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I oppose the plan to eliminate the Academic Libraries survey. I am a student and a public library assistant. The unique longitudinal data of the Academic Libraries survey provides crucial information about changes and trends in college and university libraries. I use the school data bases often and know that the removal of the AL component from IPEDS—a mandatory and therefore comprehensive reporting system—will deprive institutions of the ability to effectively benchmark with peers for purposes of investment and resource allocation, particularly with respect to student enrollment and success.

Given the value of this academic library data and the risks inherent in its elimination, I would strongly support work towards a solution that preserves this annual data collection.