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Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to urge you to please retain the Academic Libraries Survey. As a librarian with more than 30 years' experience I can attest that the ALS is a key data resource for untold numbers of librarians in academic libraries of all sizes across the U.S. Librarians use it in a variety of areas of library management including print collection management, digital collection management, Interlibrary Loan Services planning and development and Budgeting and Financial Management.

I know from discussions with colleagues that many of them use information from the ALS (just as my dean does at our library) in their discussions with the administrators of their institutions about their library budgets. This information is very useful to a librarian when she or he needs to meet with administrators to advocate for an increase in the library's budget or to defend against budget cuts.

We academic librarians are soldiers in an army that is engaged in a war to defeat ignorance and hate and to bring the light of truth and understanding to the next generation of our country's and the world's citizens. If you remove the Academic Libraries Survey it is my considered opinion that you would be removing a vital tool from our arsenal and making our fight much more difficult. I urge you to continue to fight alongside us by keeping the Academic Libraries Survey.

Thank You,
Leslie M. Brown