

## 2003 LibQUAL+ Comments

### Library as Place

#### Undergraduate

##### Communications / Journalism

I am satisfied with the library currently. One complaint would be people's volume level in the study areas, but I can't see how that could be helped.

#### Faculty

##### Science / Math

There are always too many undergraduates talking (or what they call 'studying') in the library. These noisy people should be encouraged to leave. Otherwise, everything about the chemistry library is great. It's really a first rate facility.

#### Graduate

##### Other

PCL is great. The hours are good and the selection of materials is outstanding. The staff is knowledgeable -- but the library is a bit loud. Especially the main floor. But, I am a librarian, so I prefer quiet!

#### Faculty

##### Humanities

I have had scheduled tours of the library for my classes. The staff is doing an awesome job! At times I do believe that the libraries could be quieter and cleaner. Info. available is top rated. One of the top five things that make U.T. Austin a great institution is the library materials and system. In general, I congratulate all your efforts.

#### Undergraduate

##### Agriculture / Environmental Studies

I have always found the library webpage very helpful in research for my classes and projects. I also find it wonderful that there is always a quiet corner in every library, or a room specifically reserved for group studies.

#### Undergraduate

##### Engineering / Computer Science

Finding quiet group study areas is very difficult. The libraries have gotten noisier.

#### Undergraduate

##### Science / Math

I enjoy the libraries a lot and think they're a great, quiet place to go to get away from everything and concentrate on work. They really let students work harder and have a comfortable place to study.

#### Undergraduate

##### Communications / Journalism

PCL and UGL are both good places to get reading done for classes and quite often, I can find a nice, quiet place.

#### Faculty

##### Social Sciences / Psychology

One of the main problems I encounter in the library is that students constantly talk and hold study groups in areas that should be quiet.

**Undergraduate****Engineering / Computer Science**

PCL would be a better place to study (for me at least) if the atmosphere was better. The size of the library is great because of the huge selection of books.

**Graduate****Social Sciences / Psychology**

The library staff is professional and very helpful. The resources, print and electronic, are excellent. It is in my opinion an outstanding research library.

A negative that is becoming increasingly a problem is the loud talking, noisy study groups, loud cell phone conversations. It is very annoying and distracting. There are signs posted but it is not enforced. Also allowing food in the library is a mistake.

**Undergraduate****Health Sciences**

The university of Texas provides a good service. There is more than adequate space provided when all the libraries are utilized. More students need to be aware what is available to them. The facilities have lots of room but are not as nice when it comes to the Business school facilities.

**Faculty****Humanities**

Cell phones are a big problem. There is no noise free place in the library to study undisturbed. Something really has to be done about cell phone use. I know there are rules against use, but they are not enforced, and I don't have the time to yell at everyone.

**Undergraduate****Undecided**

I go often to the PCL to study. I wish that talking would be monitored more and especially CELL PHONES. I can NOT stand people who are talking in areas that should be for studying. Please put signs to tell people to yell into their cell phones in a lobby.

**Faculty****Humanities**

The library & staff get high marks in my book. I'd like to see more quiet spaces (no cell phones, no loud chatter, and more lockable cubicle-type workspaces with internet connections for faculty, but I realize I'm just dreaming.

**Graduate****Science / Math**

I love the reading area in the Life Sciences Library, it's quiet and comfortable.

**Faculty****Engineering / Computer Science**

The Engineering Library is short on nice building space but long on extremely knowledgeable and helpful staff. The technological improvements they have introduced, such as web-based journal access and index searching, are a true revolution for my research efforts. I look forward to the addition of more technical information to this electronic access.

**Faculty****Humanities**

In general, I find the libraries comfortable and easy to work in. I like being able to access the catalogue and certain journals from home and office. Over the last two years, I have spent a great deal of time in the PCL and the HRC and in both places the staff have been VERY helpful. I appreciate being able to have a carrel in PCL to work in and to keep books and materials in. I only wish I had more time to spend in the library!

**Graduate****Other**

Better furniture is needed in the Public Affairs Library. Additionally, it would be nice to have rotating periodicals.

**Undergraduate****Engineering / Computer Science**

better lighting and individual study areas would help. as well as more laptop docking stations.

**Faculty****Science / Math**

The Geology Library (especially its personnel) is excellent, and has just gotten better through its recent renovation.

**Graduate****Humanities**

The two improvements that I would most like from the libraries are a more comfortable environment and ease of use (especially for returning materials - perhaps the drop box behind the UTC could accept books for ALL the libraries?) Email alerts re: recalls & overdue books would be MUCH preferable to snail mail. Re: comfort in the library, I don't quite know what to suggest, and doubt much could be implemented anyway, but the PCL is just so ugly. And industrial looking. Other libraries are like cathedrals -- ours is like a factory. Can something be done about this? More sofas, if nothing else, would be nice, I suppose. And a more pleasing carpet. Perhaps the odd picture on the walls - look at the Tarleton Law Library - now THAT'S a library. I know that exact sort of thing is beyond your means, but a little beautification would go a long way. Less brown would be a huge improvement. And, since I'm griping, why did you tear out those nice Texas pastiches to replace the terrace with a virtually identical terrace of ugly brown tiles, only this one without any mature trees? Anything that covers the facade of the PCL is a good thing, let alone providing shade and being pretty in their own right. On other matters, I have come to prefer digital journals to hard copy - so much easier to access. Anything that prevents me from having to find a parking space on campus is fine by me. I wish you had your own collection of downloadable ebooks, like UVa - I don't like having to borrow ebooks - it doesn't suit my research pattern, which is to harvest large amounts of information as stage 1, and then to evaluate it at my leisure as stage 2. Either e-books should be constantly available html files or else downloadable .lit files.

Thanks!

**Undergraduate****Engineering / Computer Science**

To tell the truth, I tend to avoid the library. I much prefer the presidential lounge in the Union and the Reading Room in the Business School. The chairs, lighting, and tables are in better condition, more comfortable, and better for my back, which tends to hurt when I use the library chairs, which have a lack of lumbar support. Also the library hours are more limited, such as on weekends and holidays, than the hours of each of the rooms above.

**Faculty****Humanities**

I appreciate the attempts to renovate PCL--somewhat successful. I wish all outlying libraries, of which I routinely use four, would keep the same hours. PLEASE restore telnet terminals in PCL; web access is cumbersome and slow. It's too bad you couldn't have kept the card catalog or installed a massive sculpture or something--that space is now dismal. Why dedicate a huge hall to something virtual? Terminals should be removed and scattered through the stacks and reading and reference rooms.

**Graduate  
Education**

Most of the information and resources I have needed I have been able to acquire through the library or interlibrary loan. There is a need for more spaces for private individual study that also allows small group work.

**Faculty  
Humanities**

The Classics Library is a difficult place to work because of space and staff issues. My undergraduate students are not able to take advantage of its important resources due to lack of hours open and no copying capabilities.

**Graduate  
Science / Math**

1. Love your class of the day, keep on going !! 2. Air circulation in PCL is not so fresh, makes you feel dizzy when staying too long. 3. Why is Life science closed on Saturday? It's needed for its professional resource. 4. Why can't bottle water be allowed in Engineering Library? 5. Wireless access in every library, especially Life science. If you can't layout physical ports for Internet, why not just go wireless?