



Survey on Need for Scholarly Communications Services Summary of Responses

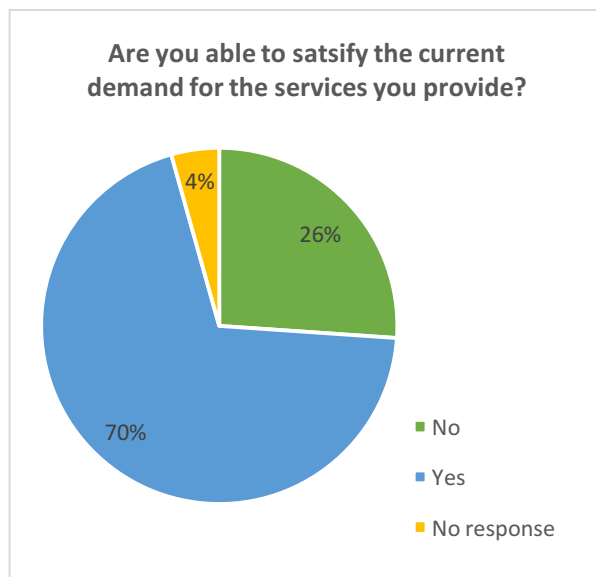
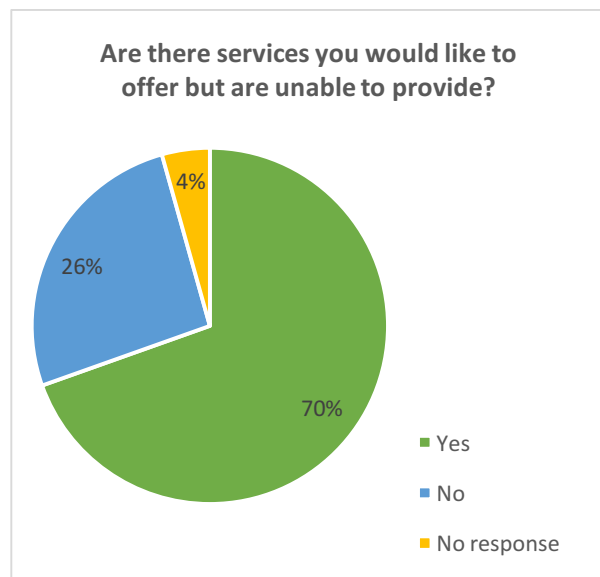
On March 2, 2017, Authors Alliance circulated a survey to scholarly communications-affiliated individuals at ARL institutions to gather information about the services they currently provide and anticipated future needs. We are grateful to the 23 respondents and are pleased to share this short summary of the responses.

Respondents provided a snapshot of the scholarly communication services they currently provide. The vast majority, 96% (22), provide copyright management advice and education and information about compliance with institution and/or funder open access policies. In a free response field, respondents provided additional information about the services they offer:

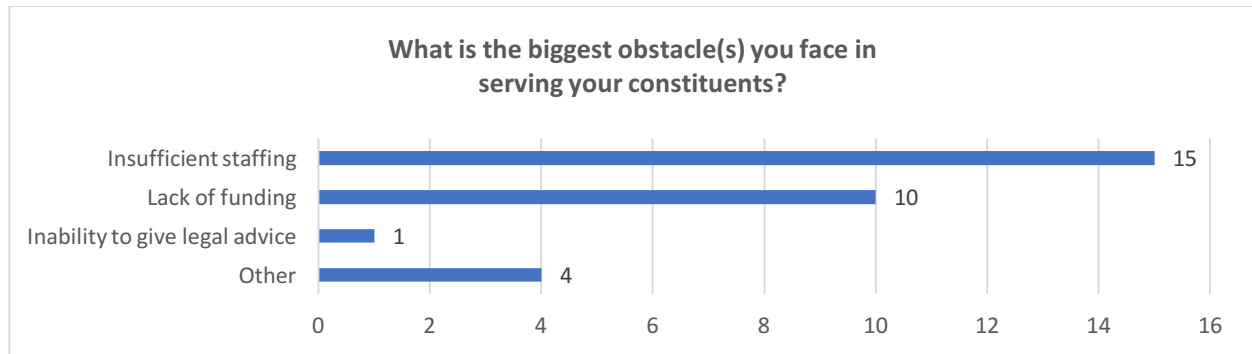
- 35% (8) provide publishing consultations (including information about publishing contracts, scholarly impact, digital publishing, predatory publishers, and open access);
- 22% (5) provide information or support to encourage the creation and adoption of open educational resources;
- 22% (5) provide institutional repository services;
- 17% (4) provide journal and/or book publishing services; and
- 17% (4) provide services related to data (including consultations on data sharing and data repository services).

Other responses included providing APC and subvention advice or support, assisting with scholarly identity services (e.g. ORCID), providing DOI and ISSN assistance, advising on privacy-related issues, and maintaining faculty research profiles.

Responses underscored the gap between the services that scholarly communications offices can currently handle and those they would like to provide. 70% (16) of respondents stated that there are services that they would like to offer but are unable to provide, with 29% (6) of respondents stating that cannot even satisfy the current demand for the services they do provide.



When asked to describe the biggest obstacle(s) they face in serving their constituents, 65% (15) cited insufficient staffing and 43% (10) cited lack of funding. A handful also raised lack of faculty awareness of the services they offer as an obstacle, and only one cited the inability to give legal advice as an obstacle.



Over half of the total respondents, 52% (12), currently have plans to increase staffing and/or expand the services they offer. Services respondents plan to expand include: library publishing, open educational resource advocacy programs, data management services, and open access services.