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I strongly oppose the plan to eliminate the Academic Libraries survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics.

As a school librarian with a Master's in Library Science, I understand the critical role of data in assessing and enhancing library services. The unique longitudinal data provided by the Academic Libraries survey is invaluable in tracing changes and trends within college and university libraries over time. This data offers a wealth of information that influences decision-making, policy formulation, and the strategic planning of library services.

In my role as a school librarian, I have used the Academic Libraries survey data to understand broader trends and inform the recommendations I make for preparing our students for academic success at the college level. For instance, insights into digital resource usage, library funding, and service innovations from the survey enable me to align our school library programs with the evolving expectations and needs of higher education institutions.

Eliminating this survey would create a significant gap in the data available to library professionals, educators, and policymakers. This data is crucial for advocating and shaping the future of academic libraries, ensuring they continue to support student success, research, and lifelong learning.

I urge the National Center for Education Statistics to continue the Academic Libraries survey to maintain the integrity and continuity of this essential data collection.

Thank you for considering my position.

Sincerely,
James Allen
School Librarian