

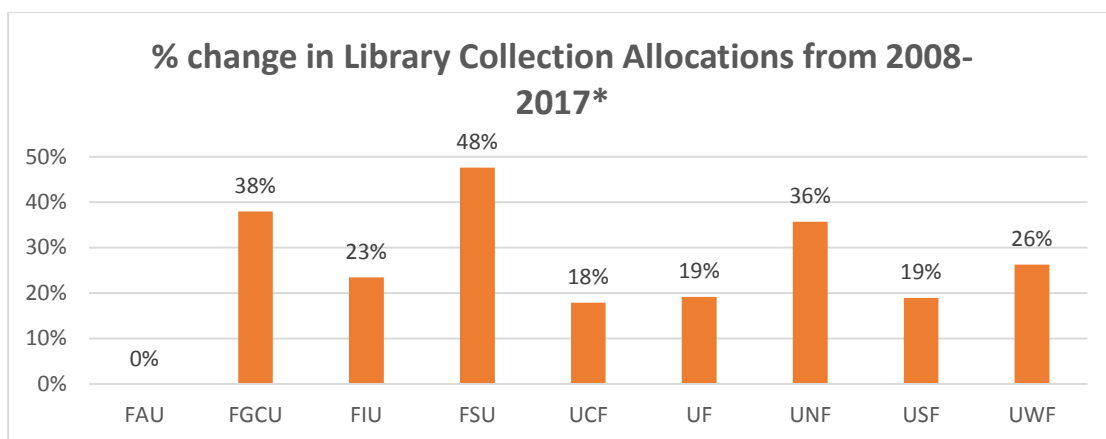
Fall 2017 Faculty Survey Results

Importance of and Satisfaction with Library Collections

Report prepared by Carol Hixson, Dean of University Libraries

January 29, 2018

In the fall of 2017, the FAU Libraries conducted a comprehensive survey of faculty use of and satisfaction with a variety of library services. 385 faculty from all Colleges and disciplines responded to the survey. There were a series of questions that focused specifically on the Libraries' physical and electronic collections. The Libraries asked these questions because we have been faced with a significant challenge to continue to provide access to scholarly content at a time when prices have risen and the budget available for purchasing or licensing access to collections has remained the same for more than a decade. While none of our SUS sister institutions have kept pace with the rate of inflation for library collections (about 84% in the past decade), FAU has fallen considerably behind, as the following chart makes clear.



The collection-centered questions asked on the faculty survey were:

- Physical Resources Usage In general, how often do you use the library's print resources (books, journals, etc.)?
- Physical Resources Importance How satisfied are you with the following resources?
 - Print circulating books, Media (DVDs, CDs), Microfilm or microfiche, Special Collections and University Archives, Print journals, Government Documents,
- Physical Resources Impact If the library physical resources were to be significantly reduced, how much would this affect you:
 - Teaching, Research. Decision to remain at FAU
- Office/Off-Campus Visits In general, how often do you use the library's electronic services or resources from your office, home or other off-campus location?
- Electronic Resources Importance How satisfied are you with the following electronic resources?
 - E-books, e-journals/full text articles, Streaming media (audio or visual), Course specific library guides (LibGuides), Digital Library, Recorded Sound Archives
- Electronic Resources Impact If the library electronic resources were to be significantly reduced, how much would this affect you:
 - Teaching, Research. Decision to remain at FAU

The full results of the answers to these questions are available at:

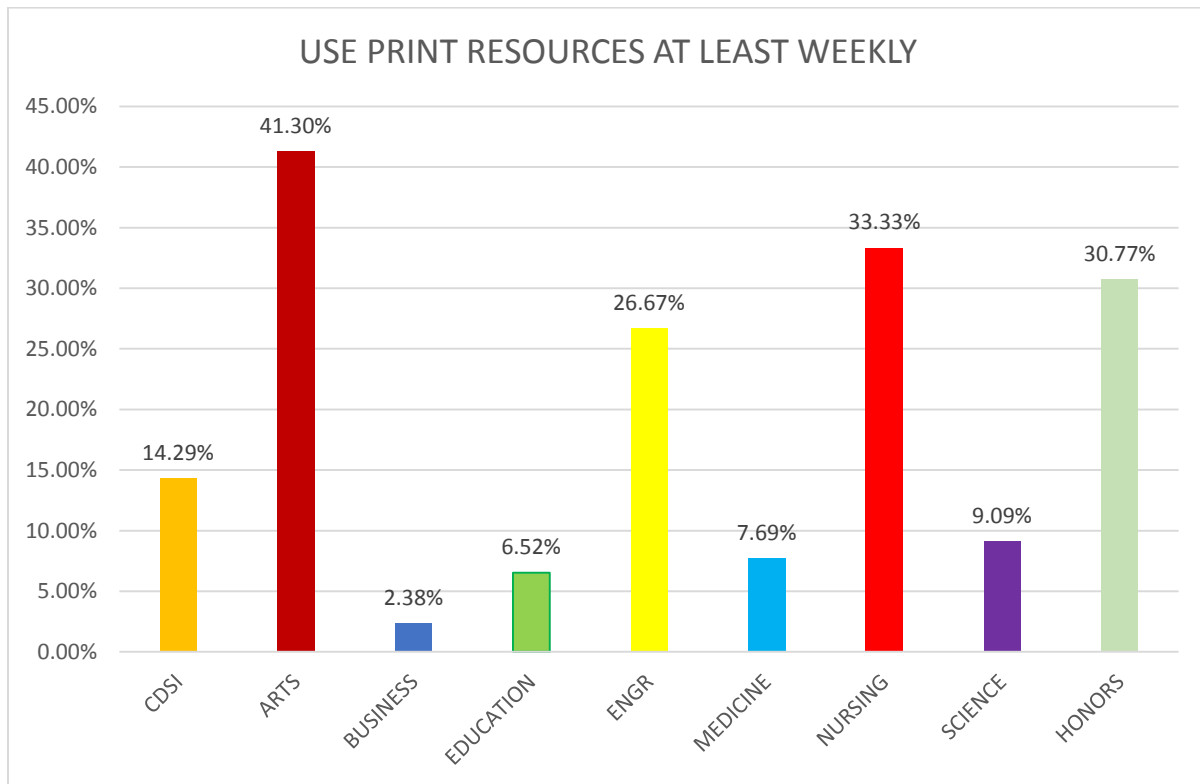
<https://sites.google.com/a/faulibs.com/committees/university-committees/library-collections>

The following summary data show the level of satisfaction and importance of various resources by College. While there is general agreement that library collections are important, there is significant variance in the satisfaction with, use of, and importance of different types of resources by College. As the Libraries' funding for collections has remained the same for over a decade at the same time that the cost of library collections has increased by at least 84% , the strategy had been to try to maintain access to electronic content. This approach has been at the expense of purchasing monographs, resulting in an unfair disadvantage to some disciplines that continue to rely heavily on monographs.

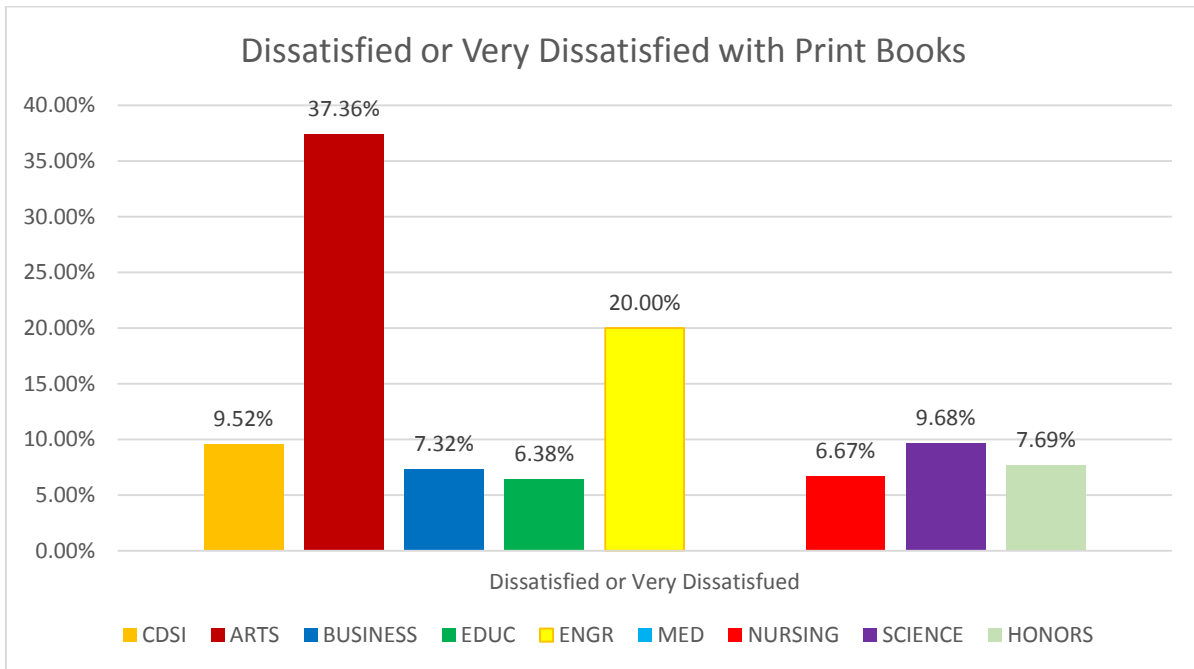
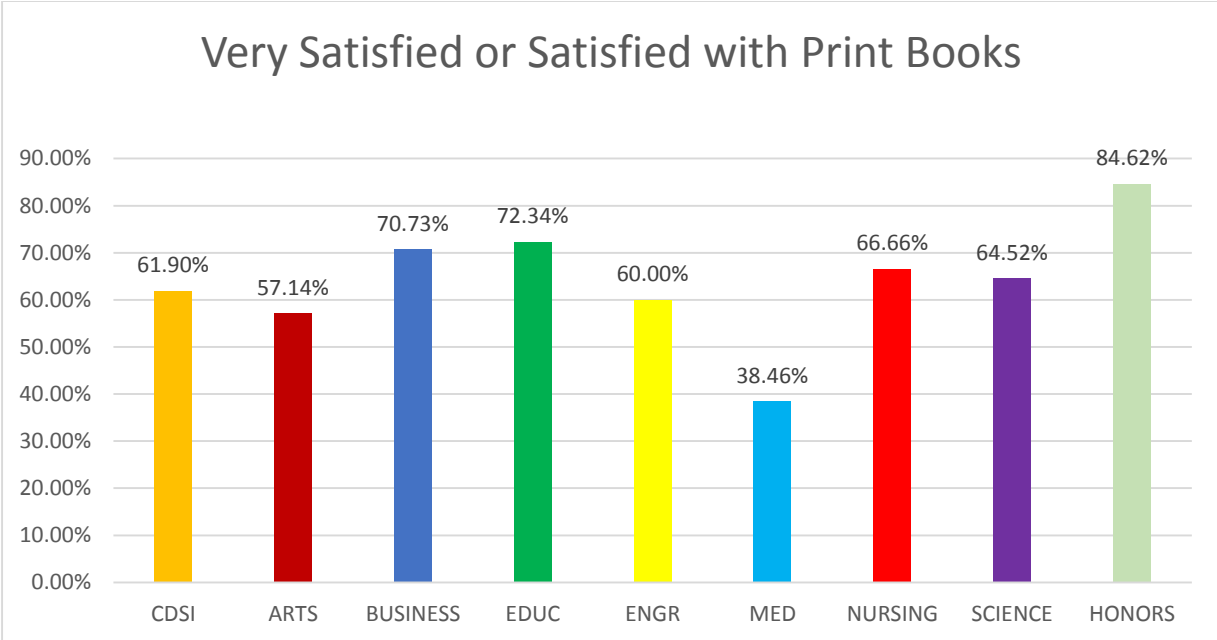
Print Resources

The following charts summarize a portion of the faculty responses by College. More complete data is available at: <https://sites.google.com/a/faulibs.com/committees/university-committees/library-collections>

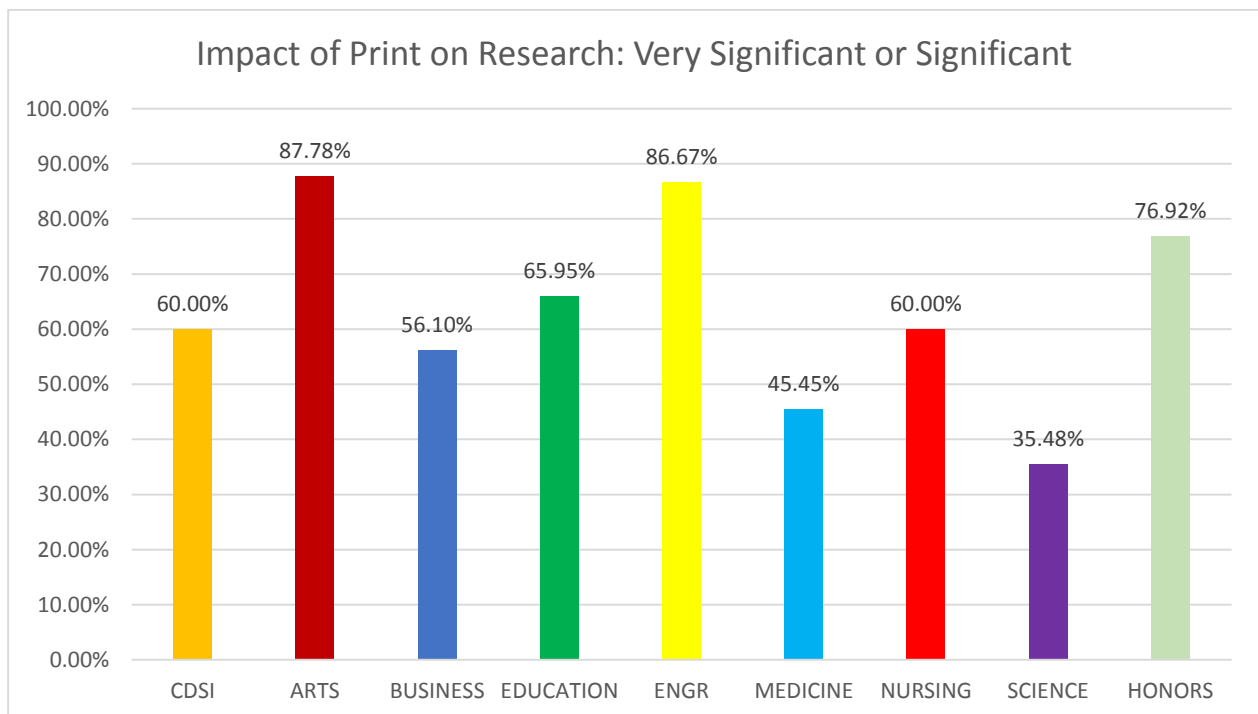
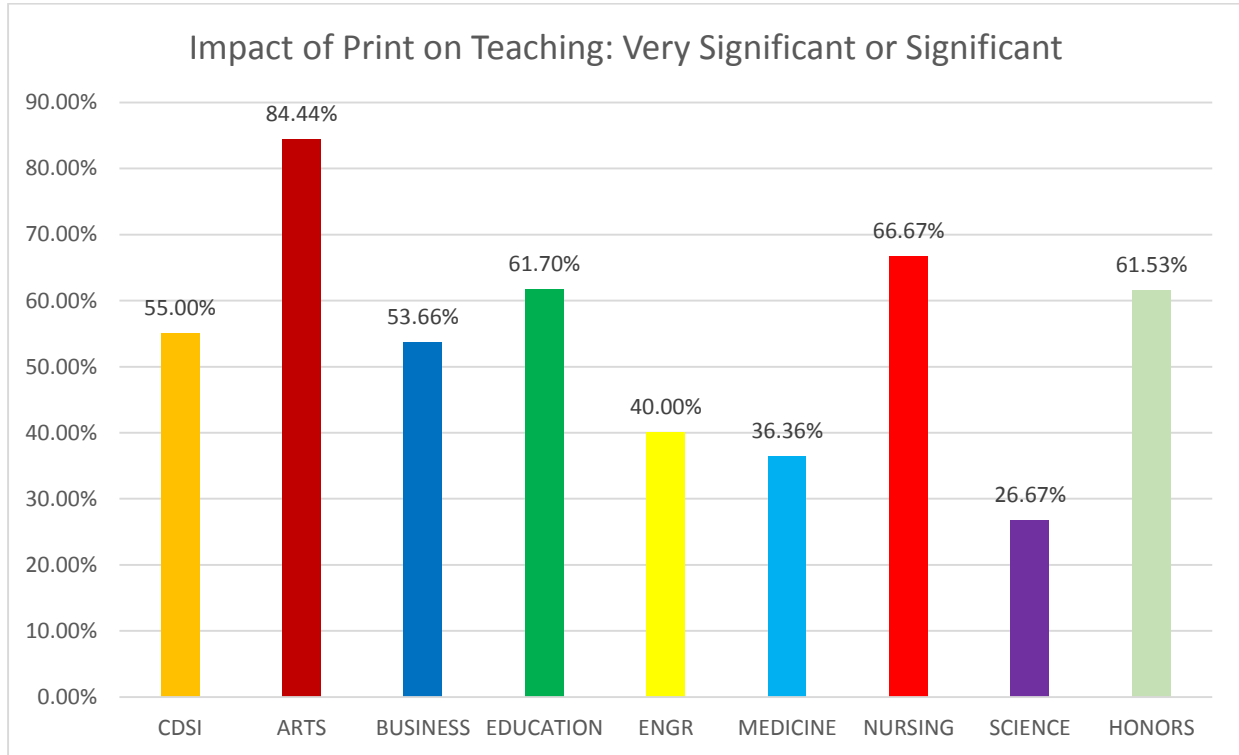
Frequency of Use of Print Resources

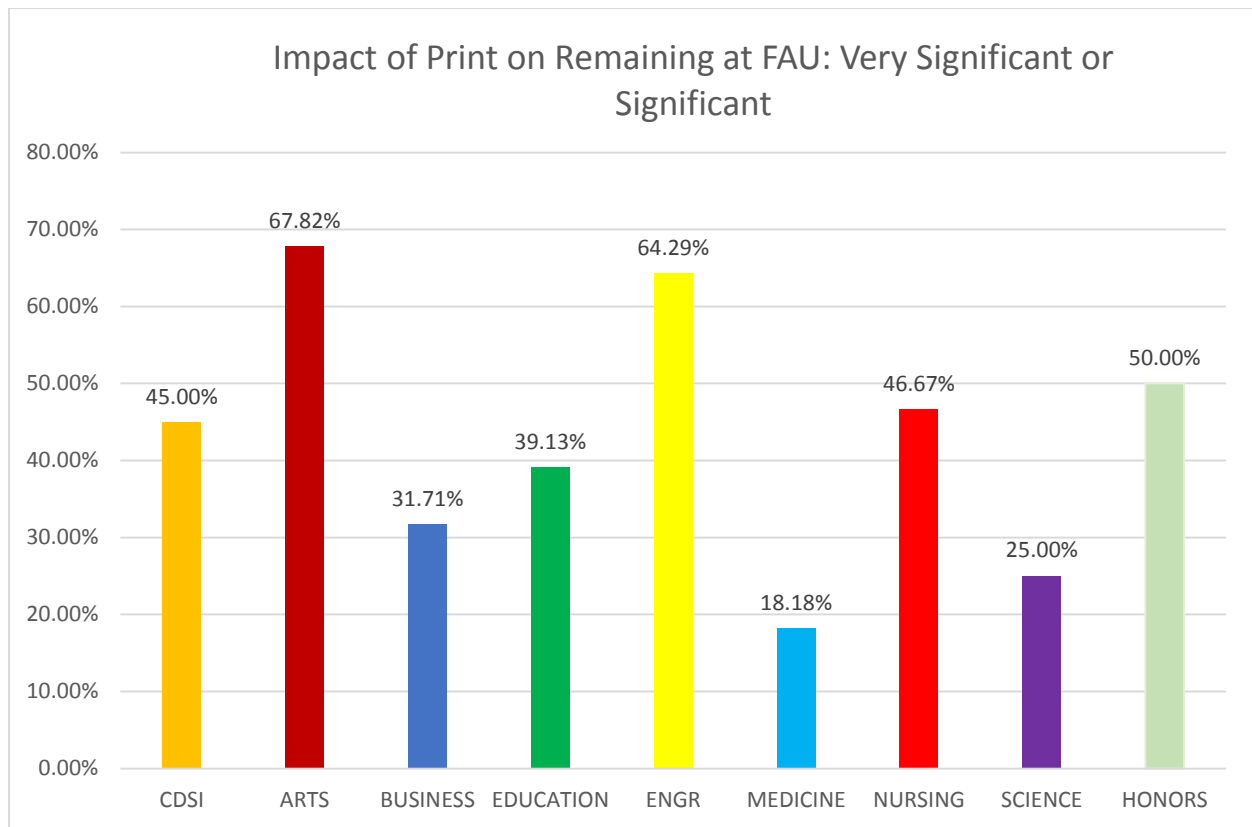


Satisfaction with Print Books



Impact of Reduced Print Collections on Teaching, Research, Decision to Remain at FAU





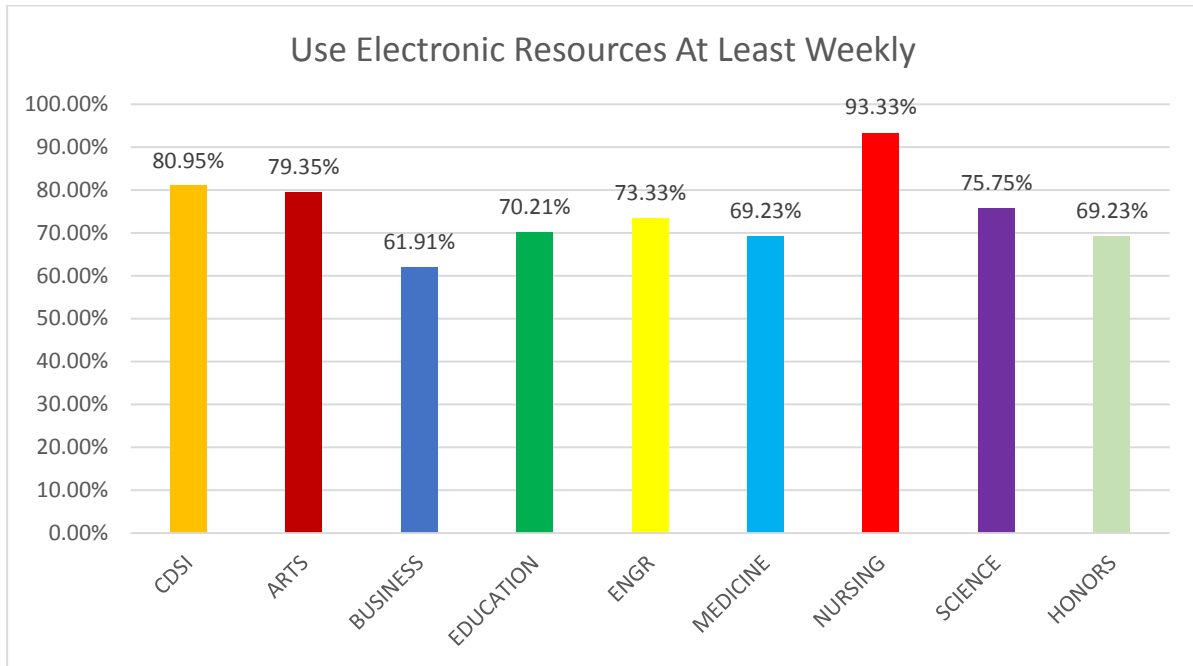
The above charts show that the frequency of use, satisfaction level, and importance of print collections vary by College. Continuing to put all available collection dollars into electronic access places those Colleges that still rely heavily on monographs at a disadvantage compared to some of their colleagues.

Electronic Resources

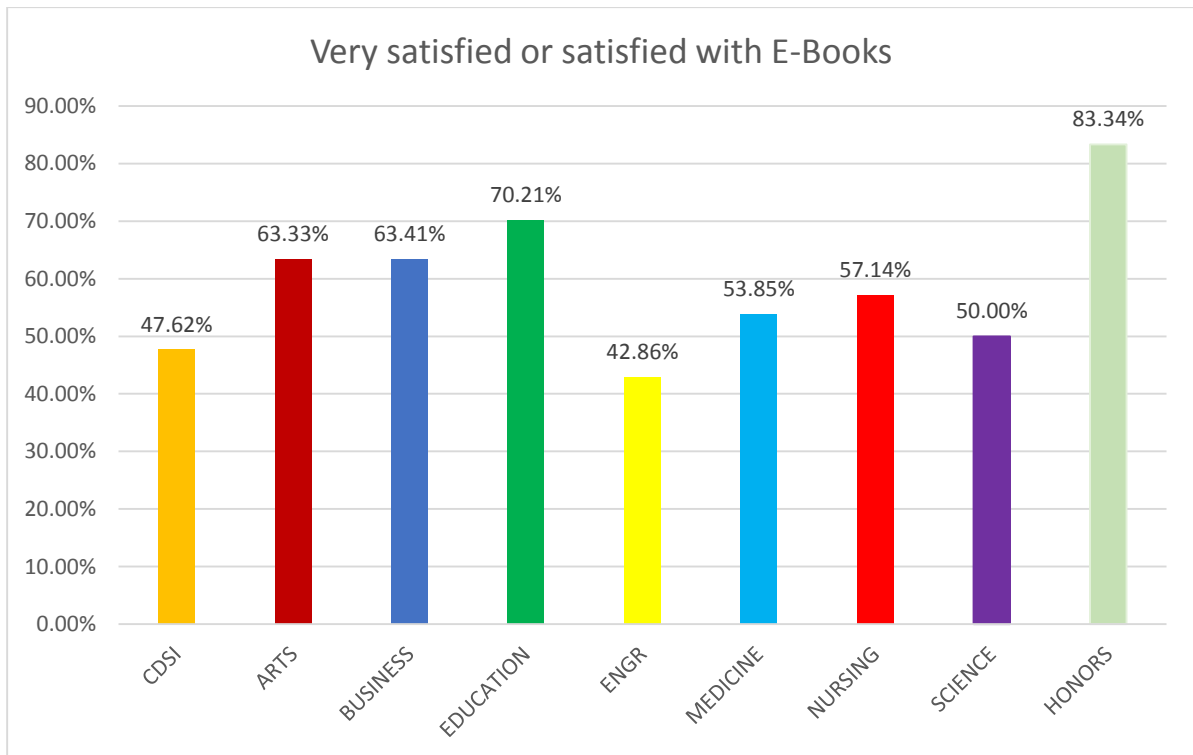
The responses on frequency of use, levels of satisfaction, and importance of electronic content to teaching, research, and faculty's decision to remain at FAU still show some variance between Colleges, although there is general agreement that they are very important. The challenge for the Libraries is how to continue to provide access to these important resources in the face of significant cost increases and no budget increase.

The following charts summarize a portion of the faculty responses by College. More complete data is available at: <https://sites.google.com/a/faulibs.com/committees/university-committees/library-collections>

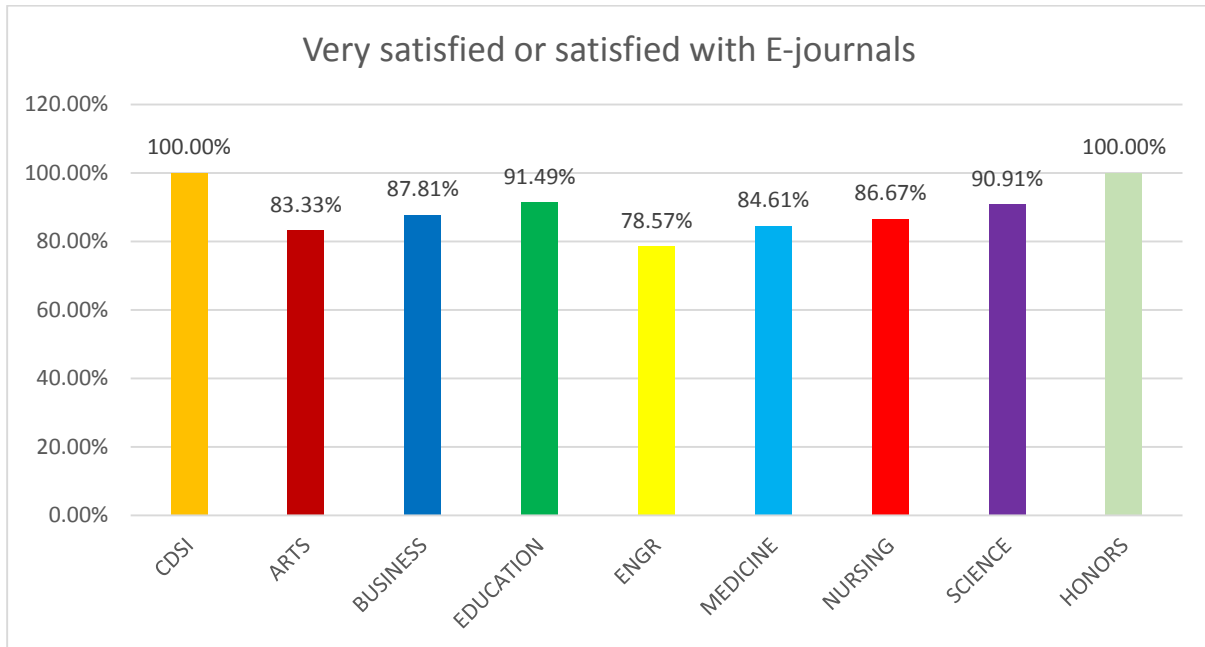
Frequency of Use of Electronic Resources



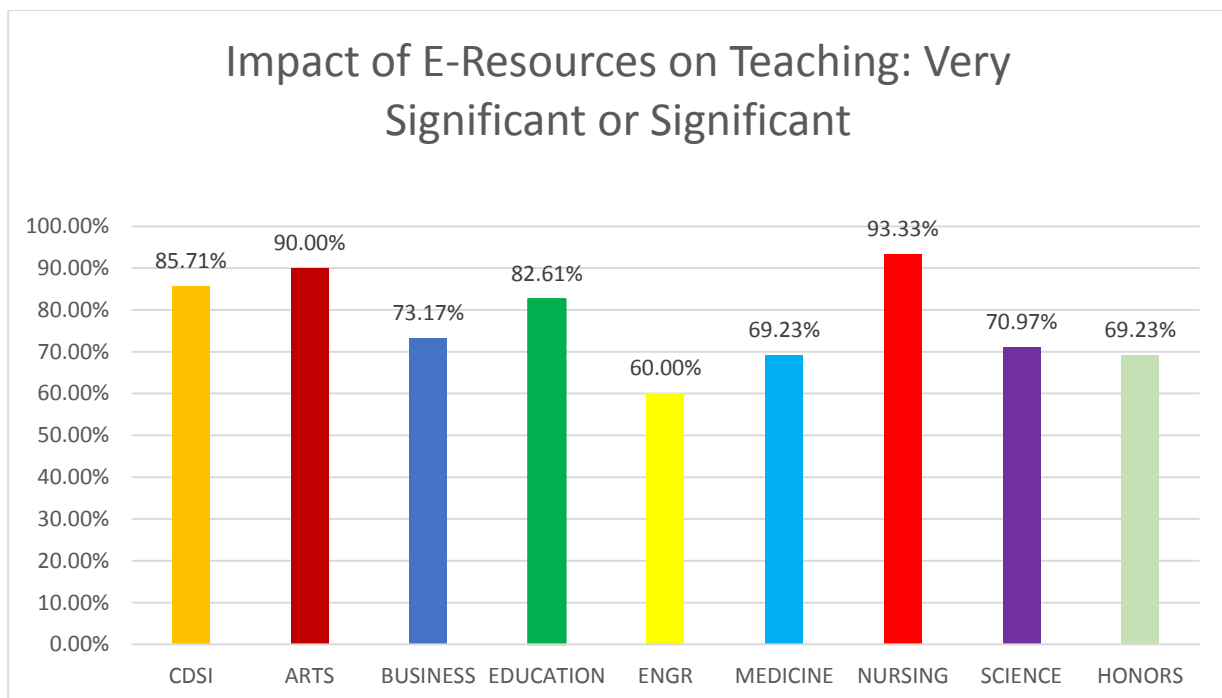
Satisfaction with E-Books



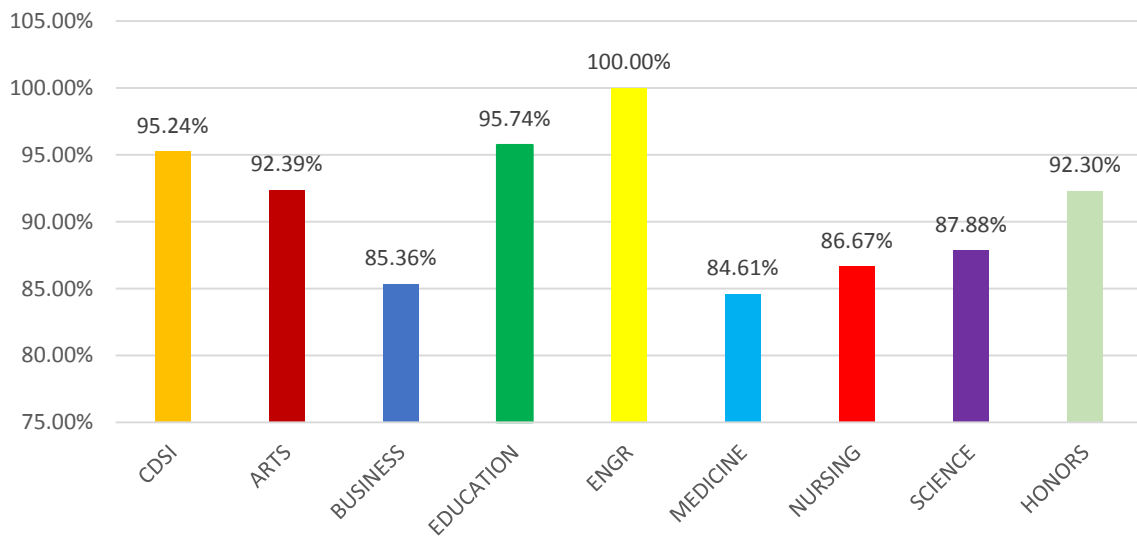
Satisfaction with E-Journals



Impact of Reduced Electronic Collections on Teaching, Research, and Decision to Remain at FAU



Impact of E-Resources on Research: Very Significant or Significant



Impact of E-Resources on Remaining at FAU: Very Significant or Significant

