

Between March and May of 2005, 3,222 undergraduate students and 392 faculty from nine Colorado colleges and universities responded to surveys about how they benefit from academic libraries and librarians.

Faculty members indicated their libraries support teaching objectives by helping students find appropriate information (61%), access specific course materials (53%), learn skills to refine searches (47%), and acquire basic library skills (46%).

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Quotable Facts About How Academic Libraries Help Faculty Teach and Students Learn

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For more information about the results of this study, visit LRS.org.

Undergraduates

- Approximately 90% of students surveyed felt they are able to find needed books and electronic resources at their institution's library.
- Nearly three-quarters of students reported that they learn about library resources primarily from other students and from personal experience.
- Undergraduates spend almost equal amounts of time accessing library resources remotely (47%) and at the library (53%).
- Library resources most utilized by undergraduates are computer access, electronic database/article access, traditional printed resources, and meeting/study space.

Faculty

- A majority (85%) of responding faculty indicated that they recommend print resources to their students at least some of the time.
- Faculty members access library resources remotely 70% of the time.
- Just over half of faculty reported including bibliographic instruction or information literacy sessions in their undergraduate courses some or all of the time.
- More than 2 of 5 faculty members cited the cancellation of journals as negatively impacting their ability to fulfill their teaching or research objectives.

Differences Between Students & Faculty

- Interlibrary loans are considerably more utilized by faculty (62%) than by undergraduates (23%).
- Seven of ten students reported using library meeting and study space during the past year, compared to less than a quarter of faculty.
- More than three of five faculty and less than two of five undergraduates use their library website to search other library catalogs.
- Nine out of ten students agreed that they usually can find needed books at their library, while less than two-thirds of faculty reported that they regularly find needed materials at their institution.



Two-thirds of undergraduates indicated library staff help them find books, journal articles, and Web resources.