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I oppose the plan to eliminate the Academic Libraries survey. I am an Associate Dean at a University Library who compiles and uses the benchmarking data provided by the IPEDS library survey.

The IPEDS library survey has long been recognized as a critical tool for collecting comprehensive data on academic libraries. It serves as a cornerstone for informed decision-making, fostering collaboration, and promoting accountability in higher education. Academic libraries play an indispensable role in supporting teaching, learning, and research endeavors within institutions of higher education, providing access to scholarly resources, expertise, and essential services.

The data derived from the IPEDS library survey is invaluable for conducting research, informing policy decisions, and understanding trends and challenges in academic librarianship. Furthermore, transparency and public accountability in higher education are greatly enhanced through the standardized, reliable data provided by IPEDS, including library statistics.