Faculty Survey 2009

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ITHAKA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping the academic community take full advantage of rapidly advancing information and networking technologies. We serve scholars, researchers, and students by providing the content, tools, and services needed to preserve the scholarly record and to advance research and teaching in sustainable ways. We are committed to working in collaboration with other organizations to maximize benefits to our stakeholders.
Our Services

• **Ithaka S+R** works with initiatives and organizations to develop sustainable business models and conducts research and analysis on the impact of digital media on the academic community as a whole.

• **JSTOR** helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive of over 1,000 academic journals and other content. JSTOR uses information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship.

• **Portico** preserves scholarly literature published in electronic form—more than 10,000 e-journals and 28,000 e-books—and ensures that these materials remains accessible to future scholars, researchers, and students.
Overview

• Introduction and Methodology

• The Roles of the Library

• The Print-to-Electronic Transition for Scholarly Journals
  – Current Issues
  – Backfiles

• E-books

• Scholarly communications

• Discussion
Faculty Survey 2009: Background & Methodology


- In September of 2009, 35,184 surveys were mailed to academics at U.S. colleges and universities. We received 3,025 completed responses, for an 8.7% response rate.

- Findings have consistency over time and can be used to build hypotheses but should not be interpreted conclusively.

- The respondents are faculty at U.S. higher education institutions:
  - No graduate or undergraduate students
  - No international institutions or community colleges
  - Arts & sciences fields, education, law, engineering, and business, but no health sciences
### Stratifications

#### Title

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>1122</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grouping</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Roles of the Library
Typically, when YOU are conducting academic research, which of these four starting points do you use to begin locating information for your research?

- The library building
- Your online library catalog
- A general purpose search engine on the World Wide Web such as Google or Yahoo
- A specific electronic research resource / computer database
Library access roles perceived as declining

Starting point for research identified by faculty, in 2003, 2006, and 2009
Some noteworthy disciplinary differences

Starting point for research identified by faculty, by discipline

- The library building
- Your online library catalog
- A general purpose search engine
- A specific electronic research resource

Graph showing differences in starting points for research by discipline:
- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Science
But even in the humanities, local gateways are declining

Starting point for research identified by humanities faculty, in 2003, 2006, and 2009

Your online library catalog: 2003, 2006, 2009
But faculty feel *more* dependent on the library than they have…

Percent of faculty indicating they are very dependent on their library for research they conduct
Roles of the library

How important is it to you that your college or university library provides each of the functions below?

• Gateway: The library is a starting point or “gateway” for locating information for my research
• Archive: The library is a repository of resources – in other words, it archives, preserves, and keeps track of resources
• Buyer: The library pays for resources I need, from academic journals to books to electronic databases
• Teaching support: The library supports and facilitates my teaching activities
• Research support: The library provides active support that helps to increase the productivity of my research and scholarship
The buyer role is most important…

How important are each of these roles of the library? 2009
...and only the buyer role has grown in importance

Percent of faculty rating these roles of the library as very important, in 2003, 2006, and 2009
Humanists value functions more, but the buyer role dominates

Percent of faculty rating these roles of the library as very important, by disciplinary grouping

- Gateway
- Archive
- Buyer
- Teaching support
- Research support

Humanities
Social Sciences
Science
The gateway role is in decline across all disciplinary groups

Percent of faculty rating these roles of the library as very important, by discipline, 2003, 2006, 2009
Possible implications for the library

• Continue to invest in the buying role?

• Consider carefully investments in providing “gateway” services?

• Take advantage of strong current relationships with humanists to build durable roles for the library that can withstand discovery disintermediation?

• Why such disciplinary differences for the research support and teaching support roles?
Journal Current Issues
Support for cancelling print versions grows further

Strong agreement with statement: “If my library cancelled the current issues of a print version of a journal but continued to make them available electronically, that would be fine with me.”

![Bar chart showing support for cancelling print versions from 2003 to 2009.]

- 2003: 50%
- 2006: 60%
- 2009: 70%
With all disciplinary groups favoring the transition

Extent to which respondents agree with the statement:
“If my library cancelled the current issues of a print version of a journal but continued to make them available electronically, that would be fine with me.”

[Bar chart showing the extent of agreement across Humanities, Social Sciences, and Sciences, with disciplines favoring the transition.]
Strong agreement with statement:
“I am completely comfortable with journals I use regularly ceasing print versions and publishing in electronic-only form”

But winding down print publishing may be more challenging
Journal current issues

• Broad acceptance, even among most humanities fields, of the cancellation of print in favor of electronic journal acquisitions

• Some reservations about ceasing print publication altogether:
  – Preservation?
  – Reputation?

• Publishers and libraries alike are eager to identify responsible strategies to wind down print publishing
Journal Backfiles
Strong agreement with the statement:
“Assuming that electronic collections of journals are proven to work well and are readily accessible, I would be happy to see hard-copy collections discarded and replaced entirely by electronic collections.”

Support for discarding print backfiles nearly doubles
Strong agreement with the statement:
“Assuming that electronic collections of journals are proven to work well and are readily accessible, I would be happy to see hard-copy collections discarded and replaced entirely by electronic collections.”

With key disciplinary differences among faculty.
Strong agreement with the statements:
“Regardless of how reliable and safe electronic collections of journals are, it will always be crucial for _______ to maintain hard-copy collections of journals.”

Decreasing need to retain print, local and remote
Strong agreement with the statement: “Regardless of how reliable and safe electronic collections of journals are, it will always be crucial for _______ to maintain hard-copy collections of journals.”

My college or university library
Some college or university library

Support for print collections may continue to erode
The overall context

- Faculty are becoming increasingly prepared for and indeed “happy” about the format transition for academic journal backfiles.

- As print collections are digitized, many libraries face growing pressure to reduce the size of their corresponding print collections – and opportunities to redirect resources to new priorities.

- But it may be important to keep at least some print copies on behalf of the library community, even if not locally.

- *Efficient* choices that will ensure essential *preservation* and be *sustainable* well into the future are needed, both at individual libraries and across the library community.
E-books
E-books do not yet have the level of importance of e-journals

Importance of each item to your research and teaching

Databases of academic journals

- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Sciences

E-books

- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Sciences
Journals, repositories, societies
Where to publish?

As an author, what attributes of a scholarly journal are most important in informing your decision where to publish your articles?

- Current issues are circulated widely, and well read by scholars in your field: 80%
- Articles published for free, without page or article charges: 80%
- Content will be well preserved: 60%
- Highly selective; only a small percentage of submitted articles are published: 60%
- Accessible to readers in developing nations: 40%
- Articles freely available online: 20%
As an author, what attributes of a scholarly journal are most important in informing your decision where to publish your articles?

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- Articles published for free, without page or article charges
- Content will be well preserved
- Highly selective; only a small percentage of submitted articles are published
- Accessible to readers in developing nations
- Articles freely available online

Consistent across fields

Sciences
Social Sciences
Humanities
Only moderate change over time

As an author, what attributes of a scholarly journal are most important in informing your decision where to publish your articles?

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- Articles published for free, without page or article charges
- Content will be well preserved
- Highly selective; only a small percentage of submitted articles are published
- Accessible to readers in developing nations
- Articles freely available online

[Bar chart showing percentage responses for each attribute across three years: 2003, 2006, and 2009]
Pre-prints sometimes remain important

I continue to use working papers and pre-prints even after the final version of the corresponding article is published
Deposit behavior and plans

Cumulative measures – have you deposited materials into any sort of repository, or are you likely to?

In a college or university repository, discipline-specific repository, or multi-disciplinary repository.

- Have deposited materials
- Have not deposited but likely to do so
Web page “deposits” most important

Percent of faculty indicating they have deposited their research materials and scholarly outputs…

- In a college or university repository: 10%
- In a discipline-specific repository: 10%
- In a multidisciplinary repository: 5%
- On a personal web page: 80%
Deposit activity most pronounced in physics

Percent of faculty who have deposited materials in a repository specific to their discipline

Chemistry | Physics | Economics | Sociology | Classical Studies | Literature

0% | 40% | 20% | 10% | 10% | 10%
Deposit vs. usage

Cumulative measures – have you used materials deposited by others into any sort of repository?

- Have deposited materials
- Have used materials of these types deposited by others

In a college or university repository, discipline-specific repository, or multi-disciplinary repository:

- 30% Have deposited materials
- 10% Have used materials

In a college or university repository, discipline-specific repository, multi-disciplinary repository, or on a personal web page:

- 40% Have deposited materials
- 20% Have used materials
Deposit vs. usage, by discipline

Percent of faculty who ________ in an institutional, discipline-specific, or multi-disciplinary repository

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Have deposited materials</th>
<th>Have used materials of these types deposited by others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classical Studies</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resources

- Ithaka S+R webinars

- Some other recent relevant studies
  - Assessing the Future Landscape of Scholarly Communications: An Exploration of Faculty Values and Needs in Seven Disciplines (Harley et al., [http://escholarship.org/uc/cshe_fsc](http://escholarship.org/uc/cshe_fsc))
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