Virginia Tech
University Libraries

Discovery Teams
Spring 2012

Team Members
- **Sherrie Bowser**
- **Deyu Hu**
- **Charla Lancaster**
- **Carolyn Meier**

Team Theme/Topic
- **Media**

KEY OBSERVATIONS RELATED TO YOUR THEME
(5-6 major trends)

- Dynamic Workspace – Flexible with many ways to do their work (whiteboards, group tables, laptops, and push pin material)

- Convenient Location – Close to parking, food, classes, and buses)

- Atmosphere – Close to peers, good lighting (windows), and collaborative energy

- Electrical Outlets – There never ever seems to be enough.

- Wireless Speed – Wireless speed is noticed but does not necessarily dictate location of study (but they want it faster).

SURPRISING OBSERVATIONS / COMMENTS
(3-5 unexpected things that you encountered)

- Students do not utilize the library because it is not convenient to classes and parking.

- Students want to be close to food and a microwave so that can heat up what they bring for lunch.

- Laptops are the workhorse for the majority of the student work.

- There was a large variety of free software used by the different schools.

"WHY THIS SPACE?"
(3-5 qualities that students preferred)

- Natural Lighting

- Convenient Location

- Quiet Versus Collaborative Atmosphere

- Modular/Flexible Workspace

- Power Accessibility for Electronic Devices

"WHY OTHER SPACES?"
(3-5 qualities that students preferred other locations)

- Close to Classes

- Close to Parking

- Assigned Workspace

- Close to Other Students of the Same Major

"WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS SPACE?" (or with tools)
(activities, process, how are they using the space/tools)

- Group Collaboration/Brainstorming

- Extremely Specialized Equipment ("The Cave")

- Spread Out Over a Larger Space

- Place to Hang Out Between Classes

- Bounce Ideas Off of Peers

THINGS TO FOLLOW-UP ON
(3-5 things that need more research)

- Research where to place microwaves in the library.

- Look into software to make available in the library on public computers.

- Research larger and more dynamic workgroup space for the library.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SHARE

- The time that the space was used is dictated by class schedule.

- Older students and international students had an interest and relationship with the library where other students had less connection.

- The media focus was difficult to define and address with student interaction but we do have information on availability and usage for the library.
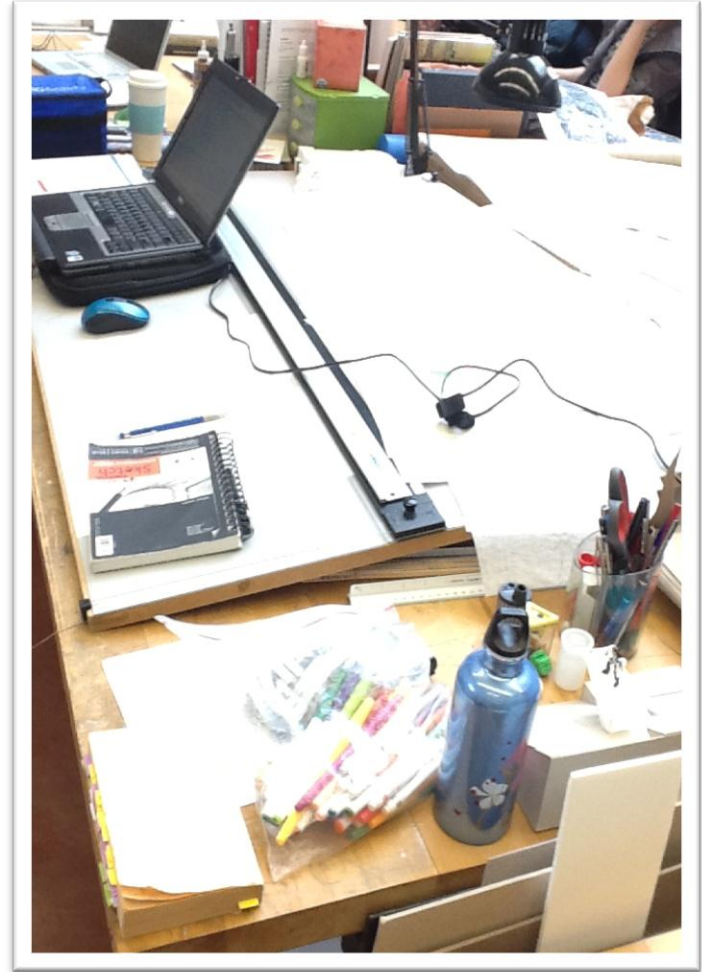
PLACES/THINGS WE OBSERVED

- "The Cave" – Torgersen
- Architecture Studios – Burchard Hall
- Hancock Hall
- Johnson Student Center
- Horticulture Lab
- Student Software Packages
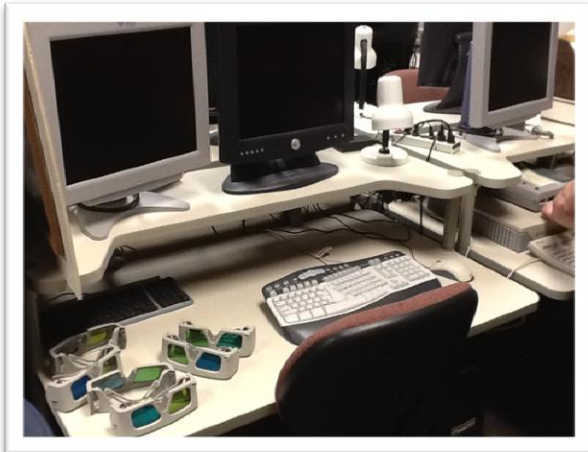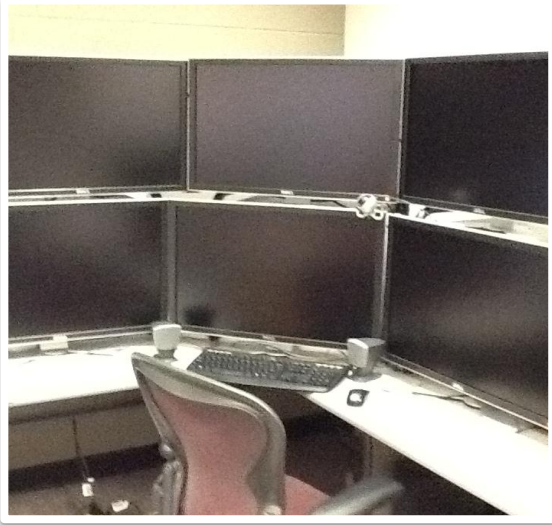- Library Media Usage

PHOTOS
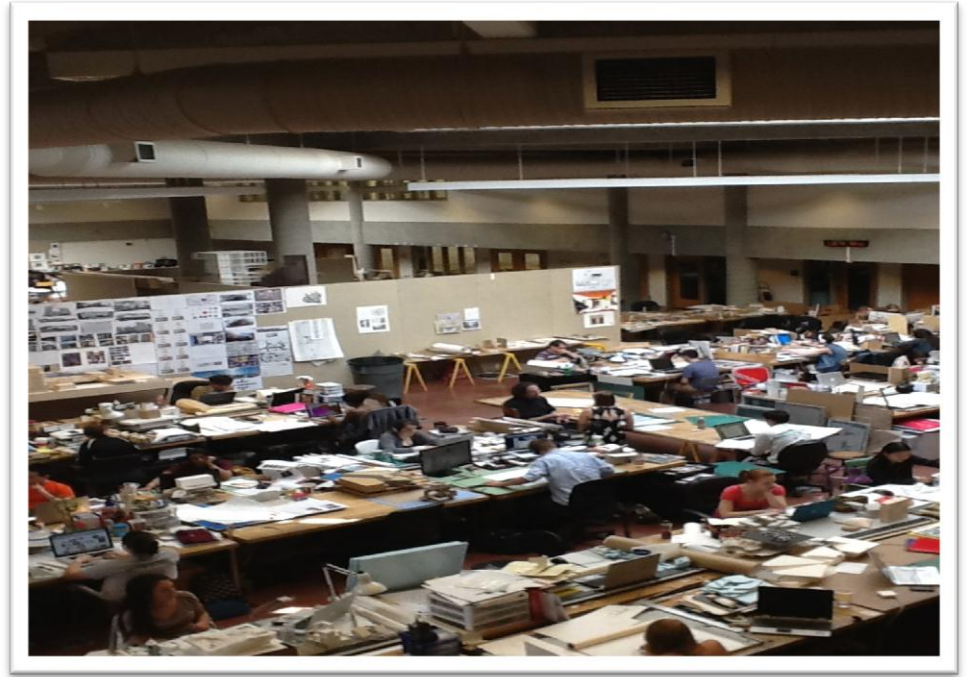
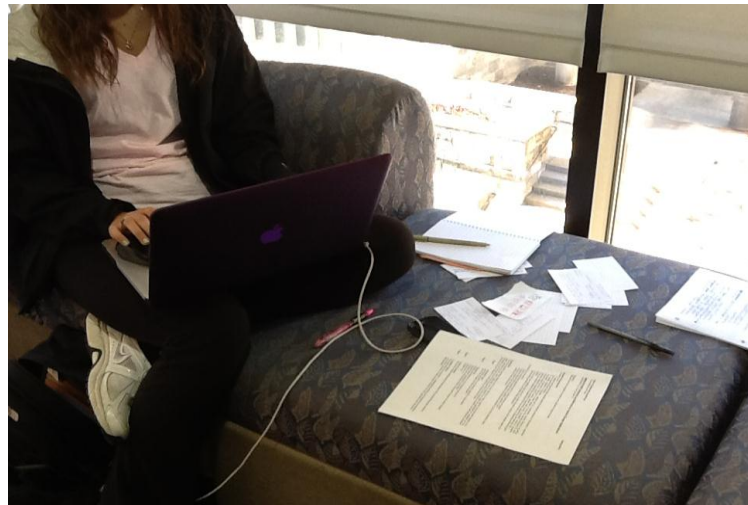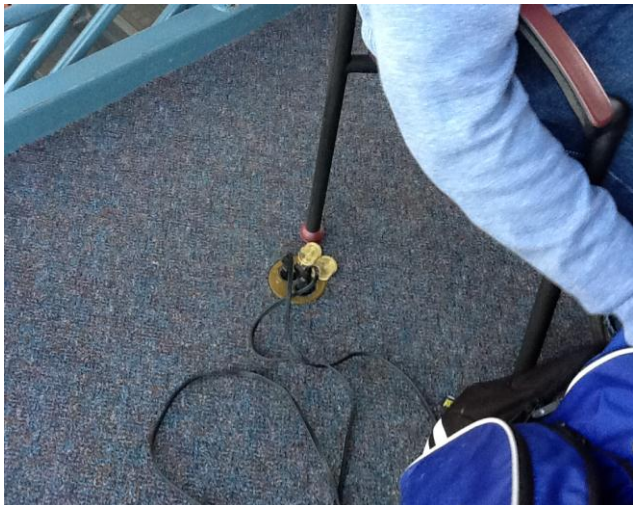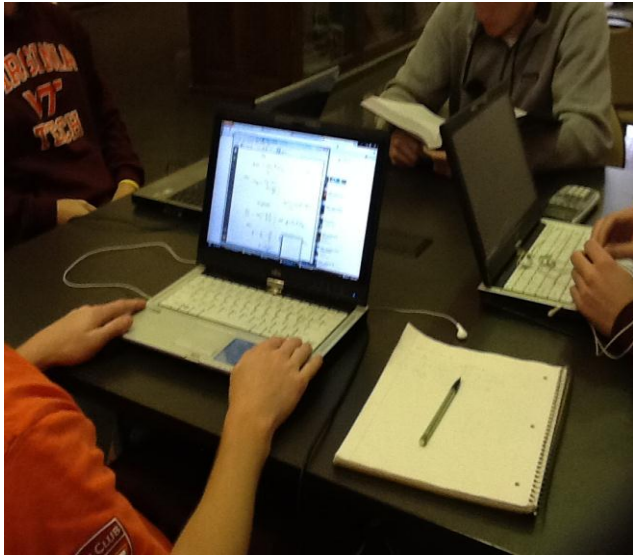Burchard Hall, CAUS Studios -- 2:45pm

PHOTOS

Burchard Hall, CAUS Studios -- 2:45pm

PHOTOS

Visionarium, 3050 Torgersen Hall aka 'The CAVE'

PHOTOS

Hancock Hall and Johnston Student Center – 10:00-10:45am