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Opportunities Outweigh Obstacles

Librarians and URPDs Partner to Expose Student Research

— Betty Rozum, Becky Thoms, Scott Bates, and Danielle Barandiaran

Introduction

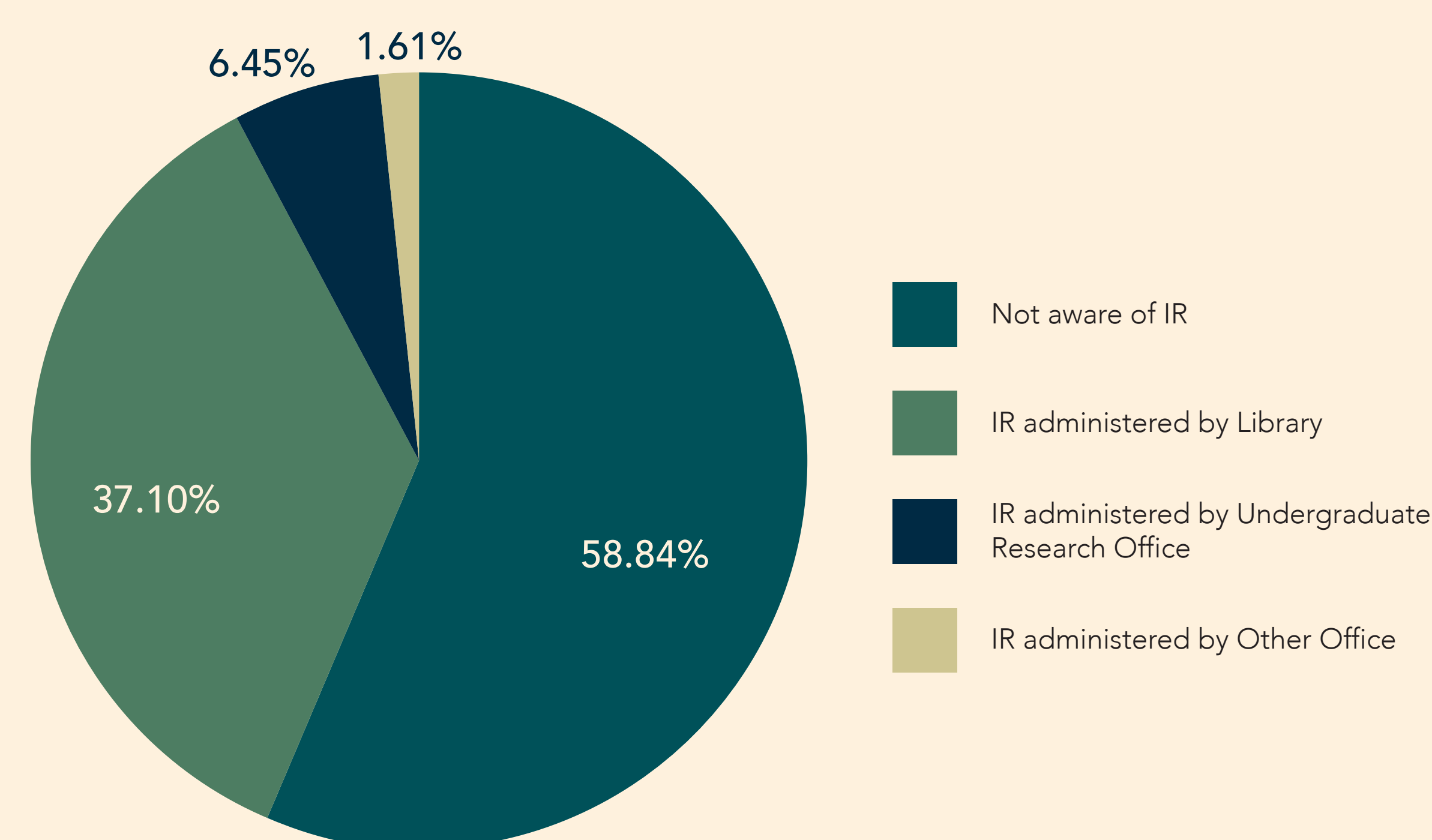
Student research is an untapped commodity. A survey of 238 Institutional Repositories in 2013 indicated that only 38% collect student research other than theses and dissertations. We think student research is a potential goldmine. Do other librarians agree? What about stake holders outside of the library? And, what are the obstacles preventing more robust collection of student research?

Methods

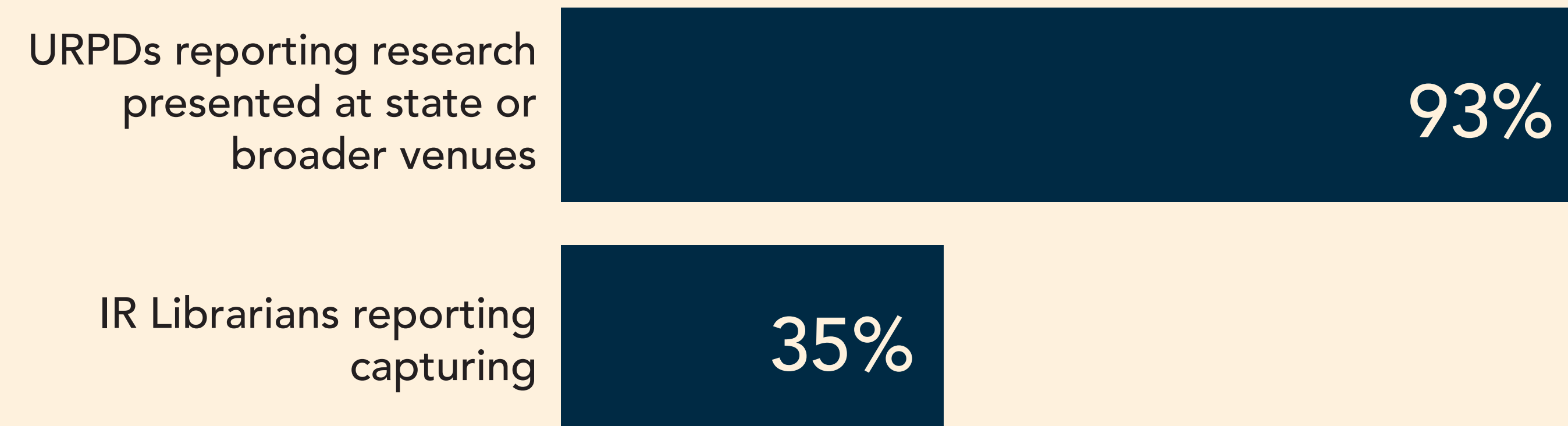
A survey was developed for Undergraduate Research Program Directors (URPD) and distributed via the Council of Undergraduate Research (CUR) URPD list-serv. Of the 566 members subscribed to the list, responses were received from 65.

A second survey was developed for Institutional Repository Librarians (IRL). The survey link was emailed directly to 272 individuals in this, or a similar, position in academic libraries. A total of 77 responses were received.

URPD Awareness of IRs and IR Administration on Campus



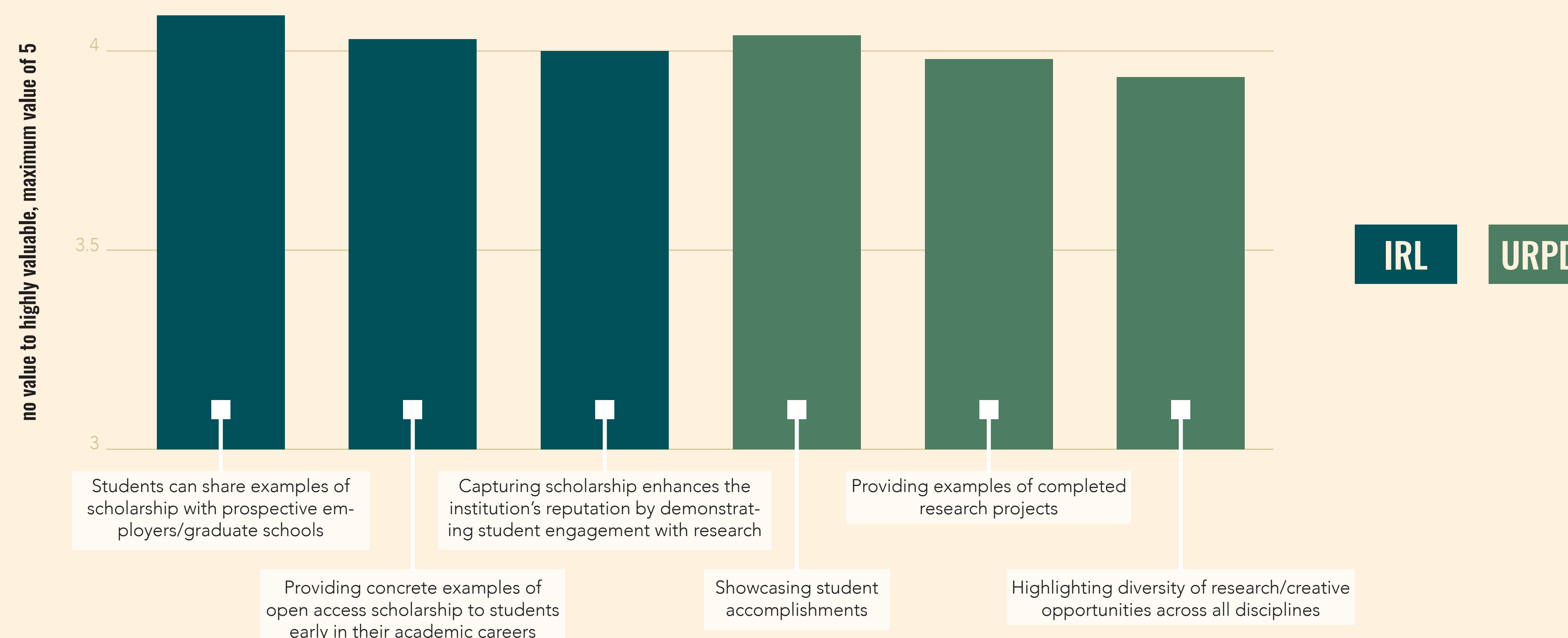
Produced vs. Collected



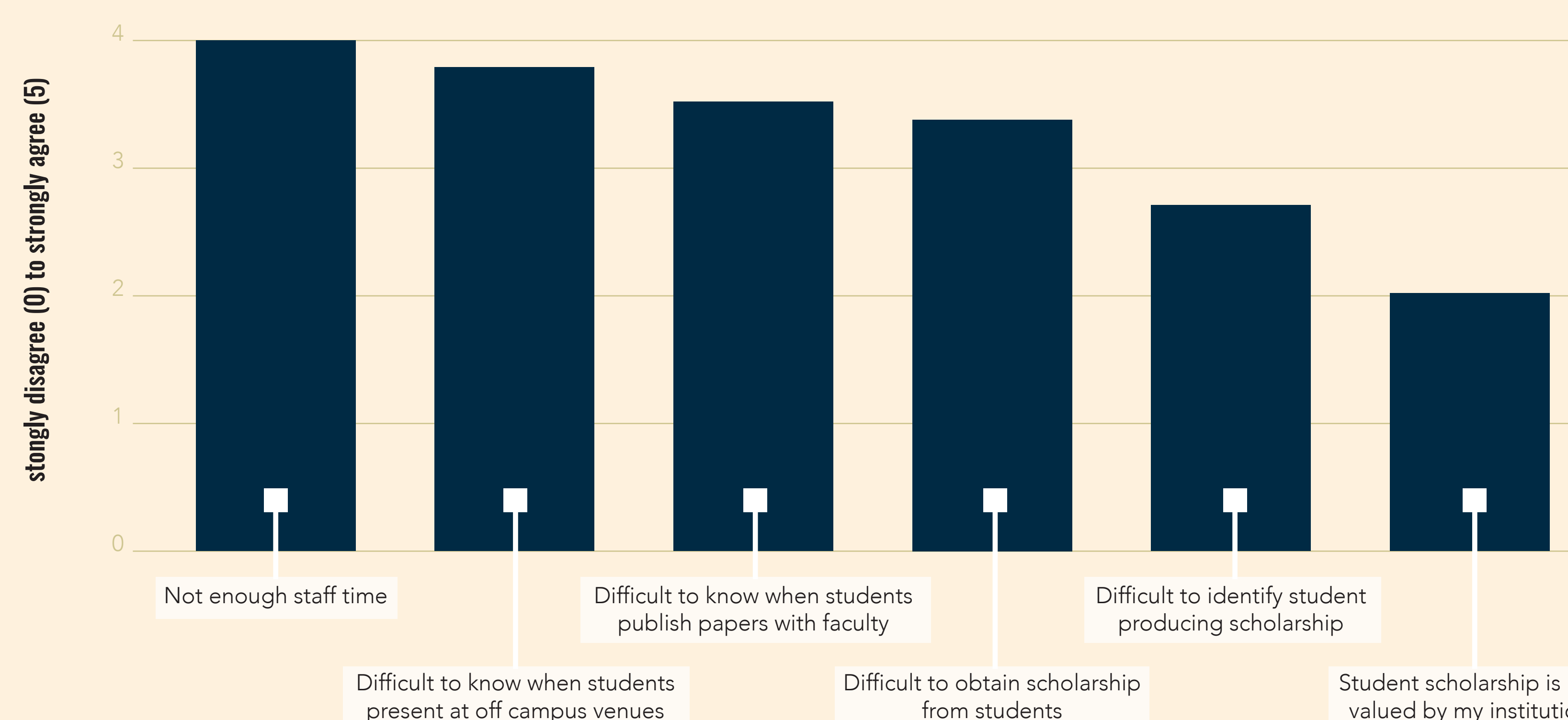
A Missed Opportunity?

Undergraduate researchers are presenting their work at venues beyond the campus, yet IR Librarians are not capturing this scholarship.

Top Three Perceived Benefits of Including Student Research in IR: IRL Librarians and URPDs



Barriers to Including Research in IR: IRL Perspectives



Future Work

- Surveying faculty and undergraduate students, both scheduled for distribution at USU in Fall 2015
- Further engaging subject librarians in this process
- Developing best practices
- Researching additional stakeholder views of student research