

2024 Membership Secretary Report
Prepared for the 2024 GAMM

The past year has primarily involved setting up the new membership management software (MMS) and transitioning from Forum (provided via the Federation) to Wild Apricot (WA). In general, the transition was smooth albeit a little slow due to my own workload outside the Society. Overall, numbers are up from 72 active members before the 2023 GAMM to 97 members as of June 6, 2024. We have around 10 members whose files were transferred from Forum but have not activated on WA, so part of my job this summer will be in reaching out to these folks individually and ensuring everyone who signed up for membership between the time we stopped using Forum and when the Federation de-activated Forum for us, as well as these members who remain inactivated, are all set on the new system.

The level of membership has increased to bring in more funds as well:

	2023	2024
Sponsor (\$100)	12	12
Supporter (\$70)	7	13
Standard (\$40)	23	42
Fixed income, student, unwaged ¹ (\$10)	30	n/a
Student (\$10)	n/a	17
Fixed Income (\$10)	n/a	10
Unwaged (\$10)	n/a	3

I think a great deal of this can be attributed to the excellent conference programme put together this year; many new members came in prior to the March 31, 2024 early bird registration deadline for the conference. This is to be expected based on how membership changes year-over-year, but after the past few years or either no conference or no working/reliable MMS, I'm very pleased with where society membership is.

¹ On Forum this was one category; it is now three separate categories.

For 2024-2025

In the coming year I will be convening the membership committee, finally! To that end I welcome any members in good standing to join the membership committee either by volunteering at the GAMM or by emailing me at membershipsocialiststudies@gmail.com.

If there's an appetite for it from the membership and executive committee, I would also like to convene a larger meeting of members as an online focus group to ask what members want out of the Society beyond the conference. In the past, we've held online talks (during the pandemic and when annual conferences were cancelled), and with WA we have more capabilities such as forums and job/volunteer boards.

On a final note, this will be my final year as Membership Secretary. I was the first one elected to the position when it was newly created, and came back into the role following a resignation last year. That being said, in the coming year I will also be looking for folks interested in growing the membership of the Society and ultimately running as Membership Secretary in 2025.