# The University Language/Learning Laboratory A Survey of the Facilities: Their Technologies; Disciplines; Organizations Rhoda Stern, Baruch College, CUNY

*Editor's Note:* This is the first of a two-part study conducted by Ms. Stern. The second part will be published in the next issue of the *Journal.* 

This study examines language and learning laboratories as they exist today in colleges and universities across the United States. It is the result of 89 responses to a questionnaire sent to 150 institutions. The type of facility, the technologies available, the disciplines served and the organizational structures established are examined individually and in their relationships to each other in the following order: 1) the nature of the facility; 2) the person in charge; 3) the person reported to; 4) others employed in the facility.

### The Nature of The Facility

### The Facility

The participating schools were selected from the New York metropolitan area and from the membership directory of the NALLD Journal. All but seven, community colleges comprising the City University of New York complex, are four-year institutions. The laboratories polled are categorized under four major identifications: 1. Language Laboratories; 2. Language Centers; 3. Learning Laboratories/Centers; 4. Other Names, i.e. Listening Labs, Autotutorial Labs, etc. The overwhelming majority of the labs, 79.8 percent, are known as language laboratories:

# The Facility Table 1

		Number of	Percentage of
	Name of Facility	Labs	Total Responses
1.	Language Laboratory(ies)	59	79.8%
	Language Media Laboratory	1	
	Modern Language Laboratory(ies)	) 3	
	Foreign Language Laboratory (ies)	) 8	
2.	Language Center(s)	2	4.5%
	Language Learning Center	1	
	Language Learning Technology	1	
3.	Individualized/Electronic		
	Learning Labs	3	9.0%
	Learning Lab Center	1	
	Learning Center(s)	3	
	Learning Resource Center	1	
4.	Media Center	1	6.7%
	Sound Lab	1	
	Viewing and Listening Lab	1	
	Listening Center	1	
	Autotutorial Lab	1	
	Multi-Media Tutorial	1	

The four groupings are maintained throughout this report for the purpose of comparison.

### The Technologies Available

Audiotapes-open reel, cassettes and cartridges-along with records are the predominant technologies found in the language/learning laboratory: 53.9 percent of the labs utilize these media alone. Only 16.9 percent of the colleges use video and some form of visual(s), i.e. slides, films, filmstrips, overhead transparencies, etc. as well as tapes (and records). Some 29.2 percent of the schools maintain either video or visuals, but not both, in addition to tapes, with their use almost equally divided, 15.7 percent and 13.5 percent respectively.

## The Technologies Available Table 2

Technologies Available	Number of Labs	Percentage of Total Responses
Audiotapes + Records Only	48	53.9%
+ Slides/Filmstrips/Films	12	13.5%
+ Video (No Visuals)	14	15.7%
+ Visuals and Video	15	16.9%

The extent to which these audio and visual technologies are implemented was not determined by this survey.

#### The Disciplines Served

There are three major types of labs based upon the number of disciplines available within each: those that serve 1) only the foreign languages; 2) the foreign languages including English as a Second Language; 3) the foreign languages, ESOL and three or more additional disciplines ranging from the related areas of Speech, Communications, Linguistics and Music to Math, Biology, Psychology, Education, Engineering, etc. The greatest number of labs exist to accommodate only foreign languages, followed by labs which serve numerous disciplines. The last large grouping of labs serves the foreign languages and English as a Second Language.

# The Disciplines Served Table 3

	Number of	Percentage of
<b>Disciplines Served</b>	Labs	Total Responses
Foreign Languages Only	33	37.1%
FL + 1 or 2 Additional Disciplines	4	4.5%
FL/ESOL Only	17	19.1%
FL/ESOL + 1 or 2 Addit'l Discipline	s 7	7.9%
FL/ESOL + 3 or More Disciplines	22	24.7%
English/ESOL Only	2	2.25
ESOL + or More Disciplines	2	2.25
Other (Biology)	1	1.1%
Unknown	1	1.1%

As with technologies available, the extent to which each discipline is served was not determined by this survey.

## Distribution of Technologies over Disciplines

When only the foreign languages and/or ESOL are represented in a facility, audiotapes and records are the only technologies in use in 33.8 percent of the participating labs. Although visuals are used slightly less than video across all labs, 13.5 percent vs. 15.7 percent, in those labs which serve only the foreign languages, visuals are used slightly more, 7.9 percent vs. 6.7 percent. Together, visuals and video appear to have made little entry into the foreign language/ESOL arena. Of the labs serving these disciplines alone, only 2.2 percent offer both technologies. Visuals and video together are implemented more frequently in labs offering numerous disciplines: 12.4 percent of the response.

# Distribution of Technologies over Disciplnes Table 4

	Technologies								
Ta	Tapes/Records								
	Only	+Visuals	+Video	+Visuals					
Foreign Languages Only	21.4%	7.9%	6.7%	1.1%					
FL + 1 - 2 Disciplines	2.25	1.1%	••	1.1%					
FL/ESOL Only	12.4%	2.25	3.4%	1.1%					
FL/ESOL + 1-2 Disciplines	5.6%	••	2.25	••					
FL/ESOL + 3 or More Discipline	s 9.0%	2.25	3.4%	10.1%					
English/ESOL Only	2.25	••	••	••					
ESOL + 3 or More Disciplines	•••	•••	•••	2.25					
Other (Biology)	• • •	•••	• • •	1.1%					
Unknown	1.1%	•••	•••	•••					

(The Distributions of Disciplines and Technologies over Facilities are found in Appendix A, Tables A-1 and A-2).

### **Student Positions**

Student positions range from 16 to 524 in from 1 to 63 rooms. The greatest number of labs, 21.4 percent, report serving 30 to 38 students in one room. The next most frequent response, 14.6 percent, reports 60 to 70 positions in two rooms. This is followed by 13.5 percent of the total response reporting 40 to 53 positions in one room. Rooms used for recording, duplicating, storage, office, et.al. are not included in the table below. The columns represent the number of labs by rooms and student positions.

Number of Positions											Total Number of Labs
		N	Ium	ber o	f Ro	oms	with	Pos	ition	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	10	20	63	?	
16-28	6	3									9
30-38	119								_		19
40-53	12	2	a,								14
60-70	4	13							1		18
72-80	3	1									4
95-106	1	3	5						· · ·		9
119-128		1	2	1		_				1	5
150-151					2						2
182	_					<b>1</b>					1
234-240	1				1	<sup>-</sup> 1 <sup>-</sup>					3
300							<sup>-1</sup>				1
524							<u> </u>				1
Unknown		2								1	. 3

# Student Positions Table 5

Five of the six labs in Group 4, Other Names, contain the smallest number of student positions. The sixth contains the greatest number of positions. Laboratories identified as language labs et.al., Group 1, most frequently hold 60-70 booths and 30-38 booths followed by 40-53 booths Also, the larger the facility, the more frequently the utilization of video.

### The Organization of the Facility

### The Person in Charge: Title

Laboratory leadership is primarily male: 70.6 percent of those in charge are men, 27.2 percent women. Some 58.7 percent of the total responses bear the title Director: 66.2 percent of all men and 44 percent of all women. Men do not use or are not assigned any other title as frequently as this one while 28 percent of the women are also referred to as Supervisor. Three cf the laboratories report dual leadership accounting for the total of 92 below.

120	ole o			
Title In Charge	M	F	 Total	Percentage of Total Responses
Director	43	11	<b>5</b> 4	58.7%
Coordinator	3	1	4	4.3%
Supervisor	2	7	9	9.8%
Other				
Administrator/Manager	1	2	3	14.1%
Technician	3	0	3	
Instructional Aide	0	1	1	
Assistant-Hourly	1	1	2	
Research Assistant	1	0	1	
Chairman	2	0	2	
Head of Undergraduate	1	0	1	
Language Program				
No Title	2	0	2	2.2%
Title Unknown	6	2	8	8.7%
No one person in charge			2	2.2%
	65	25	02	

The Person in Charge: Title Table 6

### The Person in Charge: Rank

Academic appointments are held by 50 percent of those affiliated with the laboratories while 34.5 percent are administrative appointments. Men appear to be concentrated at the associate and assistant professorial rank followed by middle/low level administrative appointments.<sup>1</sup> These three categories total 52.3 percent of all male appointments. Women are concentrated at the middle/low administrative level, the instructor/lecturer rank and the City University of New York College Laboratory Technician line.<sup>2</sup> These three constitute 76 percent of all female appointments.

<sup>1</sup>Middle/low and high managerial are defined in terms of salary. Administrative appointments earning above \$18,500 are considered high managerial in this report. All other administrative persons are middle/ low level managers.

	14010 1	-			
Rank in Charge		М	F	Total	Total Responses Total Rtsponses
Academic Appointment					
Professor		6	0	6	6.5%
Associate Professor		12	1	13	14.1%
Assistant Professor		12	3	15	16.3%
Instructor/Lecturer		6	6	12	13.0%
Academic/Administrative					
College Lab Technician		4	5	9	9.8%
Administrative Appointme	ent				
High Managerial		3	0	3	3.3%
Middle/Low Manageria	l	9	8	17	18.4%
Technician		3	0	3	3.3%
Other Appointments					
Research Assistant		1	0	1	1.1%
Undergrad/Grad Asst.		1	1	2	2.2%
Hourly Assistant		1	1	2	2.2%
Rank Unknown		7	0	7	7.6%
Not Applicable				2	2.2%
	Rank in Charge Academic Appointment Professor Associate Professor Assistant Professor Instructor/Lecturer Academic/Administrative College Lab Technician Administrative Appointment High Managerial Middle/Low Managerial Technician Other Appointments Research Assistant Undergrad/Grad Asst. Hourly Assistant Rank Unknown Not Applicable	Rank in Charge   Academic Appointment   Professor   Associate Professor   Assistant Professor   Instructor/Lecturer   Academic/Administrative   College Lab Technician   Administrative Appointment   High Managerial   Middle/Low Managerial   Technician   Other Appointments   Research Assistant   Undergrad/Grad Asst.   Hourly Assistant   Rank Unknown   Not Applicable	Rank in ChargeMAcademic AppointmentProfessorProfessor6Associate Professor12Assistant Professor12Instructor/Lecturer6Academic/Administrative College Lab Technician4Administrative Appointment4High Managerial3Middle/Low Managerial9Technician3Other Appointments9Research Assistant1Undergrad/Grad Asst.1Hourly Assistant1Rank Unknown7Not Applicable7	Rank in ChargeMFAcademic AppointmentProfessor60Associate Professor121Assistant Professor123Instructor/Lecturer66Academic/Administrative6College Lab Technician45Administrative Appointment30High Managerial30Middle/Low Managerial98Technician30Other Appointments11Research Assistant10Undergrad/Grad Asst.11Hourly Assistant11Rank Unknown70Not Applicable0	Rank in ChargeMFTotalAcademic AppointmentProfessor606Associate Professor12113Assistant Professor12315Instructor/Lecturer6612Academic/Administrative6612College Lab Technician459Administrative Appointment9817High Managerial303Middle/Low Managerial9817Technician303Other Appointments11Research Assistant101Undergrad/Grad Asst.112Rank Unknown707Not Applicable2

The Person in Charge: Rank

Of those in charge of the laboratories, 21.7 percent have other responsibilities: three are Chairmen and seventeen teach. Four of the seventeen report a full course load; three a three-credit reduction in their teaching responsibilities and two a one-half teaching load.

<sup>2</sup>The City University of New York College Laboratory Technician is on the Instructional Staff following administrative guidelines. In this report, the line is classified as middle/low managerial and is included in the administrative percentage, 34.5 percent.

The extent of the laboratory commitment i.e. full-or part-time appointment, is not made clear for 37 perrent of the leadership. Also, the number of full-time administrative appointments in academic lines is not determined. When the total leadership is considered over laboratories, the following figures emerge: 82.4 percent of those teaching are affiliated with language laboratories; learning labs are staffed by more full-time appointments than any other type of lab in proportion to their number . . . 75 percent of their leadership is a full-time appointment compared with 29.7 percent of the language laboratory leadership.

# Distribution of Title over Rank

The title, Director, is reported to be utilized by 71.7 percent of those in academic appointments. The only other title given by those in the assistant, associate or professorial rank is Chairman or Head. (Conversely, 61.1 percent of all Directors are in academic appointments.) The City University College Lab Technicians and female administrative appointments tend to bear titles other than Director. Only 33.3 percent of the Lab Technicians utilize the title Director while 55.6 percent utilize the title Supervisor, Coordinator or Technician. Of the women in administrative appointments, 75 percent are known as Supervisor, Manager or Administrative Assistant.

		Diss	tributi	on of	' Title	e over Ran	k		
				Tab	ole 8		_		
Rank	Dir.	Coord.	Supvsr.	Mgr.	Tech.	Chrmn. Head Othe	No 1 Title	Title Unknown	
	MF	MF	MF	MF	MF	MFMF	MF	MF	
Professor	3					2		1	
Associate	71	-				1	1	3	
Assistant	10	3					1	1	
Inst/Lect.	54	1	1			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		1	
Lab Tech.	12	11	11		1			1	
High Mgmt.	3						_		
Middle Low	61	1	4	12		1		1	
Technician	1				2				
Other	1		1			2 1		_	
Unknown	6		1						

Neither the sex nor the presence of a full-time appointee (vs. a faculty member) alone influence the availability of technological resources and the diversification of disciplines. For example, 36 percent of the female laboratory leadership are affiliated with laboratories offering technologies in addition to audiotapes and records.

### Person in Charge: Education

Most of the language/learning laboratory leadership possesses either a master's or a doctoral deree. 45.6 percent, while 15.2 percent are engaged in doctoral studies. The male leadership is better educated than the female. Men are concentrated at the master's and doctoral level whereas women at the bachelor's, master's and pre-doctoral level:

24.6 precent of the men have the master's degree; 15.4 percent are doctoral candidates and 30.8 percent have the doctorate. These three categories total 70.8 percent of their response. Of the women, 28 percent have the bachelor's, 20 percent have the master's and 16 percent are doctoral candidates together comprising 64 percent of their response.

No administrative appointment has the doctorate. Male administrative appointments tend to peak at the master's and female at the bachelor's. Women "Supervisors" do not appear to be as well educated as those employed as "Directors".

Person in Cl	harge: Edi	ıcati	on	
T	able 9			
Education	 М	F	Tota	Percentage of ITotal Responses
H.S. Diploma	2	<b>1</b>	3	3.2%
Associate Degree	2	0	2	2.2%
Baccalaureat	0	2	2	2.2%
Some College/Prof. Trng.	2	3	5	5.4%
Bachelor's	3	7	10	10.9%
Master's Candidate	1:	1	2	2.2%
Master's	16	5	21	22.8%
Doctoral Candidate	7	3	10	10.9%
ABD	3	1	4	4.3%
Doctorate	20	1	21	22.8%
Unknown	9	1	10	10.9%
Not Applicable			2	2.2%

The nature of the degree earned by the leadership varies: three report a degree in media; two a degree in library science and six a degree in education (which may have included media and instructional technology). Four possess a degree in computer science and/or electronics. Twenty-five of the leadership earned a degree in language, literature or the humanities.

#### Person in Charge: Years in Position

Years in position are reported for 58 of the men and 24 of the women. The average number of years on the job for both sexes is 5.3 years. Women tend to hold the job slightly longer than men, 5.9 years vs. 5.1 years. Men appear to average the greatest number of years on the job at the top of the line, as professors and chairmen. Women do not fare as well. Their greatest number of years are spent as assistant

professors and middle/low level administrators. (See Appendix A, Table A-3, for the Distribution of Years in Position by Title and Rank).

# Person in Charge: Salary

Salaries are reported by those in charge as follows: 39 in Group 1; 2 in Group 2; 3 in Group 3; 1 in Group 4. The average male salary reported in April-June 1975 is \$14,888.<sup>3</sup> Their median years on the job (over 26 men) is 5.2 years. The median female salary (over 13 women) is \$13,325.<sup>4</sup> Their median years on the job is 5.5 years.

		Table	e 10			
	Numl	per of			Me	edian
Title	Reported	Salaries	Median	Salary	Years	on Job
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	M	F	M	F	́м	F
Director*	19	6	\$14,512	\$13,058	6.6	5.8
Coordinator	1	-	18,400	• • •	1.0	••
Supervisor*	1	3	12,200	12,600	1.0	4.4
Administrator/						
Manager	1	2	13,930	11,500	1.5	5.0
Technician	1	-	13,000	•••	.7	••
Instructional Aide	e -	1	•••	825/mo	•	3.0
Assistant-Hourly	1	1	3.63/hr.	3.42/hr.	5.0	1.0
Head	1	-	25,000	•••	11.5	••
No Title	2	-	14,350	• • •	2.5	••
Title Unknown	2	1	15,000 2,000**	10,000	4.0	6.0

\* Graduate and Undergraduate Assistants utilizing these titles are considered separately in Table XI.

\*\* The sum reported represents that portion of the salary prorated for laboratory work.

<sup>3</sup>In NEA Research Memo 1974-1, Summary of Salaries Paid in Higher Education. 1973-74, the 1973-74 median salary for full-time teaching faculty over all ranks and including Department Chairmen is \$14,373 in 4-year institutions. The 1973-74 median salary for Directors of Audio-Visual Services is \$14,500.

<sup>4</sup>The difference between the male and female median salary is consistent with that reported by Darland et.al. in *Application of Multivariate Regression to Studies of Salary Differences between Men and Women Faculty*, 1974, Darland reports that women ter.d to be underpaid by about \$1,500 annually on the average even after all the obvious differences of education, years of experience, et.al. are factored.

When the data is considered over rank, the range in salary for men appears to be in proportion to the number of years on the job . . except for those in middle/low managerial positions. The female median salary exceeds the male only when the number of years on the job are far greater.

	Pers	on in Cha	rge: Sala	ry		
		By R	ank			
		Table	11			
	Numb	er of			Me	dian
Rank H	Reported	Salaries	Median	Salary	Years	on Job
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Professor	2	-	\$22,500	• • •	10.5	••
Associate Professor	r 4	-	16,333	• • •	8.0	••
			2,200*			
Assistant Professor	7	1	12,886	\$13,550	3.1	10.0
Instructor/Lecture	r 3	5	16,133	13,680	6.7	<b>3.6</b>
College Lab.						
Technician	1	2	12,200	15,600	1.0	7.0
High Managerial	3	•	19,517	•••	5.6	••
Middle/Low						
Managerial	5	5	12,123	10,015	5.0	5.0
Technician	2	•	14,250	• • •	4.3	••
Assistant-Hourly	1	1	3.63/hr.	3.42/hr.	5.0	1.0
Assistant-Undergra Graduate	d/ 1	1	4,000	2,700	1.5	1.0
Rank Unknown	1	- *	9,500	•••	••	••

\* Only this prorated portion of salary is reported.

Nine of those who teach in addition to their laboratory responsibility report their salary. The median over eight is \$13,888. The ninth, as described above, prorates the lab portion of his salary to be worth \$2,200. Where salaries are given for those responsible for labs with more than 100 booths, five of the labs are under the leadership of men earning \$18,000-25,000; four under men earning \$12,200-15,500; two under women earning \$11,000-13,000 per year.

### Person Reported To: Title

The ninety persons in charge of the lab are responsible to a total of ninety-four others. The majority of the ninety-four, 62.8 percent, are Department Chairmen. The others are Vice-Presidents, Deans, Directors of mediated Centers and Chief Librarians. This leadership

is primarily male, 77.7 percent compared to 12.7 percent female; 9.6 percent is not identified by sex. Of the men, 63 percent are Chairmen, especially of foreign or modern language departments; 11 percent are Directors of media centers; 23 percent are Vice-Presidents and Deans (including Associate and Assistant). Of the women, 75 percent are Chairpersons; 25 percent are Deans (including Associate). Two of the three female Deans are employed by women's colleges. See Appendix A Table A4, for the listing of the person reported to by title).

# Person Reported To: Rank

At this step, most appointments are on the professorial line, 75.5 percent. Few are administrative, 3.2 percent (in contrast to the 34.5 percent of laboratory leadership on administrative lines). Only those Deans, Associate Deans and Vice-Presidents whose academic rank is not specifically designated on the questionnaire ,are included as such in Table 12 below.

	Person Rep	ortec	l To:	Rank	
	Ta	ble	12		
Rank	M	F	?	Total	Percentage of Total Responses
Professor	39	7	2	48	51.1%
Associate Prof.	13	2	-	15	15.9%
Assistant Prof.	6	1	1	8	8.5%
Chief Librarian	2	-	-	2	2.1%
Officer/Admin.	3	-	-	3	3.2%
Associate Dean	-	1	-	1	1.1%
Dean	7	-	4	11	11.7%
Vice-President	2	-	-	2	2.1%
Rank Unknown	1	1	2	4	4.3%

# Person Reported to: Education

The overwhelming majority of this leadership possesses the doctorate, 77.7 percent. All full professors, deans and vice-presidents for whom a degree is reported hold a doctorate. All female leadership at this level possesses the degree as well. The five identified master's degrees are held by males: one assistant and two associate professors; one administrative appointee; one of unknown rank.

The nature of the degree varies: two in media, three in education; one in business administration; twenty-eight in language, literature (including English); six in areas such as Biology, Chemistry, Political Science, etc.

# Person Reported To: Years in Position

Years in position are reported for 65 men and 9 women. Women appear to be newer to their professorial appointments than to their laboratory appointments for their median years at this level is 3.1compared with 5.9 in the lab. The male median years at this level is 5.3. (See Appendix A, Table A-5 for a listing by rank and title).

# Distribution of Facility over Person Reported to.

Chairpersons are overwhelmingly responsible for language laboratories: 54 of the total 59 assume this leadership with their title. Of the fifty language labs that fall under their domain, thirty-seven offer only the foreign languages and English as a Second Language. Of the eighteen Deans, fourteen are responsible for language laboratories as are four of the nine Directors. Language Centers, Learning Labs, et.al. (Groups 2, 3, 4), in proportion to their number, are under Directors, Chief Librarians and Deans rather than Chairpersons.

The diversification of available technology does not appear to be influenced by the person reported to, but there does appear to be a relationship between the size of the lab and the person to whom it reports. Ten of the eighteen labs reporting to a Dean are over 95 booths while only nine of the fifty reporting to a Chairperson are over 95 booths. The remaining are from 30-38 booths, 40-53 booths and 60-70 booths. In Table 13, the columns represent the number of university administrators by the facility reporting to them, i.e. one Vice-President is responsible for one language lab and one for one Listening Center (Other Names, Group 4).

	Table 13				
	1	2	3	4	
Person Reported to:	Language Labs	Language Centers	Learning Labs	Other Names	
Vice-President	1	•	•	1	
Dean	14*	2	2	-	
Associate Dean	2	1	-	-	
Assistant Dean	1	-	-	-	
Director	4	-	3	2	
Chief Librarian	-	-	1	1	
Chairperson	54**	1	2	1	

Distribution	of	Facility	over	Person	Reported	to
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\* 14 Deans are responsible for 13 Language Labs

\*\* 54 Chairpersons are responsible for 50 Language Labs.

(See Appendix A, Table A-6, for the distribution of Person Reported to by title over Laboratory Leadership by rank).

## Others Employed in the Facility

This section examines the organization established to operate. Three major personnel configuration are discerned: those based on the services of 1) students only (including graduate, college, laboratory and teaching assistants,<sup>5</sup> and tutors);

2) one or more technicians (usually full-time), the above student personnel and any combination of secretaries, clerks, program coordinators and librarians;

3) one or more managers or assistant directors and any combination of the above student, technical and clerical personnel. It must be noted that forty-six of the eighty-nine labs responding to the questionnaire make no reference to the technical personnel who repair the equipment (thirty-six of the forty-six report to chairpersons, one to a chief librarian, three to directors and six to deans). It can only be assumed that University-wide audio-visual/technical personnel or contracts available through vendors provide essential maintenance.

## Student Aides . . .

Of the labs omitting any reference to repairs, 78.3 percent are in this category. Student Assistants, in addition to the person in charge, are the only help in thirty-two of the laboratories polled. Six labs operate only with college, laboratory, graduate or teaching assistants or a clerk; three utilize a combination of the above personnel. The forty-one labs in this grouping comprise 43.8 percent of the total response.

<sup>5</sup>College, Laboratory, Graduate, Teaching Assistants and Tutors are defined as more specialized help on the hourly scale (better paid than student assistants, but not as well as technicians).

Almost half of the labs in Group 1, language labs, operate with hourly or part-time assistance only as do 66.7 percent of the other named labs in Group 4.

In this configuration of personnel, 28.6 percent of the leadership did not clearly define its status, i.e. teaching faculty or full-time. (However, this clarification was not specified on the questionnaire). Fulltime appointments were reported by 36.6 percent of the leadership and teaching responsibilities by 28.6 percent. Teaching faculty appear to be responsible for labs employing student aides rather than for labs employing graduate assistants, et.al. Only once is a faculty member responsible for a lab staffed with college assistants et.al.

One technology . . tapes . . is offered in 62.5 percent of the labs operating with student or hourly help; video is provided by 18.7 percent of them. The use of college assistants et.al. does not imply additional technologies (or student positions). However, video does appear to be installed where the person in charge is a full-time appointment.

## Technicians and . . .

Laboratories staffed with one of more technicians (usually full-time) and a combination of student aides, graduate or teaching assistants, secretaries, clerks, program coordinators, librarians, et.al. represent 27 percent of the total response. They are language labs or centers (Groups 1 and 2) ranging from 26 to 300 student positions. In this configuration, 48 percent of the leadership did not define its status. Less than half, 40 percent, of the labs are known to be under full-time appointments and 12 percent under teaching faculty. The presence of a technician does not indicate additional resources: 54.5 percent of the labs in this category offer tape recordings only; 33.3 percent provide video facilities.

### Managers and . . .

The last primary configuration of personnel operates under the direction of one or more associate or assistant directors, or managers or supervisors, and the above student, technical and clerical personnel in addition to the person in charge. Some 20.2 percent of the labs follow this pattern; 36.8 percent of these labs make no reference to equipment repairs while 52.7 percent of them employ technicians. Most of the labs organized around a full-time manager are language labs, 68.4 percent; 21.2 percent are learning labs. Of all learning labs, 50 percent follow this personnel configuration. The commitment to the lab by the person in charge is not made clear in 31.6 percent of the responses in this grouping. A full-time person is in charge of 42.1 percent of the labs following this configuration while a faculty member is responsible for 26.3 percent of them.

When a full-time manager is employed, video is more frequently utilized: 47.4 percent of the labs in this category have the medium installed. Visuals are used in 47.4 percent of them and tapes alone in 36.8 percent of them.

### Other Configurations

Two final personnel configurations considered separately include a computer programmer and a graphic artist. These are two positions unique within the labs surveyed. (Another lab cites a position of media specialist filed by two graduate assistants and therefore, not included here). Both labs in this configuration are small, 16 and 20 booths. They are a learning and autotutorial lab, Groups 3 and 4, and provide both video and visuals as part of the available technologies. (See Appendix A, Table A-7, for the distribution of Personnel Configurations by the Person in Charge, the Facility and the Technologies

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Available).

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# Numbers of People Employed

The number of student aides or assistants employed in the labs surveyed range from zero to twenty-two.

Student Aid	es
Table 14	
Number of Student Aides	Number of Labs
None	15
2-4	19
5-6	5
7-11	14
12-15	11
19-22	4
Students Employed	19
Not Clear	2

When the students are listed by sex, there are 53 male and 59 female aides. Other staff members listed by sex and number include:

Staff	Me	embers
Tab	ole	15

	Numbers	Employe	d
Staff Member	M	F	
Manager	12.5	11	
Technician	44	-	
<b>Recording Technician</b>	4.25	2	
Secretary	1	20	
Clerk	-	5	
Librarian	-	4	
<b>Program Coordinator</b>	-	4	
Programming Assistan	nt -	1	
Media Operator	-	1	
Computer Programme	er 1	•	
Computer Card Comp	oiler -	1	
Tutor*	2	-	
Teaching Assistant	*	*	
Graduate Assistant	1.5	3	
College/Laboratory A	sst. 12	11	

\*Exact numbers were not specified by several labs employing tutors and teaching assistants.

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## **Observations and Conclusions**

1. This survey represents an attempt to provide some documentation on the types of language/learning laboratories established across the United States. Additional documentation is needed as well. The nature and number of technological centers and services available on the campuses surveyed have not been determined. It is only known that the sampling of language labs far outweigh that of learning labs in this particular study. It is not known whether this is indicative of the reality. It is also important to determine the extent to which the media is integrated into curriculum practices and the criteria by which the technology is selected. Clarifications are essential if effective laboratory practices are to be defined and implemented.

2. The organizational structure of the language/learning labs has long been neglected as a viable factor in their effective functioning. For the most part, it does not appear that the leadership in this survey possesses sufficient status and/or authority to effect efficient implementation of the media into the higher education curriculum. Many who teach are not rewarded for their laboratory commitment while others lack the rank or education for their efforts to have any impact. The Carnegie Commission recommended that responsibility for the utilization of instructional technology be placed at "the highest possible level of academic administration".<sup>6</sup> The implementation of this recommendation in the laboratory might minimize the variation in laboratory activities, commitments and reporting practices.

<sup>6</sup>Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, The Fourth Revolution. Instructional Technology in Higher Education, 1972. p. 51.

3. Discrimination against women exists in the language/learning laboratory across all ranks and titles, regardless of whether by choice or circumstances, as elsewhere in higher education. Women in laboratory positions are paid less than their male counterparts. The myth of technical (i.e. male) competency, traditionally associated with an effective laboratory operation, dissipates in this survey where almost half of the male leadership omitted any reference to this competency within their own laboratories.

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# Appendix A

Appendix A contains the following information:

- 1) Nature of the Facility Distributions of Disciplines and Technologies over Facility (Tables A-1 and A-2)
- 2) Person in Charge. Years in Position by Title and Rank (Table A-3)
- 3) Person Reported to. Titles (Table A-4) Years in Position by Title and Rank (Table A-5) Distribution of Person Reported to over Lab Leadership by Title and Rank (Table A-6)
- 4) Others Employed in Facility Personnel Configurations by Type of facility, Person in Charge and Technologies (Table A-7)