1. Demographics

**Age?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-55</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-65</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-75</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gender?**

- F: 57%
- M: 43%

**Culture/Ethnicity/Race?**

- White: 86.3%
- Black or African American: 1.3%
- Asian: 1.6%
- Latino or Hispanic: 3.5%
- American Indian and Alaska Native: 0.6%
- Other: 6.7%

**US State or Other Country of Residence?**

Top 10 states:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

43 (14%) from outside the US, of which 19 responses were from Canada (6%)
2. Education

Almost all of the 297 respondents who have already completed degrees followed some part of the BA/MA/PhD track.

70% of these respondents earned their first degree before 1990; 61% of first degrees were earned before 1985, and 38% were earned before 1975.

37% earned a second degree since 1990.

48% earned a third degree before 1990; 63% earned a third degree before 1995.

297 respondents cited more than 50 different fields of study for their first degrees, but most frequently cited: English (86 responses; 32%), anthropology (48; 17%), foreign languages (25; 9%), folklore (23; 8%) and history (23; 8%).

270 respondents cited 39 different fields of study for their second degree, but most frequently cited: folklore (116; 43%), English (42; 15%), anthropology (26; 10%), area studies (14; 5%), American studies (13; 5%), and programs in education (10; 4%).

207 respondents cited 26 different fields of study for their third degree, but most frequently cited: folklore (116; 56%), anthropology (18; 9%), English (17; 8%), area studies (14; 7%), and American studies (9; 4%).

70 respondents described “other” certification or training in more than 35 different areas, of which the five most frequently cited were: teaching diplomas or certification (13 respondents), post-doctoral research (5), library science (4), and training in documentary production (4).

Student Status?

Currently, 45 respondents (14% of total) are students. 33 (73% of students) expect to receive their degree within two years (by 2009); 8 (18% of students) expect to complete their current degree program within 5 years (by 2012).

Students report being enrolled in 12 different degree programs; the most frequently cited are folklore (62%), English (11%), and anthropology (9%). 7 (16%) anticipate pursuing another degree beyond their current one; 57% (4) of them will seek a further degree in folklore.

Of 36 student respondents, 25 (69%) anticipate an academic position, 4 (11%) in folklore, 3 (27%) in English, and the rest in an unspecified capacity. 7 (19%) of these respondents anticipate a position in the public sector or in a museum.

3. Employment

Are you employed at the present time?
Y 84%
N 16%
No response 15 respondents; 5% of total respondents

If you are not employed, are you retired or unemployed?
Retired 25 (54% of those unemployed)
Unemployed 21 (46% of those unemployed)

Is your employment related, at least in part, to folklore?
Y 88%
N 12%
No response 65 respondents; 21% of total respondents

Is your folklore-related employment full- or part-time?
FT 80%
PT 20%
No response 111 respondents; 35% of total respondents

Category of employer(s), full-time and part-time:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer Type</th>
<th>FT</th>
<th>PT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts organizations</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community development organizations</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural organizations (humanities, museums, etc.)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent folklore organization</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed (freelance, consulting)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal “Public Sector”</strong></td>
<td>101</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University or college (administration)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University or college (faculty)</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University or college (non-faculty)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal “Academic”</strong></td>
<td>161</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Note: Percentages add up to 100+ because this includes part-time as well as full-time work.]
No response 95 30%

Years in current position or mix of positions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-5 years</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10 years</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-15 years</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-20 years</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-25 years</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-30 years</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 30 years</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate salary in 2006 from folklore-related work:

- Under $5,000: 16 (8%)
- $5,000-$10,000: 10 (5)
- $10,000-$20,000: 15 (7)
- $20,000-$30,000: 6 (3)
- $30,000-$40,000: 22 (11)
- $40,000-$50,000: 37 (18)
- $50,000-$60,000: 28 (14)
- $60,000-$70,000: 30 (14)
- $70,000-$80,000: 11 (5)
- $80,000-$100,000: 20 (10)
- Over $100,000: 13 (6)
- No response: 107 (34%)

Average annual salary from folklore-related work, 2002-2006:

- Under $5,000: 23 (11%)
- $5,000-$10,000: 15 (7)
- $10,000-$20,000: 22 (11)
- $20,000-$30,000: 11 (5)
- $30,000-$40,000: 22 (11)
- $40,000-$50,000: 46 (22)
- $50,000-$60,000: 23 (11)
- $60,000-$70,000: 10 (5)
- $70,000-$80,000: 11 (5)
- $80,000-$90,000: 7 (3)
- $90,000-$100,000: 9 (4)
- Over $100,000: 7 (3)
- No response: 110 (35%)

Employees of a university/college:

**Department?** 159 responses; 52 different

Most frequently cited:

- English: 43 (27%)
- Folklore: 25 (16)
- Anthropology: 13 (8)
- Music: 8 (5)
4. Professional Identification

Do you identify yourself as a folklorist?

Y 151 52%
N 22 8
Sometimes 125 43
No response 26 8

If you answered No or Sometimes, how (or how else) do you identify yourself professionally?

147 responses, 79 different. The most frequently cited:

Anthropologist 24 16%
Writer 15 10
Ethnomusicologist 14 10
Ethnographer 10 7
English professor 7 5
Teacher 6 4

Do your colleagues identify you as a folklorist?
6. Other Society Memberships

538 responses from 247 respondents who answered this question:

Top societies mentioned:

- American Anthropological Association 36 15%
- Western States Folklore Society 26 11%
- Society for Ethnomusicology 20 8
- Modern Language Association 17 7
- American Studies Association 12 5
- New York Folklore Society 12 5
- International Society for Folk Narrative Research 10 4
- Middle Atlantic Folklife Association 10 4

A few more follow with 6-7 responses, then none gets more than 3-4.

6. AFS Membership and Participation

How long have you been an AFS member?

- <1 year 20 7%
- 1-5 years 46 16
- 6-10 years 42 15
- 10-20 years 75 26
- 20+ years 104 36

No response 28 9%

How important is your membership in the AFS for each of the following?

Percentage of respondents answering “very important” or “somewhat important”:

- To keep abreast of research and methodology in the field of folklore. 272 95%
- To establish, develop, and sustain my professional relationships. 252 88%
- To express my professional responsibility and identity. 247 86%
To see people with whom I want to have a personal or social relationship. 228 79%
To provide an opportunity for reading and discussion across the disciplines. 219 76%
To represent my field to the larger public. 202 70%
To present papers at AFS annual meetings. 196 68%
To contribute actively in support of my profession (via committees or governance). 154 54%
To publish my work in the *Journal of American Folklore*. 125 44%
To involve my students in the field. 91 32%
To improve my teaching skills. 89 31%
To help in finding employment. 85 30%

**Have you engaged in these AFS activities or used these AFS services in the past 3 years?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obtained information from the AFS website.</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read the <em>Journal of American Folklore</em></td>
<td>249</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read the <em>AFSNews</em> or the newsletter of an AFS section</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voted in AFS elections</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred to the AFS member directory</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used AFS resources to locate information regarding ethical standards for the field.</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended the AFS annual meeting without being in the program.</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented a paper, participated in a forum/workshop, or served as a discussant at an AFS annual meeting.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organized a session at an AFS annual meeting.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used AFS resources to locate a fellowship or grant opportunity.</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published a review in <em>JAF</em></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted items for the <em>AFSNews</em> or the newsletter of an AFS section</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published an article in <em>JAF</em></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made financial contributions, such as gifts or bequests to AFS, over and above required membership dues</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated someone for an AFS section prize</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Served as a member of an AFS committee</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received an AFS prize or an AFS section prize</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Served in an editorial capacity for JAF 19 7
Nominated someone for an elected AFS position (President, Executive Board, Nominating Committee) 13 5
Served in an elected AFS position (President, Executive Board, Nominating Committee) 13 5
No response 28 10%

7. American Folklore Society Present and Potential Activities

Please indicate [up to three] present Society activities you believe are the most important.

- Annual meeting 248 87%
- *Journal of American Folklore* 229 81
- AFS website 152 53
- Section activities 84 29
- *AFS News* 57 20

Special projects (e.g., Ethnographic Thesaurus, Veterans History Project, WIPO) 46 16%
Annual meeting travel stipends 19 7
Prizes 6 2
Other 2 1
No response 29 9%

If the AFS planned to eliminate one of its present activities, which would you recommend for elimination as of least importance to you?

- Don’t eliminate anything 40 20%
- Prizes 38 19
- *AFS News* 29 14
- Annual meeting travel stipends 24 12
- Section activities 20 10

Special projects 16 8%
- *Journal of American Folklore* 5 2
- Veterans History Project 4 2
- Ethnographic Thesaurus 2 1
- AFS website 2 1

Don’t know 10 5%
Other 5 2%
No response 114 36%

Does your employer provide financial support for you to attend the AFS annual meeting?
How much support does your employer provide for you to attend the AFS meeting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Level</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $100</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100-$300</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$300-$500</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500-$1000</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only registration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All expenses covered</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would your employer provide this support if you did not present a paper or participate in the meeting in some way?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the AFS, in trying to change its mission, could change one thing about the way it operates now, what single change would make the greatest positive difference?

The most frequently cited responses among more than 30 different answers:

- Diversify membership [e.g., more international (7), younger (6), racially diverse (3), and/or independent or unemployed (3) members] 25 16%
- Promote folklore/folklorists within the university and to the general public. 17 11%
- Promote contact with other disciplines and/or other professional organizations. 15 10%
- Make participation more affordable (inc. travel stipends (4) and scaled membership dues (2)) 12 8%
- Improve support for novices and job-seekers [inc., mentoring (3), advocacy for employment opportunities (3)]. 9 6%
- Change leadership 6 4%
- Improve the website [e.g., add information, discussion, improve navigation] 6 4%
- Change coverage in JAF [more public-sector folklore (2), American subjects (2), writing for more general readership (2)] 6 4%
Overcome perceived division between public-sector and academic folklore. 5 3
Provide more support of teaching [e.g., in high schools (2), develop textbook (1)] 4 3
Provide more meetings and/or regional retreats. 4 3
Advocate social/political policy for general audience. 4 3
Provide information about relevant meetings, conferences, publications for other organizations. 3 2
Raise funds. 2 1
Return to a print newsletter. 2 1
Don’t know 31 20
No response 160 51%

If the AFS could change one thing about the annual meeting, what would it be?

Be more selective in choosing papers 25 14%
Too many concurrent sessions 21 12
Make attendance more affordable 19 11
Promote more diversity among participants 16 9
No change 7 4
Provide more discussion sessions 6 3%
Provide more travel stipends 5 3
Choose more accessible host cities 5 3
Provide more time for Q&A, follow-up discussion 5 3
Provide more free time 4 2
Improve AV support 4 2%
Publish papers before and/or after the meeting 3 2
Don’t schedule the meeting in October 3 2
More poster sessions 3 2
Encourage novices to participate 3 2
Encourage senior members to participate more actively 3 2
Don’t know 17 10%
No response 139 44%
Please indicate the potential AFS activities [up to four] that you believe will be the most important in helping the Society reach its mission.

Create teams of folklorists to make effective long-term connections with related fields and disciplines. 122 45%

Advocacy concerning regional, national, and international cultural issues. 119 44

Produce additional multidisciplinary meetings on critical cultural issues, designed to place folklorists at the center of major cross-discipline conversations. 105 39

Serve as applicant organization, project manager, and coordinator for folklorists’ initiatives; e.g., “think tanks” to encourage the most creative new scholarship, a series of NEH teacher institutes or summer seminars, coordinated national documentation activities, public education projects with networks of libraries and museums. 102 38

Market our field to targeted audiences, including culturally diverse audiences, to build knowledge of the field and increase AFS membership. 101 37

Develop AFS services (financial support, meetings, mentoring, networking) specifically intended to encourage the production of folklore scholarship. [I put these here because they are close behind the top 5; there is a big drop off in the count for each activity after these. Cut or keep?] 96 36

Create or share engaging, innovative materials for folklore courses, both introductory and advanced. 85 32

Create teams of folklorists to make effective long-term connections with communities of color and relevant cultural institutions. 62 23

Provide activities and services to support greater international communication and exchange among folklorists. 57 21

Support independent folklorists. 36 13

Produce additional meetings on specific topics within the field. 32 12%

Develop new publications to serve new needs. 27 10

Improve the AFS website. 9 3

No response 45 14%