**University Library Survey of Faculty Research Needs**

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is the University Library Survey of Faculty Research Needs?**

The survey examines the impact of library collections and services on faculty research, teaching, and publishing. The survey was developed by [Ithaka S+R,](http://www.sr.ithaka.org/) a research and consulting service that helps the academic community take advantage of digital technologies and advances research and teaching in a sustainable way. Ithaka S+R is the consultancy arm of Ithaka, a not-for-profit organization that is also home of the database JSTOR.

**Why is the Library surveying the Faculty at Cal State San Marcos?**

The goal of this activity is to help the University Library assess faculty needs and practices related to research and teaching support. Your responses will help to shape the University Library's provision of information resources and services.

**How long will the survey run?**

The survey will run from January 18, 2017 --- February 14, 2017

**Who should complete the survey?**

The survey will be sent to and should be completed by all faculty (Unit 3 faculty) at CSUSM. This includes tenured, tenure-track, and adjunct faculty.

**How long does the survey take to complete?**

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. If you close your web browser before completing the survey, your progress may be saved provided you resume the survey using the same computer. However this function will not work on public work stations and web browsers that do not cache web browsing history and cookies.

**Can I preview the survey before taking it?**

You will not be able to preview the survey before taking it. This is because your survey session is saved based on a cookie; revisiting the survey link additional times will not allow you to start a fresh instance of the survey.

**What if I cannot complete the survey in one sitting, or accidently close my browser?**

If you need to exit the survey before completing it, you will be able to restart where you left off by clicking on the link in the invitation email you received.

**What kinds of questions are on the survey?**

The Local Faculty Survey will include questions regarding:

* How you “discover” and access information for your research
* How you engage in scholarly communication
* Your research practices, including data curation
* Your students’ research skills
* Your use of library materials to assist in undergraduate and graduate instruction
* Your use of library collections and services
* The role of the library in your experience at CSUSM

**How will the survey data be used?**

The University Library will use survey results for long-range strategic planning and to guide the library's provision of information resources and services, especially in the areas of: essential elements of the research lifecycle, including how research practices and methods may be changing, research dissemination practices and needs, and preservation and management of research data and primary sources; instructional practices and needs, student research skills, and online learning; how scholars discover and access needed information resources for their teaching and research, including the changes to formats and collections; and the evolving role of the academic library.

**Will my responses be able to be identified as mine?**

No. Each faculty member will receive a unique link to the survey within the email invitation, but identifying information (name, email, IP address) is disconnected from the responses in order to ensure the results are anonymous.

Though departmental affiliation is present in the response dataset as an embedded field, there will not be any way to link responses back to individuals at that point. Deductive disclosure of an individual respondent’s identity — due to the small size of his or her department and additional demographic data collected — may be possible but is unlikely. All achievable measures have been taken to protect the confidentiality of your answers.

**Presentation of Results**

The survey result dataset will be delivered to the University Library; findings and analyses will be widely shared and discussed with the CSUSM community.

**Survey Incentives**

Given the importance of this survey to assessing and planning library services, the University Library will donate $5.00 to fund programs assisting CSUSM students in need for every completed survey received.

**Didn't I just take a library survey?**

The University Library surveyed faculty on their use of the library’s website in November 2016. The responses to the November 2016 survey focused on how to improve the website and make it easier to use. The current survey takes a much broader look at faculty research and instructional needs and will help the library plan its services specifically for faculty for the next several years.

**What if I have more questions?**

If you have additional questions regarding the University Library Faculty Survey, or would like to see more information on this research guide, please contact us at: [librarysurveys@csusm.edu](mailto:librarysurveys@csusm.edu)