Appendix A

Current Awareness Services Survey

1. Which category best describes your age?
   - ____ < 25
   - ____ 25-34
   - ____ 35-44
   - ____ 45-65
   - ____ > 65

2. What is your primary academic department at WMU?
   - ____ Biological Sciences
   - ____ Chemistry
   - ____ Geosciences
   - ____ Physics
   - ____ Civil and Construction Engineering
   - ____ Computer Science
   - ____ Electrical and Computer Engineering
   - ____ Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
   - ____ Materials Science
   - ____ Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering
   - ____ Paper, Imaging, and Chemical Engineering

3. What is your status?
   - ____ Faculty
   - ____ Emeritus faculty
   - ____ Faculty specialist
   - ____ Adjunct Faculty
   - ____ Instructor

4. How many years have you been conducting research?
   - _____ (Please enter a number)

5. Do you use any of the online current awareness tools below to keep up with the current literature in your field? (Select all that apply)
   - ____ I don't use online current awareness tools
   - ____ Blogs
   - ____ Wikis
   - ____ Email alerts
   - ____ RSS feeds from publisher web site
   - ____ RSS feeds from article database
   - ____ Journal table of contents
   - ____ Websites (trade, corporate)
   - ____ Saved searches (in a database)
   - ____ Online peer networks (emails from colleagues, Community of Science, etc.)

6. Please rank the three online current awareness tools you use the most. (Most Often Used; Second Most Often Used, Third Most Often Used)
  ____ Blogs
  ____ Wikis
  ____ Email alerts
  ____ RSS feeds from publisher web site
  ____ RSS feeds from article database
  ____ Journal table of contents
  ____ Websites (trade, corporate)
  ____ Saved searches (in a database)
  ____ Online peer networks (emails from colleagues, Community of Science)
  ____ Other (please specify)

7. How often do you use or monitor these online current awareness tools?
  ____ Daily
  ____ Weekly
  ____ Monthly
  ____ Quarterly
  ____ Annually
  ____ Never

8. How do these online current awareness tools contribute to your research or teaching productivity? (Select all that apply)
  ____ Save time searching for literature
  ____ Increase awareness of other researchers in my field
  ____ Increase awareness of relevant research results
  ____ Give me new ideas for research directions
  ____ Encourage me to read more primary literature
  ____ Other (please specify)

9. What do these online current awareness tools alert you to? (Select all that apply)
  ____ Research in a specific subject area
  ____ Research by a specific author
  ____ Research from a specific institution or research center
  ____ Grant or funding opportunities
  ____ Journal table of contents
  ____ Other (please specify)

10. How did you find out about the online current awareness tools you use? (Select all that apply)

_____ Browsing the web
_____ Newspaper or magazine article
_____ Colleague
_____ Friend
_____ Family
_____ My students
_____ Librarian
_____ Other (please specify)

11. How did you learn to use these tools? (Select all that apply)

_____ Taught myself/trial and error
_____ Used a web page, manual, or online tutorial
_____ Colleague/friend/family showed me
_____ Librarian showed me
_____ Other (please specify)

12. If you do not use online current awareness services, why not? (Select all that apply)

_____ I tried in the past and did not like it
_____ Not comfortable with online tools
_____ They are not convenient
_____ They don't find what I'm looking for
_____ I don't have time to learn to use them
_____ I don't have time to check them
_____ Other (please specify)

13. Would you be interested in attending a library training session that covers current awareness services (RSS, email alerts, journal table of contents)?

_____ Yes
_____ No