

# *Clarinet On Campus*

by  
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Dean, Michael. Clarinet On Campus: Catalogue of Results From a Survey of Clarinet Teachers at Colleges and Universities in the United States. Cedar City, UT: LMB Resources, 1997.

## **BACKGROUND**

There are approximately 1100 individuals teaching the clarinet in some capacity at baccalaureate and graduate degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States (College Music Society, 1994). Surprisingly, there is very limited information available on clarinet instruction and very little research has been done. Therefore, the following project has been produced: A database of information on clarinet instruction in the United States. The purpose of the database is to provide information on the state of clarinet teaching at colleges and universities in the United States.

The database was built using information compiled from a survey of 1078 clarinet teachers at colleges and universities listed in the College Music Society's Directory of Music Faculties in Colleges and Universities, U.S. and Canada 1994-95. Only clarinet teachers at baccalaureate and graduate degree-granting institutions were surveyed -- not those at junior colleges or other two-year schools.

The College Music Society offers a mailing label service of those listed in the directory. Two sets of 1268 pressure-sensitive mailing labels (1268 professors listed as teaching either clarinet or woodwinds if clarinet was not listed as being taught) were generated by the College Music Society. After all junior colleges and other two-year schools were eliminated, 1078 remained qualified for this study.

Using the two sets of 1078 labels, the clarinet professors were surveyed in two "waves" to increase the survey response. In the first mailing, or "wave," each professor was sent a cover letter (explaining the survey), the survey itself, and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Three weeks later the second "wave" of surveys was mailed. Every professor received the same materials as previously mailed; however, a new cover letter was included.

The actual survey return was 37% (396 surveys), slightly higher than expected for a survey of this kind. Three surveys were invalidated and eliminated, bringing the number of usable surveys to a total of 393.

The survey data was entered into a computer database using the Microsoft Access database program (from Microsoft Office Professional version 4.3 for Windows). The database was then exported into the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences statistical analysis package.

Frequency reports for each question were generated and summarized in tabular and graphical form. Accompanying each of the summaries are comments that concern usability, data characteristics, and other information not found in the data summaries.

## **CLARINET INSTRUCTION SURVEY**

The survey questions focused on three areas: Institution -- colleges and universities offering clarinet instruction, Students -- college clarinet pupils, and Clarinet Teacher -- clarinet professors.

The questions in the Institution section (the first part of the survey) provided information on "where the clarinet instruction was occurring." The issues in this section were generally concerned with areas "beyond the control" of the clarinet professor. This section provided data on School Characteristics, Music Faculty, Ensemble/Scholarship Opportunities, Recruiting, and Specializations/Degrees Offered.

The Students section reported survey results on "who was being taught the clarinet." It provided information on Numbers Of Students, Lessons/Instruction, Requirements, and Work Information.

The final section, Clarinet Teacher, looked at survey results on "who was teaching the clarinet." It dealt with survey data on Teaching, Clarinet Playing, Degrees/Experience, Rank/Salary, and Demographic Information.

*Clarinet On Campus* is available at [www.vcisinc.com/clarinet.htm](http://www.vcisinc.com/clarinet.htm)