

**The Survey of Academic Library Subject Specialists:  
Political Science & Public/International Affairs**

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**Survey Participants**

Aalborg University  
Arizona State University  
Baylor University  
Brooklyn College  
Brunel University  
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona  
California State University, East Bay  
California State University, Long Beach  
Cecil College  
College of Staten Island  
Colorado State University  
Dalhousie University  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Emory University  
Florida International University  
George Mason University  
Georgia Southern University  
Gogebic Community College  
Grand Valley State University  
Illinois State University  
Indiana University, South Bend  
James Madison University  
Mansfield University  
Marymount University  
Monash University  
Ohio University  
Okanagan College  
Oklahoma State University  
Oregon State University  
Portland Community College  
Purdue University  
Randolph-Macon College  
Sacramento State  
Saint Mary's College of California  
Sonoma State University  
St. Mary's University  
SUNY Oswego  
Texas A&M University  
University of Alaska, Anchorage  
University of Baltimore  
University of California, San Diego  
University of Denver  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia

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University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas  
University of Lethbridge  
University of Minnesota  
University of Mississippi  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Mexico  
University of New Orleans  
University of North Dakota  
University of North Texas  
University of Oregon  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
University of St. Thomas  
University of Tennessee  
University of the Pacific  
Virginia Tech  
Washington State University  
Washington State University, Pullman

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## **The Questionnaire**

1. Please provide the following contact information  
Name:  
Organization:  
Work Title  
Country:  
Email Address:
2. What term best describes your library?  
(a) Higher Education Library  
(b) Government or International Organization Library  
(c) Public Library  
(d) Law or Corporate  
(e) Other
3. If your library is an academic library, what is the total number of students enrolled at your college (FTE)? What is the number of Political Science Majors?
4. If your library is an academic library, what is your institution's type of Carnegie class?  
(a) Community or 4-Year College  
(b) MA or PHD granting Institution (that is not a Research University)  
(c) Research University
5. Does your library have a specific budgetary allocation for public affairs or political science/government?  
(a) Yes  
(b) No
6. If so, how much was it for the following years?  
2010:  
2011:  
2012 (anticipated):
7. Has your library received contributions from other departments of your college, company or agency so that you can better afford some information sources desired by this department?  
(a) Yes  
(b) No
8. If so, how much have you received in the past year?

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9. Does your library have an endowment, grant or other special allocation that falls outside of the normal library budget but that supplements purchases in your subject area?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

10. If so, how much did this source provide in the past year?

11. In recent years how has materials spending in your subject area fared vis-à-vis the trend in the library's total materials spending?

- (a) Our spending has not kept pace with overall materials spending
- (b) Our spending has kept pace with overall materials spending
- (c) Our spending has grown faster than the library's overall materials spending
- (d) No applicable to us

12. Over the past year how much have prices changed on average for the following types of resources in your subject area?

- (a) Print books
- (b) E-books
- (c) Journals
- (d) Databases

13. How much did the library spend for print books in your subject area in the following years?

2010:  
2011:  
2012 (anticipated):

14. How much did the library spend for e-books in your subject area in the following years?

2010:  
2011:  
2012 (anticipated):

15. What has been the impact of e-books on your subject area? Do your patrons utilize e-books much? Which collections? What is your collections strategy in the area?

16. What percentage of your library's purchases in political science were accounted for by purchases from University Presses?

Print Books and Monographs:  
E-books:

17. Which 5 political science publishers have accounted for the largest share of your purchasing volume in the past year?

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18. How have e-books impacted your subject area? Which particular e-book collections, titles or services do patrons in your subject area use most frequently or value the most? Are there developing collections or e-book services that you are interested in acquiring?

19. How much did the library spend for specialized databases that largely serve your subject area in the following years?

2010:

2011:

2012 (anticipated):

20. Please list the top 5 databases in your subject area that you feel are most useful to you and your patrons

21. How much did your library spend for scholarly journals in your subject area in the following years?

2010:

2011:

2012 (anticipated):

22. How many distinct subscriptions to journals that charge a subscription fee did your library maintain in your subject area in the following years?

2010:

2011:

2012 (anticipated):

23. What percentage of your journal subscriptions in your subject area for which you pay a fee do you maintain paper access, either in addition to electronic access or instead of it?

24. What percentage of use of the journals in your library collection in your subject area is accounted for by the use of open access journals?

25. If you are a college library, do authors from your subject area contribute to an institutional digital repository maintained by the library?

(a) Yes

(b) No

26. What are your collection plans for the following areas?

American Politics

(a) Will decrease spending

(b) Will maintain spending

(c) Will increase spending

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Comparative Politics

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

International Relations

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

Political Theory and History of Political Thought

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

Statistics and Political Science Methodology

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

Public Policy

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

Public Administration

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

Political Economy

- (a) Will decrease spending
- (b) Will maintain spending
- (c) Will increase spending

27. Do you feel that your subject area is adequately dealt with in your organization's information literacy efforts?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

28. What percentage of your personal work time is spent on general information literacy including classroom time, tutoring, reference desk, preparation and oversight of training materials? What percentage is spent on collection development planning, testing and procurement of materials and information resources?

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29. In the past year how many specific suggestions have you received (by email, phone, in person or other means) from library patrons to purchase particular monographs, books, databases, journals or other information resources?

30. Does your institution have a specifically designated liaison person in the library patron community (for example, in corporate or academic departments) who acts as a liaison with the library?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

31. Which phrase best describes the level of involvement of library patrons in your subject area in acquisitions decision making?

- (a) They rely on us to make the decisions and we prefer it this way
- (b) They rely on us but we wish that they would be a bit more involved
- (c) We make most major decisions jointly but we think it would be better if we had a little more leeway
- (d) We make most major decisions jointly and this works out quite well
- (e) We make most major decisions jointly and we could use even more input from them
- (f) We think that they are a bit over-involved and that this hurts decision making in the long run

32. Describe how you handle liaison with academic or corporate departments or other end users of your information materials. How do you obtain their opinions? Do you survey them? Meet with them? Hold meetings? If your end user is the general public or a student body, how do you assess their collection needs?

33. Mention a few library resources that you feel are under appreciated in your subject area

34. Do you feel that the patron base in your subject area is:

- (a) Declining
- (b) Remaining about the same
- (c) Growing

35. Over the past three years what areas of knowledge, publications or authors have newly become for you part of the "must have" collection development core in your subject area?

36. As you look to the future, what issues or subject areas do you feel you will be called upon to address in the near future? Do patrons demand particular technologies? What areas of knowledge in your field require greater investment and new resources?

37. How do you gather data for collection development? What usage statistics do you consider and how often do you review them? Do you produce a report for your subject area?



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38. Have you ever monitored publications produced by the faculty or staff of our organization to evaluate the extent to which your library holds journals or other publications cited in works published by them?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

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## Characteristics of the Sample

**Table 1.1: Country**

	<b>United States</b>	<b>Other</b>
Entire Sample	90.48%	9.52%

**Table 1.2: Type of Institution**

	<b>Community or 4-Year College</b>	<b>MA or PHD granting Institution</b>	<b>Research University</b>
Entire Sample	15.87%	23.81%	60.32%

**Table 1.3: Total FTE Student Enrollment**

	<b>Less than 10,000</b>	<b>10,000 to 20,000</b>	<b>20,000 to 30,000</b>	<b>More than 30,000</b>
Entire Sample	28.57%	26.98%	25.40%	19.05%

**Table 1.4: Number of Political Science Majors**

	<b>Less than 200</b>	<b>200 to 500</b>	<b>More than 500</b>
Entire Sample	33.33%	38.46%	28.21%

**Table 1.5: Does your library have a specific budgetary allocation for  
public affairs or political science/government?**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Entire Sample	79.41%	20.59%