

# A Taulbee Survey For The Rest Of Us: The TauRUs Survey

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# Origins of TauRUs:

- How well does Taulbee data represent non-Ph.D. programs?
- Based on NCES data more than 80% of undergraduate CS (and IS) degrees were awarded at non-Taulbee responding institutions.
- Other Quality of Life issues.
- Initial study undertaken in 2009-2010 with support from ACM-SIGCSE.

# Year 1 Goal:

## Low burden & high response rate.

- ⊙ Pseudorandom school selection: US News & World Report – Every 3<sup>rd</sup> school.
  - National/Regional Liberals Arts
  - Regional Universities
  - Ignored national univ. w/out Ph.D. programs
- ⊙ Dept. chairperson directly emailed survey token. (Limesurvey)
- ⊙ CS only & U.S.A. only

# Year 1 Participation Statistics

- ◎ 254 invitations sent out
  - 117 fully completed (46%)
- ◎ 84 Undergraduate only + 33 Masters
- ◎ 70 Private (57 + 13)
- ◎ 47 Public (27 + 20)

# Year 1 Data Collected:

- ⦿ Grouping: public/private, Ugrad/Masters, location, school size (student population)
- ⦿ Faculty size, composition and salary (gender, ethnicity, and Ph.D. status)
- ⦿ Search success rates (past 3 yrs.)
- ⦿ Degree production (gender and ethnicity)
- ⦿ Quality of Life:
  - Teaching load, Scholarship expectations, Internal funding support, lab support

# TauRUs: Year 2

- ⦿ J. Tims & S. Williams began an independent initiative
- ⦿ Goal: To replicate Taulbee as close as possible
- ⦿ Included CS, CE, IS and IT programs
- ⦿ Survey conducted in 2010-2011
- ⦿ Supported by ACM-SIGCSE and CRA-E

# Year 2 Methodology

- IPEDS Database: 2500 programs located at 1223 schools
- Snail mail sent to “Dean/Department Chair” at institutions’ primary address
- Survey itself was Web based
  - Admittedly the survey was long

# Year 2 Participation Statistics

- ◎ 1223 invitations sent out
  - 65 fully completed (5.3%)
  - 141 programs:  
(120 Undergrad + 21 Masters)
  
- ◎ 47 Private (Ugrad/Masters breakdown unknown)
- ◎ 18 Public (Ugrad/Masters breakdown unknown)



# Year 2 Data Collected

- ⦿ Grouping: public/private, Ugrad/Masters, location, school size (student population), program type (CS, CE, IS, IT)
- ⦿ Degree production (gender and ethnicity)
- ⦿ Ph.D. pipeline and Ugrad research statistics
- ⦿ Faculty size, composition and salary (gender, ethnicity)
- ⦿ Faculty growth (actual and projected) and departure statistics

# Key Findings

- Only 62% of Ugrad only faculty hold Ph.D. in CS
- The smaller the school, the greater % of women faculty; opposite is true for cultural minorities.
- Some evidence suggests that women seek CS degrees in greater % at Ugrad schools; opposite is true for cultural minorities
- Salaries

# TauRUs: Current Status

- ⦿ Year 1 & 2 survey results published in ACM Inroads
- ⦿ In March 2012, ACM stepped forward to sponsor and run future (annual?) iterations
- ⦿ Year 3 survey (and beyond?) to look similar to Year 2 version

# Questions for the Audience

- ① Frequency for future TauRUs surveys?
- ① How closely should TauRUs replicate the Taulbee survey?
- ① What other data should TauRUs be gathering?