Bridging the Gap: A Case Study on Growing Economic Data Services at Oregon State University

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About Oregon State University

- STEM-focused land grant university, with a total enrollment of around 31,000 (Spring Quarter, 2022)
- College of Liberal Arts (CLA) contains 14-15% of students, with numerous schools and departments within, including the School of Public Policy (SPP)
- The Department of Economics has 12 professor and instructors, and 232 declared majors

Enrollment source: https://institutionalresearch.oregonstate.edu/sites/itsututionalresearch.oregonstate.edu/files/2022 07/enroll-spring 2022.pdf

Data Services at OSU

- Data services includes data management workshops, DMP consultations, and data deposits as examples
- ScholarsArchive serves as the institutional repository at OSU
 - Materials include theses, dissertations, historical documents, and datasets
- Once a dataset is deposited, it goes through a curation process, ensuring it meets our standards
- Of the 181 datasets housed in the repository, only one is affiliated with CLA

Why a needs assessment?

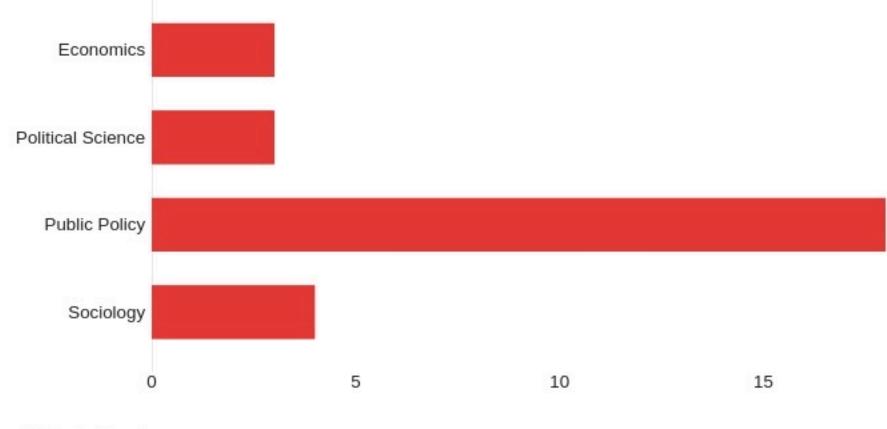
- Lack of SPP datasets in ScholarsArchive
- Reconnecting with SPP after pandemic disruption
- Identify new ways to work with faculty and students



Constructing the survey

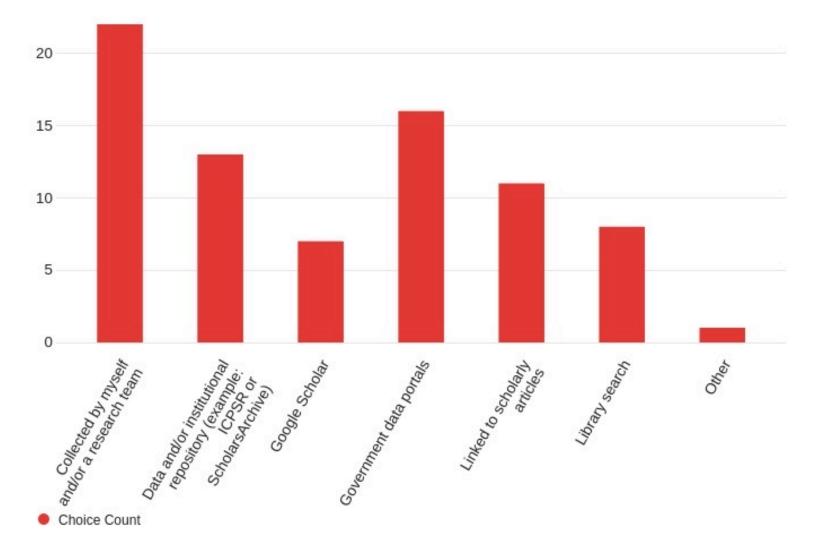
- O Targeted both faculty and graduate students
- Question topics included:
 - Areas of research
 - Data collection and analysis
 - O Journals of interest
 - Knowledge of library services

Results (1) - Departments

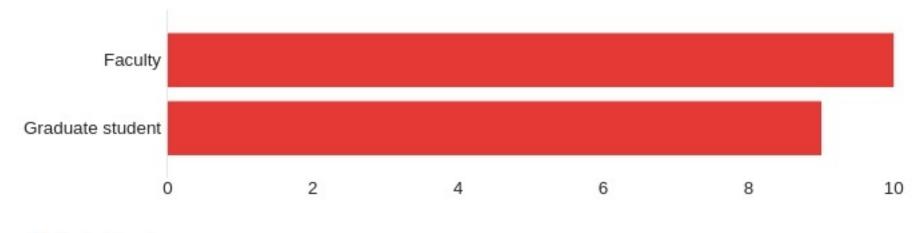


Choice Count

Results (2) – Data Collection



Results (3) – Affiliation



Choice Count

Results (4) – Journals & Data

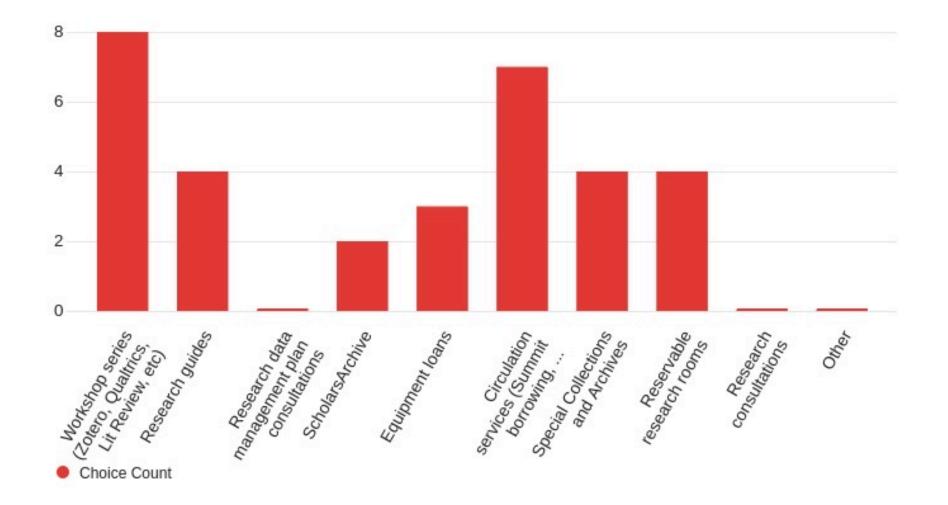
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Journal Title	Data Sharing?	Where
Journal of Applied Econometrics	Yes, required	Journal's data archive
Journal of Public Economics	Yes, encouraged	Any supported data repository
Economics of Education Review	Yes, encouraged	Any supported data repository
Education Economics	Yes, encouraged	Any recognized data repository
International Tax and Public Finance	Yes, encouraged	Any data repository
Public Finance Review	Nothing in author guidelines	N/A

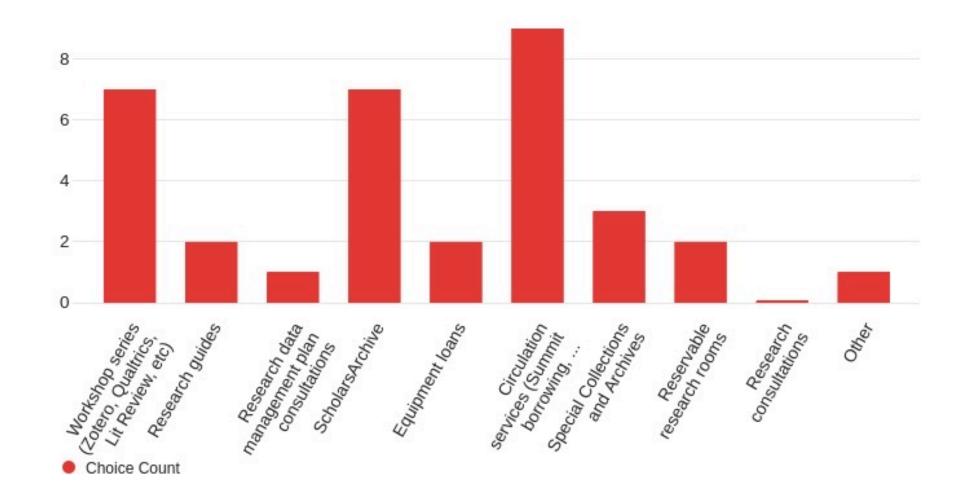
Results (5) – Journals & Data

Journal Title	Data Sharing?	Where
Journal of International Economics	Yes, required	Mendeley Data
The Review of Economics and Statistics	Yes, required	Not specified but link to Harvard dataverse
Journal of Development Economics	Yes, required	Any supported data repository
American Economic Journal: Economic Policy	Yes, required	AEA Data and Code Repository
American Economic Journal: Applied Economics	Yes, required	AEA Data and Code Repository

O Results (6) – Student Awareness of Services



O Results (7) – Faculty Awareness of Services



O Results (8) - Additional Comments

• Faculty, when asked about additional services or tools said:

- "[...] help deposit data into public repository that journals require"
- "[...] social science data center would be great as a repository for social science datasets and help with stats programs and analysis"

Lessons and Key Takeaways

- Assessment identified a gap between existing data services and knowledge among key stakeholders
- The data exists, just not housed in our systems
- There is a desire for data services in order to meet publishing standards



The New OSTP Memo

- Issued August 25, 2022 and builds on the 2013 memo
- By 2025, requires all federal funding agencies require immediate open access for federally funded research



Looking forward and next steps

- Conducting additional outreach to departments around data
- Identifying new ways to connect with students
- Using existing systems to build awareness



THANK YOU!

