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I'll be brief and direct. We live a data-driven world. Decisions are made with data and good data is needed to make good decisions. Eliminating the Academic Libraries survey is a mistake.

The survey makes it possible to make informed, competent, and useful decisions concerning budgeting and service needs of these libraries. Without this data, libraries will be hamstrung to serve the American people who use them. Eliminating the survey also runs the dangerous risk that the libraries will be forgotten when it comes to budgeting and financial support them.

The United States is largest holder of the world's information because of our library systems, both private and public. If we want to lead, we have to protect our sources of knowledge and that includes our college and university libraries. In order to accomplish this, we must have relevant and sound data that serves as the basis for good budgeting decisions. The Academic Library survey provides that data. Please support the libraries by rejecting the proposal to do away with the survey. Thank you.