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Comments Received:

I am writing in opposition to the plan to eliminate the Academic Libraries survey from IPEDS. As an academic librarian at a small liberal arts college, I have used the IPEDS data to inform decisions about our services and to advocate for funding and staff to our administration. Furthermore, the unique longitudinal data of the Academic Libraries survey provides crucial information about changes and trends in college and university libraries. Although we are a small library, we gladly take the time and effort to complete the survey each year because we value the process of gathering our data in addition to the information we get from IPEDS. If there is a way to continue to collect national information about academic libraries in a more streamlined way--one that will better meet the needs and constraints of NCES--the academic library community would certainly be willing to help come to a mutually satisfactory solution.