

**Author Full Name :** James Darlack**Received Date :** 06/20/2024 05:25 PM**Comments Received :**

As Senior Director of the O. Cope Budge Library at Vanguard University, I would like to express my disappointment that the OIRA is removing the collection of library data from yearly reports to IPEDS. The IPEDS library survey has served as a critical tool for collecting comprehensive data on academic libraries, contributing to informed decision-making and accountability at Vanguard University. The O. Cope Budge Library plays an indispensable role in supporting teaching, learning, and research endeavors at Vanguard University, providing access to scholarly resources, expertise, and essential services. The IPEDS library survey enables benchmarking, comparison, and assessment of Vanguard University's library resources and services, fostering collaboration and improvement efforts with other libraries, while also providing the essential data necessary for our university to demonstrate compliance with accreditation requirements. The data derived from the IPEDS library survey is essential for conducting research, informing policy decisions, and understanding trends and challenges in academic librarianship. Because this data is required from all Universities receiving Federal Aid, and because this data is available without cost to institutions seeking benchmarking data, the IPEDS Library Survey is unsurpassed by any other data collection endeavor. Removing this aspect of the IPEDS data would limit the ability to make data-informed decisions particularly among small independent universities like Vanguard.