

1B—CRITICAL EMPIRICAL METHODS IN DIALOGUE #3

The Story of Us: Putting the Who in the Canadian Academic Librarian

Eva Revitt (MacEwan University) & Amy Kaufman (Queen's University)

Who are Canada's academic librarians? Between June and September 2016, CAPAL conducted a census of Canadian academic librarians. The census garnered 904 responses and provides, for the first time, a glimpse into the socio-demographic make-up of our profession. Drawing on over 23,000 data points, this presentation will identify key findings from the initiative. Such baseline data is important for the study of feminized professions, exploration of work-life balance issues, investigation of social and workplace justice matters, and for the identification of trends. This presentation is an opportunity to share and reflect on what we have learned so far about the people in this profession, as well as to consider future iterations of the census initiative. Understanding who we are as professional academic librarians is arguably the foundation on which a praxis of critical reflection can be developed. The goal of this presentation, therefore, is not to critically reflect on the academic librarian's identity but to begin the process of constructing it