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 - Materials include theses, dissertations, historical documents, and datasets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?

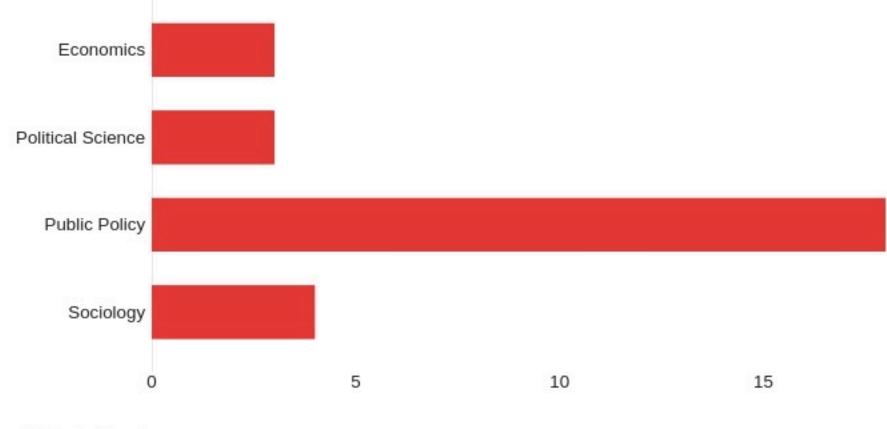
- Lack of SPP datasets in ScholarsArchive
- Reconnecting with SPP after pandemic disruption
- Identify new ways to work with faculty and students



Constructing the survey

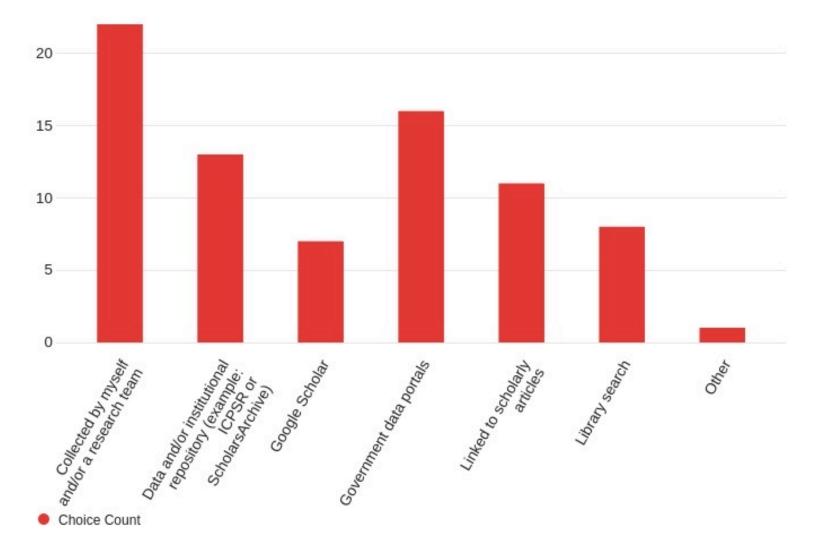
- O Targeted both faculty and graduate students
- Question topics included:
 - Areas of research
 - Data collection and analysis
 - O Journals of interest
 - Knowledge of library services

Results (1) - Departments

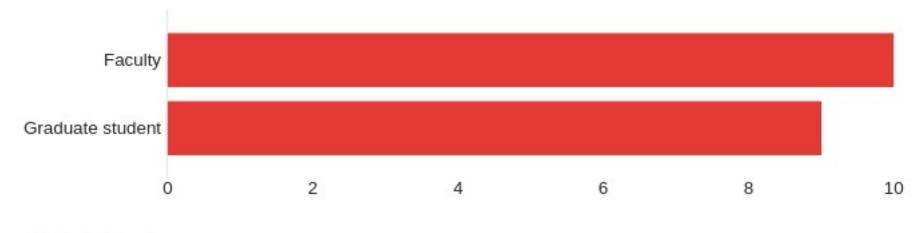


Choice Count

Results (2) – Data Collection



Results (3) – Affiliation



Choice Count

Results (4) – Journals & Data

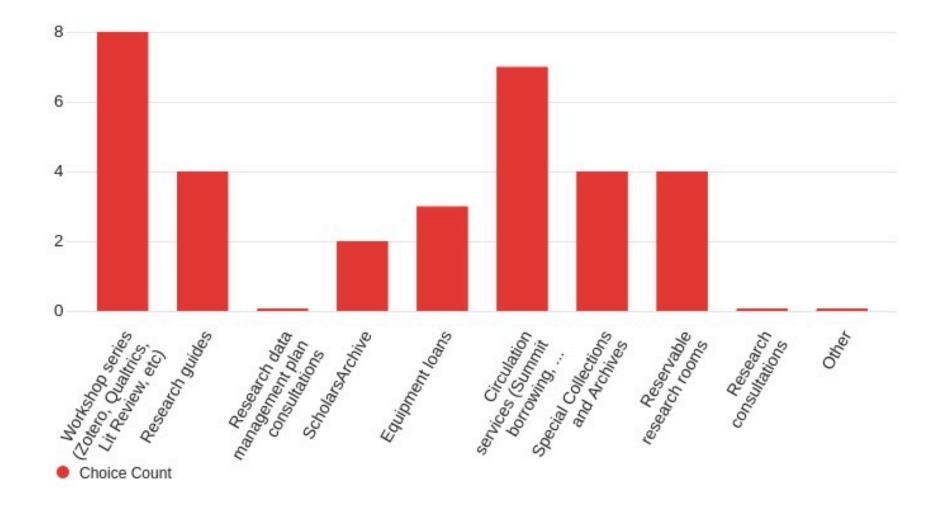
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| Journal Title | Data Sharing? | Where |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Journal of Applied Econometrics | Yes, required | Journal's data archive |
| Journal of Public Economics | Yes, encouraged | Any supported 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 |

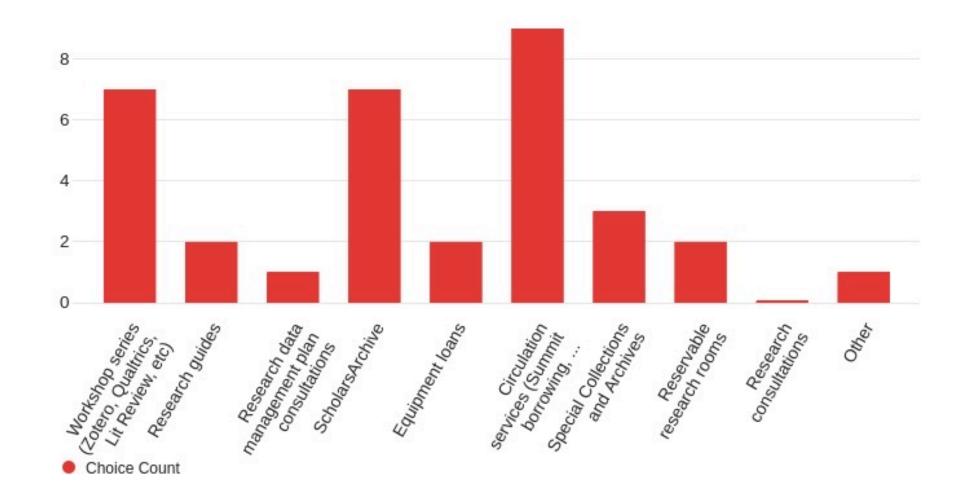
Results (5) – Journals & Data

| 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!

