



**. Indirect Cost Studies: Library Impact within the Academic Enterprise**

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Academic research libraries support their educational institutions' missions to conduct research, including sponsored (funded) research. In the United States, colleges and universities have performed cost analysis studies, typically employing user surveys, for at least thirty-five years to quantify the extent to which their libraries support sponsored research. The United States government allows educational institutions to seek reimbursement for library expenses related to funded research via the institution's indirect cost rate. This has given American academic institutions an incentive to measure the extent to which their academic libraries support sponsored research. This paper reports on the results of statistically valid studies conducted since 1982 at more than 200 libraries measuring academic research library support of sponsored (funded) research in the United States and looks at some of the applications that have moved beyond the sponsored research component into teaching and studying for undergraduates. Studies like that have implications for library consortia and are expandable internationally as recent experiences in Canada evaluating the Scholar's Portal at OCUL demonstrate.

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