

NOTE: Out of over 1,700 "KoreanStudies Discussion List" subscribers 117 participated in this online survey. Not all participating in the survey answered all questions.

Another NOTE: In a private email exchange a scholar with PhD in hand pointed out that there should have been an option such as "on the job market (but presently unemployed)" in Question #2. That is certainly true. Please consider this flaw when evaluating the outcome.

FH



Results

Number of records in this query:	117
Total records in survey:	117
Percentage of total:	100.00%

Question #1

Do you already have access through your university or other institution to major full-text academic data bases?

Answer	Count	Percentage
I'm pretty much all set -- no real need for any further access.	13	22.03%
Have access, but only to major WESTERN full-text services.	15	25.42%
Have access, but only to major KOREAN full-text services.	1	1.69%
Have access in theory, but can't usually use it, other than directly at my institution.	11	18.64%
Have some access, but not to USEFUL full-text services such as ProQuest dissertations or JSTOR (journal articles).	3	5.08%
Have no regular institutional access to full-text DBs.	14	23.73%
Have access, but only by asking colleagues or friends to loan their access passwords, or by asking them to get certain documents for me.	1	1.69%
No answer	1	1.69%

Question #2**What is your status as regards to KOREAN STUDIES or ACADEMIA?**

Answer	Count	Percentage
I am a student or a professor or have some other academic job and am working professionally on Korea.	45	76.27%
I am a retired academic (but of course never truly retired).	6	10.17%
I am some sort of hobbyist in Korean Studies (or a related field).	7	11.86%

Question #3

Given you are among those *not* all set and happy with your current access situation to full-text academic data bases, on a scale of 1 to 5 (whereby 5 is most important), how important would you consider the need or advantage of having access to all the major journals, dissertations, and other sources -- IN THE WEST (USA, Europe)?

Answer	Count	Percentage	Sum
1 (1)	1	0.98%	1.96%
2 (2)	1	0.98%	
3 (3)	5	4.90%	4.90%
4 (4)	6	5.88%	
5 (5)	31	30.39%	36.27%
Sum (Answers)	44	100.00%	100.00%
Number of cases	59	100.00%	
No answer	15	12.82%	
Arithmetic mean		4.48	
Standard deviation		0.95	

Question #4

Given you are among those *not* all set and happy with your current access situation to full-text academic data bases, on a scale of 1 to 5 (whereby 5 is most important), how important would you consider the need or advantage of having access to all the major journals, dissertations, and other sources -- IN KOREA?

Answer	Count	Percentage	Sum
1 (1)	2	1.98%	1.98%
2 (2)	0	0.00%	
3 (3)	3	2.97%	2.97%
4 (4)	8	7.92%	
5 (5)	30	29.70%	37.62%
Sum (Answers)	43	100.00%	100.00%
Number of cases	59	100.00%	
No answer	16	13.68%	
Arithmetic mean		4.49	
Standard deviation		0.98	

Question #5 (A: DISSERTATION)

Given you were offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	10	16.95%
2 \$	10	16.95%
3 \$	6	10.17%
4 \$	3	5.08%
5 \$	18	30.51%
6 \$	0	0.00%
7 \$	2	3.39%
8 \$	1	1.69%
9 \$	1	1.69%
10 \$	5	8.47%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #5 (B: BOOK)

Given you were offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	6	10.17%
2 \$	4	6.78%
3 \$	0	0.00%
4 \$	5	8.47%
5 \$	15	25.42%
6 \$	1	1.69%
7 \$	3	5.08%
8 \$	1	1.69%
9 \$	0	0.00%
10 \$	21	35.59%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #5 (C: JOURNAL ARTICLE)

Given you were offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	16	27.12%
2 \$	21	35.59%
3 \$	5	8.47%
4 \$	4	6.78%
5 \$	7	11.86%
6 \$	0	0.00%
7 \$	1	1.69%
8 \$	0	0.00%
9 \$	0	0.00%
10 \$	2	3.39%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #5 (D: BOOK REVIEW)

Given you were offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	40	67.80%
2 \$	10	16.95%
3 \$	3	5.08%
4 \$	1	1.69%
5 \$	2	3.39%
6 \$	0	0.00%
7 \$	0	0.00%
8 \$	0	0.00%
9 \$	0	0.00%
10 \$	0	0.00%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #5 (E: NEWSPAPER ARTICLE)

Given you where offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	42	71.19%
2 \$	10	16.95%
3 \$	3	5.08%
4 \$	0	0.00%
5 \$	0	0.00%
6 \$	1	1.69%
7 \$	0	0.00%
8 \$	0	0.00%
9 \$	0	0.00%
10 \$	0	0.00%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #5 (F: OTHER SOURCE DOCUMENTS)

Given you were offered such access, how much would it be worth to you -- that is, how much would you be willing to pay at the maximum to download

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 \$	31	52.54%
2 \$	13	22.03%
3 \$	4	6.78%
4 \$	2	3.39%
5 \$	3	5.08%
6 \$	0	0.00%
7 \$	0	0.00%
8 \$	1	1.69%
9 \$	0	0.00%
10 \$	2	3.39%
No answer	3	5.08%

Question #6:

Within one year, how many articles, dissertations, and other documents do you expect to download or access, given pricing would be reasonable and match your expectations?

Calculation	Result
Count	57
Sum	4565.00
Standard deviation	153.17
Average	80.09
Minimum	0.00
1st quartile (Q1)	15
2nd quartile (Median)	30
3rd quartile (Q3)	80
Maximum	1000.00

Null values are ignored in calculations
Q1 and Q3 calculated using [minitab method](#)

Question #7

Any comments and suggestions? Please note them here -- and do NOT sign by name, to keep this anonym.

Count

Percentage

Answers

16

27.12%



I am an economist but very interested in Korea studies in general. Therefore, my opinion is not the most important among those you will receive.

As a hobbyist would be very interesting to have access if possible, but only on a (relatively low) flat rate basis or for free.

I am in and out of different institutions and have to rely exclusively on what access I can get while I am affiliated. In between institutions, I have no access.

I have an MFA related to Korean studies. I continue to pursue my understanding of past and present events in Korea, to study the language, and to travel in Korea. I am not, however, and never will be, connected to a major academic institution other than as an alumni. This, however, has strictly limited library privileges; nor can I "upgrade" by purchasing library privileges from the University: there is no policy in place to do so.

I support the desire to create open access information.

Frankly, this seems a somewhat loaded survey, with rather vague categories.

No option to pay zero dollars. That is the most I would pay for access to articles etc. where I have entered one usd this would be zero usd.

To the question about how much one is willing to pay for access: facsimile editions of original sources would have to come under other source documents, but for me these are the most important type of sources.

I am not quite sure how to answer some of the questions. Of course, it is already possible to pay money to download DBPIA and KISS articles. It might be expensive if done often. In my case, I actually have access to DBPIA and KISS because an earlier university I attended forgot to remove my access to the university databases, but I could lose access at any time. For that reason, I list myself above as having no access.

As for the question of whether we should establish an online bibliography for Korean Studies, I quite agree that a bibliography for "Korean Studies" as a whole would be less than useful. Now, Ken Robinson's bibliography to Korean History IS useful and often includes titles that do not immediately appear on google or on JSTOR, etc. So I don't agree that there is no use to an online bibliography. However, Korean Studies as a whole is an unwieldy entity - I don't see the purpose.

Thanks for your time.

I am not prepared at this time to pay for access. Please disregard my answers to the question about willingness to pay as there is no "0" button.

At the same time, I fully recognize that access is not really a "free" commodity. It costs one or more people and/or organizations both time and money to create and maintain each academic database. I also recognize the fact that most users of databases do not

cont.

Any comments and suggestions? Please note them here -- and do NOT sign by name, to keep this anonym.

really appreciate how much time and effort go into their preparation and maintenance. They generally tend to take their availability (when available) for granted, especially when the people responsible for them are nameless and faceless.

The question of quality, authority and comprehensiveness is also a major issue that deserves consideration.

🔗 Such a database would be very welcome in the opinion of this PhD candidate, especially for journal articles and very much so unpublished PhD dissertations (which are sometimes referenced in scholars' bibliographies but cannot be found outside of that university). Access to Korean university databases would also be valuable but only if they are reasonably navigable.

As much as anything, advertisement to know what is and isn't available on already open databases is just as important; I am sure that I am not fully utilizing what already is available.

I don't particularly see the need for a bibliography service without the availability of the actual texts; it was sounding as if people cut-and-paste these bibliographies as references to their dissertation which doesn't seem sound practice.

A bibliography of databases would be more relevant! KoreaWeb is very good for links, but it is unclear which Korean library has which collections and which provide full text access.

For reference, the database I find most useful and usable is the db.history.go.kr

Although not directly related, what would be equally welcome is an affordable system to buy Korean books from abroad (without Korean id numbers). I know it's just about possible through Kyobo, but they only send through the most expensive EMS delivery.

Thanks for providing this survey.

🔗 I would expect this to be paid by my employer or be made accessible by a public licence funding scheme. Having to pay privately for work-related expenses is not acceptable. I did fill in the minimum value in the cost question part, but that really should be zero.

🔗 Quite a lot of Korean research associations offer free access to their journals -- which is great. Still, being able to access full texts through RISS etc. would be much faster and would make the search for Korean literature much more effective...

🔗 Although I have access to both Western and Korean databases through my university, I find it cumbersome to go through multiple searches on different engines.


I think a site like the one Muller brought up would be useful because it could, with enough entries, become my first step in finding sources.


🔗 It would be great to have access to K.I.S.S. or other Korean language academic DBs (including Korean dissertations). Being at a small liberal arts college and without access to these databases, definitely stunts research. We in the West need to know what kinds of scholarship is being produced.

cont.

Any comments and suggestions? Please note them here -- and do NOT sign by name, to keep this anonym.

Thank you!

 Your status classifications do not fit my status. I am an independent researcher, retired from US government, with more than 50 years' experience in Korean affairs and a couple of published academic monographs. I consider myself more than just a "hobbyist." There may be others like me.

 Because I go to Korea fairly frequently, I am able to download articles I need or get access to books I cannot get in North America fairly easily. I would not really be interested in paying two dollars per download for something I can get for free if I wait a little bit.

No answer

43

72.88%