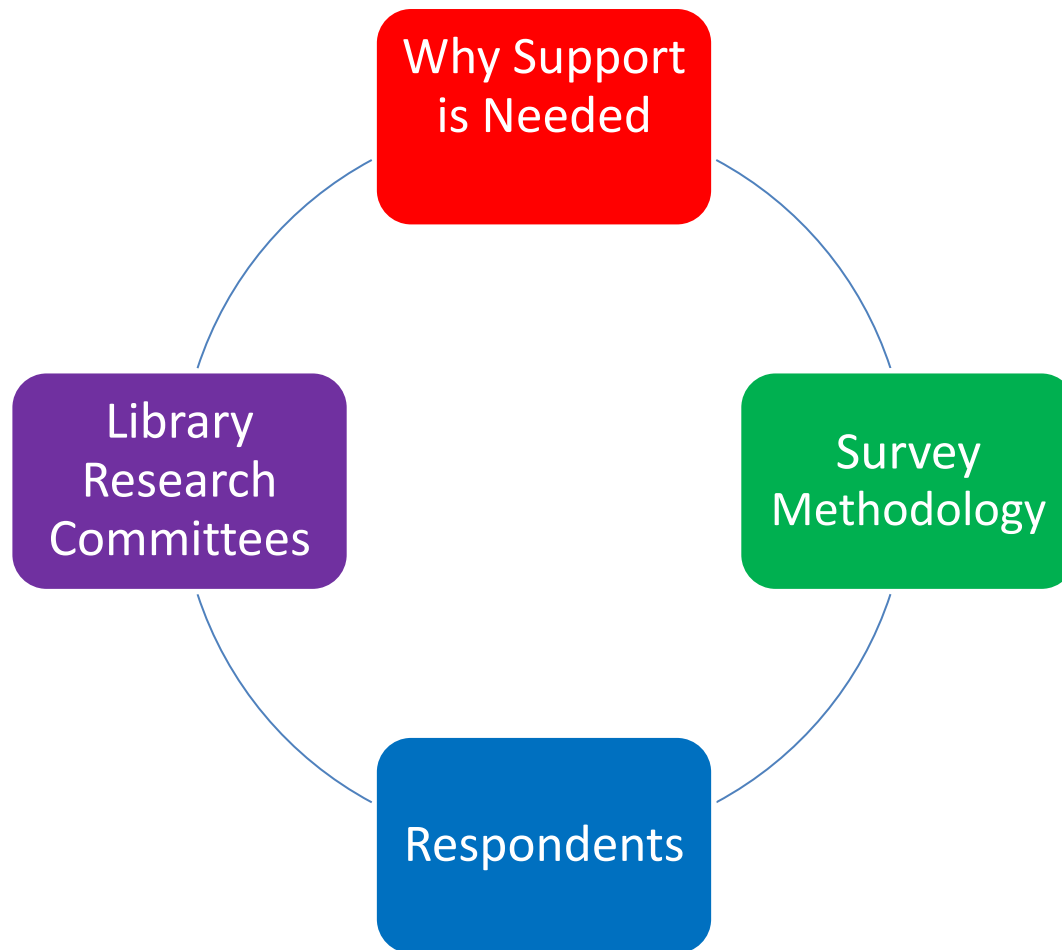


Encouraging Research and Publication among Academic Librarians



Catherine Sassen, M.L.S., Ph.D.
University of North Texas Libraries

Outline



Why is administrative support for research and publication needed?



Photograph of pages within a book, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=book&ex=1#ai:MP900403049|mt:0>

Why does career development matter for academic librarians?



<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=books&ex=1#ai:MP900178353|mt:2|>

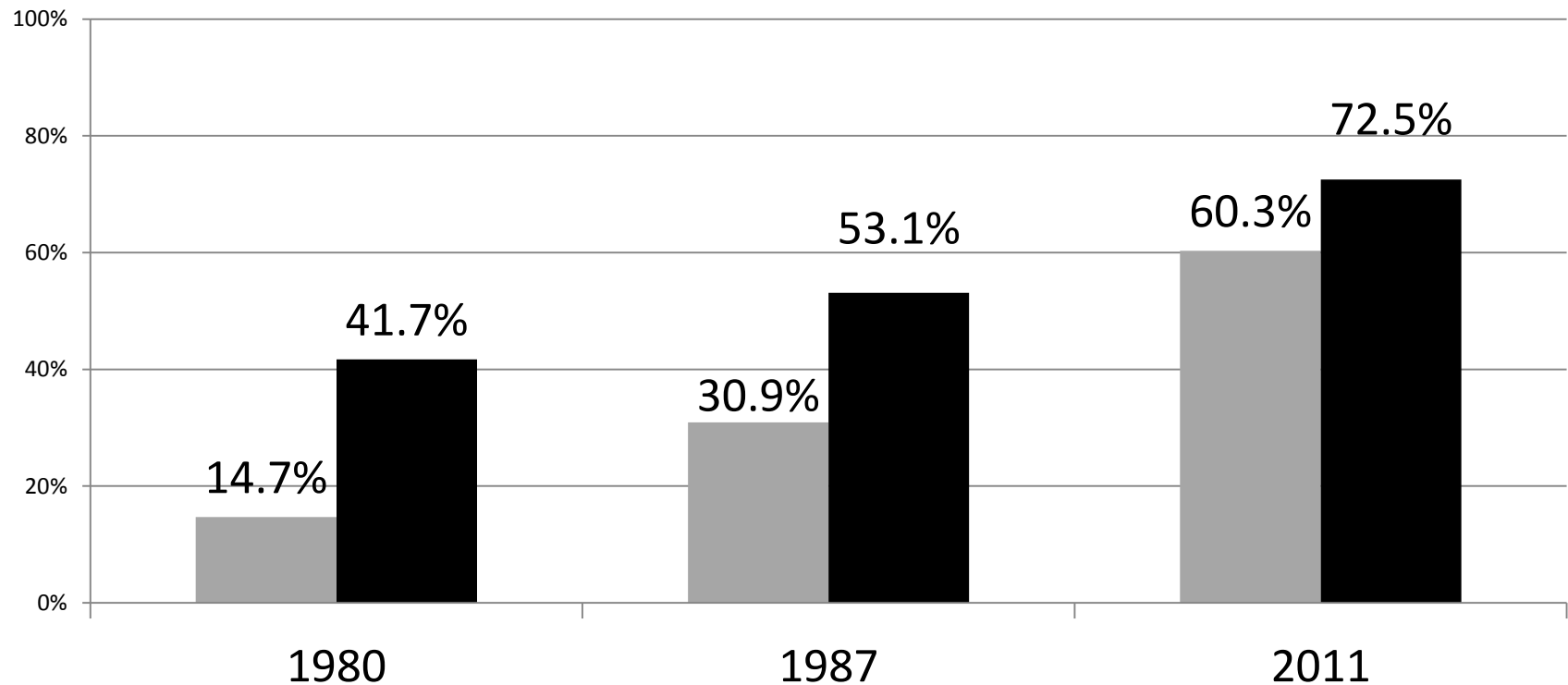
Evaluation Criteria



“Publication can account for up to 80 percent of a tenure evaluation, and an insufficient publication record is the most frequent reason for librarians being denied tenure.”

Hoggan, Danielle Bodrero. 2003. "Faculty Status for Librarians in Higher Education." *Portal* 3 (3): 437.

Publication Requirements Over Time – For Promotion in ARL Libraries



■ All libraries [1980 (n = 68), 1987 (n = 81), 2011 (n = 73)]

■ Faculty status libraries [1980 (n = 24), 1987 (n = 32), 2011 (n = 40)]

Sassen, Catherine, and Diane Wahl. 2013. "Fostering research and publication in academic libraries." Manuscript accepted for publication in *College & Research Libraries*.

Graduate Library Education

“Among the 49 American Library Association (ALA)-accredited LIS degree programs with online information about degree requirements as of February 2010, 61% list research methods as a required course in the curriculum.”

Luo, Lili. 2011. "Fusing research into practice: The role of research methods education." *Library & Information Science Research* 33 (3): 191-201.



Holding books and mortarboard,
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=book&ex=1#ai:MP900442442|mt:2>

Graduate Library Education

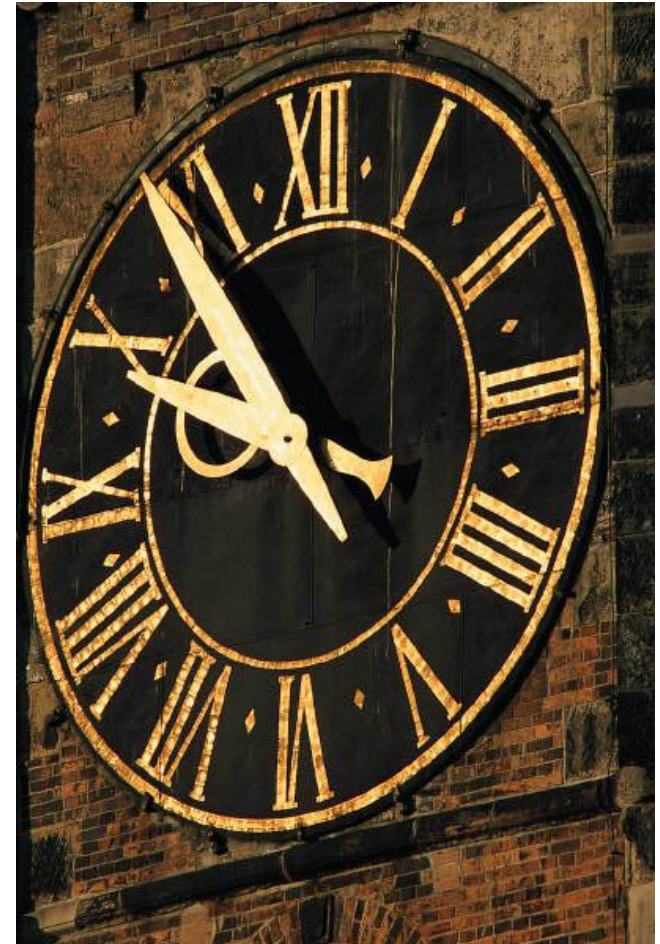
Only 26 percent of 815 respondents believed that their master's degree programs in library and information science "adequately prepared them to conduct original research," according to a 2010 study of academic librarians.

Kennedy, Marie R. and Kristine R. Brancolini. 2012. "Academic librarian research: A survey of attitudes, involvement, and perceived capabilities." *College & Research Libraries* 73 (5): 437.

Time Management

“... Most library faculty work a relatively inflexible daily schedule. Using the terms of faculty in other departments, this might be stated as “Library faculty carry a heavy class and advising load every term, including summers.”

Hill, Janet Swan. 1994. “Wearing our own clothes: Librarians as faculty. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 20 (2): 74.



<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=clock&ex=1#ai:MP900149124|mt:2|>

Teaching Faculty are Supported



Professor taking a question from a student, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=professors&ex=1#ai:MP900422591|mt:2>

Support for Teaching Faculty

- Bland, Carole J., et al. 2009. *Faculty success through mentoring: A guide for mentors, mentees, and leaders*. American Council on Education Series in Higher Education. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield Education, 2009.
- Rankin, Elizabeth. 2001. *The work of writing: Insights and strategies for academics and professionals*. Jossey-Bass Higher and Adult Education Series. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- *The Journal of faculty development*. 2001- Stillwater, Oklahoma: New Forums Press.

Justification for Support

- Publication expectations
- Lack of adequate preparation for research and publication in many cases
- Time management concerns
- Precedent of support for teaching faculty

Survey

“USA Today has come out with a new survey - apparently, three out of every four people make up 75% of the population.” – David Letterman



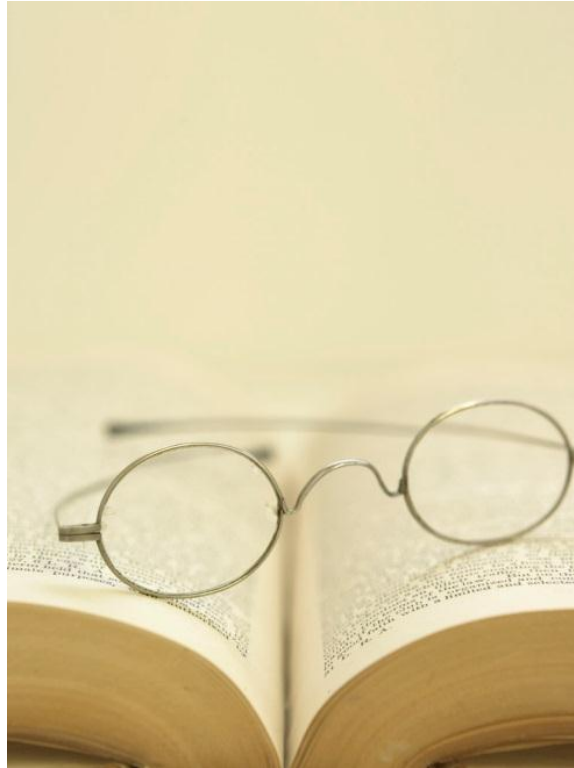
Image: Group of people smiling, waving and celebrating, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=people&ex=1#ai:MP900422879|mt:2>

Quotation: <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/d/davidlette102678.html>

Survey of Academic Library Research Committees

- Academic Writing Group
- Career Development Group
- Peer Mentoring Group
- Professional Advancement Group
- Research Work Group
- Tenure Support Group

Literature review



Reading glasses resting on an open book,
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=book&ex=1#ai:MP900409038|mt:0>

Methodology



- Online survey
- Fall 2012
- 68 usable responses

Cup of coffee on a saucer next to a laptop on a table,
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=laptop&ex=1#ai:MP900423031|mt:2|>

Limitations

- Exploratory study
- Nature of the sample



Close-up of a person typing on a white laptop, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=laptop&ex=1#ai:MP900427676|mt:2|>

Academic library respondents

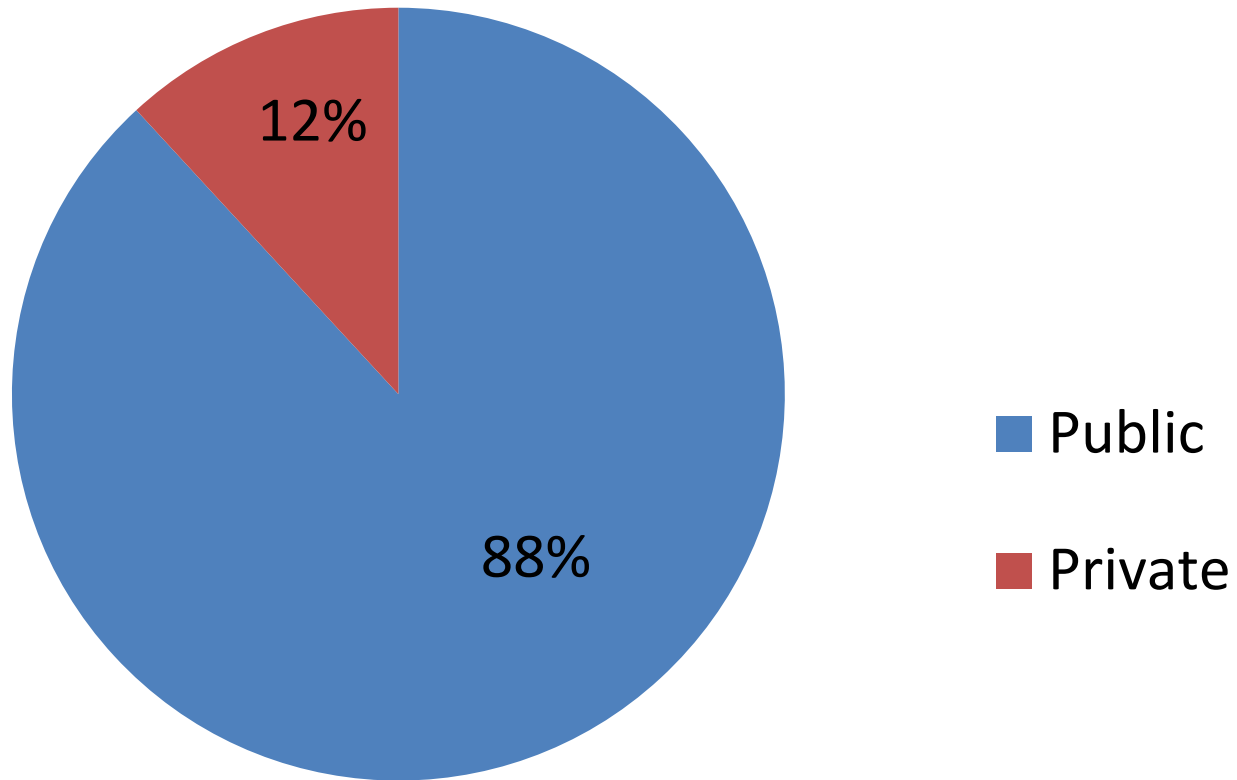


“A university is just a group of buildings gathered around a library.” –Shelby Foote.

Image: Willis Library, <http://www.library.unt.edu/willis-library>

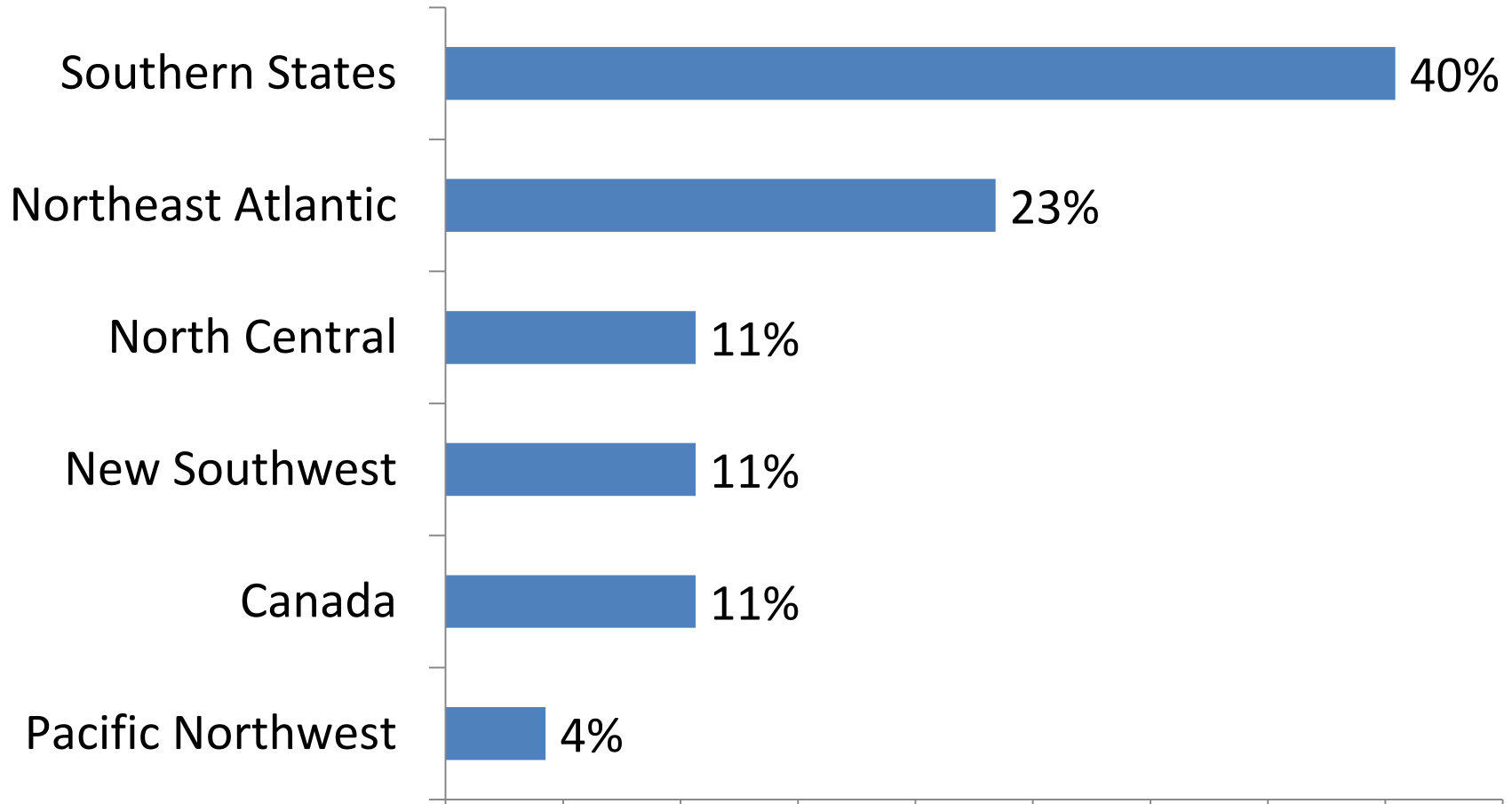
Quote: http://www.searchquotes.com/quotation/A_university_is_just_a_group_of_buildings_gathered_around_a_library./335669/

Public or Private Institution?



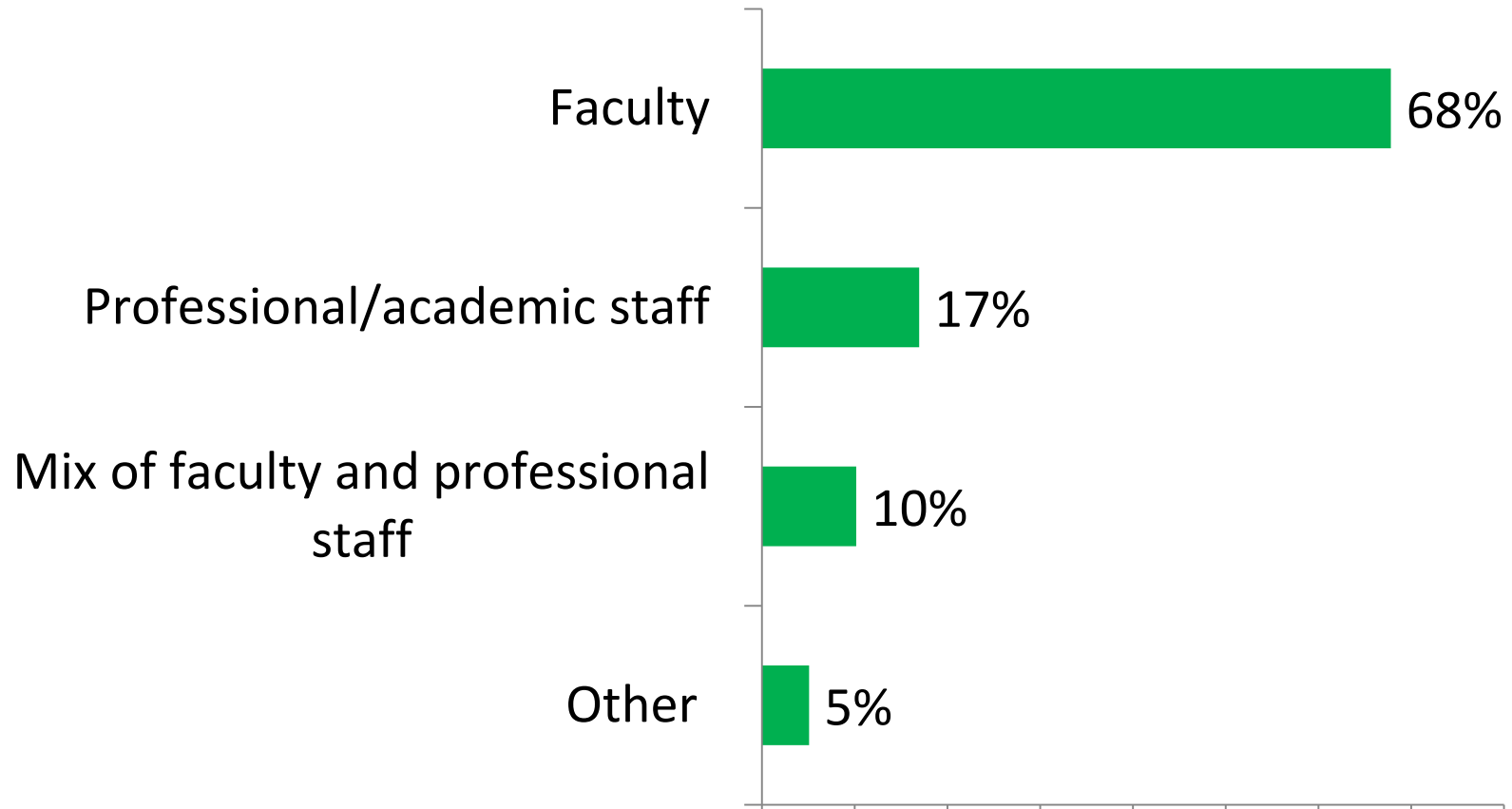
N=59

Location?



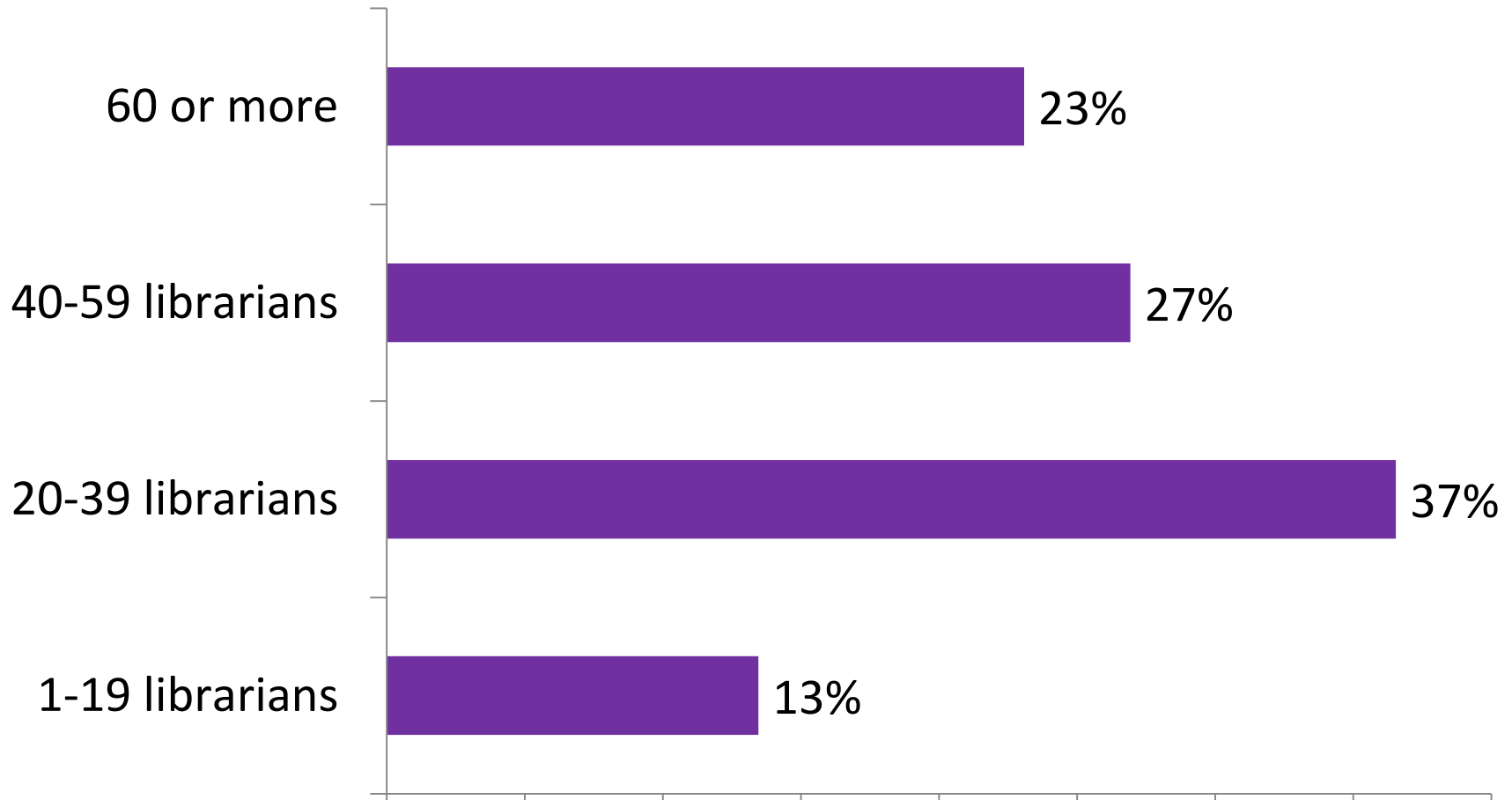
N=47

How are your librarians classified?



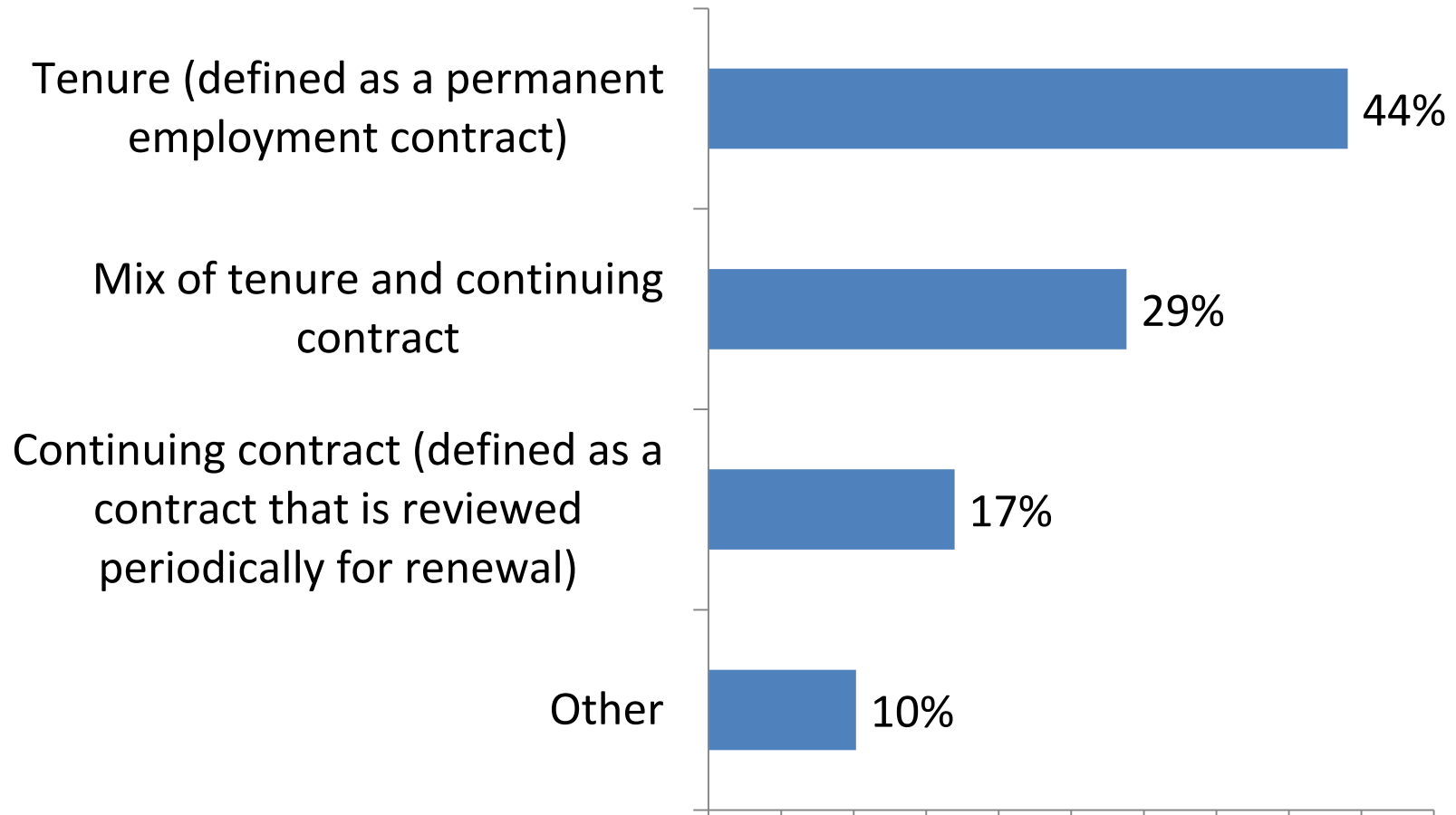
N=59

How many full-time librarians are employed in your library?



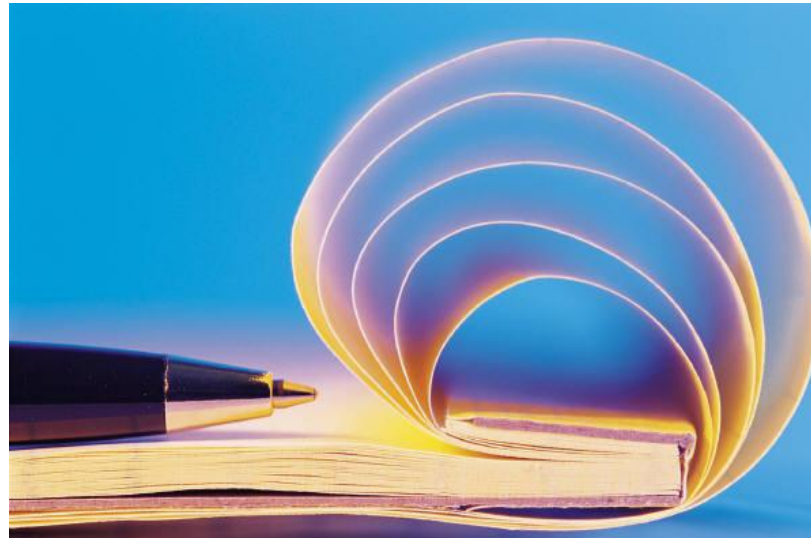
N = 52

What are your employment agreements?



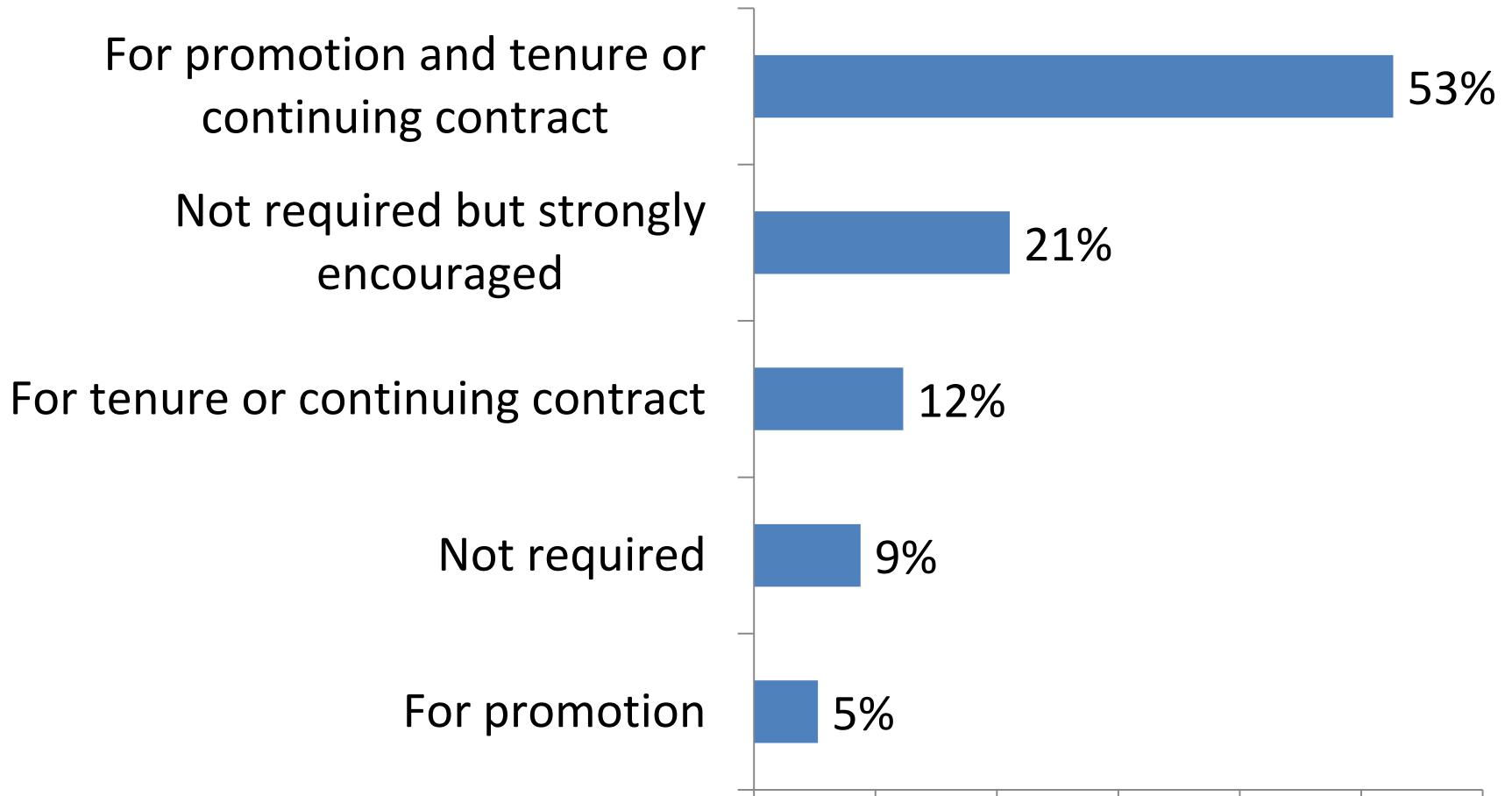
N=59

Publication



"I think I did pretty well, considering I started out with nothing but a bunch of blank paper."
--Steve Martin

Is publication required at your library?



What counts as a publication?



N=58

Which conference activities count?



Paper presentation: 86%

Poster presentation : 83%

Workshop presentation: 83%

Panel member/moderator: 76%

$N=58$

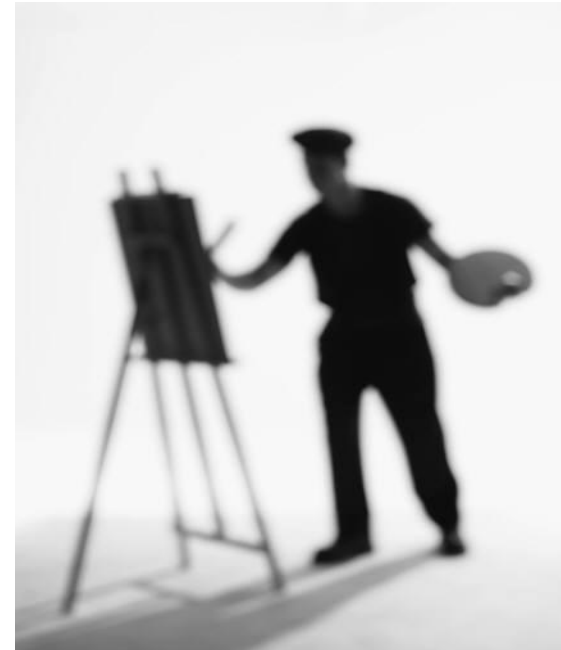
What else counts?



<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=violin&ex=1#ai:MP900411848|mt:2|>

Music/dramatic performance if related to librarian's specialty:
52%

N=58



<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=artist&ex=1#ai:MP900341622|mt:2|>

Exhibition of art if related to librarian's specialty: 53%

Library Research Committees

“There are no passengers on spaceship earth.
We are all crew.”

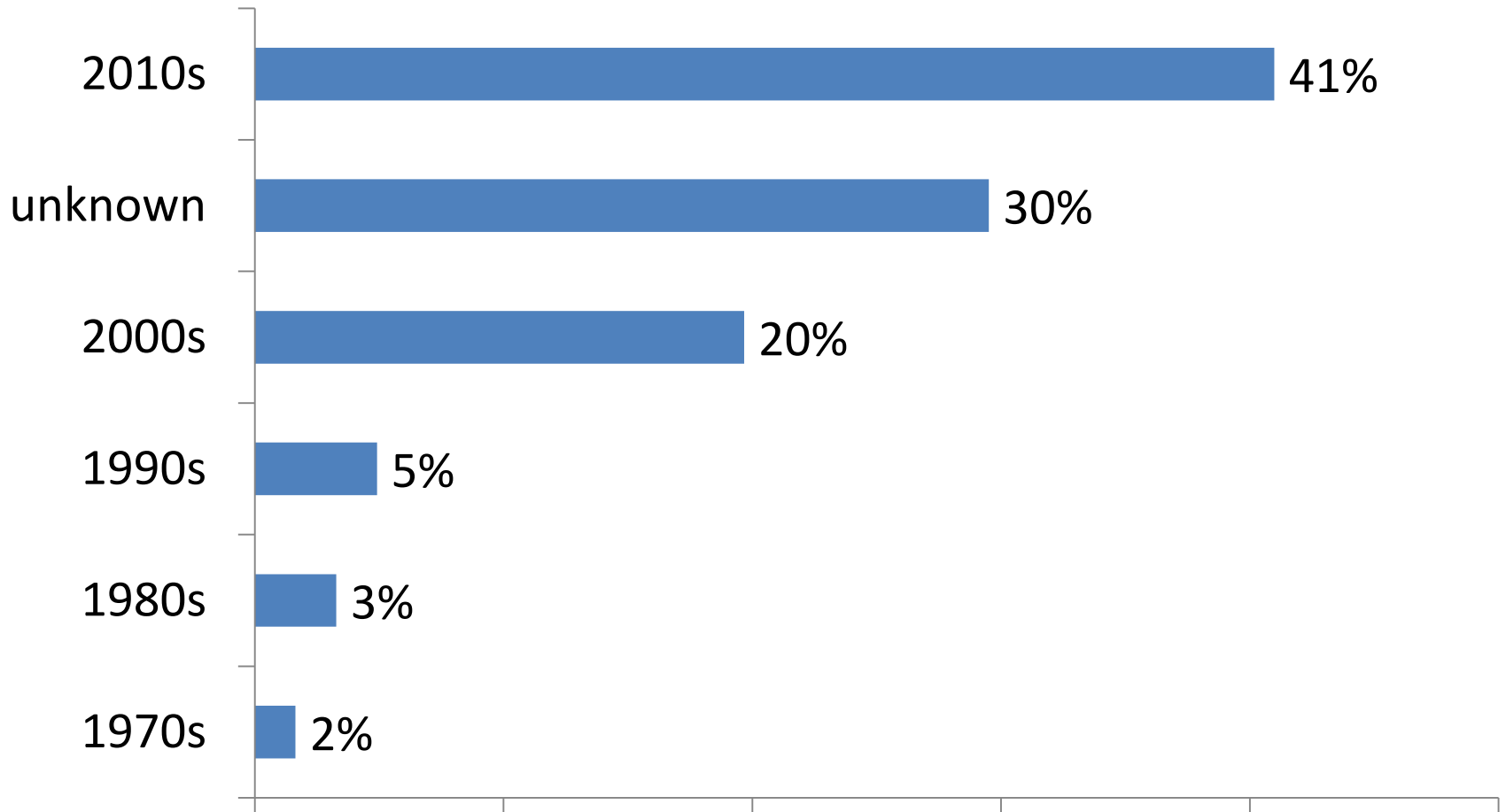
--Marshall McLuhan



Image: Earth from outer space, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=world&ex=1#ai:MP900430849|mt:2>

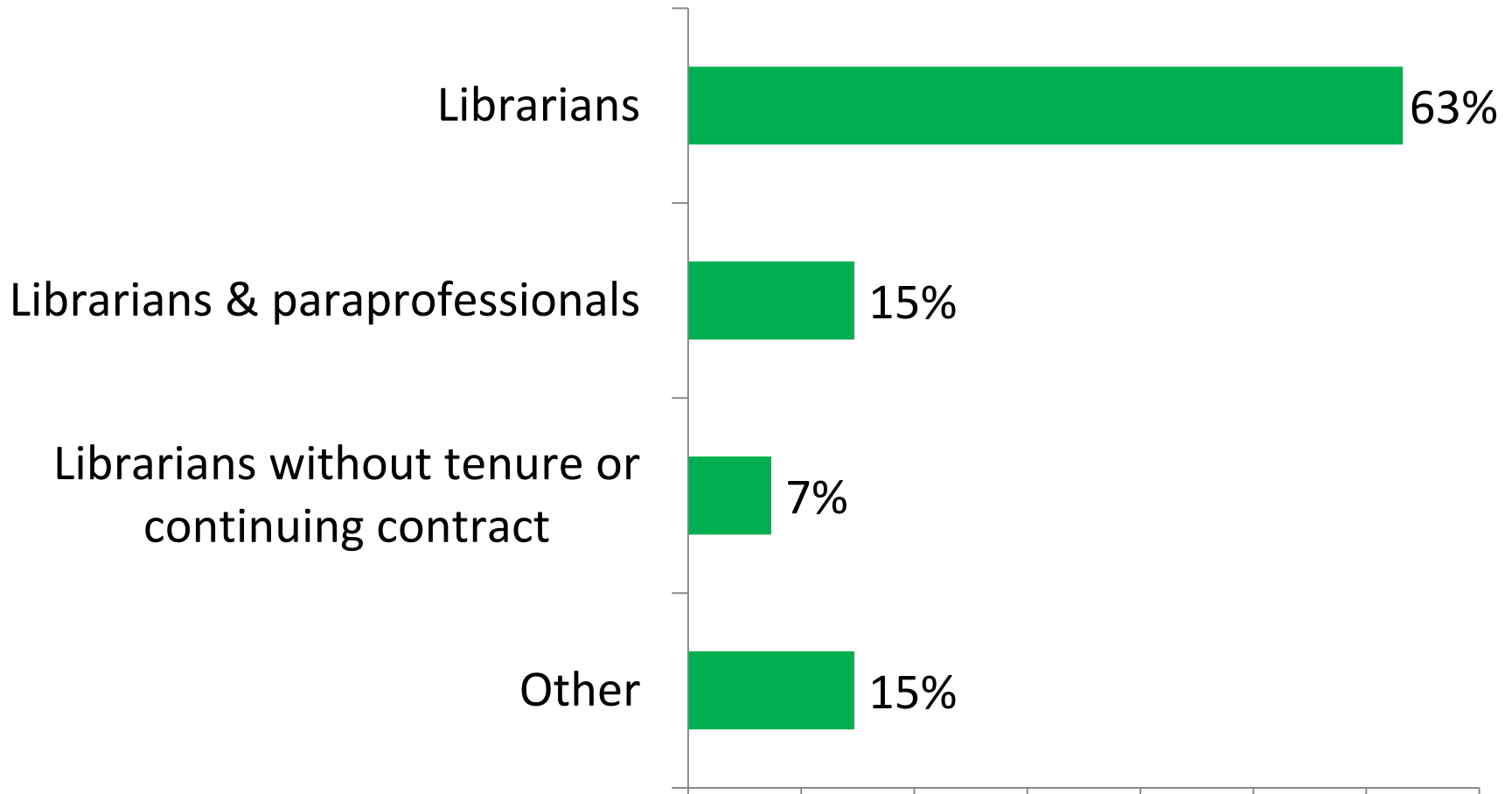
Quote: <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/m/marshallmc100969.html>

When did your group begin meeting?



N=61

What is your intended audience?



N=68

How many attend your meetings?



Average: 7.6

Median: 6.3

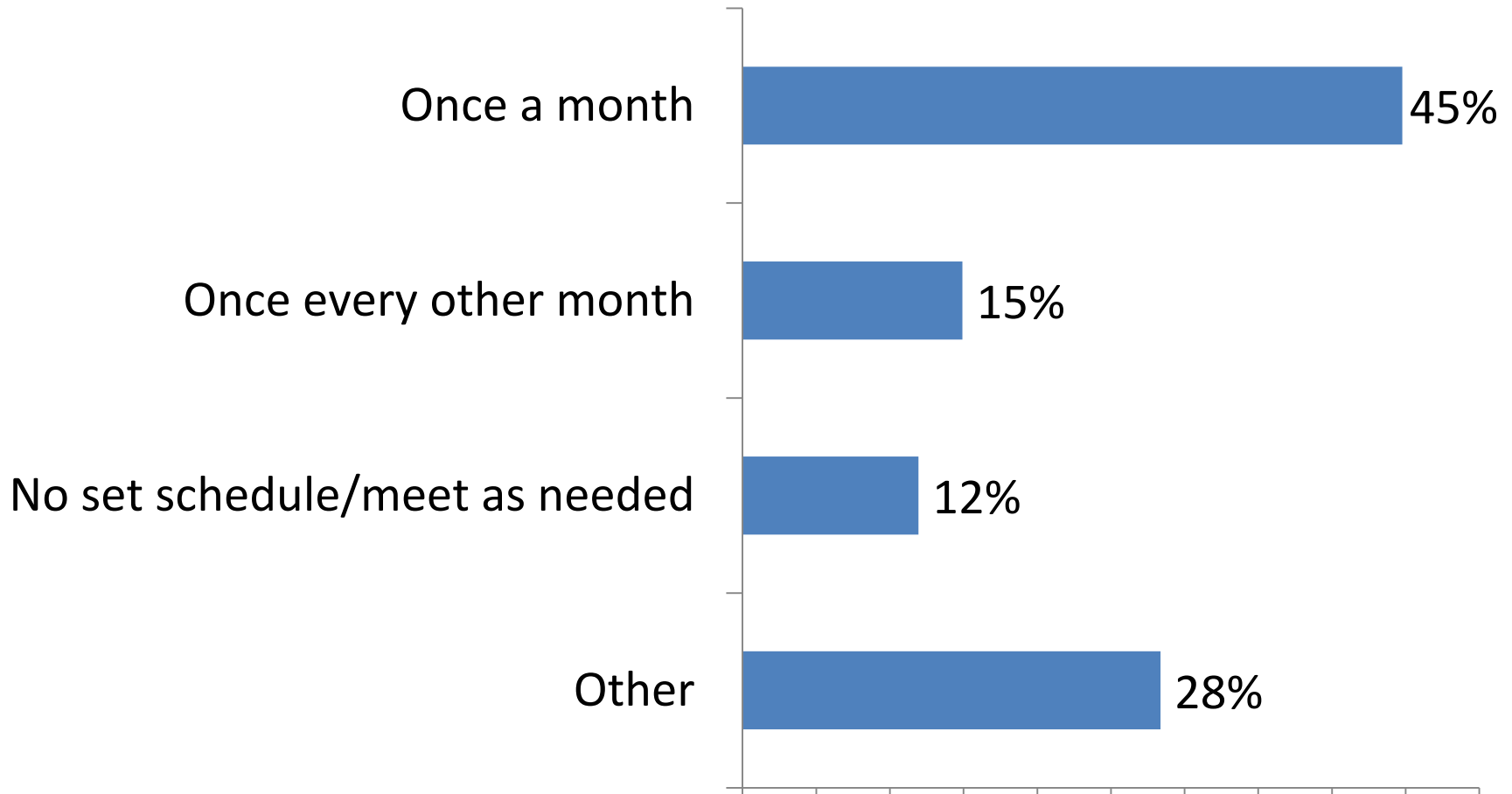
Mode: 5

Range: 3-20

N=62

People meeting at work engaging in a business discussion, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=conference&ex=1#ai:MP900422638|mt:2|>

How often are your meetings held?



N=67

How do you meet?

Face to face: 86%

Face to face and videoconferences: 6%

Other: 8%

N=66



<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=meeting&ex=1#ai:MP900407375|mt:2|>

Leadership

“The question, 'Who ought to be boss?',
is like asking,
'Who ought to be the tenor in the quartet?'
Obviously, the man who can sing tenor.”
--Henry Ford



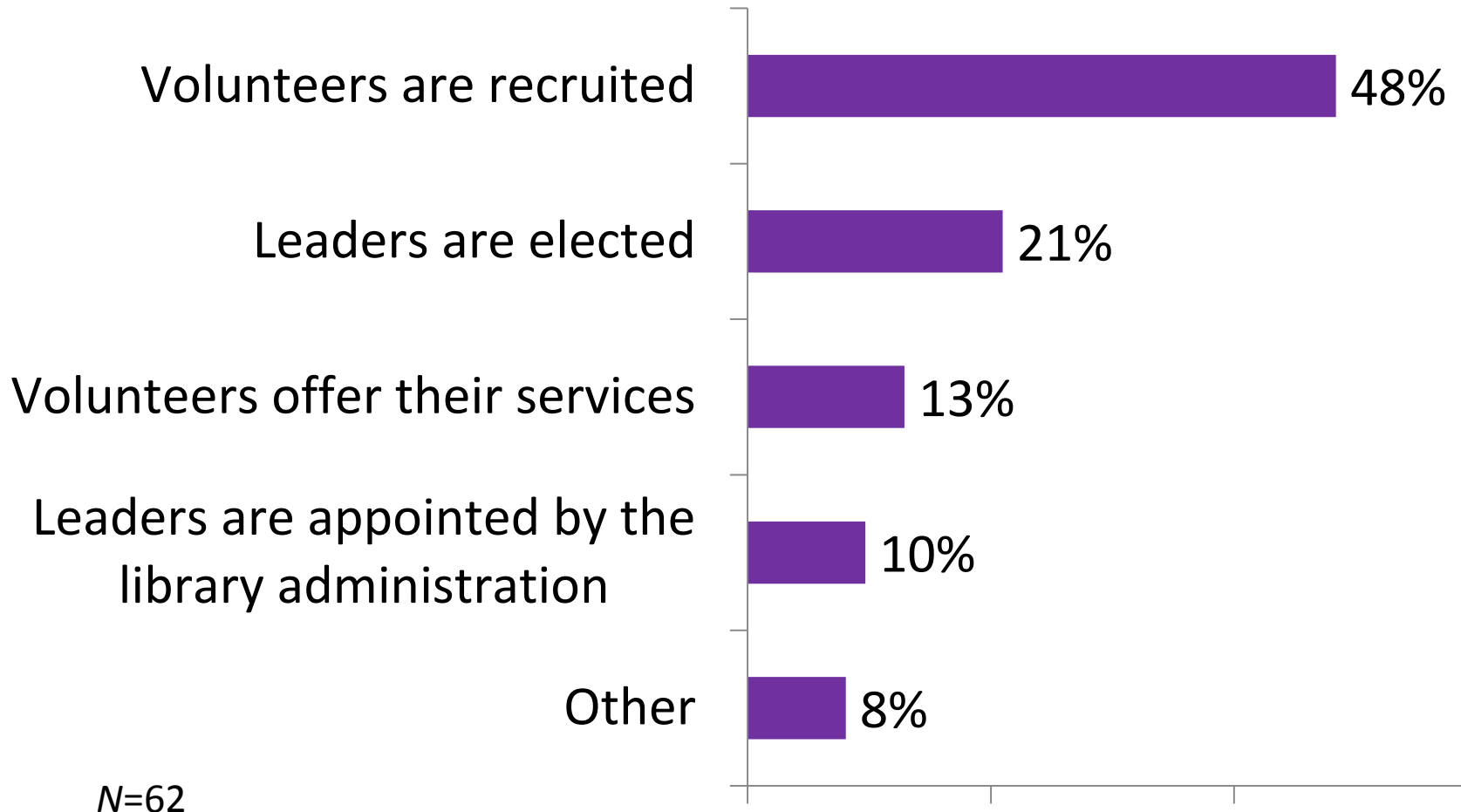
Who leads your group?



One librarian: 61%
Multiple librarians: 29%
Library administrator: 6%
Other: 3%

$N=62$

How are leaders selected?



How long is a leader's term?

Indefinite: 55%

Two years: 19%

One year: 13%

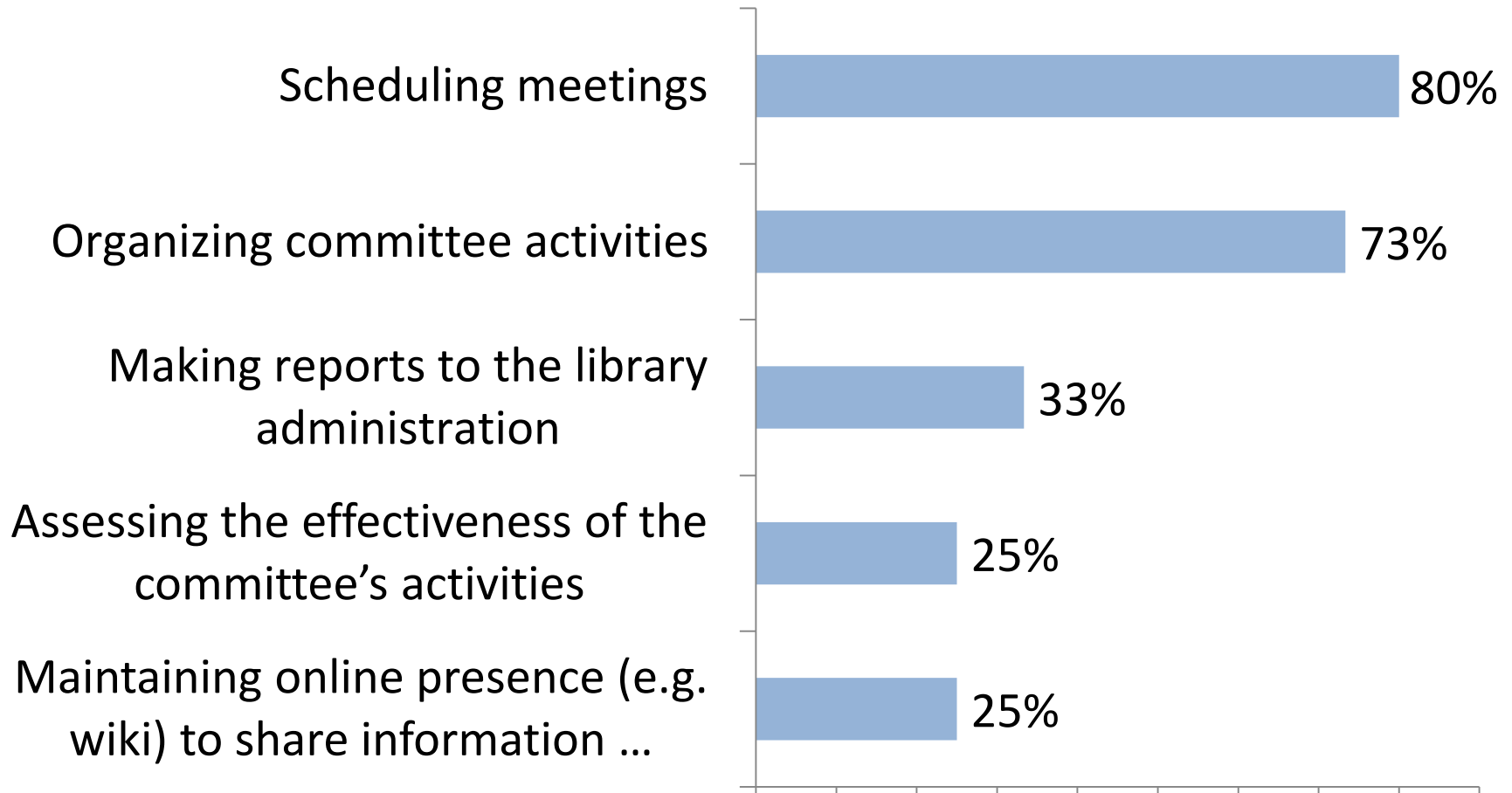
Other: 13%

$N=62$



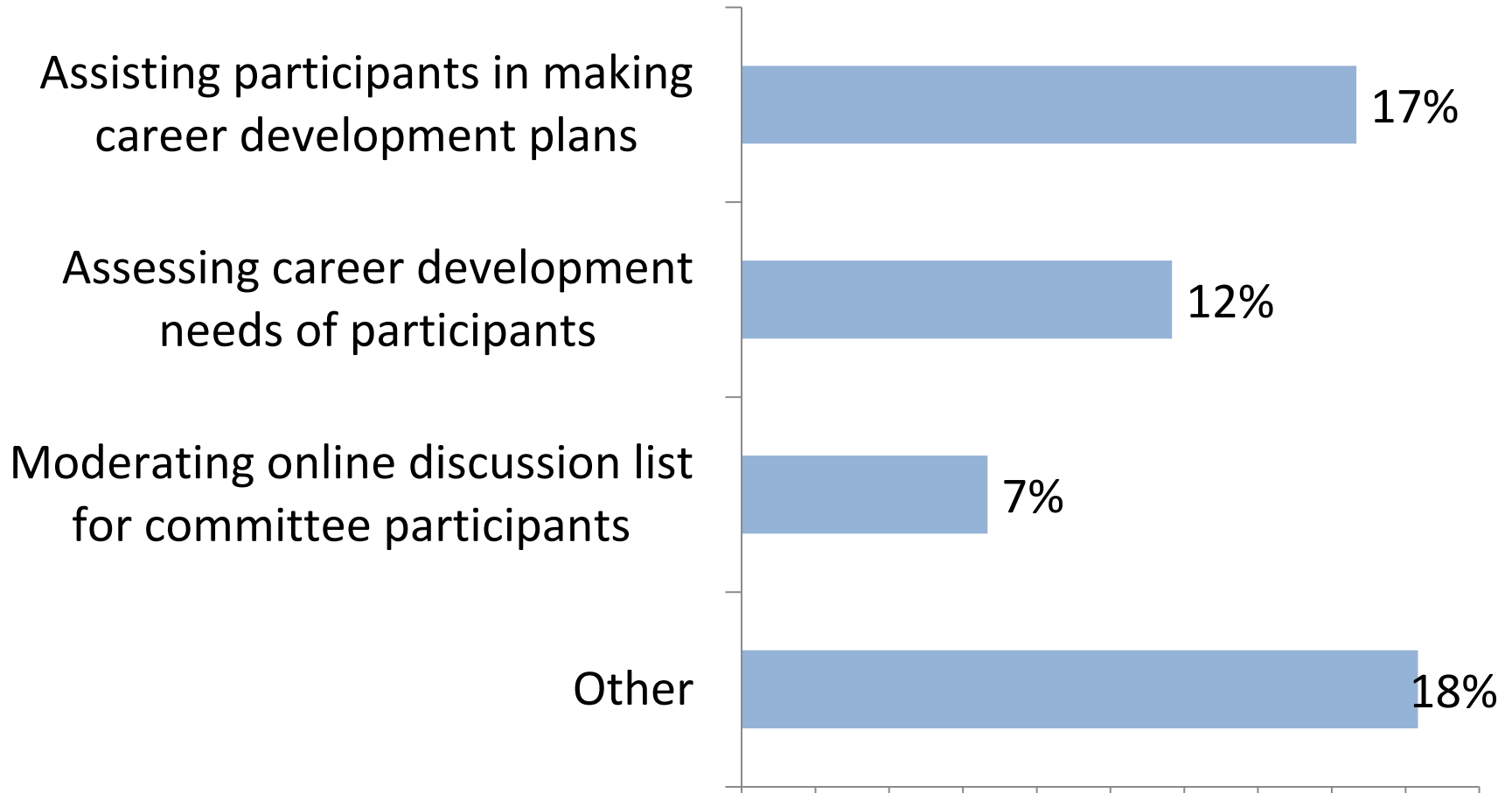
Close-up of hands on the face of a clock,
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=clock&ex=1#ai:MP900407422|mt:2|>

What are the leaders' responsibilities? (pt. 1)



N=60

What are the leaders' responsibilities? (pt. 2)



N=60

Activities

“Like most meaningful activities, campaigns are team games.”

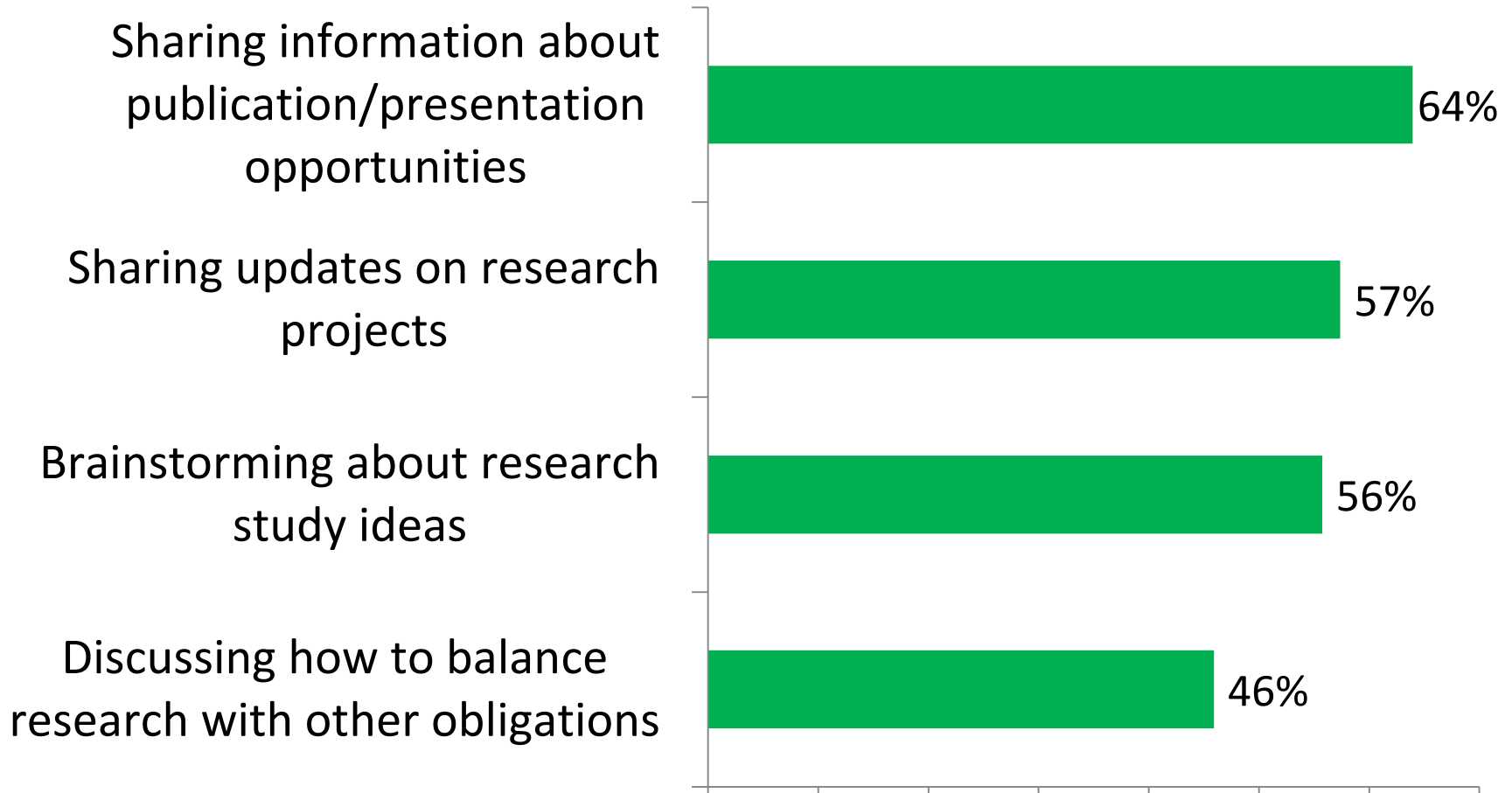
--Alastair Campbell



Image: Canoeing, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=team&ex=1#ai:MP900448499|mt:2|>

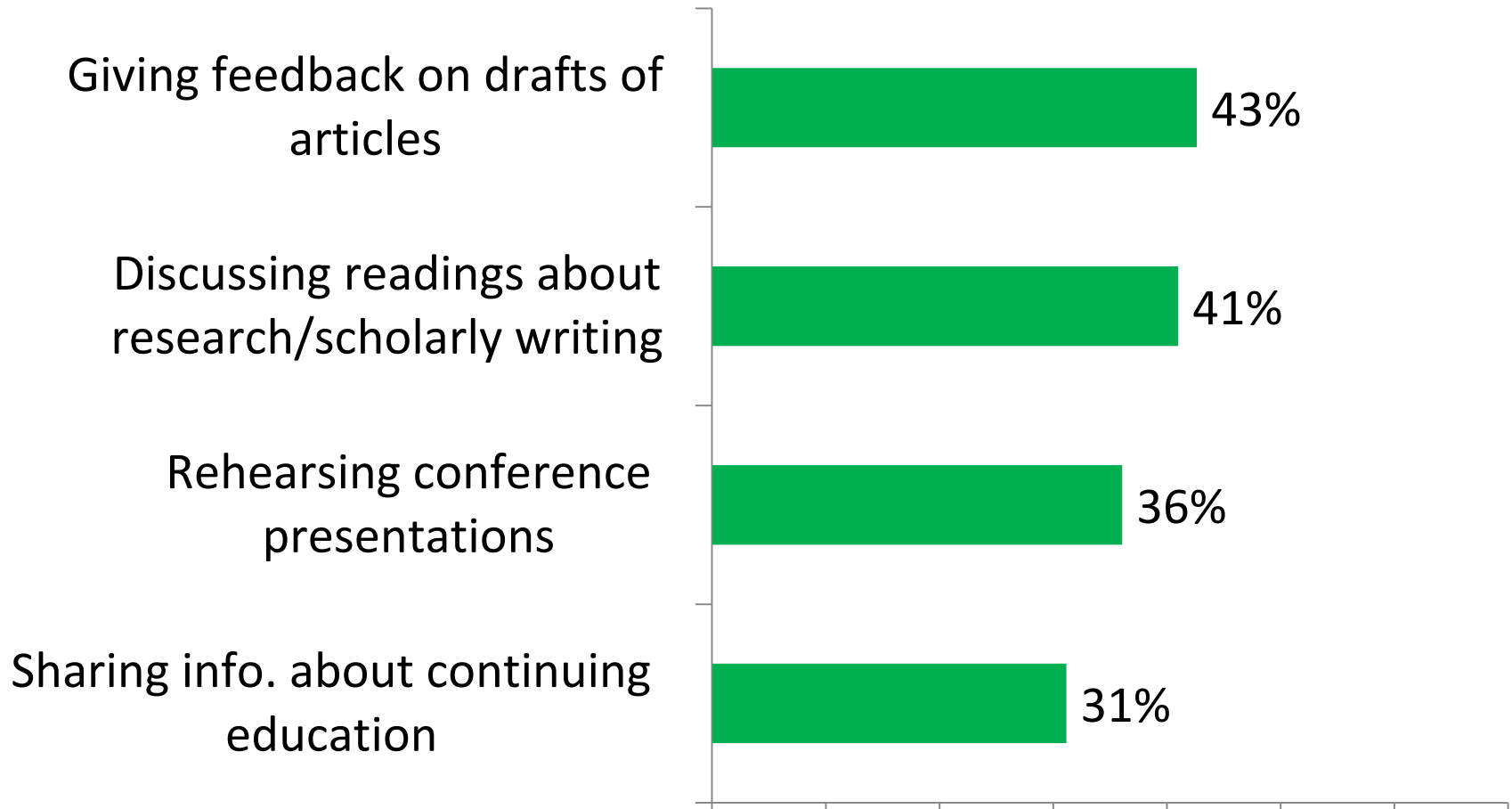
Quote: <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/alastairca462019.html>

What are your group's activities? (pt. 1)



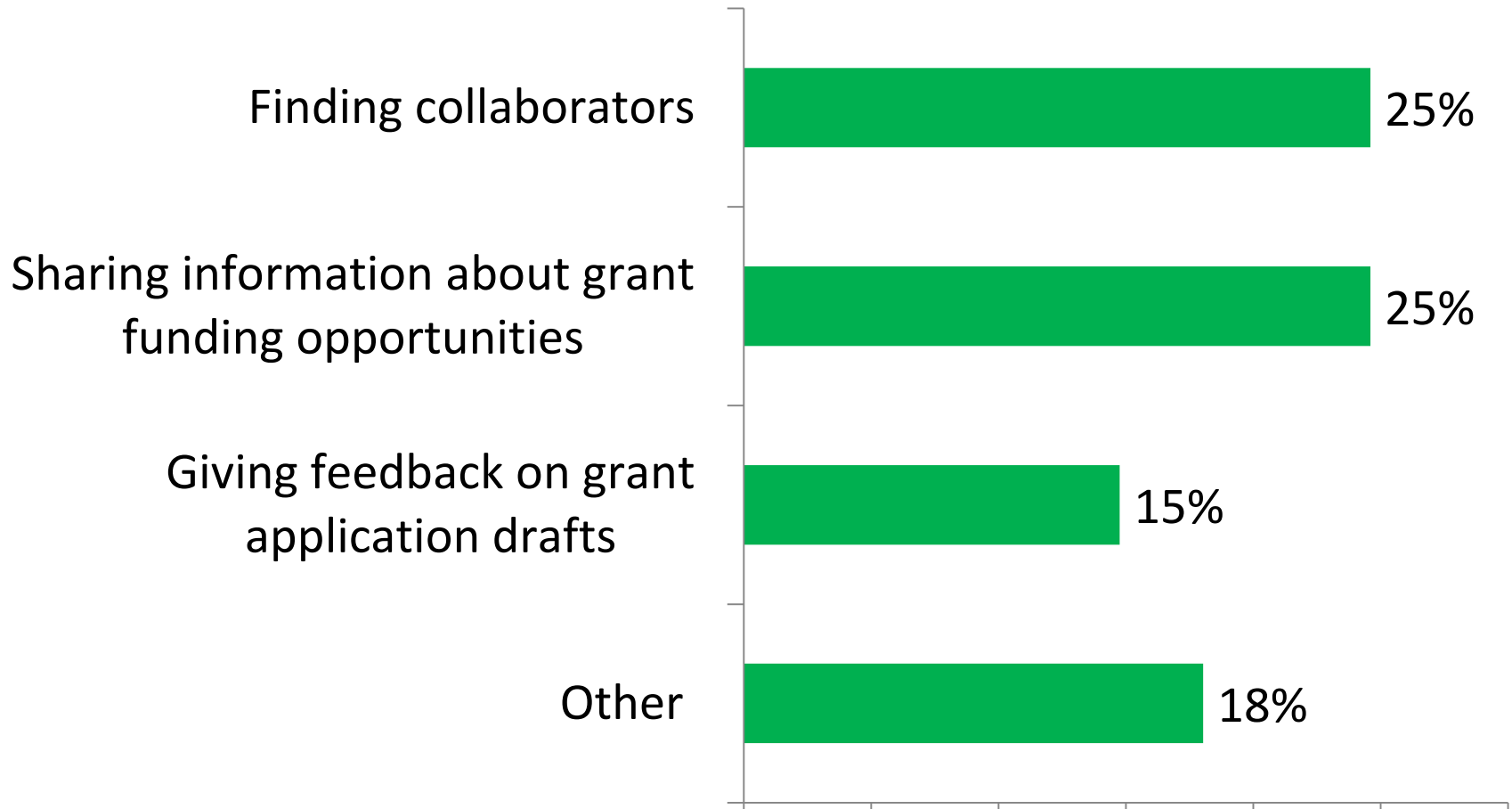
N=61

What are your group's activities? (pt. 2)

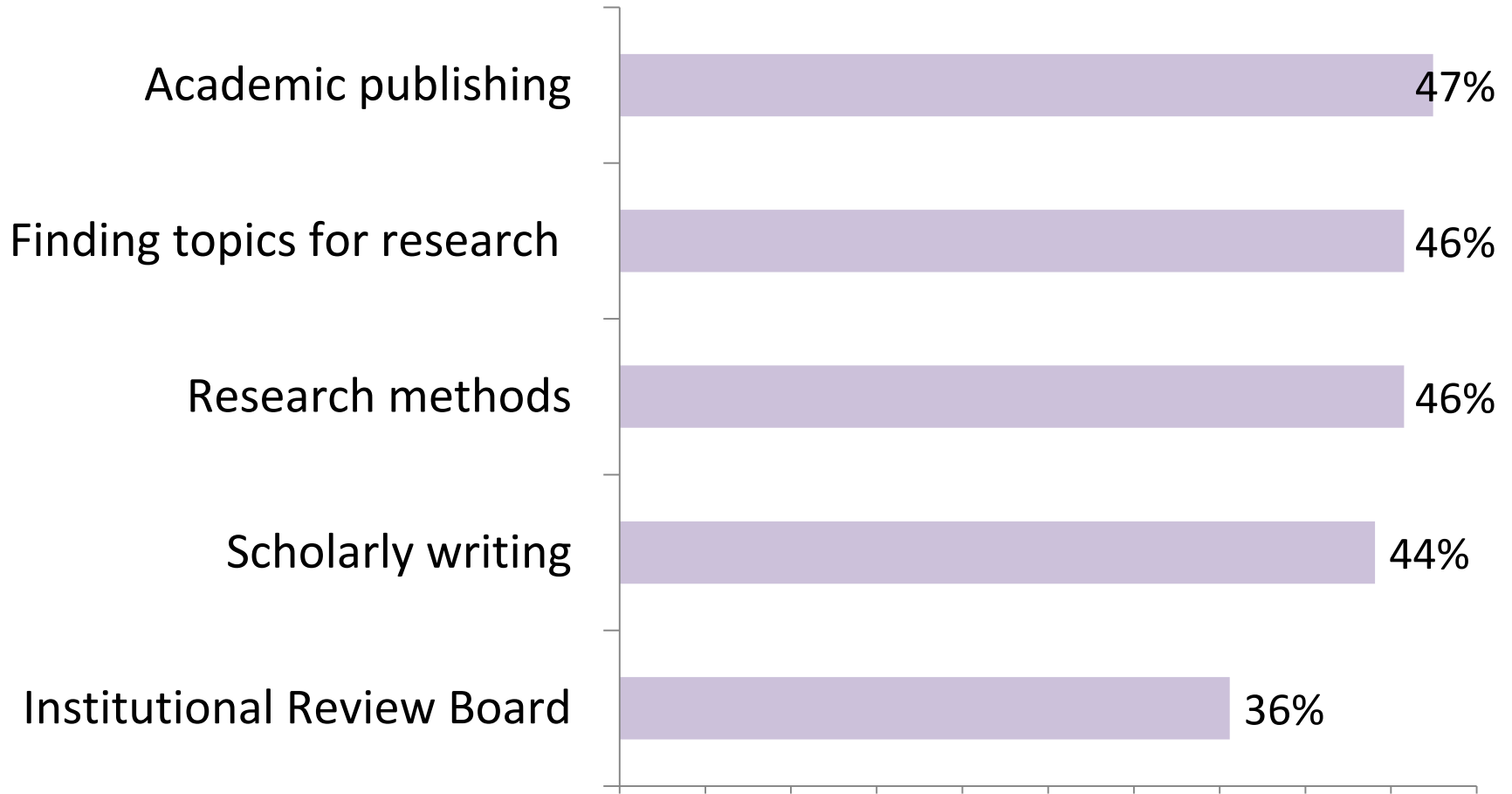


N=61

What are your group's activities? (pt. 3)

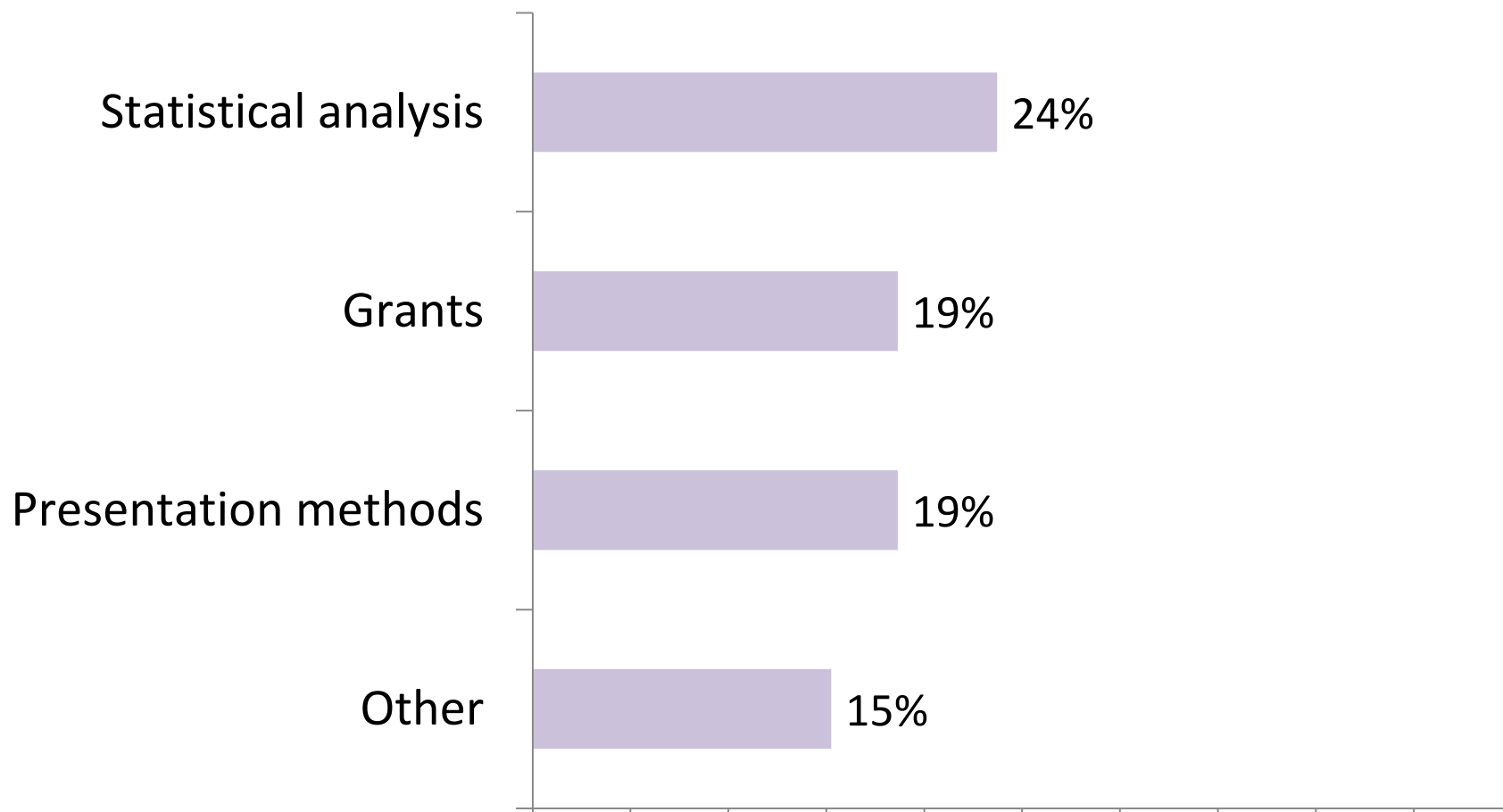


What are your instructional topics? (pt. 1)



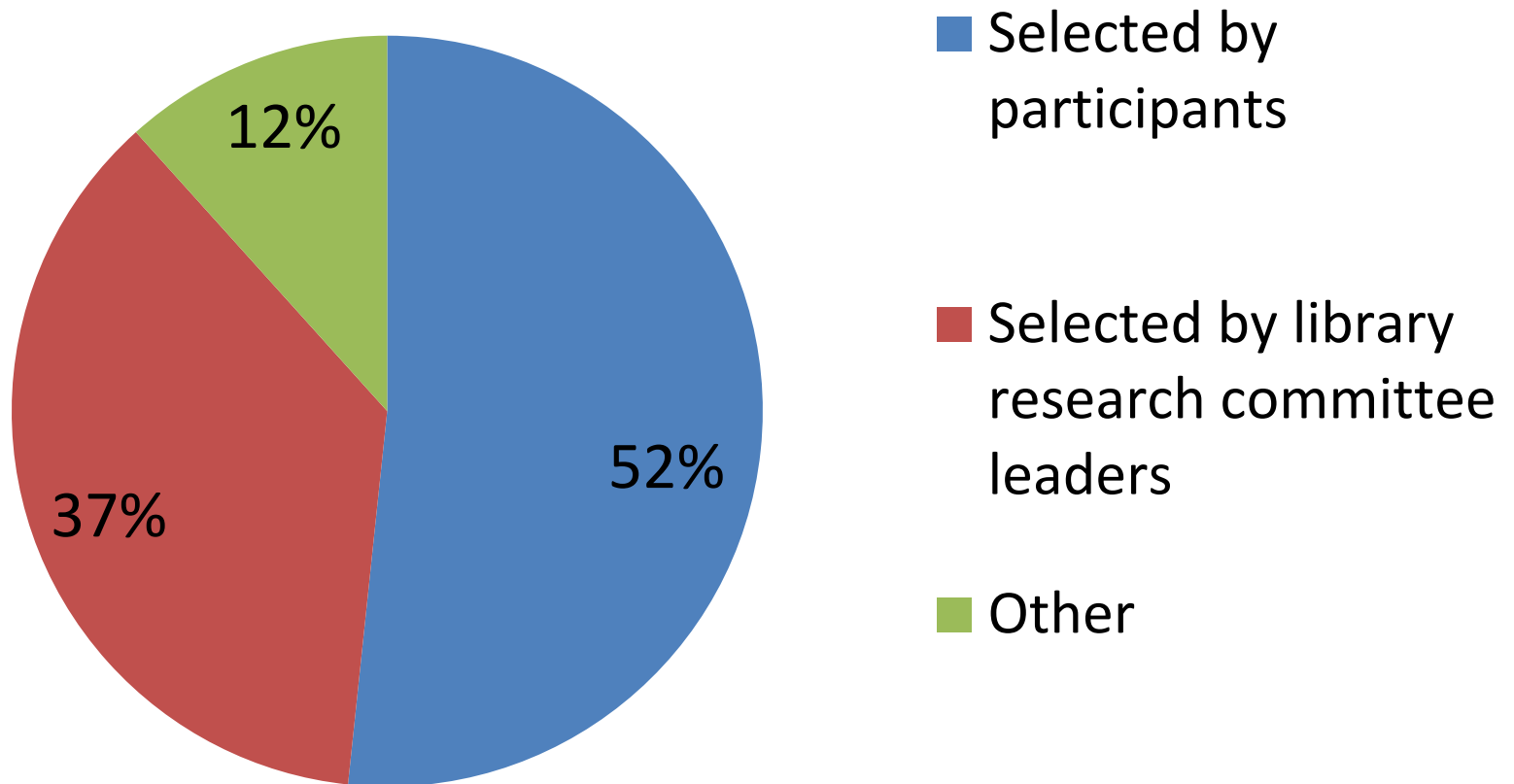
N=59

What are your instructional topics? (pt. 2)



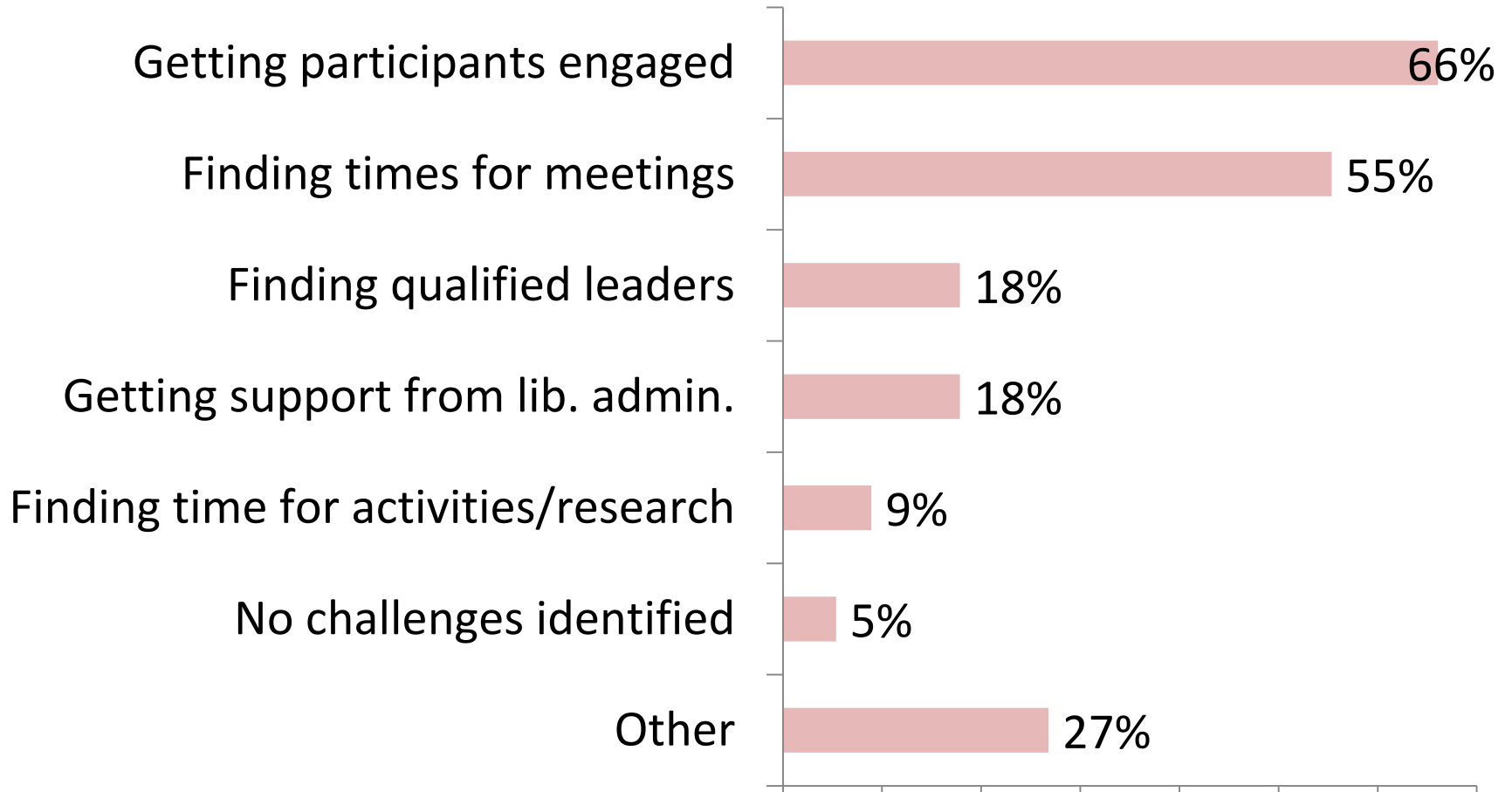
N=59

How are group activities chosen?



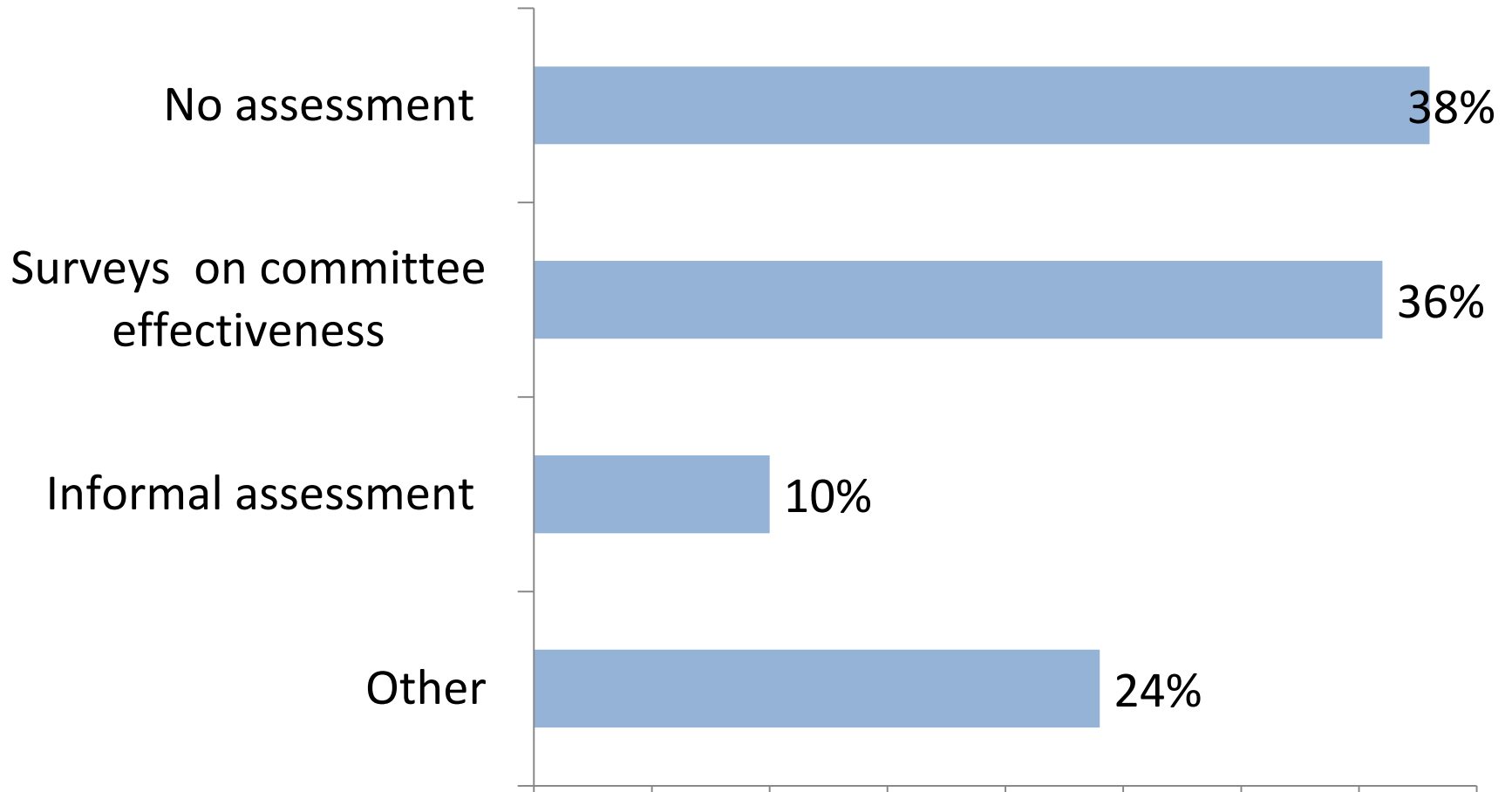
N=60

What are the challenges?



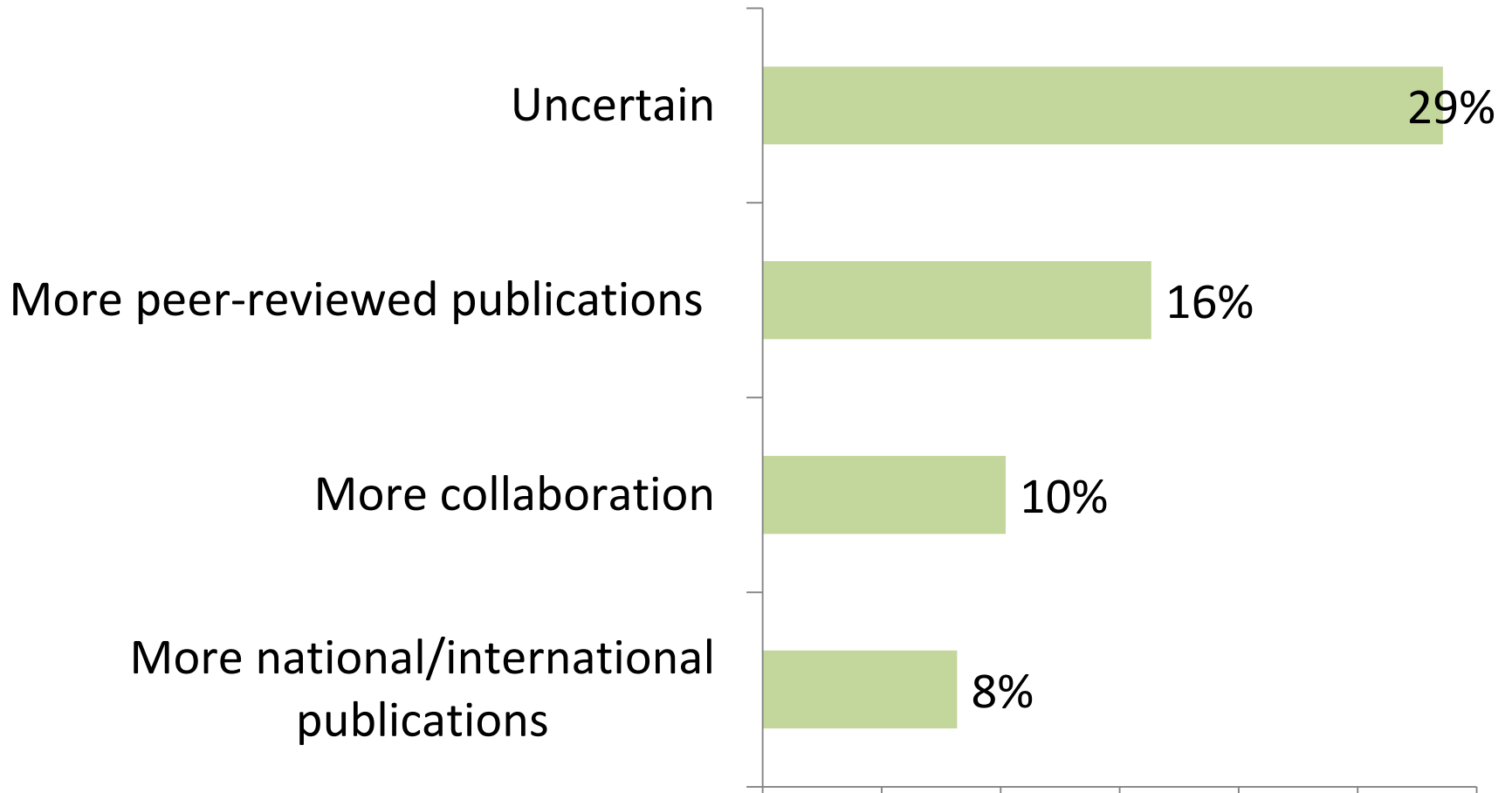
N=56

How are activities assessed?



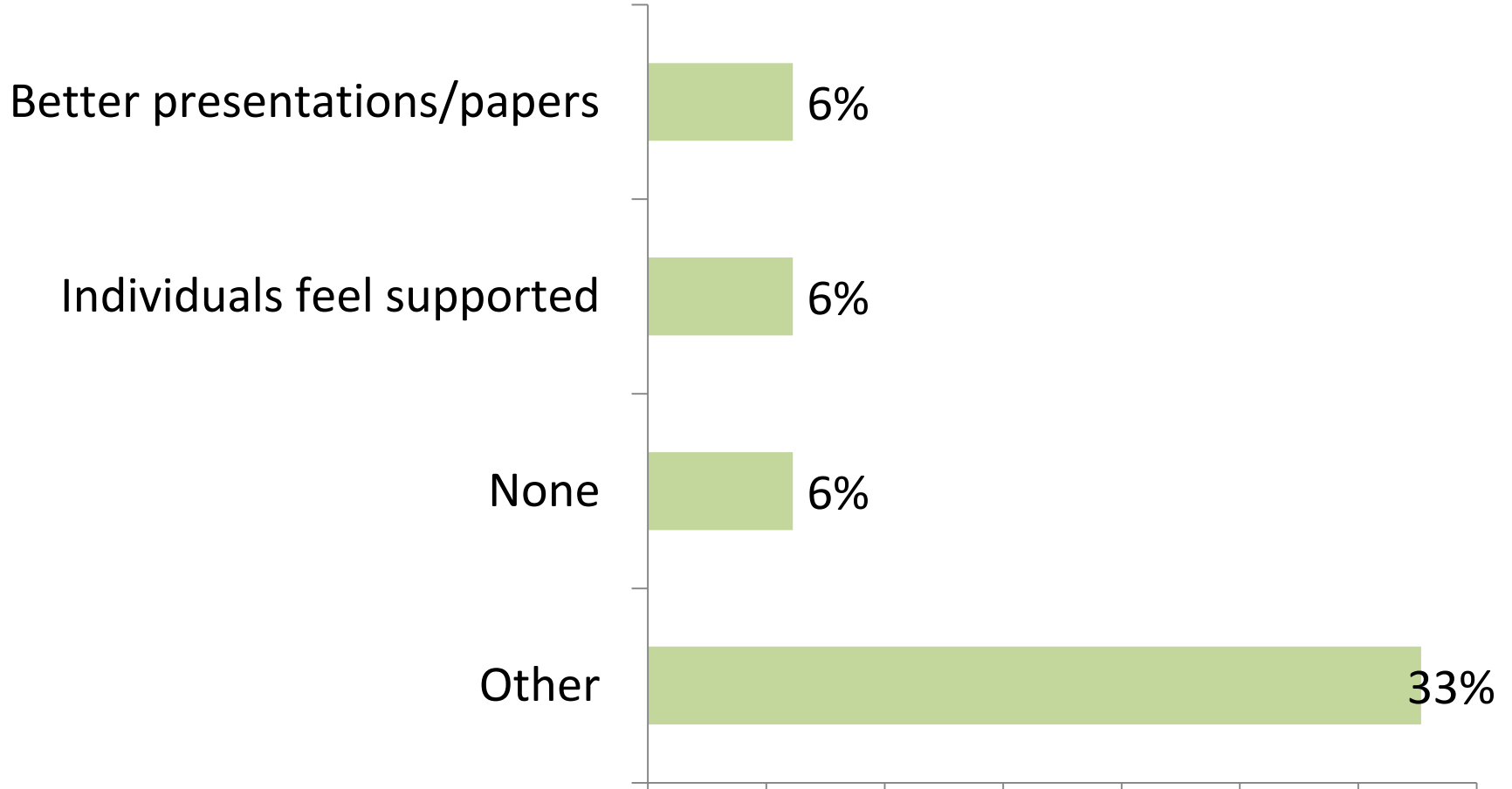
N=50

What are the benefits? (pt. 1)



N=49

What are the benefits? (pt. 2)



Characteristics of Effective Peer Mentoring Programs

Carole J. Bland et al. 2009. *Faculty success through mentoring: A guide for mentors, mentees, and leaders*. American Council on Education Series in Higher Education. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield Education, p. 37-44.

Characteristics of Effective Peer Mentoring Programs (cont.)

1. Clearly stated purpose and goals
2. Support from the administration
3. Clearly stated administrative structure
4. Regular meetings
5. Assessment

Why Career Development Matters

- Librarians
- Libraries
- Profession



Stacks of books on a library table, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=stack&ex=1#ai:MP900448290>

Topics for Further Research



- Library research committees with longevity
- Different models of library research committees
- Librarians' involvement in research support groups at the university level

Stack of books, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=stack&ex=1#ai:MP900448290>

Bibliography

<http://tinyurl.com/bsfm9se>



Close-up on the spines of books, <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=book&ex=1#ai:MP900422452|mt:0|>

Questions?



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catherine.sassen@unt.edu

Tall stack of books for research in a library,
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/results.aspx?qu=stack&ex=1#ai:MP900409270> |