

**Lehman College, CUNY**  
**2014 Academic Freedom (AF)**  
**Faculty Survey**  
**Results**

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# Overview

- In the Spring 2014, the Lehman College (CUNY) **Academic Freedom Committee (AFC)** conducted a **general survey** to evaluate the Faculty's experiences, and knowledge about Academic Freedom (AFC).
- The **Academic Freedom (AF) Faculty Survey** consisted of 16 Questions designed to collect:
  - **Background data** (e.g. Division where faculty member is employed, years of employment, tenure status, and rank),
  - **Faculty experience** (as it relates to Academic Freedom), and
  - **Perceptions** (about the environment and conditions at Lehman College with regards to Academic Freedom).
- The **AF Faculty Survey** was conducted **online** between **May and July 2014**.
- A total of **70 Faculty Respondents** participated.

# Survey Results: Faculty Background

<b>Q1. In which school/division is your primary appointment?</b>	<b># of Responses</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Arts and Humanities	23	32.9%
Education	8	11.4%
Natural and Social Sciences	33	47.1%
Other	6	8.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Q2. What is your faculty status?</b>		
Full-Time	68	97.1%
Part-Time	2	2.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Q3. How long have you been employed by Lehman College?</b>		
0 to 2 years	4	5.7%
3 to 5 years	9	12.9%
6 to 10 years	18	25.7%
11+ years	39	55.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Q4. What is your tenure status?</b>		
Certificate of Continuous Employment (CCE)	6	8.6%
Non-tenure track	2	2.9%
Tenure track	17	24.3%
Tenured	44	62.9%
No response	1	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Q5. What is your rank at Lehman College?</b>		
Assistant Professor	21	30.0%
Associate Professor	25	35.7%
Full Professor	16	22.9%
Instructor	0	0.0%
Other	8	11.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Survey Results: Faculty Experience with AF Issues

- **Q6.** 82.9% of Faculty surveyed indicated that they have never experienced any pressure from administrators to teach or not to teach certain topics.
- **Q7.** 82.9% of Faculty surveyed indicated that they have never experienced any pressure from colleagues to teach or not to teach certain topics.
- **Q8.** 87.1% of survey participants indicated that they never experienced any pressure from administrators to avoid doing research on certain topics.
- **Q9.** 87.1% of survey participants indicated that they never experienced any pressure from colleagues to avoid doing research on certain topics.
- **Q10.** 98.6% of survey respondents indicated that their professional growth has never been affected by pressure to avoid research on certain topics.
- **Q11.** 99.0% of Faculty survey indicated that their professional growth has never been affected by pressure to avoid the teaching of certain topics.

## Survey Results: Faculty Perceptions about AF at Lehman

- **Q12.** 70% of Faculty surveyed indicated that Lehman administrators foster a climate that is supportive of Academic Freedom.
- **Q13.** 41.4% of Faculty surveyed indicated that Lehman has established mechanisms in place to express concerns related to Academic Freedom.
- **Q14.** 94.3% of survey participants do not believe that the methods and criteria used for promotion and tenure decisions restrict Academic Freedom.
- **Q15.** 77% of survey participants indicated that they understand their Academic Freedom protections.
- **Q16.** 94.3% of survey respondents indicated that their Academic Freedom has never been violated at Lehman.