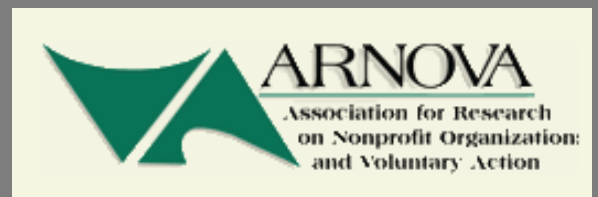


ARNOVA VOLUNTEER SURVEY

For the period July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015 (18 months)

Laurie Mook, Arizona State University
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Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARNOVA SURVEYS covering the period

July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015

A few years ago, the University of Toronto in association with ARNOVA conducted an online survey on the volunteer contributions of ARNOVA volunteers. This survey was undertaken in response to a motion passed at the 2004 ARNOVA membership meeting to account for the contribution of members' volunteer activities to ARNOVA's health and vitality.

At the 2008 ARNOVA conference in Philadelphia, there was a motion put forth and passed in the membership meeting to continue this process and recognize volunteer contributions in the annual report. To do this, an online survey will be conducted yearly, asking questions about volunteer activities with ARNOVA.

The 2014-2015 surveys were conducted by Laurie Mook, Arizona State University, Femida Handy, the University of Pennsylvania, and Shariq Siddiqui, Executive Director of ARNOVA. Two surveys were administered as ARNOVA changed its fiscal year-end from June 30 to December 31. The first survey covered the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 and the second survey covered the period July 1 to December 31, 2015.

Data were collected for the first survey during the period July 27 to September 23, 2015 by an electronic survey that was administered through Survey Monkey to 1,356 ARNOVA members. Thirty email addresses were invalid, and fourteen persons opted out. The final number of respondents was 251, a response rate of 19.1%. For the second survey, data were collected during the period February 1 to March 11, 2016, by an electronic survey that was administered through Survey Monkey to 1,613 ARNOVA members. Forty-three email addresses were invalid, and eighteen persons opted out. The final number of respondents was 216, a response rate of 13.4%.

The key results of the survey for the fiscal period July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015 were:

- Hours reported by respondents totaled 10,466.5. Volunteer hours for NVSQ activities were analyzed separately resulting in an addition of 5,230 hours, for a grand total of **15,696.5**. This is the equivalent of **5.0** full-time equivalent positions.
- Non-reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses were reported to be \$15,451.
- Total contributions in monetary terms were the equivalent of an estimated **\$625,016** for hours volunteered and **\$15,451** in non-reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses, for a total of **\$640,467**.¹

¹ All monetary figures are reported in USD.

ARNOVA SURVEYS covering the period July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015

A few years ago, the University of Toronto in association with ARNOVA conducted an online survey on the volunteer contributions of ARNOVA volunteers. This survey was undertaken in response to a motion passed at the 2004 ARNOVA membership meeting to account for the contribution of members' volunteer activities to ARNOVA's health and vitality (see Appendix A).

At the 2008 ARNOVA conference in Philadelphia, there was a motion put forth and passed in the membership meeting to continue this process and recognize volunteer contributions in the annual report. To do this, an online survey will be conducted yearly, asking questions about volunteer activities with ARNOVA.

The 2014-2015 surveys were conducted by a team consisting of Laurie Mook, Arizona State University, Femida Handy, the University of Pennsylvania, and Shariq Siddiqui, Executive Director of ARNOVA. Two surveys were administered as ARNOVA changed its fiscal year-end from June 30 to December 31. The first survey covered the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 and the second survey covered the period July 1 to December 31, 2015.

Respondent Characteristics

Data were collected for the first survey during the period July 27 to September 23, 2015, by an electronic survey that was administered through Survey Monkey to 1,356 ARNOVA members. Thirty email addresses were invalid, and fourteen persons opted out. The final number of respondents was 251, a response rate of 19.1%.

For the second survey, data were collected during the period February 1 to March 11, 2016, by an electronic survey that was administered through Survey Monkey to 1,613 ARNOVA members. Forty-three email addresses were invalid, and eighteen persons opted out. The final number of respondents was 216, a response rate of 13.4%.

Of the 251 respondents in the first survey, 145 (57.8%) indicated they had volunteered in the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. In the second survey, 111 of 216 respondents (51.4%) indicated they had volunteered in the period July 1 to December 31, 2015.

Findings: Volunteer Hours

Respondents to the first survey reported they had contributed 6,314 hours (see Table 1). In addition, hours were contributed to the association journal, *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* (NVSQ). For each submission, there are 3 reviewers, and, on average, a paper that is sent back for revisions is submitted 3 times before it is published. For the first time period, NVSQ processed 309 submissions. To estimate the number hours contributed to NVSQ, we estimated

15 hours for each paper, for a total of 4,635 hours. As 73 respondents to the survey already indicated contributions totaling 1,033 hours related to reviewing manuscripts for NVSQ, we added an additional 3,602 hours to the hours from the survey. The total of hours therefore was **9,918**.

In the second time period, respondents reported 4152.5 hours (see Table 1). NVSQ processed 150 submissions for a total of 2,250 hours. As 49 respondents already indicated contributions related to reviewing manuscripts for NVSQ totaling 622 hours, an additional 1,628 hours were added. The total for the second survey was therefore **5,780.5 hours**. For the entire period of July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015, the grand total was **15,696.5 hours**.

To place a monetary value on volunteer hours, we used values from the National Current Employment Statistics survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the professional organizations subsector (NAICS code 81392). This category comprises organizations primarily engaged in advancing the professional interests of their members and the profession as a whole. The hourly rate for those involved in this category for the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 was \$39.42 per hour, and for July 1 to December 31, 2015, \$40.25 per hour (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016). Using this hourly rate, the comparative market value of volunteer contributions for the period July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 is estimated as **\$625,016**.²

Findings: Out-of-pocket expenses

Many volunteers pay for expenses out-of-pocket without requesting reimbursement. This can be a significant contribution to the organization. On the survey, ARNOVA volunteers were asked if they contributed out-of-pocket expenses; on the first survey, 32.4% indicated they had, with contributions reported of **\$10,607 USD**. On the second survey, 33.3% indicated they paid for out-of-pocket expenses, with contributions reported as **\$4,844 USD**. In total, non-reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses for the entire period totaled **\$15,451 USD**.

² All monetary figures are reported in USD.

Table 1: Hours reported by respondents

Category	# volunteers reporting	Hours reported for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014	# volunteers reporting	Hours reported for July 1 to December 31, 2015
Hours: Board	13	1280	10	352
Hours: Committees	67	1297	44	1207
Hours: Annual conference organizing	22	342	13	223
Hours: Annual conference proposal reviewing	25	391	17	476.5
Hours: Other annual conference activities	39	800	35	348.5
Hours: NVSQ-related activities	75	1236	48	662
Hours: Other publications- related activities	6	41.5	3	18
Hours: Social media	10	82.25	7	14.5
Hours: Special Interest Groups	48	761	41	729
Hours: Fundraising not included elsewhere	3	22	3	21
Hours: Membership recruitment	10	51.25	8	72
Hours: Other	1	10	2	29
TOTAL		6,314.0		4152.5