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