Supporting Scholars in Training: A User Needs Survey of a Graduate Study Space
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Auburn University Libraries
Our Previous Graduate-Faculty Study Area

(Library-facing side)
Our Previous Graduate-Faculty Study Area

Space nearest outside window
Faculty and Graduate Students: Help Us Improve This Space

Auburn University Libraries would like to understand how this space is being used. Please complete a questionnaire each time you use this space during the week of 11/28-12/4. Questionnaires are located on the tables and on the stand near the door. Information gathered from the questionnaire will be used to assess and improve space and services for graduate students and faculty.

Questionnaires
June 20-26, 2016
July 25-31, 2016
August 22-28, 2016
September 19-25, 2016
October 17-23, 2016
November 28-December 4, 2016
Graduate Student/Faculty Quiet Study Space Questionnaire

Information letter posted on the door

Date: July 24th, 2016

Status: Faculty Grad Student Other

Broad Area of Study: Veterinary Medicine Humanities Social Sciences

Time spent in Faculty/Grad Study Space today:

About: 30 min. 1 hour 2 hours 3 hours 4 hours 5 hours more than 5 hours

Date: 10/21/16

Status: Faculty Grad Student Other

Broad Area of Study: Psychology

Time spent in Faculty/Grad Study Space today:

About: 30 min. 1 hour 2 hours 3 hours 4 hours 5 hours more than 5 hours

Grad/Faculty Study Space Survey

More information about survey posted on the door

Date: 

Status: Faculty Grad Student Other

School/College/Dept. 

Time spent in Faculty/Grad Study Space today:

About: 30 min. 1 hour 2 hours 3 hours 4 hours 5 hours more than 5 hours

Time spent at: (circle all that apply)
Table area Couch area Carrel

How often do you use this space?
Daily Few times a Week Few times a month Few times a semester

Time spent: (circle all that apply)
Writing for Dissertation or Thesis Writing for coursework Other writing
Reading for dissertation or Thesis Reading for Coursework Other reading

Looking for library resources Looking for non-library information resources Working on teaching responsibilities Working on a presentation Working on job hunting Organizing self or resources Other

Did anything prevent you from accomplishing what you wanted to do? YES NO
If yes, what?

Please list any additional comments/suggestions you have about this space on the back
**Count Sheet for Graduate Student/Faculty Quiet Study Space**

Week of **November 9-13th, 2016** (week runs Wednesday to Sunday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of Week</th>
<th>Time of day</th>
<th># in couch area using laptop/tablet</th>
<th># in couch area using phone</th>
<th># in couch area not using device</th>
<th># at tables using laptop/tablet</th>
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**Counting**
- July 6-10, 2016
- July 20-24, 2016
- September 14-18, 2016
- October 12-16, 2016
- November 9-12, 2016

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**Faculty and Graduate Students: Help Us Improve This Space**

You may notice Library staff counting users of this space during the week of November 9-13, 2016.

Auburn University Libraries is conducting a study to understand how this space is being used.

Information letters explaining the complete study are available on the table inside the door.
User Demographics

- Grad students: 87%
- Faculty: 11%
- Visiting scholar: 1%
- Undergrad: 1%
User Activities

- Reading for coursework: 45
- Writing for coursework: 34
- Reading for diss or thesis: 34
- Looking for library resources: 22
- Working on teaching responsibilities: 17
- Organizing self or resources: 16
- Other writing: 16
- Other: 15
- Other reading: 12
- Working on job hunting: 12
- Looking for non-library information resources: 7
- Other: 7
- Writing for diss or thesis: 4
"This space is much appreciated, there is no other place that allows for such focused, undisturbed study."

"Another table at the window would be cool. So I can gaze outside and wonder what the sun feels like"

"It would be so useful if the library were open consistently on Fri. Sat. evening hours. As a working student weekends are the only times I have to come to library & work on my dissertation."

"The isolation from the undergraduates isn’t something I believed would make a huge difference in studying, but boy, I was wrong."

"suggestion: put a scanner-type thing on the door so that grad students and faculty have to scan their Tiger Card to get in (verify status) and undergrads can't come up in here and talk while I'm trying to dissertate!"
Additional Feedback: Furnishings & Facility

Did anything prevent you from accomplishing what you wanted?
“Facebook and therefore only myself”

“I’m thinking on my own research problem in Mathematics in this room for about 4 hours every day. ...it could be great if there were a couple of wide and comfortable chairs. Current ones are good but small for the people who are XL like me 😊”

“poor lighting. Lightbulbs and lamps should be higher wattage”

“Love this space- a write board would be helpful!”

“Too Hot!” vs.
“This air conditioning is too! cold!!”

“carrels should have outlets that don’t require crawling on the floor”

“No PCs”
Our Recommendations

- Swipe Access
- Furniture Changes
- White boards, PCs
- Signage
- Extended Hours
- Follow-up with users
Swipe Access
Current Layout of Study Area
Plan for Redesigned Study Area
Rendering of Redesigned Study Area

View from library side
Rendering of Redesigned Study Area

View from window
HUMANSCALE – INFINITY TASK LAMP
CLAMP OR WALL MOUNT

TEKNION SABRINA TASK CHAIR W/ MESH BACK,
UPHOLSTERED SEAT AND BLACK BASE.
10 w/ arms, 10 w/ out arms

Worksurface
power cube
Other Wish List Items
Signage

- Information about library services
- Promotion of graduate events
Extended Hours

Library of Architecture, Design, & Construction
Graduate & Professional Writing Center
What’s Ahead

○ Promotion

○ Collecting Feedback

○ Additional Study
  ○ ITHAKA S+R Faculty Survey
  ○ ITHAKA S+R Graduate & Professional Student Survey
Questions?

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