

Appendix C. User Surveys

Each survey we sent out included the following introduction:

Zine Collection Website Use Survey

We are redesigning the website for the zine collection at our Fine Arts library. Right now it is quite basic, with an alphabetical list of all the zines that links to their item records in UT's library catalog. You can view it [here](#).

While it's possible to search for zines through the catalog, we'd like to enhance the process by adding searching and browsing capabilities to the zine webpage itself. Before we make any design decisions, we'd like to know how exactly researchers and other users use zine collections online. This survey will ask a number of specific questions, and then at the end we've left space for you to discuss your work with zines more generally.

Reprinted below are our questions and the answers from respondents (they pasted their answers right into the survey). Names have been removed.

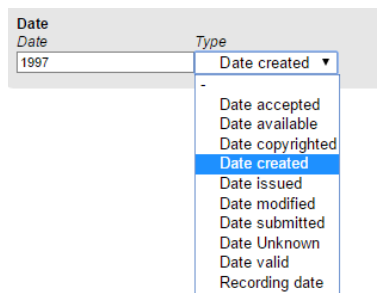
Survey Respondent 1

Questions

Name: Respondent 1

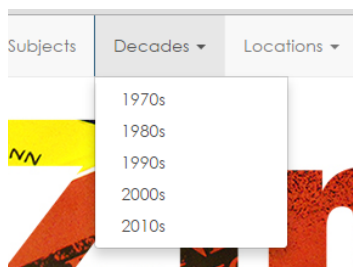
Date: June 24, 2015

1. Advanced Search Boxes versus Advanced Browsing Options



Advanced search boxes allow you to type in precisely what you are looking for and search only a specific field of information. For example, an advanced search box for 'date' would let you type in a specific year and would only search date information, ignoring title, author, and all other data.

(The example pictured on the left is from QZAP.org and I typed in the year '1997' as an example.)



Advanced browsing options help you search by allowing you to select a small subset of zines to look through. For example, if browsing by date of publication, you could look at a list of decades and then select the decade you are interested in to see all zine published then.

(The example pictured on the left is from Hampshire College's zine website.)

a) When using zine collection websites, do you prefer:

- Using advanced search boxes
- Using advanced browsing options
- Using both
- It depends on the situation
- I don't know
- Other

b) Please explain your choice: I'm not sure I understand the difference here... but am quite familiar with qzap search and like how it works.

2. Please rank these features of a zine collection website in order from 1 – 6, 1 being most important and 6 being least. Please feel free to add any comments.

- 1 Advanced search options (e.g. search by title, by subject, by author, by decade)
- Basic search bar (searches all fields)
- Advanced browsing options (select from list of subjects, authors, decades, locations)
- 4 "View All" feature (allows you to view the entire collection)
- 3 Mapping feature that displays zines on a map based on location information (place it was created in or places it mentions)
- 2 Searching or browsing by visual/aesthetic elements (such as by format, by color, by materials used)

3. We are interested in exploring new searching and browsing options. One option under consideration is browsing by copyright status, because many zines, unlike typical publications, are free to be copied and their content reused.

a) Would browsing by copyright status be beneficial to you? yes no I don't know

b) Are there any other alternative ways of searching or browsing zines that you think would be valuable for a zine collection website to offer? Please mention them here: I want to be able to turn pages, and see the spreads. That is essential.

4. Is there any information about zines that you often seek and cannot find on zine collection websites? Or are there any frustrations you regularly encounter when using these sites? Please discuss.

5. For this question, you can choose to answer **either** option a) or option b) (or both, if you want to!).

a) What other zine collection websites have you viewed? Please discuss any that you find well-designed (and include a link if possible) and mention any features you like or find helpful.

b) Please explore at least three of these five zine collection websites and then rank them from most useful to least useful. Please explain your rankings (you can discuss the searching/browsing/narrowing your results capabilities and mention features you like, information you found lacking, layout and design, anything that confused you, etc).

- ___ The Sallie Bingham Center at Duke: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingdb/zines/>
- ___ Hampshire College: <http://sites.hampshire.edu/zines/>
- ___ Queer Zine Archive Project: <http://archive.qzap.org/>
- ___ Anchor Archive Zine Library: <http://www.robertsstreet.org/zine-library>
- ___ Independent Publishing Resource Center: <http://library.iprc.org/>

I'm sorry, I don't have time to do this right now (going out of town tomorrow) but I will do it sometime later.

6. Please tell us about your experience with zines. Write as much as you like. If you use them in your research, please tell us what kinds of questions about them interest you. If you work with zine researchers and users, please tell us what kind of studies and questions you have encountered in working with them. If you use them in teaching, please mention how you use them, find them, select them, etc.

I teach a course on the creation of zines for self-publishing within a context of a Creative Writing Workshop for (mostly) Creative Writing majors at UW-Milwaukee. We go to Special Collections and look at the "real" thing, and I share online resources and expect students to view work. Mostly they are browsing for inspiration and to get a sense of the wide range of possibilities, so we are not really using them in subject-specific ways. I could see a context where I wanted to use them for social justice stories, activism, environmental work... and in that, advanced subject searches would be great. (Tags? Keywords?)

I hope this helps!

Survey Respondent 2

Questions

Name: Respondent 2

Date: 6/28/2015

Date	Type
1997	Date created

1. Advanced Search Boxes versus Advanced Browsing Options

Advanced search boxes allow you to type in precisely what you are looking for and search only a specific field of information. For example, an advanced search box for 'date' would let you type in a specific year and would only search date information, ignoring title, author, and all other data.

Subjects	Decades	Locations
	1970s	
	1980s	
	1990s	
	2000s	
	2010s	

(The example pictured on the left is from QZAP.org and I typed in the year '1997' as an example.)

Advanced browsing options help you search by allowing you to select a small subset of zines to look through. For example, if browsing by date of

publication, you could look at a list of decades and then select the decade you are interested in to see all zine published then.

(The example pictured on the left is from Hampshire College's zine website.)

a) When using zine collection websites, do you prefer:

- Using advanced search boxes
- Using advanced browsing options
- Using both
- It depends on the situation
- I don't know
- Other

b) Please explain your choice: I think it's because at this point I know pretty much about zines and so already have a pretty narrow focus when I search zine library collections.

2. Please rank these features of a zine collection website in order from 1 – 6, 1 being most important and 6 being least. Please feel free to add any comments.

- _1_ Advanced search options (e.g. search by title, by subject, by author, by decade)
- _3_ Basic search bar (searches all fields)
- _4_ Advanced browsing options (select from list of subjects, authors, decades, locations)
- _5_ "View All" feature (allows you to view the entire collection)
- _6_ Mapping feature that displays zines on a map based on location information (place it was created in or places it mentions)
- _2_ Searching or browsing by visual/aesthetic elements (such as by format, by color, by materials used)

3. We are interested in exploring new searching and browsing options. One option under consideration is browsing by copyright status, because many zines, unlike typical publications, are free to be copied and their content reused.

a) Would browsing by copyright status be beneficial to you? yes no I don't know

b) Are there any other alternative ways of searching or browsing zines that you think would be valuable for a zine collection website to offer? Please mention them here: By LC Subject Heading. Also, maybe by place of purchase (distro, zine fest, author, etc.)

4. Is there any information about zines that you often seek and cannot find on zine collection websites? Or are there any frustrations you regularly encounter when using these sites? Please discuss. Usually I can find the information I want by starting at a catalog record and "following the breadcrumbs." I do like links to open in a new browser tab so that I can toggle back and forth between multiple tabs as I begin to gather information from multiple sources.

5. For this question, you can choose to answer **either** option a) or option b) (or both, if you want to!).

a) What other zine collection websites have you viewed? Please discuss any that you find well-designed (and include a link if possible) and mention any features you like or find helpful. I have been using Barnard's zine library website extensively for four weeks, <https://zines.barnard.edu/>. More accurately, I have been using CLIO (Columbia Libraries Online Catalog) to search for and learn about zines. The metadata for zines in CLIO is *extremely* thorough, which makes it easy to identify and follow relationships among zines, zinesters, associated educational institutions, geography, topics, etc.

b) Please explore at least three of these five zine collection websites and then rank them from most useful to least useful. Please explain your rankings (you can discuss the searching/browsing/narrowing your results capabilities and mention features you like, information you found lacking, layout and design, anything that confused you, etc).

- ___ The Sallie Bingham Center at Duke: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingdb/zines/>
- ___ Hampshire College: <http://sites.hampshire.edu/zines/>
- ___ Queer Zine Archive Project: <http://archive.qzap.org/>
- ___ Anchor Archive Zine Library: <http://www.robertsstreet.org/zine-library>
- ___ Independent Publishing Resource Center: <http://library.iprc.org/>

6. Please tell us about your experience with zines. Write as much as you like. If you use them in your research, please tell us what kinds of questions about them interest you. If you work with zine researchers and users, please tell us what kind of studies and questions you have encountered in working with them. If you use them in teaching, please mention how you use them, find them, select them, etc.

I am an academic librarian at a small, private, liberal arts college in the Northeast U.S. Zines are my current research project and I am just now starting to narrow my focus. So far, I am most interested in making zines in urban public libraries as a youth services activity for girls and young women—giving them a way for their voices to be heard that they don't have otherwise. I am also interested in college-girl zinesters, having identified several colleges that seem to have produced an unusually high number of zinesters. What commonalities do these girls, their college choices, their upbringings and their hometowns have? Professionally, I am collaborating with an American Studies faculty member at my college to teach a class in spring 2016 called "Resistance;" one of the resistances studied will be Riot Grrrl.

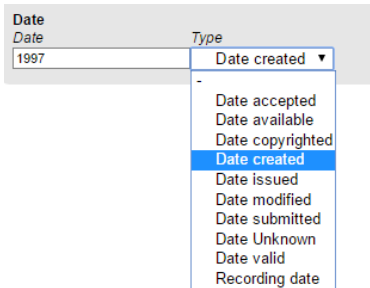
Respondent 3

Questions

Name: Respondent 3

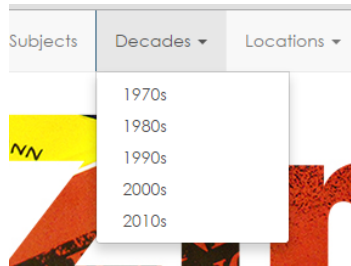
Date: June 25th, 2015

1. Advanced Search Boxes versus Advanced Browsing Options



Advanced search boxes allow you to type in precisely what you are looking for and search only a specific field of information. For example, an advanced search box for 'date' would let you type in a specific year and would only search date information, ignoring title, author, and all other data.

(The example pictured on the left is from QZAP.org and I typed in the year '1997' as an example.)



Advanced browsing options help you search by allowing you to select a small subset of zines to look through. For example, if browsing by date of publication, you could look at a list of decades and then select the decade you are interested in to see all zine published then.

(The example pictured on the left is from Hampshire College's zine website.)

a) When using zine collection websites, do you prefer:

- Using advanced search boxes
- Using advanced browsing options
- Using both
- It depends on the situation
- I don't know
- Other

b) Please explain your choice: Sometimes my research is specific and I know what I am looking for- the Advanced search box would be helpful. But other times I just wanted to browse and having a way to narrow down my browsing options would be great.

2. Please rank these features of a zine collection website in order from 1 – 6, 1 being most important and 6 being least. Please feel free to add any comments.

- 3_ Advanced search options (e.g. search by title, by subject, by author, by decade)
- 2_ Basic search bar (searches all fields)
- 1_ Advanced browsing options (select from list of subjects, authors, decades, locations)
- 1_ "View All" feature (allows you to view the entire collection)

3 Mapping feature that displays zines on a map based on location information (place it was created in or places it mentions)

 1 Searching or browsing by visual/aesthetic elements (such as by format, by color, by materials used)

3. We are interested in exploring new searching and browsing options. One option under consideration is browsing by copyright status, because many zines, unlike typical publications, are free to be copied and their content reused.

a) Would browsing by copyright status be beneficial to you? **yes** **no** **I don't know**

b) Are there any other alternative ways of searching or browsing zines that you think would be valuable for a zine collection website to offer? Please mention them here:

4. Is there any information about zines that you often seek and cannot find on zine collection websites? Or are there any frustrations you regularly encounter when using these sites? Please discuss.

A general database of other institutional zine collections would be useful. Our students make zines in one of their foundations classes- allowing them to see that these ephemeral works are collected and (important) elsewhere would be helpful.

5. For this question, you can choose to answer **either** option a) or option b) (or both, if you want to!).

a) What other zine collection websites have you viewed? Please discuss any that you find well-designed (and include a link if possible) and mention any features you like or find helpful.

I have looked at artists books/ zines on printed matter and temporary services.

b) Please explore at least three of these five zine collection websites and then rank them from most useful to least useful. Please explain your rankings (you can discuss the searching/browsing/narrowing your results capabilities and mention features you like, information you found lacking, layout and design, anything that confused you, etc).

 3 The Sallie Bingham Center at Duke: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingdb/zines/>

 4 Hampshire College: <http://sites.hampshire.edu/zines/>

 1 Queer Zine Archive Project: <http://archive.qzap.org/>

 5 Anchor Archive Zine Library: <http://www.robertsstreet.org/zine-library>

 2 Independent Publishing Resource Center: <http://library.iprc.org/>

The QZAP works best to browse and actually look at the zines- so much of these small-scale publications are about the aesthetics- I like that I can actually “see” the zines on this site. ALL zines should be digitized in an archive- making them way more accessible to all.

Other sites frustrated me because searching features seemed less helpful- and some of the sites (ie: the AAZL) took forever to load.

6. Please tell us about your experience with zines. Write as much as you like. If you use them in your research, please tell us what kinds of questions about them interest you. If you work with zine researchers and users, please tell us what kind of studies and questions you have encountered in working with them. If you use them in teaching, please mention how you use them, find them, select them, etc.

I use them as research for my 2D foundations classes. We do a project at the end of the semester that focuses on scale (large scale and small scale in 2D works). Students make eight-page, no bind zines on one side of an 11x17 sheet of paper (small scale) and posters on the other side of the sheet (large scale). Our students typically excel at this project and LOVE making zines/ books and sharing them with their classmates, their friends and their family. Several of there zines end up in the FAL Zine collection.

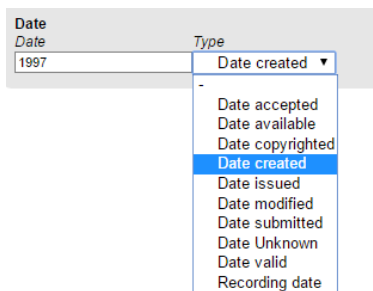
Respondent 4

Questions

Name: Respondent 4

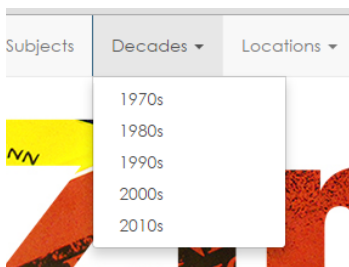
Date: 7/1/15

1. Advanced Search Boxes versus Advanced Browsing Options



Advanced search boxes allow you to type in precisely what you are looking for and search only a specific field of information. For example, an advanced search box for ‘date’ would let you type in a specific year and would only search date information, ignoring title, author, and all other data.

(The example pictured on the left is from QZAP.org and I typed in the year ‘1997’ as an example.)



Advanced browsing options help you search by allowing you to select a small subset of zines to look through. For example, if browsing by date of publication, you could look at a list of decades and then select the decade you are interested in to see all zine published then.

(The example pictured on the left is from Hampshire College’s zine website.)

a) When using zine collection websites, do you prefer:

- Using advanced search boxes
- Using advanced browsing options
- Using both
- It depends on the situation
- I don’t know

___ Other

b) Please explain your choice: there may be times when a patron may be searching for an exact title or author (or date, etc.); other times the browse option may not be useful. I really like Hampshire College's zine website because it offers both options. However, the basic search box option does not allow for exact/browse searching.

2. Please rank these features of a zine collection website in order from 1 – 6, 1 being most important and 6 being least. Please feel free to add any comments.

- ___1_ Advanced search options (e.g. search by title, by subject, by author, by decade)
- ___4_ Basic search bar (searches all fields)
- ___2_ Advanced browsing options (select from list of subjects, authors, decades, locations)
- ___3_ "View All" feature (allows you to view the entire collection)
- ___6_ Mapping feature that displays zines on a map based on location information (place it was created in or places it mentions)
- ___5_ Searching or browsing by visual/aesthetic elements (such as by format, by color, by materials used)

3. We are interested in exploring new searching and browsing options. One option under consideration is browsing by copyright status, because many zines, unlike typical publications, are free to be copied and their content reused.

a) Would browsing by copyright status be beneficial to you? **yes** **no** **I don't know**

b) Are there any other alternative ways of searching or browsing zines that you think would be valuable for a zine collection website to offer? Please mention them here: For both searching and browsing, might be interesting to have a field for source of zine (bookstore, name of donor, zine fest)

4. Is there any information about zines that you often seek and cannot find on zine collection websites? Or are there any frustrations you regularly encounter when using these sites? Please discuss. Not really, but I don't regularly search zine collection websites. In general, I find it frustrating that it is often very difficult to do an exact title or exact author search from the top page of a library catalog.

5. For this question, you can choose to answer **either** option a) or option b) (or both, if you want to!).

a) What other zine collection websites have you viewed? Please discuss any that you find well-designed (and include a link if possible) and mention any features you like or find helpful.

Temple University--<http://guides.temple.edu/c.php?g=78196&p=505524> good LibGuide
University of Chicago—<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/webexhibits/mylifeisanopenbook/>
Great collection but no clear website for the collection itself. Hidden in Special Collections. Link is to a digital exhibition—there was an exhibition of the print zines, too. Library received a great deal of non-edu media coverage for a print exhibition they had, too. http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-03-23/features/ct-prj-0324-zines-20130323_1_zine-scene-zine-collection-science-fiction

Harvard --<https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/schlesinger-library/collection/magazines-and-zines>
<http://hcl.harvard.edu/sharp/>

Libguides are great for providing information about zines. Harvard apparently received a gift of 20,000 zines

Vassar-- <http://miscellanynews.org/2015/04/22/arts/diy-zines-take-the-scene-in-collaboratory-workshops/> looks like a great collection is forming, and I have hope that Vassar will create a great web presence, like Duke

b) Please explore at least three of these five zine collection websites and then rank them from most useful to least useful. Please explain your rankings (you can discuss the searching/browsing/narrowing your results capabilities and mention features you like, information you found lacking, layout and design, anything that confused you, etc).

- __1_ The Sallie Bingham Center at Duke: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingdb/zines/>
- __4_ Hampshire College: <http://sites.hampshire.edu/zines/>
- __2_ Queer Zine Archive Project: <http://archive.qzap.org/>
- __5_ Anchor Archive Zine Library: <http://www.robertsstreet.org/zine-library>
- __3__ Independent Publishing Resource Center: <http://library.iprc.org/>

I think all of these websites are great. Duke does a great job balancing minimal design with essential information and links. The IPRC looks more old school with its dull looking dropdown menu, but the search capabilities are good and work well. Hampshire's site looks very contemporary, but I don't feel I have a lot of control over my search. I'm not sure how much control the average searcher will want, though.

6. Please tell us about your experience with zines. Write as much as you like. If you use them in your research, please tell us what kinds of questions about them interest you. If you work with zine researchers and users, please tell us what kind of studies and questions you have encountered in working with them. If you use them in teaching, please mention how you use them, find them, select them, etc

I find it interesting that there are many articles and press releases on the internet about library zine gifts, acquisitions, and new collections but still a definite lag in web content to help users discover and access zines. These publications reflect real excitement and high hopes for these primary sources in libraries. But there often isn't enough follow through to make the collections truly available for student use. I believe this is because most librarians are extremely overextended and have to prioritize their core work. Also there may be some resistance to recruiting graduate students to work on special collections. I've worked in 2 libraries where catalogers would not allow graduate students to catalog zines, for example, so a backlog persisted.

My own library is no exception. We've started a collection but the zines are not yet available for student use (despite many appearing in the catalog and seeming available), and we haven't created a web page or Libguide yet. We have been teaching with them and faculty have been receptive to our ideas to include zine reading or making in their syllabi. Students have created zines in Social Work, Core Seminar (a sophomore level special topics class—idea of the human—students made zines or artists' books about Kafka's Metamorphosis) and ENG 16 (neighborhood guide zines). We hope to expand teaching and learning with the collection.

I have researched zine collections, zine pedagogy, and zine classification. Check out my paper about art zines, can be found with quick google search (Academia).

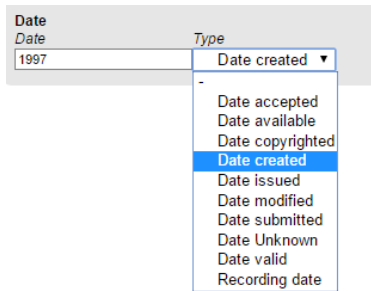
Respondent 5

Questions

Name: Respondent 5

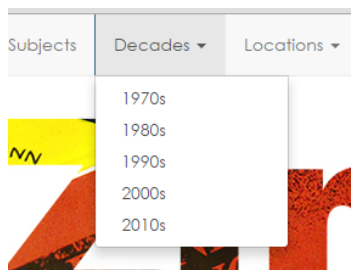
Date: 8.25.15

1. Advanced Search Boxes versus Advanced Browsing Options



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Advanced browsing options help you search by allowing you to select a small subset of zines to look through. For example, if browsing by date of publication, you could look at a list of decades and then select the decade you are interested in to see all zine published then.

(The example pictured on the left is from Hampshire College's zine website.)

a) When using zine collection websites, do you prefer:

- Using advanced search boxes
- Using advanced browsing options
- Using both
- It depends on the situation
- I don't know
- Other

b) Please explain your choice: I rarely have extremely specific information to search. Broader topics and information are more useful.

2. Please rank these features of a zine collection website in order from 1 – 6, 1 being most important and 6 being least. Please feel free to add any comments.

- 1 Advanced search options (e.g. search by title, by subject, by author, by decade)
- 6 Basic search bar (searches all fields)
- 2 Advanced browsing options (select from list of subjects, authors, decades, locations)
- 4 "View All" feature (allows you to view the entire collection)
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3. We are interested in exploring new searching and browsing options. One option under consideration is browsing by copyright status, because many zines, unlike typical publications, are free to be copied and their content reused.

a) Would browsing by copyright status be beneficial to you? **yes** **no** **I don't know**

b) Are there any other alternative ways of searching or browsing zines that you think would be valuable for a zine collection website to offer? Please mention them here: a sense of the size of the publication would be nice. Any way that the physical size and physicality of the zine could be communicated would be good. I think the larger contextual information would also be helpful- in the same way that Amazon offers "Other people who bought this book were also interested in..."

4. Is there any information about zines that you often seek and cannot find on zine collection websites? Or are there any frustrations you regularly encounter when using these sites? Please discuss.

5. For this question, you can choose to answer **either** option a) or option b) (or both, if you want to!).

a) What other zine collection websites have you viewed? Please discuss any that you find well-designed (and include a link if possible) and mention any features you like or find helpful.

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Hampshire College: <http://sites.hampshire.edu/zines/>

Queer Zine Archive Project: <http://archive.qzap.org/>

Anchor Archive Zine Library: <http://www.robertsstreet.org/zine-library>

Independent Publishing Resource Center: <http://library.iprc.org/>

6. Please tell us about your experience with zines. Write as much as you like. If you use them in your research, please tell us what kinds of questions about them interest you. If you work with zine researchers and users, please tell us what kind of studies and questions you have encountered in working with them. If you use them in teaching, please mention how you use them, find them, select them, etc.

I'm primarily interested in zines because they're a quick, low cost publishing form. I've come to them through my experience as an professional artist and academic as opposed to someone who's involved in a particular scene (punk rock, LGBT, etc). I teach printmaking and increasingly the field has come to include all forms of print publishing rather than just traditional forms. So I use zines in the classroom.