

## Appendix 2: Selected Responses to the Survey

### 1. Are you aware that a large number of e-books from Wiley, Elsevier, Ebrary, Springer are available to the IUB campus?

Yes. 74.1%

No. 25.9%

### 2. If yes, how do you find links to e-books that you are interested in?

Library announcements sent to departmental listservs. 42.9%

Book reviews. 3.6%

Recommendations from colleagues. 17.9%

E-book webpages on IU libraries website. 53.6%

Search based on a research topic on the publisher's website. 30.4%

Other (please specify):

“Browse on what's available on the e-book web site.”

“I don't really use them. If I found one in IUCAT I might, but I don't really think to look for them on the publisher's website or anything.”

“I would just search from the library page.”

“IU Cat? I've never looked anywhere else.”

“Don't really use books/e-books.”

“I have not accessed any e-books.”

“I call the department librarian.”

“Random Search on Google.”

“The electronic journals are great!”

### **3. Do you prefer e-books or print books? Are there situations where a print book is much more efficient and vice versa?**

E-books. 53.3%

Print books 46.7%

Efficient situations:

“If the E-books were in another format besides PDF- I need to be able to highlight sections, make notes, and scroll up and down the page - PDF is just not a good format to do this - it is too slow to scroll up and down the page and then sometimes it goes really fast.”

“Speed of access.”

“I prefer print books, but E-books are more efficient when I only need to read a couple chapters out of a text book or something similar. Then I only need to print out the chapters I need.”

“E-books are good because I don't have the money to buy real books. However, it is annoying when you are reading a book for a class, and due to the large number of people trying to read the same book at the same time (I assume), you get kicked off the book and can't reconnect for some time. (The only E-book I have used so far was not available for download, but could only be read off the server)”

“Read print books anywhere, including outside. No need for technology that might not be available or is costly to purchase.”

“The print books are always much easier to browse through the first time through. I guess that when better PDF browsers are integrated that will change.”

“E-books are often difficult to read.”

“I don't like reading on a computer.”

“I like print books because I don't have to read them on my computer screen. The only reason an E-book might be useful is if it's a new/popular topic and the print book is checked out and I don't to bother with a recall.”

“I like the feel of the printed the text and find printed books much more amenable to relaxed reading with less eye strain. E-books are convenient for quick searches of texts.”

“E-books could be efficient, if a book is in one-single PDF file. Currently, all ebooks are in multiple PDF files or multiple pages in the case of html (mostly by chapters), this harms their use.”

“When the purpose is to enjoy the book, a print book is much more efficient.”

“Frankly, I wish we could have everything available for regular viewing online. That would be ideal. I have had E Mayr’s Animal Species and Evolution on my shelf for frequent reference for a long time - for frequent use, but never for more than 15 minutes. I could just as easily have a list of links on my desktop to books I regularly consult. Ctrl F. is more useful than is probably recognized – frequently the need one has from a large book is just a paragraph or section and not all indexes are created equally - not by a long shot. I am frequently reading a book and forget I can’t ctrl F it - and I am 32. I can’t imagine what someone 10 years younger than me is thinking! Picking up a book probably makes them feel like a caveman. But the trade-offs appears mostly to be that the delivery system is still being developed and I wouldn’t sacrifice comprehensiveness of access for convenience.”

“I can access these from anywhere internet is available and there is no worry about there being limited copies available.”

“There are no e-books available in my area of study.”

“E-books would be more convenient because they are available instantly.”

“Print books are better for anything with graphs, tables, figures, etc., which is most of what I read.”

“If I am really reading a book, I much prefer a print copy. If I need a book for general reference (e.g., a statistical, programming, or methods book, or one that is a compilation of individual papers), I prefer an electronic copy.”

“Print books are sometimes easier and less distracting to view than e-books on the internet. Easier to just flip to a page of interest; however, search options online are also helpful.”

“It minimizes the problem of storage and loss of books when shared with students.”

“For historical perspectives/reviews, I prefer print. For faster-moving topics, I prefer e-books.”

“I prefer print books generally, but there are applications in which having an e-book are better. For example, I refer to many technical books that I don’t plan to read the whole way through, but have a chapter that I need to have on hand. Being able to save that chapter on my computer as a PDF and pull it up as needed is very convenient.”

“E-book is always better as you can easily search it with key words.”

“E-book is ideal for preparing lecture materials (in particular, taking advantage of image cropping from PDF files; which is frequently done for chemistry courses) and posting links to selected chapters as supplementary reading.”

“E-books are more convenient but I mainly use them when I need a quick fact look-up. When I need to actually sit down and read, I prefer print (although I'll usually print out whatever I need out of the e-book).”

“Both”

“Some print book charts, formulas, and photos are in color; some e-books print only in black and white.”

“E-books are always available, and are never checked out, and can be accessed from anywhere. Reading large sections of text on e-books is worse than with print.”

“Print books are excellent for reference and are easier to read. E-books are great if they are download-able, allowing them to be printed for reference or used on a portable e-reader.”

“Searchability”

“Whenever I am in need of reading the entire book, otherwise E-books are by far the best for quick reference (for example when there is only one page/chapter of interest)”

“Quick reference wherever you are, probably great on a tablet PC, multiple user access.”

“Needing a quick reference.”

“I prefer print books for casual reading (e.g. novels), but for science purposes (e.g. reference books), I would prefer e-books that are easily searchable.”

“I prefer print right now but I may be getting a kindle in the near future. If that happens, I may prefer e-books.”

“Need immediate access can access from my office.”

“For some reason, I sometimes have difficulty reading from a screen. I prefer E books in principle, since they are easier to access, etc., but in practice I really do like having the book in front of me.”

“Main advantage of E book is 24/7 availability. Books that I refer to frequently I prefer printed version, assuming it is available. Otherwise I print out chapters of E-book which often involves filing thick stacks of paper. If E books are cheaper than print books I much prefer to have E book available than no book available or need to go to interlibrary loan.”

“E-books - can print the sections that are of most interest; save them on my computer; access easily once saved.”

“Books used in computer training, particularly in computer programming, are more effective in paper format. Too much concentration on the computer screen can lead to eye strain.”

#### **4. What is the MOST important reason that you use e-books?**

Available at your desk 24/7. 67.7%

Often multiple users can use an e-book (unlike print books). 12.3%

Low price. 6.2%

Availability on the e-book reader. 4.6%

Portable. 9.2%

Other (please specify):

“I only use them when I can not actually have the print book.”

“More availability and I can print out chapters i need and only carry sections of the book with me instead of the whole thing.”

“Haven't used.”

“I don't really use them ... so the only reason would be if printed weren't available.”

“E-books are often newly published.”

“Provide the most current information through links to Podcasts, primary literature, videos, and other resources/references.”

“Don't really use books/e-books.”

“Available immediately rather than having to wait for delivery.”

“Faster, easier access.”

“Library staff personnel are familiar with e-book searching .”

“Searchable for key words on a computer.”

“Never used an e-book.”

#### **5. What hinders you MOST in the use of e-books?**

Difficult to find. 22.4%

Difficult to read on screen. 32.8%

Difficult to annotate. 10.4%

Prefer print. 14.9%

Lack of training to find e-books. 19.4%

Other (please specify):

“The scrolling is really annoying.”

“Lack of portable reader ... I only have a large clunky computer.”

“The organization of e-books. See answer #3.”

“I also lack a reader. I am planning on getting one eventually, but I figure I will wait for the delivery system, copyright issues, etc. to resolve themselves before I do this. I have very specific reading needs. In regards the next question.. I don't generally read e-books now, but a standard non-proprietary format is ideal. PDF is proprietary, so maybe html is better. From what I have read about E-readers, some read several formats, so I am not sure what the purpose of a special format would be? I am not suggesting there isn't a purpose, but I don't know what that purpose would be.”

“These are not always available and sometimes limited information.”

“Lack of titles in my area of interest.”

“I forget they exist.”

“Don't really use books/e-books.”

“Also sometimes its time consuming and a little difficult to find.”

“None of the above.”

“I didn't know we had them!”

“Lack of training and instruction in e-book technology.”

“A lot of times, the e-book that I want is not being subscribed to by the university --Overall communication between the library and students/professors on a priority-based availability of e-books is probably best since we only read what is most pertinent to the field, especially on an everyday basis.”

“Lack of time to read.”

“Sometimes having a hard copy you can write on is important. I think for the most part though, if I had a kindle that I could carry with me anywhere and read outside easily, I may be more inclined to read e-books.”

“Also difficult to find. Must be either printed out or read at my computer.”

**6. In what format do you prefer e-books?**

PDF. 92.3%

HTML. 11.5%

Mobile device. 5.1%

E-book reader. 7.7%

**7. What are the top three features influencing your opinion about e-books?**

Ability to print or save whole chapters. 80.0%

Search of full text. 77.3%

Share with colleagues. 18.7%

Note taking capability. 26.7%

Ease of use. 52.0%

Personalization services. 2.7%

Titles included in IUCAT. 34.7%

**8. Please choose your preferred e-book publishers or vendors below. What is the reason for you to choose that publisher or vendor?**

Springer. 28.9%

Wiley. 39.5%

Royal Society of Chemistry. 5.3%

Elsevier. 18.4%

Books 24/7. 2.6%

Safari. 0.0%

Ebrary. 5.3%

Reason to choose:

“More books in my field than the others.”

“Springer is the publisher that publishes the most reference books in my research field.”

“Sorry -- I don't keep track of them. At the end of the day, a book can only be obtained from one publisher.”

“Various topics.”

“I have been able to download and print chapters.”

“No preference.”

“Many e-books appear on that webpage after searching.”

“More titles of interest.”

“Don't know as I e-book experience is limited.”

“Many Ecology books.”

“More books available.”

“No preferences.”

“Haven't used enough to have identified a preference.”

“No preference.”

“Business practice not-for-profit in keeping with academic and scientific goals of low-cost, widespread dissemination of information.”

“Don't really use books/e-books.”

“Don't have one.”

“Simply because of topics covered; netlibrary.com is my least favorite option because they make portability nearly impossible.”

“Most of the books I am interested in are published by Springer, Wiley or Elsevier.”



“Very nice reviews can be seen on this publisher.”

“I use Springer the most and don't know much about the others.”

“Do not know the difference.”

“Most relevant books in my area of work.”

“Wiley-VCH is pretty active in publishing monographs on modern topics in chemistry, in particular books for experts at graduate and post-graduate level.”

“Only one I know.”

“It's what I end up using most.”

“I have no preference.”

“I have no preference and avoid using an e-book if possible.”

“Several great books on nanosciences.”

“High-quality topical books.”

“This publisher, along with Springer usually has the titles more pertinent to my field of research.”

“Most available.”

“Haven't used enough to form an opinion.”

“Have never downloaded an e-book.”

“Whichever publisher has the book I'm looking for, often Springer, Wiley or Elsevier. I am not familiar with what titles are available from other publishers.”

“Scientific Resources.”

“No preference.”

“The large selection of computer based books found on 24/7.”

**9. Are there any additional factors that you think publishers should consider when publishing e-books?**

“Linking to bibliographic programs and to articles cited in the book.”

“I use the index to find things in books but I have to download the PDF first -- a way to search inside books would be good.”

“I wish publishers would all just offer PDF downloads like they do with articles. I don't want to try to mess around using their interface when I can just download a PDF and read it with Adobe Acrobat like I do with everything else.”

“Make it a single file for each book.”

“Academic quality.”

“Buy good books, not to buy a lot books.”

“I honestly think that publishers should make all their books freely available to everybody online.”

“CRC”

“The entire funding system is probably in disarray? I don't really know.. I can say the following definitively- it is of little value to me if 10% of the books I need are in e-book form, I will disregard the service entirely - it would not be worth learning for a convenience on a small portion of the books I use. I already probably get 30% of my books from ILL. These are specialized needs. I am very concerned about the movement away from collections where much is available some through ILL, and in permanent collection, to a system where a fee is required to keep old collections up. What about ILL?”

“Refer to comments in Question 4.”

“Have the whole book available for download, instead of just piecemeal – chapter by-chapter.”

“On the webpage of a book there should be another link to download complete book as a single PDF. Sometimes, whole book is of great value instead of downloading each chapter separately.”

“Digitize and e-publish old books!”

“Protocol books.”

“Publish a simple manual describing properties (good and bad) and instructions for use of e-books. Distribute to all library users by snail mail.”

“I have no idea where to find available e-books.”

“I would like to be able to download the whole book in a single file (like a zip file). Downloading many chapters and relabeling can be time consuming.”

“Images and image quality, perhaps the ability to link to hi-res images for use in teaching/presentations.”

“Timeliness of information. Most science books have a very short half-life for usefulness.”

“Not everyone has an e-book reader.”

“Format”

**10. What do you think is the most effective way that the library can promote the use of e-books?**

“Get a different format - additionally, it is really unfortunate that if you have an ebook - the library will not order the print book via inter-library loan. I do not like this at all.”

“Demonstrations at branch libraries.”

“I have my own website where I personally classify each textbook according to a more specific subject than chemistry, e.g., organic. So, it would be good to add tags to the chemistry ebook website (like an editable Wikipedia page). In this way, grad students could fast-track their knowledge of what a book covers. I say grad students because they are the ones after Professors that can benefit a lot from the textbooks. However, the grad students don't necessarily know how to evaluate advanced topics.”

“I think email notice is enough.”

“List new books.”

“Loaning out e-reading devices to make reading of e-books much easier.”

“Email about their availability.”

“The emails we get every now and then help awareness.”

“Reinforce the searching engine so that it is easy to find out e-book through library website.”

“Put them in IUCAT.”

“Distribute (or rent/loan) e-book readers.”

“Choose good books. Maybe a few for each field/topic. Do not follow publishers' marketing.”

“Why would the library want to promote the use of e-books?”

“Include in IUCAT.”

“Comprehensiveness, any small advantage from ease of access would never be sufficient in comparison to the strong need by researchers for the weirdest books possible. I know there are a handful of books that everyone wants - and maybe this is how e-books will grow initially.”

“Create an easily accessible, visible link to e-resources with pull down menu that allows you to choose the specific type of e-resource (i.e. e-books).”

“Incorporate into general search method.”

“Perhaps some guidelines on how best to find, access and use them.”

“Teach us how to search for available e-books. (What e-books are already available to our campus and what e-books are not). How to perform basic actions such as saving, taking noting etc on e-books.”

“Cataloged in IU Cat, linked to Google Scholar etc. via IU Link.”

“Through continued communications to the faculty/staff & possibility a presentation/discussion at the faculty staff meeting.”

“Monthly notices about new e-books; perhaps a reminder of the most popular existing e-books.”

“A well structured searchable database with a responsive web interface is enough. The ability to search inside the texts of all books at once would be great.”

“Give away emails on listserv.”

“With articles you find on Google Scholar or Web of Knowledge, there is link to see if IU has the article electronically. It would be nice if there were a similar function for all books, especially e-books.”

“Announcements”

“Send announcements of new acquisitions.”

“Purchase more and advertise more.”

“It would be nice to have them linked from SciFinder. But books are much harder to read on the computer than journal articles. E-books will be hard to promote.”

“Sent emails about new protocols books.”

“Discontinue purchase of print editions.”

“Better search features, and a way to recommend similar books (like Amazon).”

“Email”

“Publicize by specific interests, e.g. "nanomaterials" or "organometallics”.

“Better communication on the website as to what e-books are available for the Chemistry community.”

“Rent e-book readers or tablet PCs with e-books.”

“Providing more common text books.”

“Link on the website home page.”

“Publicity, training, easily located.”

“Have a single webpage devoted to links to topics and/or make it clear how to use IUCAT to return only e-book listings.”

“Make it easier to find what titles are available. What are 'personalization services' in question 7?”

“Reduce prices.”

“Database of books...organized by subject/topic - This probably already exists and I just don't know of it.”

“Give a short summary to incoming graduate students on the electronic resources as they are oriented into graduate school.”

“Increased communication to professors regarding the availability of e-books so they can pass URL, etc, to their students.”