

Section Header	Description
Institution Name	Northwestern University Libraries
Institution Characteristics	Private Research University 19,253 FTE Enrolled; 283 FTE Library Staff (includes student FTE)
CARLI Counts Participant Name + Job Title	Gina Petersen, Assessment Librarian
Project Name/Title	Investigating the value of assigned study carrels to students
Single Sentence Abstract	Northwestern University Libraries sought to better understand the impact having an assigned carrel has on graduate students and advanced undergraduates.
Motivation(s) for Project	The library is at the heart of a space-constrained campus. Due to this we have motivation for understanding use in all of our spaces. Carrels in particular are a subject about which we knew little. There isn't library literature focusing on assigned carrel use by students. Further, they take up a large footprint on multiple floors and are often empty during business hours.
Partners and Stakeholders	Institutional research provided demographics Access Services shaped the project significantly
Inquiry Question	What is the impact of having an assigned library carrel on graduate and advanced undergraduate student wellbeing?
Study Participants/Population	Students with assigned library carrels
Method(s) of Data Collection and Analysis	Data for this project was collected via a survey.
Findings	<p>Unsurprisingly these students value their study carrels as a place to conduct work without distraction.</p> <p>We see a picture of students who don't have dedicated workspace elsewhere and who desire a place "to feel like a professional".</p> <p>Many students reported stay at their carrel for more than 2 hours at a time.</p>
Use of Findings	Most immediately we've used the data to gain a better understanding of the value of these spaces.

Next Steps and Other Results	<p>It expands upon what we already knew about space use in the library from other projects.</p> <p>We also now have a list of desired improvements.</p>
Additional Reflections	<p>In an ideal world, we could have conducted a few interviews during the survey development phase.</p> <p>Though these findings may be unsurprising, having this information from our users and in their voice is valuable.</p>
Timeline	<p>Survey development and IRB Approval: April and May 2019</p> <p>Survey Fielding: June 2019</p> <p>Initial Data Analysis: July 2019</p>
Bibliography/Works Cited	<p>Bayat Bodaghi, N., & Zainab, A. N. (2013). My carrel, my second home: Inclusion and the sense of belonging among visually impaired students in an academic library. <i>Malaysian Journal of Library & Information Science</i>, 18(1), 39–54.</p> <p>Engel, D., & Antell, K. (2004). The Life of the Mind: A Study of Faculty Spaces in Academic Libraries. <i>College & Research Libraries</i>, 65(1), 8–26.</p> <p>Hendley, M. (2019). “The Carrels are Essential”: An Investigation of Faculty Study Spaces at a Mid-Size State College. <i>The Journal of Academic Librarianship</i>, 45(2), 84–93. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2019.01.005</p>
Appendices	<p>As needed. Might be visualizations of the data, survey instruments, etc.</p>

Note: Report will be submitted as a single PDF.