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BACKGROUND

- Women are under-represented in many academic fields, but receive 77% of doctoral degrees in clinical psychology.
- Despite earning the majority of doctoral degrees, gender disparities persist within the field. Women are under-represented in senior faculty roles and leadership positions and receive less compensation than male peers.
- The goal of this study was to assess women's participation in the 2014 annual meeting of ABCT. We assessed whether women's participation in various roles in the conference differed from their overall membership in ABCT and whether there have been changes in women's participation in these roles from 1998 through 2014.

METHOD

- Participation was coded using the program guide. Gender was coded as male, female or unknown based on the author's first name.
- In cases of ambiguous first names, we attempted to use additional autobiographical information to code author gender.
- Percentage of female participants was calculated for each category of participation in the conference (e.g., poster first author, symposium discussant, etc.).
- We compared the proportion of female participants to the overall 2014 ABCT membership statistics (52% female, 4859 members) using chi-square analyses.
- Change in women's participation from 1998 to 2014 was assessed using Z-scores to test for differences in proportions.

RESULTS

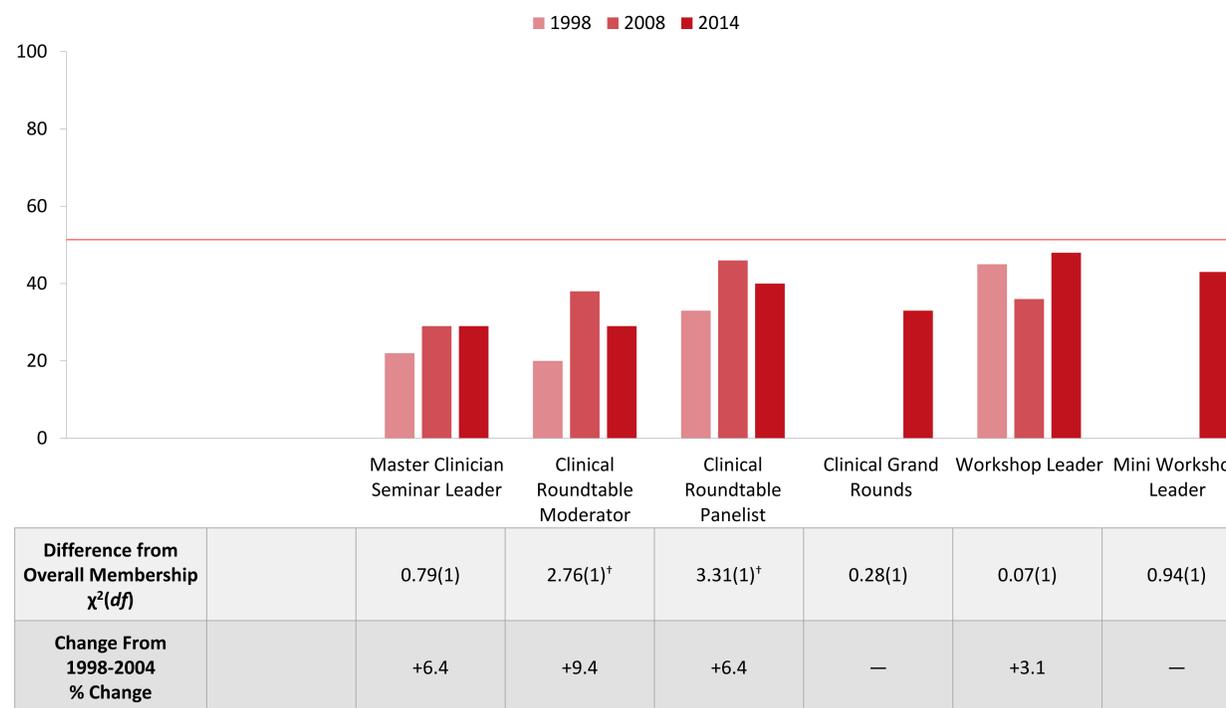
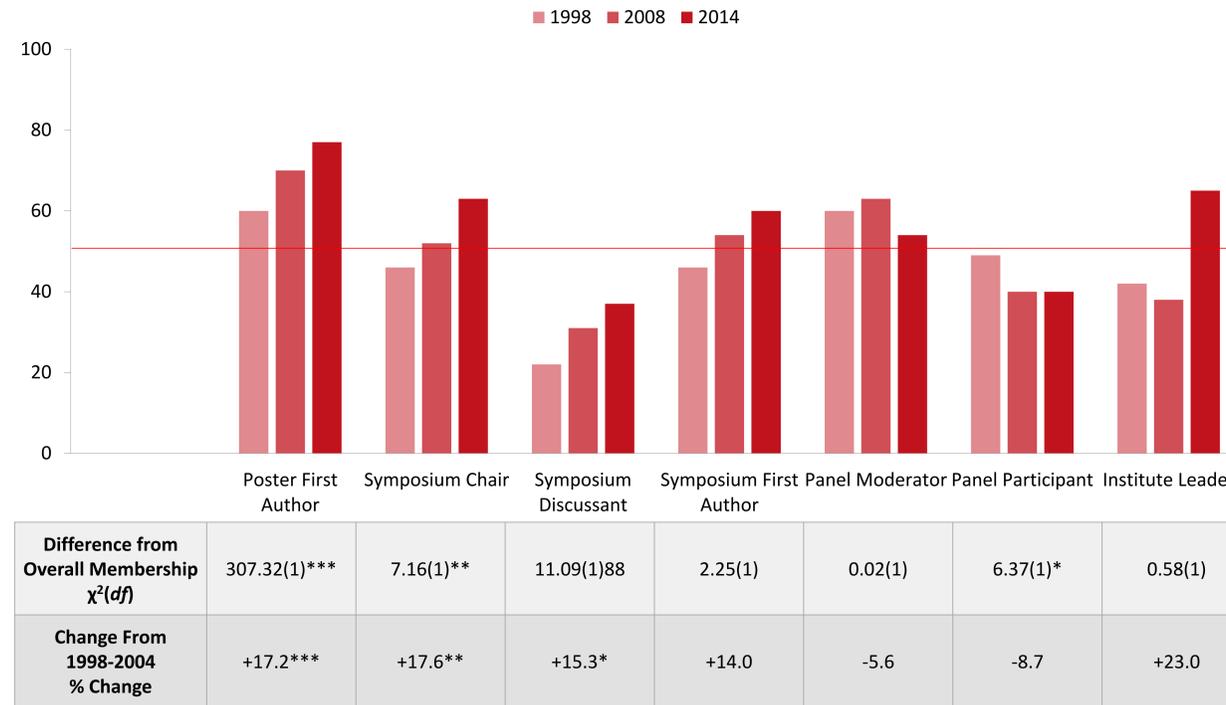


Figure 1. Percentage of women participating in ABCT's annual meeting in various roles in 1998, 2008 and 2014. The horizontal red lines indicate the proportion of members of ABCT who were women in 2014 (52%).

RESULTS Continued

	% Women (n)	First Woman Awardee
ABCT President	21 (10/48)	1981
Career/Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient	19 (4/21)	2009
Outstanding Researcher Award Recipient	29 (2/7)	1995
President's New Researcher Award Recipient	31 (11/36)	1979
Dissertation Award Recipient	79 (23/29)	1998
Outstanding Clinician Award Recipient	50 (3/6)	1999
Outstanding Educator/Trainer Award Recipient	17 (1/6)	2012
Outstanding Mentor Award Recipient	20 (1/5)	2014
Outstanding Service to ABCT Award Recipient	50 (13/26)	2000

Table 1. Women in ABCT leadership and awards.

DISCUSSION

- Our results suggest that patterns of gender discrepancy that are pervasive in academia and clinical psychology as a whole are also present within ABCT.
- Women are over-represented in roles characteristic of early-career stages, such as poster authors. Women are under-represented in positions associated with later career stages, such as participation in panel discussions and symposia.
- Women's participation in different roles in the conference has increased over time, especially as recipients of awards.
- ABCT should consider ways in which the recruitment and retention of women within the organization can be supported, especially at more advanced career stages.