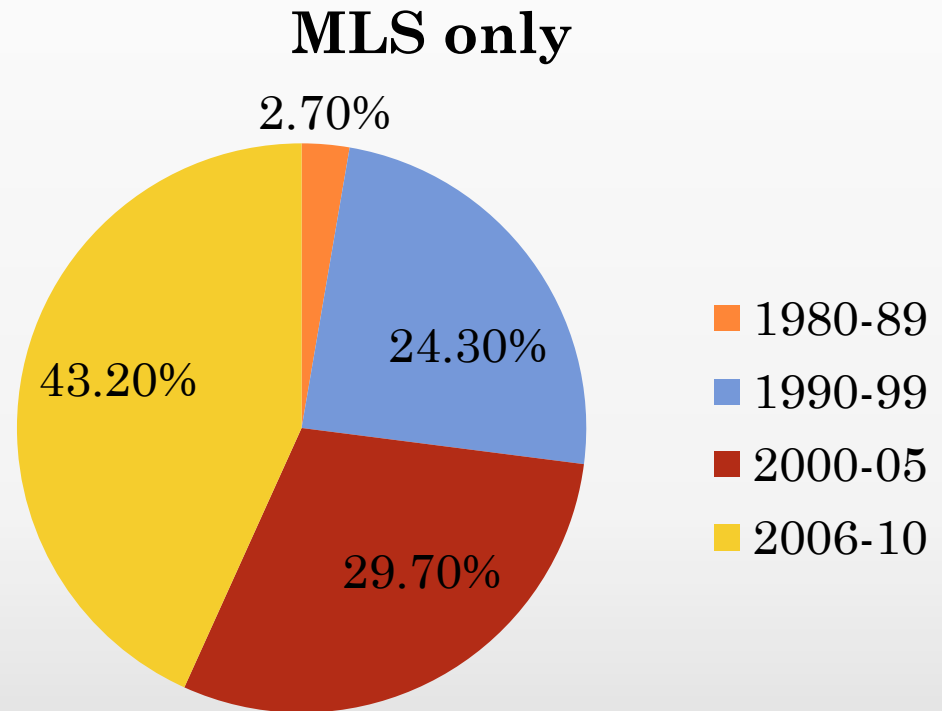
# DEANS AND DIRECTORS HIRE DATES

## Year Hired for Current Position

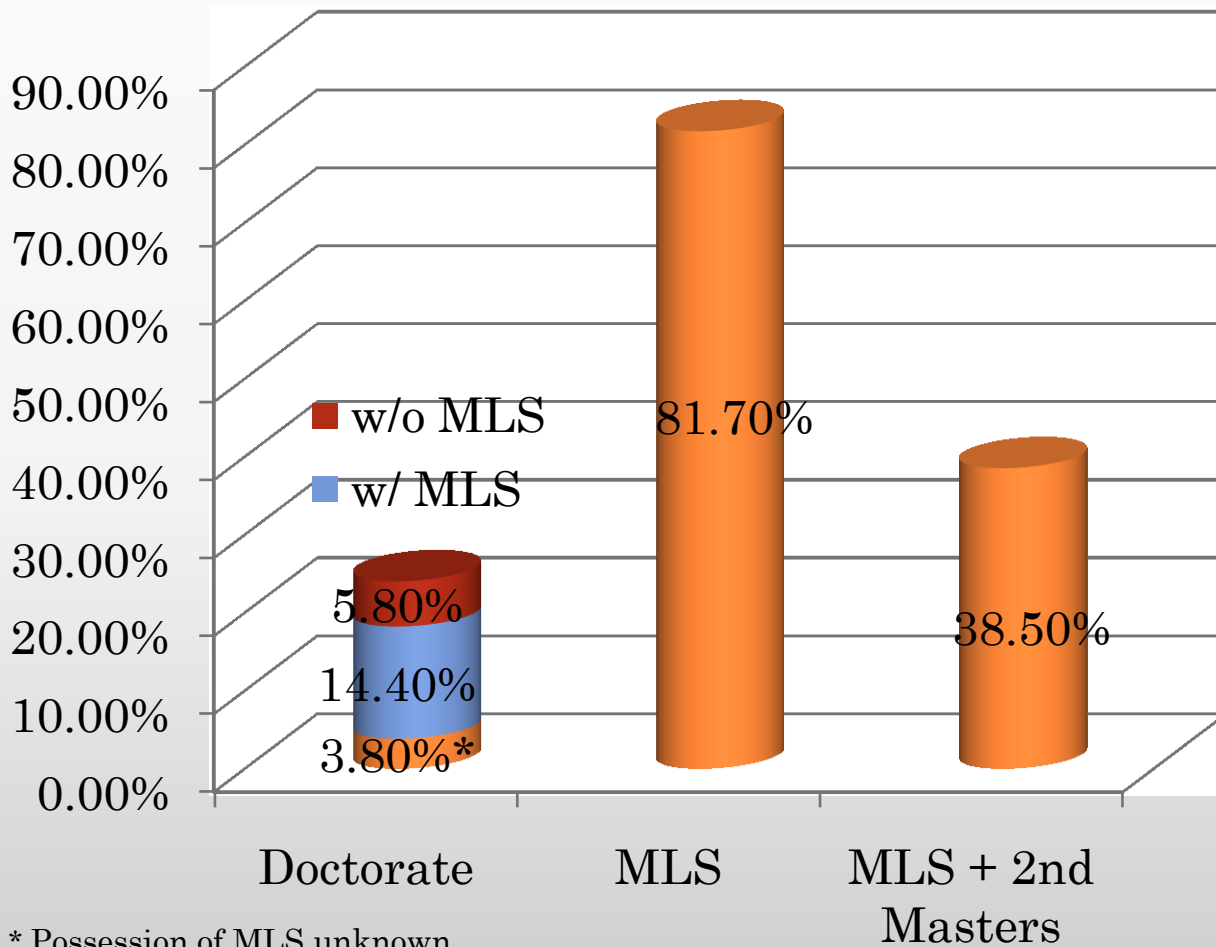


# MLS ONLY

- 35.6 % have MLS with no additional advanced degree
- 72.9% of MLS only holders were hired since 2000



# ADVANCED DEGREES HELD



\* Possession of MLS unknown





# ADVANCED DEGREE SUBJECTS(NOT INCLUDING MLS)

- 12.5% American or European History
- 7.7% MBA
- 6.7% Education
- 3.8% Public Administration
- 2.9%
  - English
  - Latin American Studies
- 1.9%
  - Music
  - Economics
  - Computer Science
  - Art History
- Less than 1%
  - Agriculture, French, Middle Eastern Studies, Asian Languages, Theology, Anthropology, Government, Liberal Studies



# DOCTORATE HOLDERS

- 25 total
  - 1 MD
  - 1 DPA
  - 23 PhD or EdD
    - 9 History
    - 6 Education
    - 3 Library Science
    - 3 Unspecified
    - 1 Economics
- 56% male
- 45% female
- All doctorate holders without MLS male



# INSTITUTIONS WITH DEANS OR DIRECTORS WITHOUT MLS

- UC Berkeley
- Harvard
- Yale
- University of Michigan
- Library of Congress
- National Institute of Health



## FURTHER RESEARCH

- Regression analyses should be used to determine if there have been any changes in degrees of deans and directors hired in the last 40 years.
- Further analysis needs to be done regarding the relationship between the degrees of the deans and directors and their other work experiences.
  - Many of these librarians completed their degrees in the 60s and 70s – it may be helpful to see what other experiences contributed to their success.
- A comparison of the ARL deans with other types of institutions would present a more comprehensive picture.



## FURTHER RESEARCH

- None of the ARL Library deans and directors earned advanced degrees in the hard sciences. Do advanced studies in some subject areas provide better preparation than others?
- Is there a relationship between advanced study subject area and type of institution?



# ANY QUESTIONS?



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