

Abstract

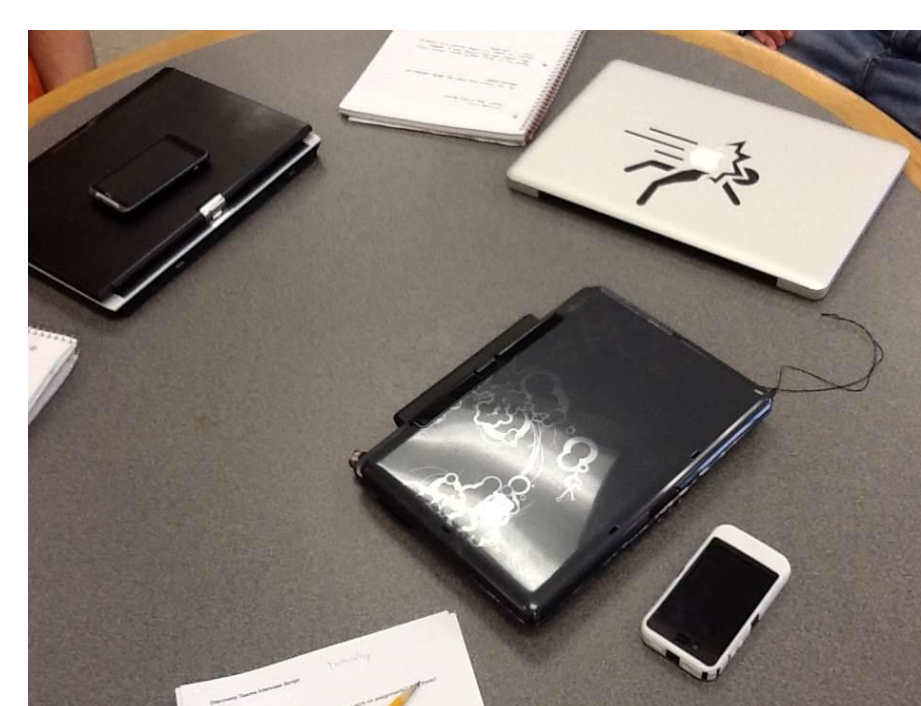
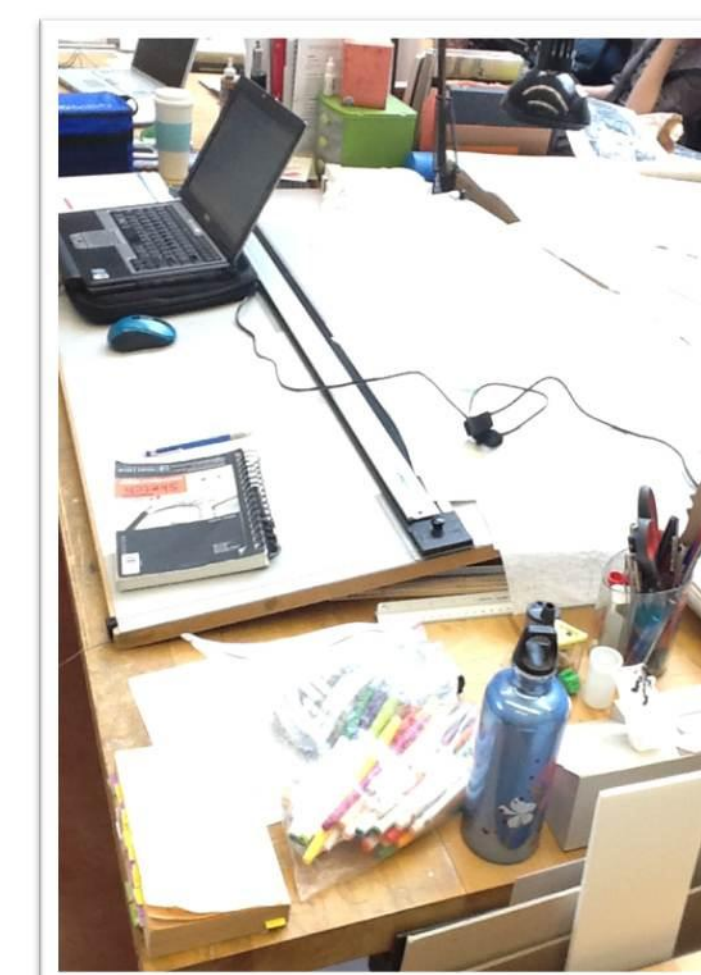
Discovery Teams were created to boost the Library's R&D effort. Annually, University Libraries at Virginia Tech will collectively explore a theme through hands-on experience. For Spring 2012 the topic was: The Learning Process. This poster combines and presents the findings and potential directions based on the feedback from this research.

Before paint and carpet Summer 2012



Discovery Teams

- 11 teams - Library faculty and staff, undergrad and grad students, other cross-campus partners
- Each team explores different themes in learning
 - Media Production
 - Group Work
 - Individual Work
 - Knowledge Creation
 - Technology use
- In library and around campus
- Purpose to boost library R&D effort
- Observe students in various environments across campus and beyond



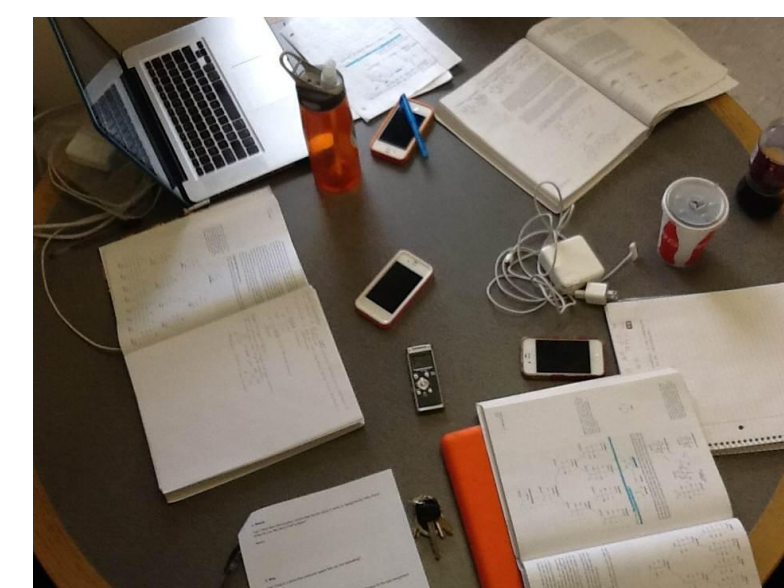
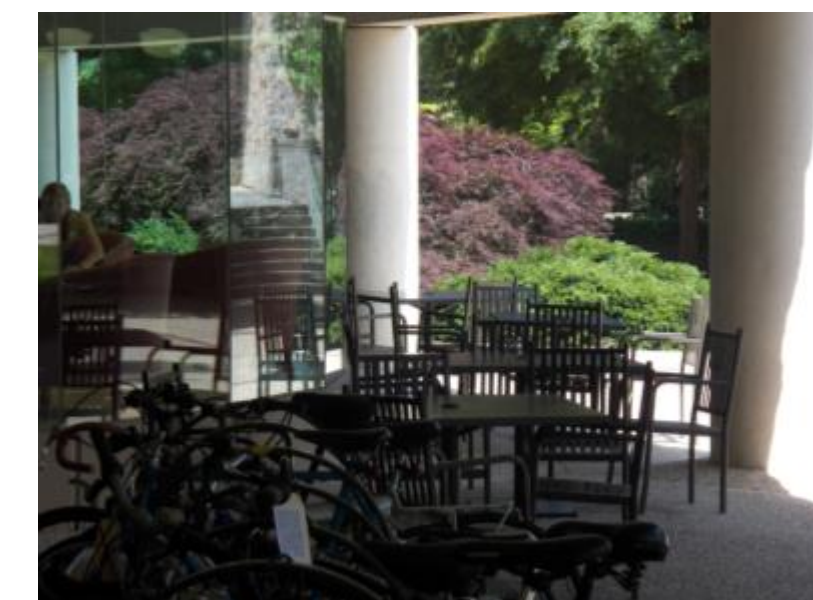
**All photos courtesy of the Discovery Teams.

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Observe students using space in various ways for various objectives (groups, individuals, media production, using technology).
- ✓ Learn from the students about what works and doesn't work in various spaces.
- ✓ Extrapolate from interviews and observations ways in which to improve the library.

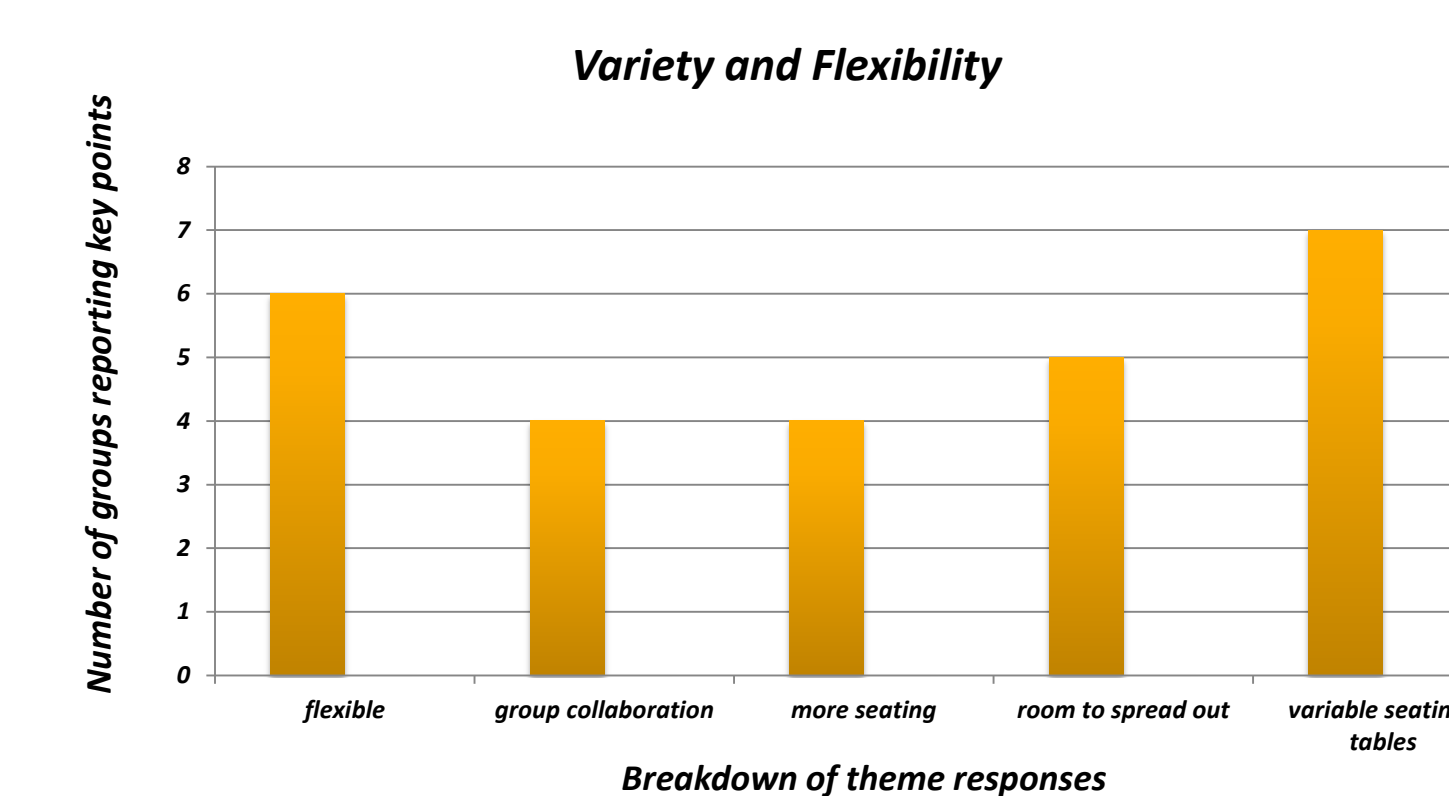
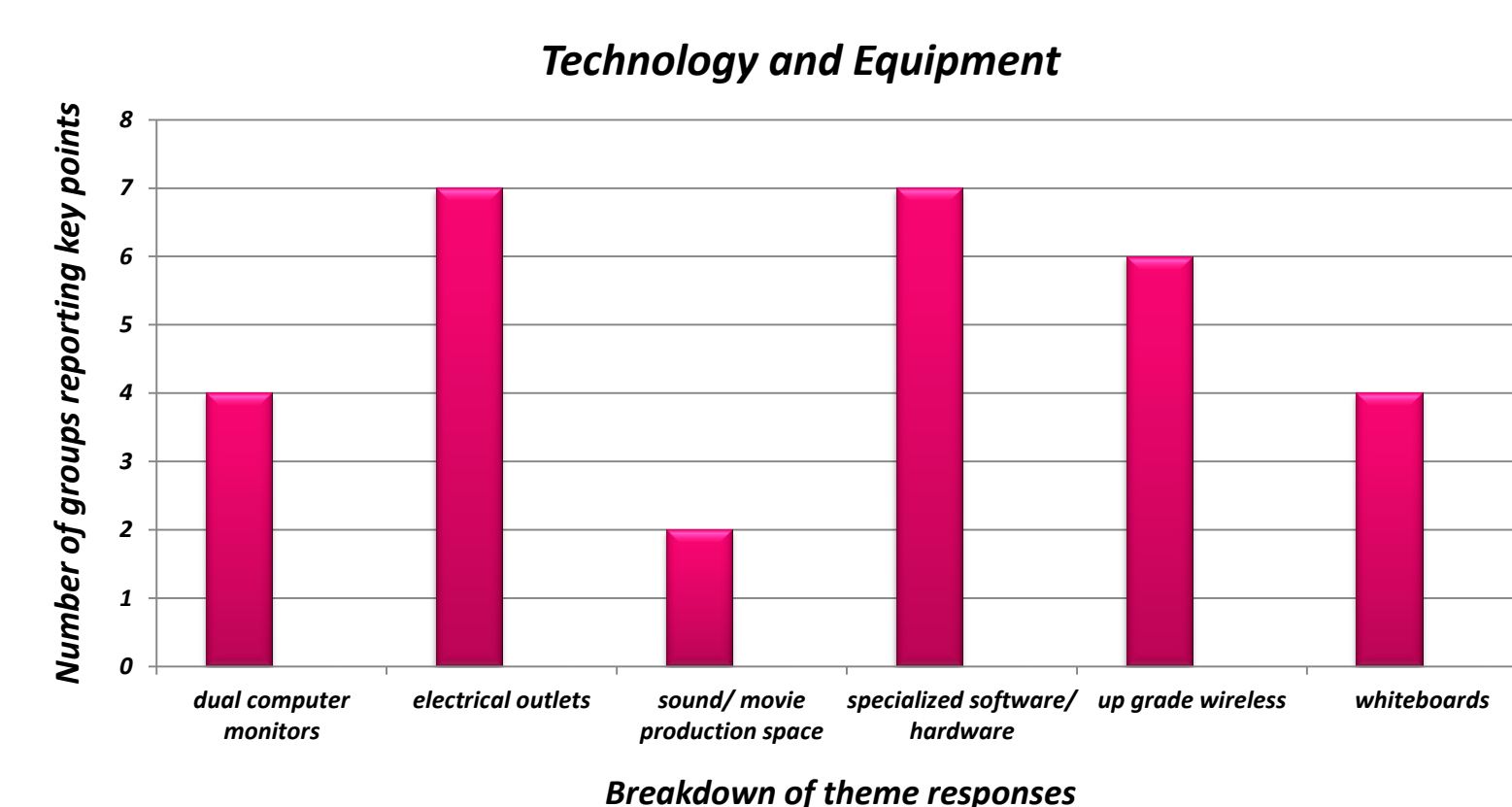
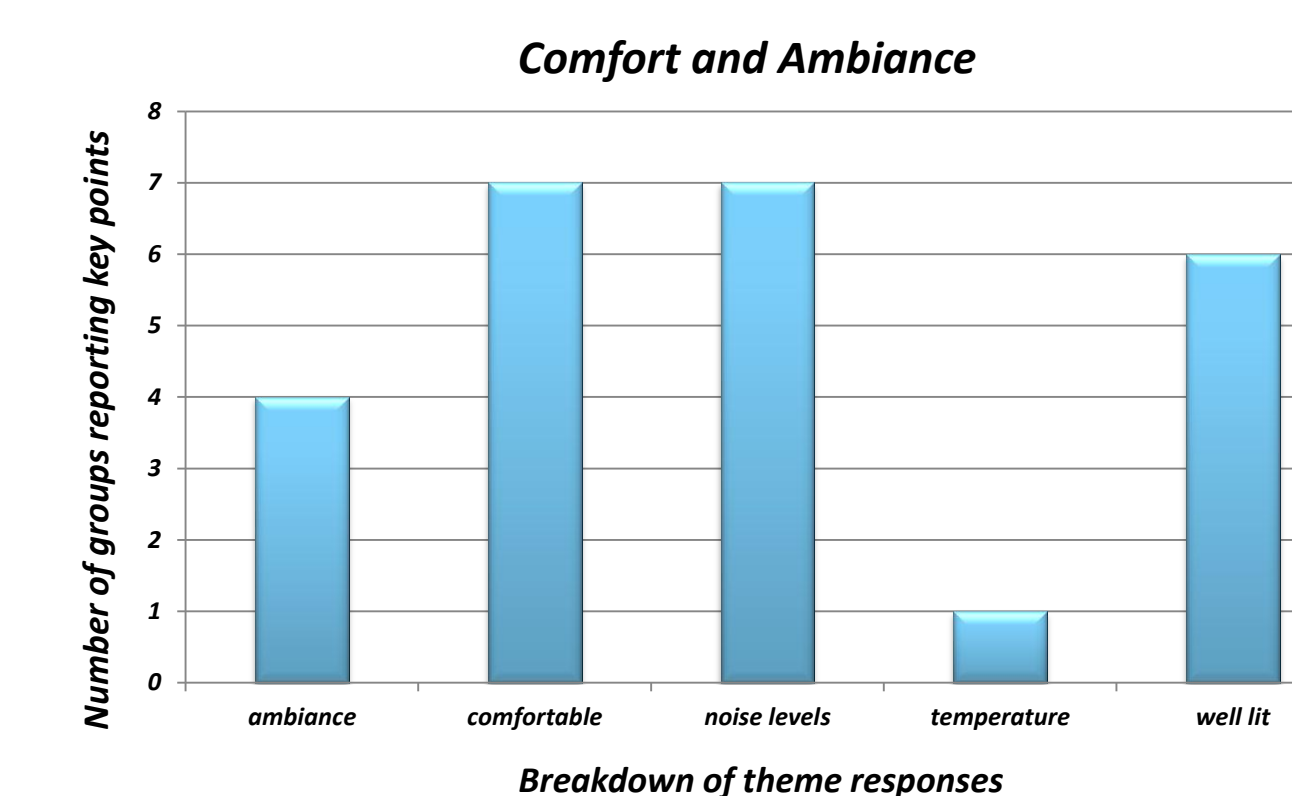
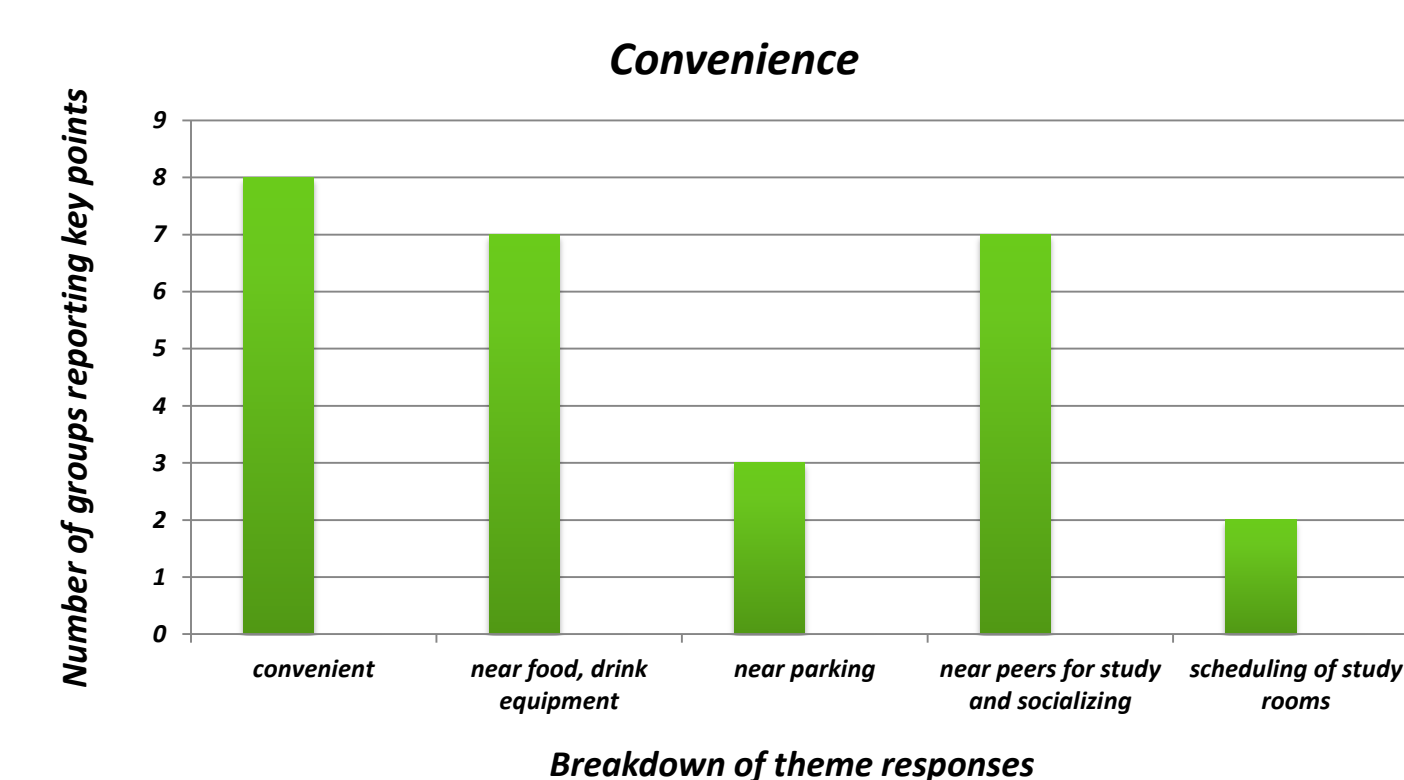
Questions we asked the students:

1. How are you using space and what is your work process?
2. Favorite spot? Why this spot right now?
3. Where else do you work? What works for that location?
4. What is it about this particular space? What would make it better?



Main Themes based on Student Responses

There are four major themes that resulted from the discovery teams research. Each of these themes had specific responses recorded by each team. The results have been graphed under each theme to better visualize the feedback and help the library to focus on space needs.



Conclusions

- Ask students what they want. They will tell you!
- Update furniture, lighting, outlets and spaces.
- Continue with Discovery process on a variety of topics.
- Continue to change the look and feel of the library every semester as the renovations continue.

After paint and carpet Summer 2012



Future Directions

- ❖ Involve outside partners across the campus and community as we move forward with renovations.
- ❖ Focus on the individual experience
- ❖ Encourage students to take ownership of library
- ❖ Continue to raise library profile on campus
- ❖ Determine the best way to raise funds and break down the phasing of building renovations



**Photos courtesy of Steelcase.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Brian Mathews for organizing the Discovery Teams and to Rebecca Miller for help with the poster. Special thanks to all the Discovery Team participants as well as all the students that talked to the teams so willingly and enthusiastically about their vision for a better library!