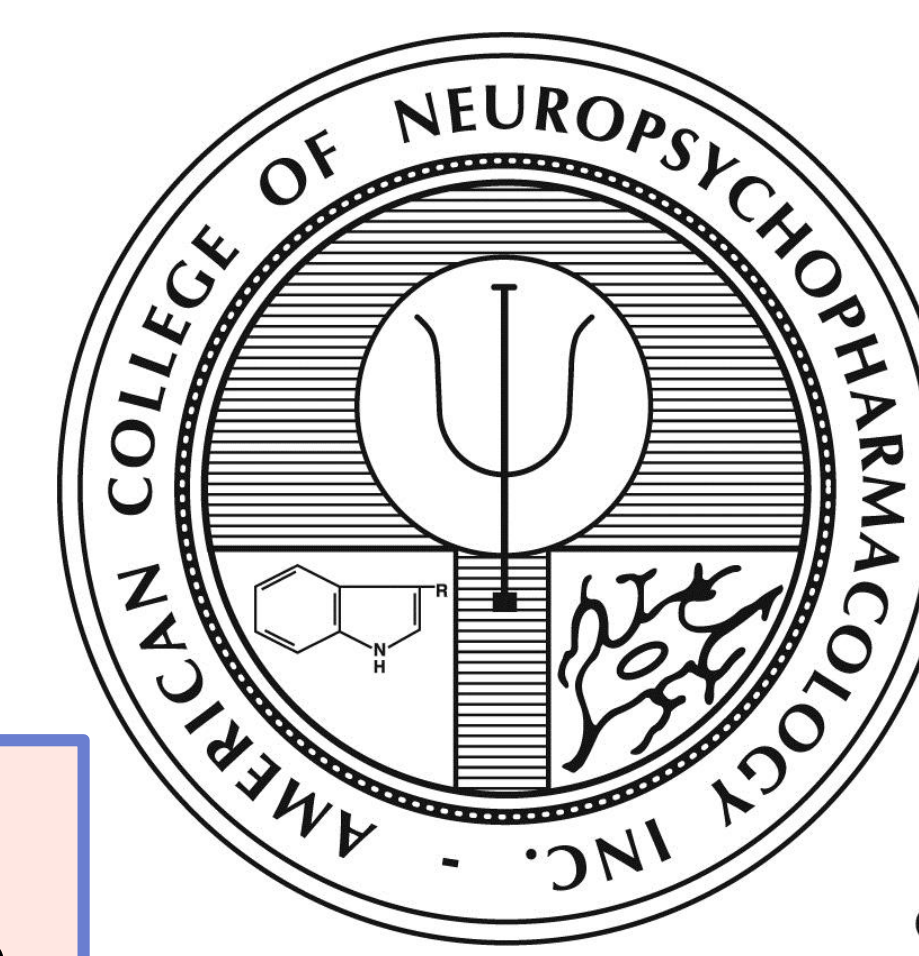




# Demystifying the ACNP Membership Application Process

## 2015 Membership Advisory Task Force Report



### Mission and Goals:

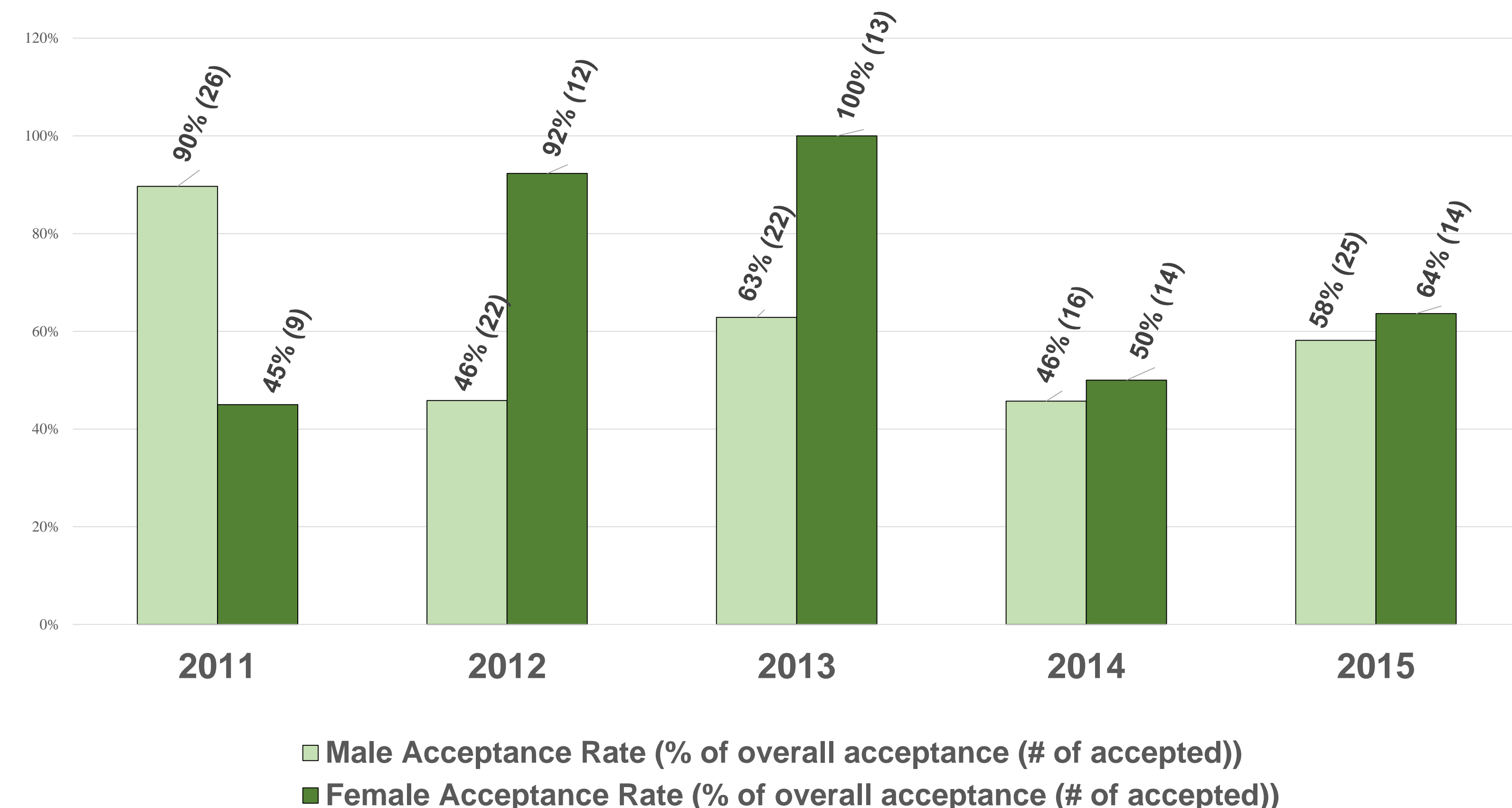
- Reach out to early career researchers who might consider membership in ACNP and track interest among past travel awardees.
- Enhance the experience of individuals who are new members in the College.
- Increase transparency of the overall membership process.
- Develop ways to increase mutual exposure and exchange ideas among future members, new members and established members.

### Methods:

- Develop programs to engage Associate Members and past ACNP travel awardees.
- Conduct annual surveys to evaluate impact of new initiatives and changes over the past year.
- Prepare and disseminate information relevant to prospective ACNP Members on the website and through personal communications.
- Interview Council Members and Membership Committee Members to capture various perspectives concerning Associate Members

### Membership Application Statistics 2011-2015

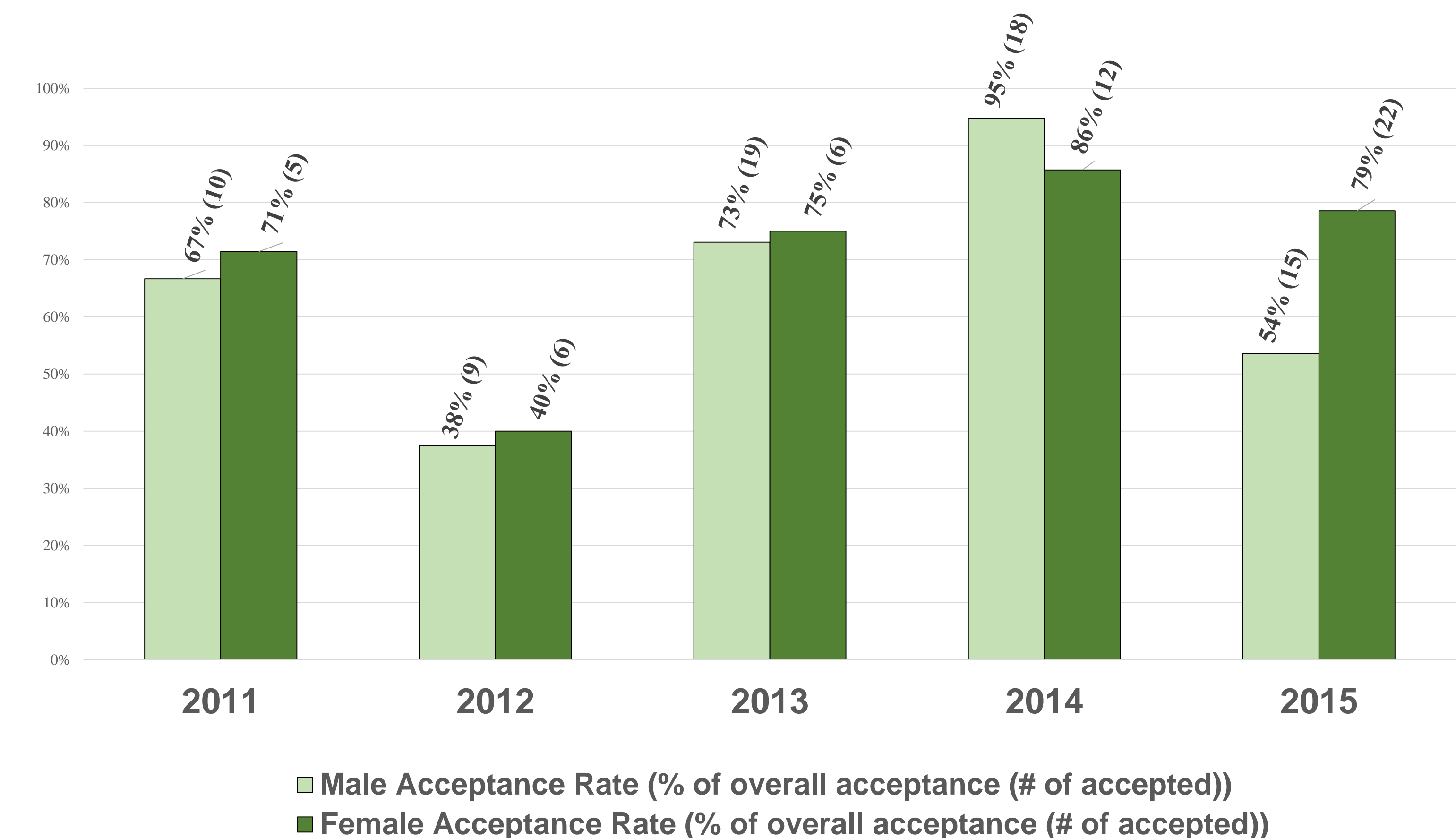
#### Member Acceptance Rate



#### CONSIDERATIONS:

- Size and quality of applicant pool can vary from year to year.
- There are a limited number of member slots to be filled each year. ACNP Bylaws are designed to preserve the small, intimate nature of the organization.
- The number of available membership slots increased for 2014 applicants, thanks to work from the Bottleneck Task Force.
- Number of female applicants may be increasing due to recent policy change allowing members to nominate more than one candidate when the second nominee is a female or minority.
- The number of available new membership slots is calculated based on the guidelines outlined in Article III of the ACNP By-Laws.
  - Base number of open slots each year - 45.
  - Plus the number of deaths in the previous year.
  - Plus the number of approved for Emeritus in the previous year.
  - Plus the number of members expelled or resigned in the previous year.
  - Equals total new Member and Associate Member slots available.

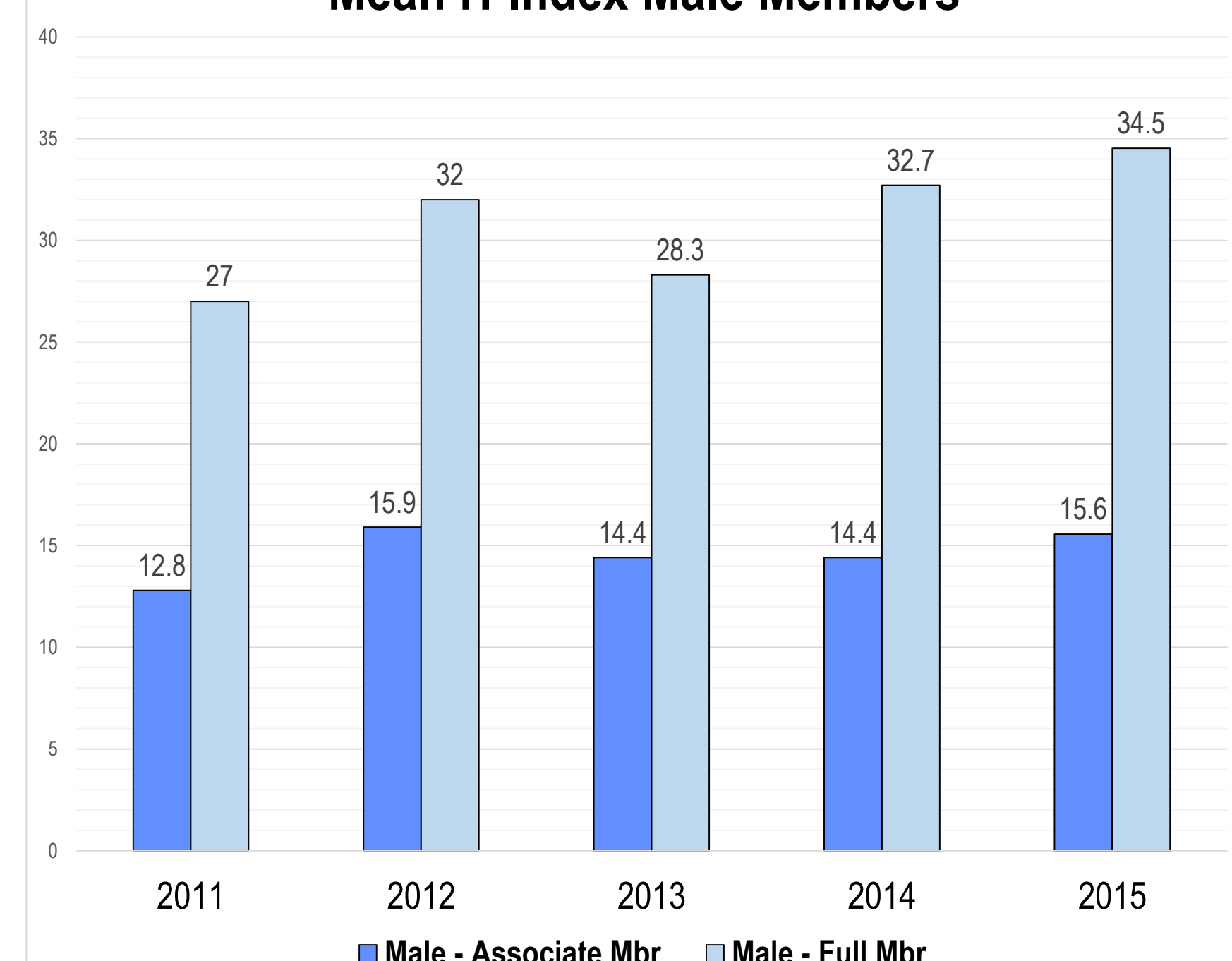
#### Associate Member Acceptance Rate



#### Mean H-Index Female Members



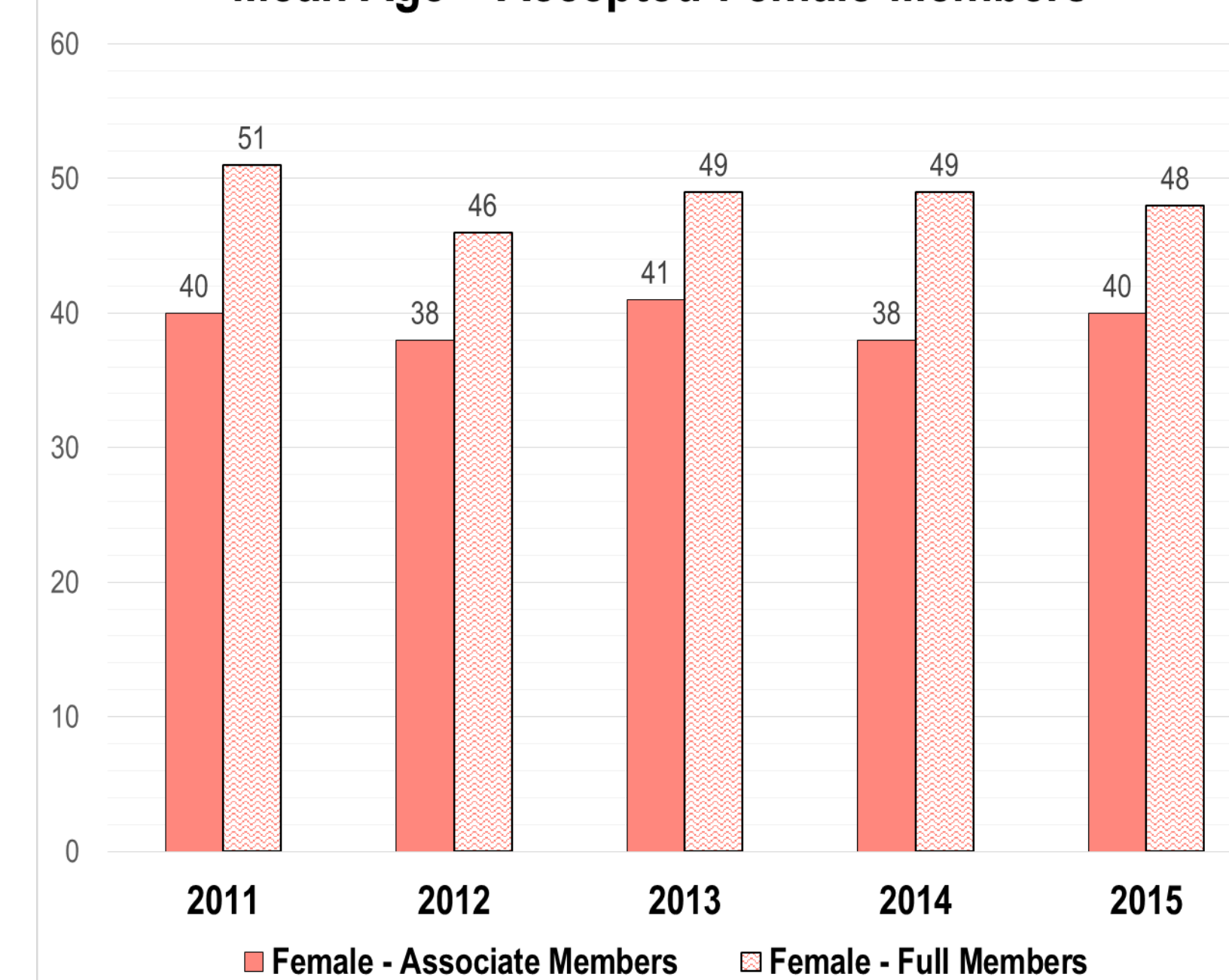
#### Mean H-Index Male Members



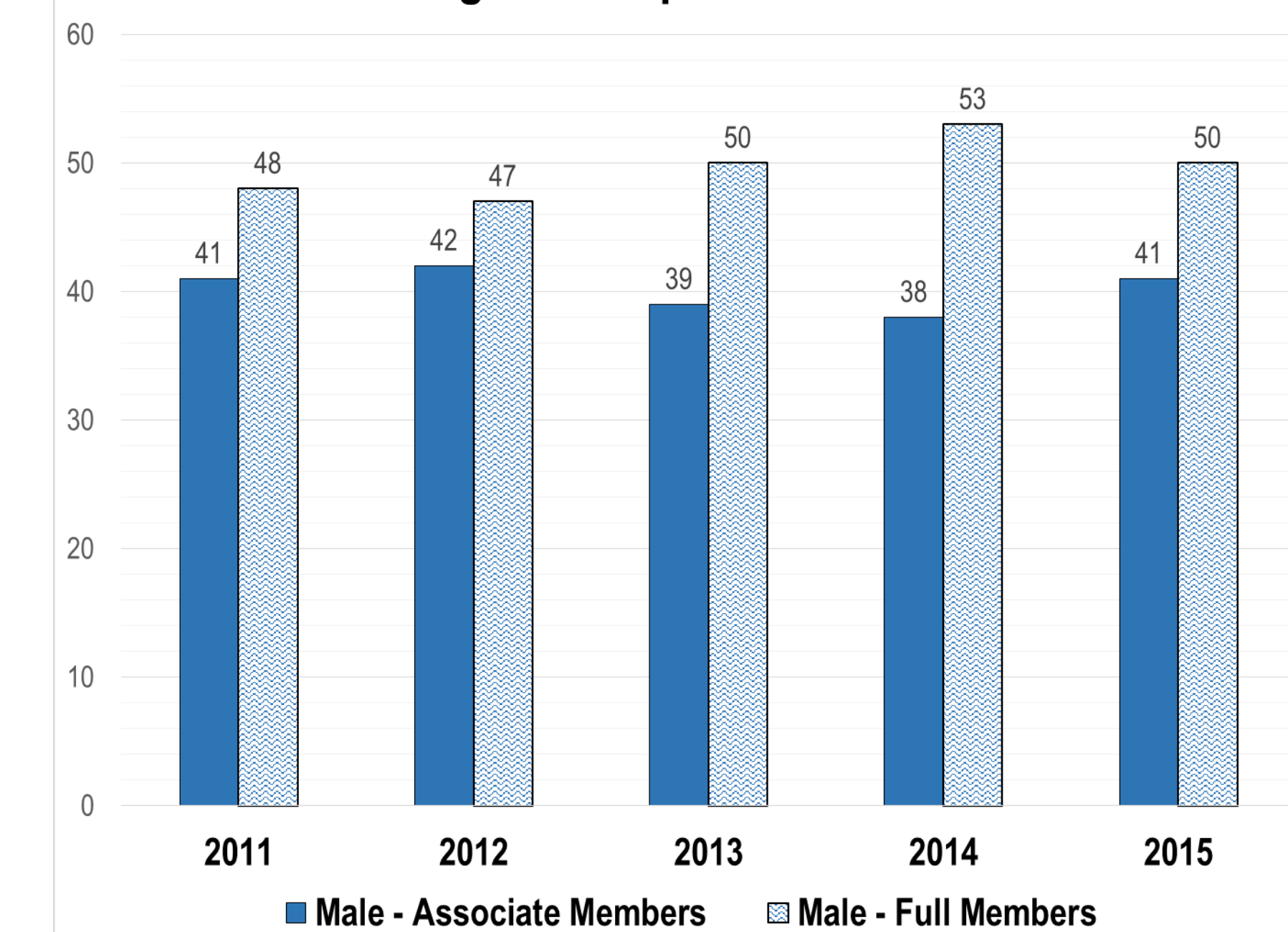
The committee has standardized the ascertainment and requires each member applicant to obtain a unique author identifier from Web of Science, ResearcherID. This is how ACNP calculates h-index.

The age and h-index in the charts is at the time of the applicant's acceptance

#### Mean Age - Accepted Female Members



#### Mean Age - Accepted Male Members



### Summary of Task Force Activities

- Present posters at Annual Meetings to share survey results and statistics about recent membership classes.
- Develop and write information pieces such as membership FAQs for posting on the website and for inclusion in the printed Bulletin.
- Individual email correspondence with past Travel Awardees to follow up after annual meeting and to introduce/reinforce role of Membership Advisory Task Force.
- Interview Council Members and Membership Committee Members to capture various perspectives on issues related to Associate Members.
- Plan and implement Career Development Sessions during the 2014 and 2015 Annual Meetings focusing on topics selected by Associate Members.

2015 Panel Session: "The Nuts and Bolts of ACNP Membership"

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

- Short-term goals of the committee based on feedback from survey responses include focusing this year's panel on the membership process.
- Host reception during Annual Meeting to welcome Associate Members, enhance networking opportunities and promote access to Council.
- Report to Council about the perceptions/needs of individuals considering membership application and identify strategies to address possible barriers.

### Survey Data 2015

#### Percent with Affirmative Response ("Very Much"/"Much" or "Yes")

	Associate Members		Past Travel Awardees	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
I feel it is easy to contact someone when I have a question about ACNP	75%	86%	72%	65%
I have visited the ACNP website to address questions regarding the organization/membership	71%	89%	59%	59%
My own academic institution places high value on ACNP membership status when evaluating faculty or promotion.	52%	54%	54%	53%
I am familiar with the steps taken by ACNP to make the selection process more transparent	67%	78%	58%	55%
How would you rate ACNP in terms of how welcoming you feel the College is for potential members?	55%	82%	66%	57%
Do you intend to apply for ACNP full membership in the future?	95%	96%	82%	96%
Do you anticipate you will achieve full membership the first time you submit an application?	26%	21%	20%	Not asked
Do you anticipate you will eventually achieve full membership status, even if it requires several rounds of application?	79%	80%	53%	59%

#### Membership Advisory Task Force

Christina Barr, Chair  
 Vaishali Bakshi, Co-Chair  
 Elisabeth Binder  
 Melissa Brotman  
 Raymond Cho  
 Cynthia Crawford  
 Erika Forbes  
 Margaret Haney  
 Daniel Mueller  
 James Murrough  
 Srijan Sen  
 Philip Szeszko  
 Karen Szumlinski  
 Kay Tye  
 Aristotile Voineskos  
 Marina Wolf

Task Force Members wish to thank ACNP Council for the development and support of the Membership Advisory Task Force. We are delighted that in response to concerns from ACNP leadership, and with input from the membership and a pool of potential members, changes have been implemented to the ACNP to encourage active participation of early career members who represent future members of the College.