

## Study space



Study carrels on the Lower Level are small, inflexible and do not effectively support installed computers or laptop use.



Individual study carrels on the long walls on several levels are surprisingly popular with students, and see high levels of use, perhaps because they offer access to power outlets for laptops and other devices.



Shelving aisles throughout the library are narrow and cramped. Shelves are near or at capacity in many areas.



Clearing out and discarding obsolete and unused carrels on the Lower Level would open up floor space for other uses.



Half-height walls on column lines in several parts of the library are a clever way to offer access to power outlets in otherwise open areas with few walls.



This window nook on the Third Floor makes good use of the window to create a comfortable and inviting space.



Windows are at a premium, and offer spaces for quiet study and reflection.



Individual study space on the Third Floor is less than adequate.

## Government Documents



The Government Documents card catalog acts as a room divider as well as a barrier.

The Government Documents workroom and Third Floor service spaces were the focus of the meeting with Documents staff. Staff offered a number of suggestions for reorganizing and retooling these spaces which were provided in a format which can't be reproduced here. The suggestions were reasonable and merit further study.

## Room 352



Rm 352 offers one of the few attractive, technology-enabled conference rooms for staff meetings.

## Information Technology Services (ITS)

ITS has grown faster than just about anything else in the library in the last fifteen years, Successful grant-making brings people to do the work.

ITS currently has staff all over the library building, and is collaborating across floors. It would be better to co-locate, especially not scattering the subgroups. Staff totals 33 to 35 plus students. ITS employs between 12 and 30 students, a variable number that's project driven. The individual staff or student workstation footprint requires material space in some cases.



The Digital Projects Unit and Multimedia Development Lab intensively occupy space that accommodates a number of staff and students working on a wide variety of projects and initiatives.



## Music Library

The Fourth Floor Music Library's resources and collections are a strong part of the Library's program; the Music School is a large and significant program at the University.

There is a clear need for a new Music Library, developed in partnership with the Music School. The new Music Library would be more than a space to store collections; there would be no attempt to consolidate all the LP's on site, though it's highly desirable to have all print materials on site. The new Music Library would be a showcase for its rich special collections.

In the meantime, growth should be accommodated by retooling staff and public space, especially the services desk. (Some of the ideas for retooling Gov Docs should be considered for the Music Library.). Collections continue to grow at about 150,000 to 180,000 items per year, particularly donated sound recordings. Current sound recording holdings appear in three categories:

- LP's cataloged and accessible in Willis
- Uncataloged LP's shelved by label number at the Annex
- Uncataloged, unprocessed LP's at Discovery Park



The service desk in the Music Library is original to the building.



The Music Library offers an interesting installation of low-profile carrels, with a surprising level of use.



The card catalogs in Music and the Audio Center should be removed.



With the move toward digital delivery and access to sound recordings, the Fourth Floor Audio Center is underutilized. Some of the space should perhaps be repurposed as a much-needed staff workroom.



With a collection approaching 150,000 CD's, the Audio Collection space is nearing capacity. Compact storage has definitely extended the lifetime of this collection space—but will not extend it indefinitely!



Even the beautifully appointed Sandborn Room is pressed into service as a staging and storage space for boxes.

### University Archives *and* Rare Books and Texana Collections

Special Collections started in the 1980's, and has ramped up since 2000. University Archives is tied in with the University's Records Management program. The campus history museum closed in the 1980's; most of the collection has been loaned or given, with the remainder in Willis.

Manuscript collections consist of North Texas history, primarily collected from individuals. Holdings include oral history collection transcripts (the "official" edited transcripts; the actual sound recordings are not available to researchers), and microfilm for four counties. Special Collections will always be about retaining the artifact.

Environmental controls are inadequate. There was a mold outbreak in 2005 in Texana; the area needs dehumidification. The University Archives area on the east side is okay. The area needs processing space, classroom space, and a place to host a reception.



The Rare Book and Texana collections are jammed into storage space which was not designed for long-term housing of rare and valuable materials.