Users Perceptions of the HSC Library Space

Summary of Open-Ended Responses by Category

Selected Quotes

• The ability to spread out from other people, but also the opportunity to come together at a table and work together with a group (especially among the computer screens).

• I am crazy about the HSC Library. I really love the quantity of individual study carrels that are available. There are a good number of computers, also. I think the big screen monitors that are on the first floor are really good for group study, and the couch in the back corner of the first floor is a primo napping spot.

• There is not enough comfortable seating. The handful of individual study carrels that are generally (read or not near enough to outlets for plugging in my computer, so it’s harder to just relax and concentrate…)

• More tables for group work. In our courses this year, we need the table space or computer …

• Cleaner, lighter look, plenty of windows and small groups of tables and chairs (like the ones there now, just more). More continuity of the facility between floors and areas.

• Maximizing both group and individual areas in separate places so as to not disrupt individuals’ personal work. Lots of work areas with a lot of table space to spread books and notes. Lots of computer access.

Lessons Learned:

• Patrons at an academic health science center have diverse needs within library spaces; eliciting their input is vital to any renovation or building planning.

• Multiple avenues to invite user input are needed.

• Data regarding facility use, user needs, and preferences is key when working with HSC administration.

• Assessing user needs and preferences needs to be an ongoing activity, not simply a one-time event.