

# Completing the research cycle, Part 2:

## Perceptions of library support from campus undergraduate research coordinators



Merinda Kaye Hensley and Sarah Shreeves, University of Illinois  
Stephanie Davis-Kahl, Illinois Wesleyan University



### DEFINITION OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) as, "An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline."

### ABOUT THE STUDY

The study examines the perceptions and perceived needs for library support (e.g., instruction, collections, space, reference collections, and publication infrastructure) for formal undergraduate research programs through the lens of the campus coordinators. The goal of this study is to identify ways in which libraries can better support the last phase of the research process, the publication and dissemination of scholarly work. The researchers are working to identify benchmarks for the current state of library services for undergraduate research programs while informing conversations between librarians, faculty, and campus administrators around support of undergraduate research programs. Next steps in this study include completing an analysis of the data and publishing results. The next phase of the research will be to compare the responses here with the first phase of our research, a benchmark study of library support for undergraduate research programs.

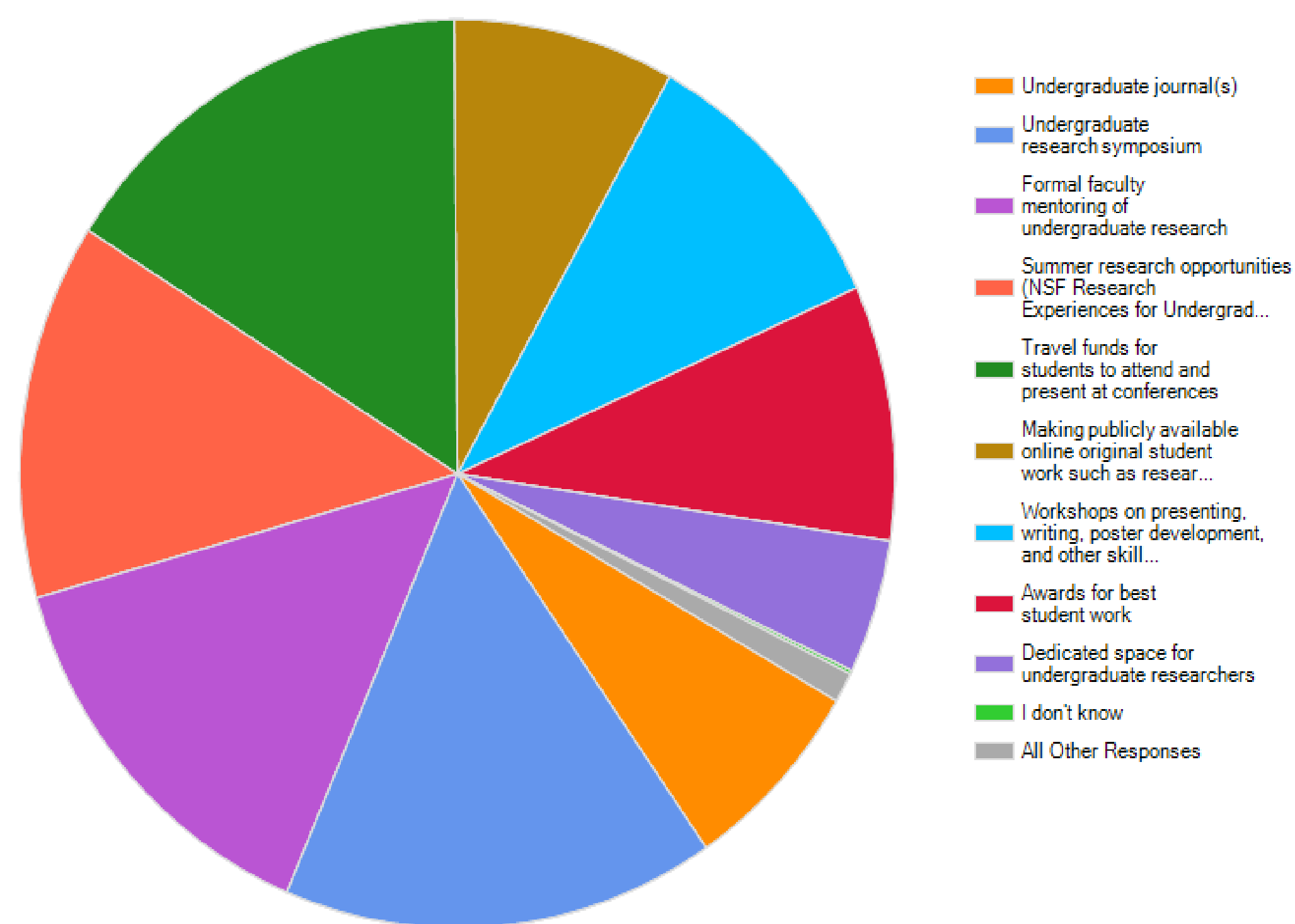
### METHODOLOGY

We identified the administrator in charge of undergraduate research programs, or an appropriate substitute, at institutions that were members of the CUR, the Association of Research Libraries, the Oberlin Group, and/or NITLE (n=764). A survey was sent to each of these administrators or faculty members directly. The response rate was 39.8% (n=304). This poster presents very preliminary findings from this survey.

A wordle of responses to the question "What services could your library provide that could strengthen the undergraduate research program and student work?" Respondents=154 (54% response rate)

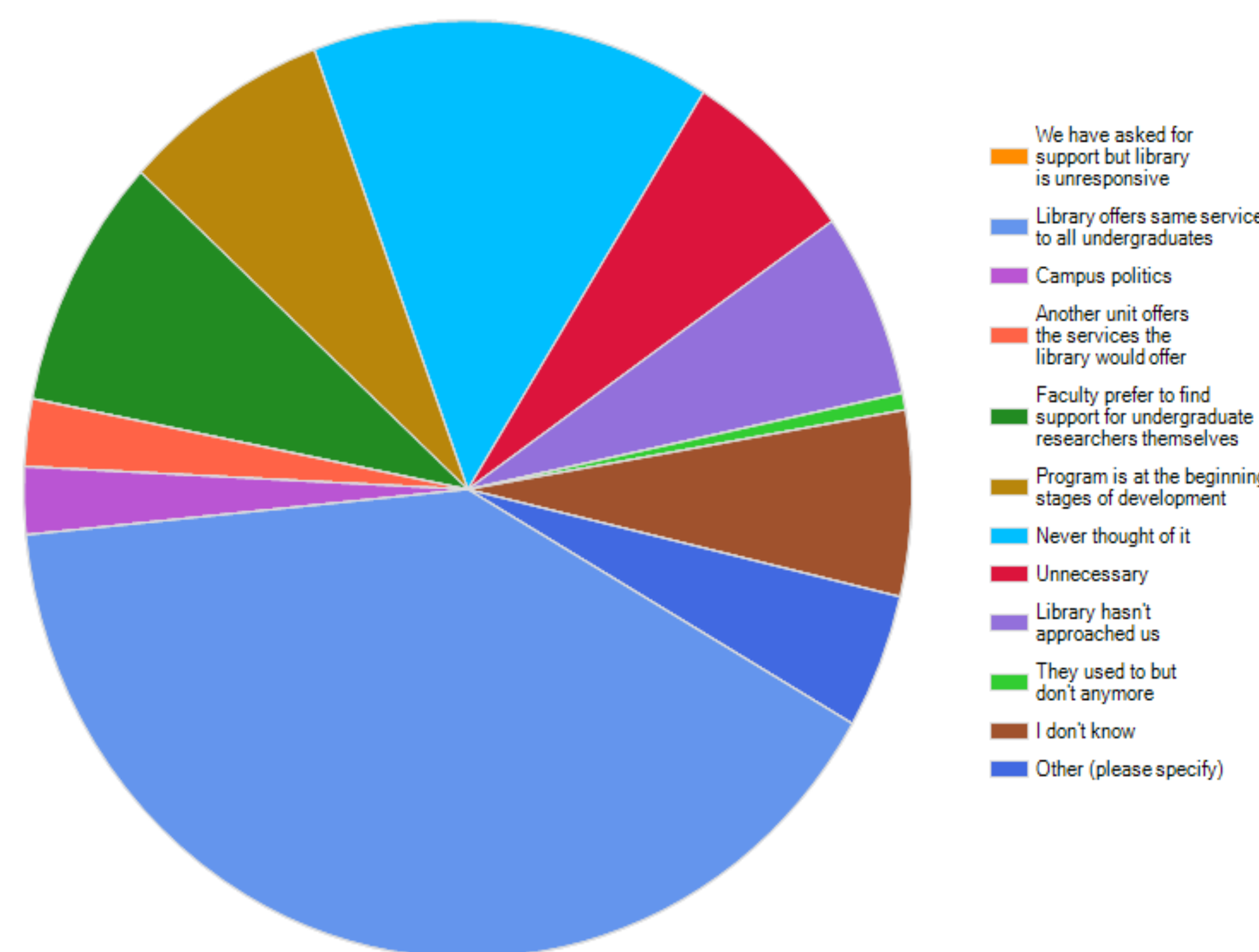


On your campus, does your institution, department, or college sponsor or offer any of the following?



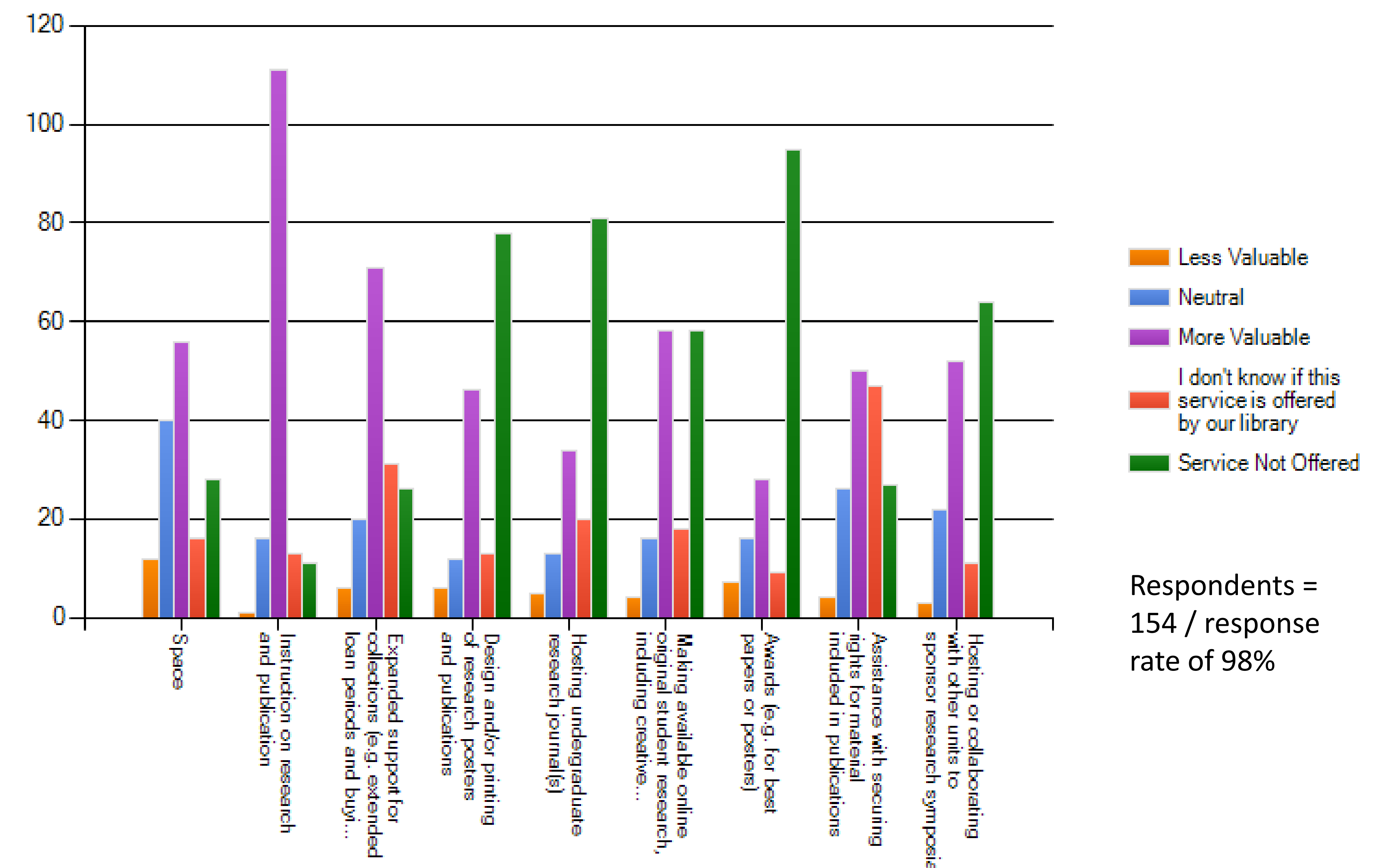
Respondents = 275 / response rate of 96%

Why doesn't the library provide support?



Respondents = 93 / response rate of 100%

Of the services that the library offers, please rank these services in terms of their value for support of student work and your campus undergraduate research program. 1 = less valuable and 3 = more valuable. Please mark the "Service Not Offered" for any services that are not offered by your library. If you do not know whether the service is offered, please mark "I don't know."



Respondents = 154 / response rate of 98%

87.3% of respondents whose library offers services in support of undergraduate research programs (n=158) agreed or strongly agreed that the library is important to the success of the program.