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I oppose the plan to eliminate the Academic Libraries survey. I am advocating as a member of the American Library Association and a librarian. I work in a university library as an archivist. I hold a MLIS, which is the terminal degree for librarians, as well as a second masters degree.

The data of the Academic Libraries survey provides crucial information about changes and trends in college and university libraries. The Academic Libraries survey makes it possible to understand budget, staffing, and service trends in college and university libraries. These data also allow individual academic libraries to benchmark compared to their institutional peers.

In short, the Academic Libraries survey enables college and university administrators to make educated, data-driven decisions regarding policy and budget. To take away this resource would take away necessary data, and leave policymakers to make decisions about resource allocation based on guesswork. It would be just plain fiscally irresponsible.

Thank you for your time.