ERIC Database User Survey Additional Comments

1. Are you familiar with the *ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) database*, an index to journal articles and research reports in the field of Education?

   “aware of it’s existence”—off site grad  
   “somewhat”—off site grad  
   “only from visit to site based class”—McPherson off site grad  
   “not familiar with it”—under grad  
   “I’ve used AskERIC lesson plans”—under grad

2. If yes, how frequently do you use the database?

   Other—
   “as needed for research”—doctorate  
   “never”—under grad (7)  
   “one time”—under grad  
   “I have not used ERIC since 1993”—graduate  
   “only a couple times”—graduate  
   “sporadically-dictated by course requirements”—graduate  
   “I haven’t needed to use this database”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “I haven’t needed to use it yet…I’ve found enough resources within our district”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “I haven’t used it, I don’t know the correct password to use,(it would not accept my DOB)-I can do this at Hesston College”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “Never”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “None”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “Haven’t yet, but will use-probably frequently”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “Haven’t tried it yet”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “Never”—Maize off site graduate (2)  
   “When I was in college I heard about it”—Maize off site graduate  
   “As needed for class”—Maize off site graduate  
   “Less now than in the past”—graduate  
   “On occasion, 3-4x per year”—graduate  
   “Somewhere between weekly and once a month”—faculty  
   “For research projects”—graduate  
   “Whenever a term paper is due”—graduate

3. For what purposes do you use the ERIC database? Please check all that apply.

   Other and additional comments
   “Don’t use it”—graduate  
   “Prof. Cit. reviews”—graduate  
   “Explore things I hear outside my specialty”—graduate  
   “Stumbled across through a topic search”—Maize off site graduate  
   “Will be using it for course research”—McPherson off site graduate  
   “Never”—under grad(3)  
   “I have not used ERIC since 1993”—graduate  
   “Lesson plans”—under grad
4. Were you aware that the *ERIC* database is available from several different sites on the Internet?

   “Full text documents for free??”—graduate
   “For a price”—graduate
   “Could not access it though”—graduate

5. Which of these free **open access** Internet sites do you use to access the *ERIC* database? Please check all that apply.

   “Didn’t know it exists”—graduate

6. Please indicate in the space below which of these two versions you use most frequently.

   “I’m really not sure. I just blindly click whatever comes up…I haven’t used it THAT much yet to say” -- Doctorate
   “Ask Jeeves.com”—graduate
   “I go to the campus library for it”—graduate
   “Use them both about the same”—graduate
   “I don’t know. I simply do a net search for *ERIC*, then use the findings to link to *ERIC*.”—graduate
   “I have only used WSU Library link.”—graduate

7. Which of these versions of *ERIC*, available only from the **Library’s homepage**, do you use? Please check all that apply.

   “Haven’t used”—graduate (3)

8. Please indicate in the space just below which of these two versions you use most frequently.

   “Definitely SilverPlatter. I find it to be more user friendly.”—faculty
   “Have only used it a few times so don’t know”—graduate
   “I don’t like FirstSearch.”—graduate
   “Home Computer Only”—undergrad
   “Did not use-had trouble accessing from home computer (Shocker card related)”—graduate
   “First Search-very fast and accurate”—graduate

9. Were you aware that the versions of *ERIC* available only through the Library’s homepage (*SilverPlatter* and *FirstSearch*) offer links to the Library’s catalog so that you can quickly check to see if the WSU Library owns journals you need?

   none

10. Would the link to the Library catalog be an advantage to you?

    “Maybe”—graduate
    “Yes, definitely”—faculty
11. Were you aware that the versions of ERIC available only through the Library’s homepage offer links to the full text of some journal articles?

“Yes, I can’t remember how to access them. Out of 200+ articles, none had FT that I could identify. I must have been doing something wrong”—graduate
“Yes, this is very useful when available”—faculty
“Yes, for $$.”—graduate

12. Would links to full text articles be an advantage to you?

“Yes, definitely”—faculty
“Yes, I found very few full text articles.”—graduate
“Yes, greatly”—graduate
“Yes, definitely”—graduate(4)
5 graduate students and 2 doctorates emphasized “yes” in some way on their surveys (extra check marks, underlining, etc.)

13. If you were able to print the full text of ERIC documents (the reports currently only available on microfiche) directly from a search on the ERIC database, would this be a feature that you would use?

“Definitely, I limit my searches to full text articles for this reason”—graduate
“Definitely, but in a format (ideally) where I can pick and choose pages – often only reading a few, possible?”—faculty
“I have no internet access at home or job at present time”—graduate
“Are computer printouts cheaper or more expensive than copies?:—undergrad
“Very much, definitely!”—graduate
14 graduate students and 2 doctorates emphasized “definitely” in some way

Additional comments

“Your presentation to our class was very helpful.”—graduate
“Your presentation to CESP701 was invaluable—really built my DB search skill. Thanks!”—graduate