Title
Using a photo survey to inform space planning in an academic library

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Author
Careaga, Gregory Alan

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Using a photo survey to inform space planning in an academic library

Greg Careaga
Head of Assessment and Planning, UC Santa Cruz
UCSC McHenry Library

- Construction: 1966-68
- Major addition: 2005-08
- Seismic renovation: 2008-11
2010 photo survey

- 12 photos about 12 questions
- Follow-up interview
- $25 bookstore gift certificate raffle
Survey questions

1. Where you study in the library
2. Your favorite place in the library
3. A place you get lost in the library
4. Your favorite place to study
5. Your personal workspace
6. Stuff you take to class
7. Your study group
8. How you keep track of your life
9. Something you’ve noticed that others don’t
10. Something you consider “hi-tech”
11. Something you cannot live without while studying
12. A piece of furniture you’d like to see in the library
### Survey submissions

#### 1. Where I study in the Library

- **#1**: Second floor, Memorial Library. Chairs across from the international newspaper display.
- **#2**: Located in the first floor, next to the elevators, and vending machines. I chose this space because it's isolated and very quiet.
- **#3**: 4th floor with two chairs put together looking out the window.
- **#4**: I like this particular furniture because it's soft but not enough space for books and laptop.

#### 2. Favorite place in the Library

- **#1**: I love to take a look at the books that have been picked up and put down in the return book cart area on the Third Floor. There's always an interesting need to be found here.
- **#2**: Located in the media center. I really like this room because it provides a private study area with a white board, comfortable rolling chairs, and TV helps express our ideas and enhance our learning.
- **#5**: SA lovely on 4th floor

#### 3. Place I feel lost

- **#1**: Even with the book number in hand, I always find searching through the stacks daunting. Some more help here would be nice.
- **#2**: How does this work? I believe that if these shelves were to be labeled by subjects it would easier to find books without struggling in moving these shelves.
- **#3**: [no comment]
- **#4**: the copy machine
- **#5**: Confused near there are no signs indicating if tables are for group study or individual study.
Follow-up interviews

- Five one-hour interviews
- Asked open-ended questions about each photo
- Everyone got a $25 gift certificate
What we learned

- Ambience and comfort mattered
- Access to nutritious food mattered
- Individual quiet study space was still important
- One size did not fit all
- We needed to improve outreach and marketing
What we did

• Spring 2010 CUIP student survey
• Improved tech lending
• Informed the furniture plan
• Developed new study room policies
References


Project documents

https://goo.gl/Vdax88

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