

Group Study Pod Prototype

Comments and suggestions from spring 2012.

Actual Dimensions

- Area
 - Wall Height – 6 feet
 - Depth – 6 feet
 - Width – 7.5 feet
- Table
 - Length – 6 feet
 - Width – 4 feet

Table

- About the right width – 11
 - Too wide – 1
 - Too narrow – 0
- About the right length – 10
 - Too long – 0
 - Too short – 1

Seats

- I prefer
 - chairs – 10
 - padded benches – 5
- Each pod should seat:
 - Four – 1
 - Five – 1
 - Four to six – 4
- I like booths:
 - Like the prototype (bench on each side of table) – 6
 - U-shaped benches – 2
 - Round – 9

Walls

- A good height – 10
 - Too high – 1
 - Too short – 0

- I want to see through them – 3
Translucent - 2
I want them to hide me – 13
I don't need walls – 0

Equipment

- Whiteboard – 14
- Network jacks – 4
- Flat screen on one wall with plugins for a laptop or tablet – 8
- Computer – 1

Location

- Pods should be clustered together – 7
Spread individual pods throughout the library – 3
- First floor – 11 dots
- Second floor – 10 dots
- Third floor – 10 dots

Ideas and Suggestions

TABLES

- Make it so you don't hit your knee and you can extend your legs. Outlets helpful too.
- Make sure they're big with plenty of workspace: room for laptops as well as books/notebooks.
- Please NO desks attached to chairs as in some classrooms.
- Have outlets for charging computers.
 - Yes.
- Smartboards / interactive whiteboards?
- Group proreers
- Table is too polygonal. Try the semi-circle looking one at University of Cumbria.
- U shape definitely. This looks too confining. Need more relaxing environment.
- The table should be a circle with comfortable chairs surrounding it.
- Looks too much like a picnic table. U shape better.
- The table is too large. It is unnecessary space. Distraction.

SEATS

- Comfy chairs.
- Chairs preferred because allows room for brief independent work during group discussion.

- Super comfortable seats please!
 - I second that.
- Chairs are much more comfortable and can be moved.
- It would be great if the benches could be adjusted. I've been to Florida International University. They have booths like the prototype. They get uncomfortable as the hours continue Adjusting the seat to move forward/back or the table moving would fix that.
 - Agree!!
- Right now the seats are way too far from the table! If the seats are going to be installed, not rolling chairs or something, the table should have fold-out parts, like French trains or even like airplanes.
- Benches are not good for working! Eek.
 - Agree, adjustments=important. Regardless, seats must have backs (No stools please).
 - Agree!!
- No benches. Chairs are more comfortable and better for your back.
- Comfortable—but still has to have a back—University of Glasgow.

WALLS

- I think the walls should hide you completely.
- Dividers are good. Walls should allow some see thru but not a lot. I like chairs better. The arrangement is fine.
- Make sure they are pretty sound-proof.
 - Yes! [Three other check marks]
- Make the walls soft foam walls.
- Need to be sound proof and enclosed / at least sound reducing.
- Fur walls.

LOCATION

- Pods should be clustered together – Limits “noisy” sections of library to one location so others can study in peace!
- Separate group study and individual study so people are not disturbed.
- Not in the library! It's loud enough in here. Group study spaces should be limited to other buildings that are more social (KJ, Sci Center, Sadove).
- Not on the 3rd floor. Sadove.
- Not in the library!! It is already difficult to find silent study spaces, especially during exam times. Put these in social places where people don't mind noise.
- I think group study spaces could be convenient and helpful. However, they can be loud so must be strategically placed. Also, I think these pods should vary in size so we avoid 1

or 2 people sitting in a large pod and essentially wasting space where desks can be + more people.

- I agree.
- These should be in a student center rather than a library. Cool idea: wrong location.
 - 2nd. Private study spaces need to be more contained / shut off from noise.
- They need to be closed off to not disturb other people. There could even be a whole room of a set up like the model one, but that room needs to have doors / sound proof walls.

ANYTHING WE MISSED?

- Plugs/outlets everywhere.
- The University of Sussex beanbag space looks cool, but people usually need tables.
- I actually studied at the University of Edinburgh and those areas were always used but the flat screens were rarely used.
- More outlets!
 - Yup!
 - I second this!
 - Yes.
 - Yes.
 - X a million.
- Lighting of some sort.
- University of Sussex's concept is a great 1st floor concept.
 - Too chatty!
- University of Cumbria's concept has awesome modern feel (like KJ and Science)!
- University of Glasgow has a cool concept for the quiet floor / 2nd floor outline, though I'd want some secular pods. Don't cover the windows please!!
 - Yea!!
- I don't like this idea [University of Sussex concept] for our library . . . It is much too casual. Better suited for a design institute. I also think that would work better in a Sadove or event bar. Furthermore I think we need structure on the first floor. People sitting on the ground promote more socializing than productive work. I also don't think when a prospy or administrator should walk into the library and see us sitting on the floor? Maybe 2nd floor if anything?
 - I think people are forgetting this is a small college, not a university.
- I like University of Glasgow for quiet area and 2nd floor too!!
 - Maybe more space efficient too . . .
- This is not a good use of space! (or money, or our library . . .)
- Keep the library quiet! Less talking = more studying = happy campers.
 - = more sleep!
- No bench seating. Needs individual chairs and rounder shape.

- Lighting soft; not too intense fluorescent lighting like KJ team rooms.
- Need colors that encourage creativity, but NOT ORANGE.
 - Purple walls. More calming and inspires creativity.
 - GREEN
- Glass wall. Markers that show up on glass. Areas with 3 fold to block distraction (spot to put laptop, outlet close by)
- No fluorescent lighting!
- Circular area of study. Put circular couches around.
- NO ORANGE CARPET!
 - It's dirty.
- 24 hour section needs to be bigger and with more computers.
- Tables should have individual lights. More outlets.
- A centerpiece, like a vase of flowers, would be awesome!
 - That would get in the way of your books!!