

library study.

Comments

- Most patrons come to either use computers or to study
- Most users seek quiet and private areas
- Study rooms are very popular
- Bay windows with comfortable furniture are most popular areas
- Areas with natural light are preferred

Problems/Issues

- Study rooms can be loud and need better noise control
- Lounge seating is underutilized since it is not convenient for studying
- Cubby style study spaces are rarely used because they are isolated and dark
- Book arrangement seems to be confusing to the users
- Tables up-front are underutilized due to lack of privacy and noise
- More space between workstations or use of partitions
- Lack of collaborative space in the computer area
- Areas with computers and large desks are loudest and need to be separated out
- Printers need to be relocated: traffic to printers crosses the main traffic area of the library
- Need more outlets for students with laptops

Solutions

- Ergonomic seating with a contemporary look
- Updated technology – more and better scanners and computers, outlets near study areas for students with laptops
- Collaborative areas within computer stations
- Artwork appealing to the students
- Better lighting
- Better signage
- Noise control for study rooms and computer area
- More areas for individual studying that are well lit

Suggestions

- Shelving number flow must be preserved and be intuitive in navigation. Creative designs and shelving positioning must accommodate this intuitive call number flow.
- Modularity is good.
- Libraries around the country are going green, any sustainable initiatives are welcome.
- Promoting navigation by incorporation on floor and ceiling elements is welcome.
- Library staff liked the idea of book shelf end caps accommodating individual study or displays.
- Built in pull out tables and seating is a good solution of adding much needed individual study areas.
- Library staff offices need to be opened and welcoming to patrons, therefore those offices should not be isolated visually or otherwise.
- Projects must preserve the shelf inches capacity and add inches if possible.
- Library staff appreciated the idea of incorporating a strong visual element at the library entry (inside or outside if facilities allow) to “announce” the library.
- Color coding for subject areas is a good potential solution.
- Since back space of the library is underutilized due to being hidden, there needs to be a prominent visual design element leading to that area.
- Organizing library zones or subject areas around bay windows is a plus.
- Detachable end elements for book shelves can help navigation and add interest to the library space.