



**What's in a Number?
Sample Board Size / Total Membership Ratios
for IABC Pacific Plains Region Chapters**

Chapter	Board Size	Board Roles	Membership	Board to Membership Ratio
<i>Seattle</i>	7	Pres, Past Pres, VP-PD, VP-M, VP-C, Secy, Web Dir. <i>Vacant = Pres Elect</i>	86	8.14%
<i>Orange County</i>	20	Pres, Past Pres, VP-PD (2), VP-M (2), VP-F, VP-Spons, VP-C, VP-LD/Marcom (2), VP-SM, VP-Admin, Dir.-CVENT, Dir.-Events (2), Web Mgr. <i>Vacant = Pres-Elect, VP-Student Ed.</i>	83	24.10%
<i>Omaha</i>	12	Pres, Past Pres, Pres-Elect, President's Counsel, VP-PD, VP-M, VP-F (2), VP-Spons, VP-C, VP-Admin, Webmaster. <i>Vacant = None.</i>	43	27.90%
<i>San Diego</i>	20	Pres, Past Pres, Pres-Elect, VP-Marcom, VP-Programs, VP-Careers, VP-F, VP-Admin, Dir.-Recruitment, Dir.-	101	19.80%

		Retention, Dir.-PD, Dir.-ABC (2), Dir.-Spons, Dir.-SM, Dir.-Events, Dir.-Mentorship, Dir.-Web Content, Dir.-SIGs, Dir.-Student Outreach. <i>Vacant = None.</i>		
Silicon Valley	9	Pres, Past Pres, VP-PD (2), VP-Volunteers, VP-F, VP-C, VP-Spons, VP-M. <i>Vacant = Pres-Elect?</i>	152	5.92%
Minnesota	13	Pres, Past Pres, Pres-Elect, Secy, VP-F, VP-C (2), VP-Recognition, VP-PD (2), VP-Connections, VP-M, Dir.-Brand. <i>Vacant = None.</i>	263	4.94%
Great Plains	7	Pres, Past Pres, Pres-Elect/Membership, Secy/Comms, Treasurer, Dir.-PD, ABC Liaison. <i>Vacant = None.</i>	42	16.60%
Los Angeles	7	Pres, Pres-Elect, VP-F, VP-C, VP-M, VP-Events, VP-Student Rels. <i>Vacant = Past Pres?</i>	128	5.47%
Iowa	13	Pres, Past Pres, Pres-Elect, VP-PD, VP-C, VP-M, VP-Recognition, VP-Careers/Admin., VP-F, VP-LD, Dir.-PD, Newsletter Ed., SM Ed. <i>Vacant = None.</i>	70	18.57%

Why Board Size Matters

Too many = Inefficient processes, unclear accountabilities, high risk of “board politics.”

Too few = No time for strategic thinking, too much time serving double-duty in board/committee roles, high risk of burnout.

Just right = Lean, efficient board is able to create goals, set policies, manage resources and measure success year-over-year.

Another Way to Think About It

The “Titanic” test = If your chapter (like the ship) was sinking fast and there was limited room in the lifeboat, what key board leadership roles would you fight to save?

Speed Exercise

Take 5-7 minutes to assess your current board situation against these questions:

- 1) What current roles **absolutely** need to be board-level jobs, and why?
- 2) How many current board roles are **vital** to developing/driving chapter strategy, versus implementing tactical outcomes?
- 3) Does the chapter **evaluate** board roles to reflect changing times and demonstrated value?
- 4) If someone asked you to define the **difference** between a board-level role and a committee role in your chapter, what would you say?
- 5) Does your chapter have a **process** for moving high-potential members into volunteer, board and top leadership roles? If so, what is it?

