Oregon State University
Libraries and Press

Assessment Annual Report

Service, Space or Collection
Library Classroom Spaces

Fiscal Year
FY23

Overview
OSULP maintains several classroom spaces, configured to meet a variety of teaching and learning needs.

Library Seminar Room
Located at the Guin Library, this is the Hatfield Marine Science Center's largest meeting room, with a total capacity of 48. It is furnished with tables and chairs that seat 24, and can be rearranged to suit a variety of teaching and presentation needs.

Nishihara Family Classroom
Located on the main floor of the Valley Library. This classroom was created in 2019-2020 to support student success, equity of access and ease of use. It is furnished with moveable tables, 30 chairs, and five media scape display stations. In May 2023 this classroom was officially renamed the Nishihara Family Classroom (formerly the West Classroom) to honor long-time OSU employee and OSU alum Janet Nishihara and her siblings who were also OSU alums and OSUL student workers.

Barnard Classroom
Located on the 5th floor of the Valley Library. This classroom was renovated in 2017 to meet the instruction needs of the Special Collections and Archives Research Center. Current seating capacity is 30.

Willamette East and West Seminar Rooms
Each of these rooms are equipped with 8 tables and 29 chairs. They are connected by a retractable wall.

Autzen Family Classroom

Located on the main floor of the Valley Library. Furnished with a mix of student workstations with desktop computers, laptop-friendly tables and power towers, and moveable furniture. Current seating capacity is 48; full capacity is 142. It was last redesigned in 2008 as part of a Herman Miller Learning Studio pilot project.

Assessment Focus
During FY22, the decision was made to open the Autzen Family Classroom to quiet study use when not previously reserved for library instruction or Supplemental Instruction tables. The remainder of this report provides Autzen Family Classroom usage information gathered during FY23 to help assess the change in classroom use guidelines and to guide further decisions about this classroom space.

Strategic Significance:
Priority B.1: Optimize the library experience to support student success
- Maximizing the capacity of our facilities for learning and work
- Ensuring that our spaces are safe and inclusive
- Removing barriers to access OSULP resources

Goal 2. Build and Strengthen Relationships

Goal 3. Reward Experimentation and Support Continuous Improvement

Takeaways:
- In-person library instruction held in Valley Library classrooms doubled in FY2023 as compared to FY2022 (see Tables 1 and 2), but the use of clear signage and a standard protocol for notifying students using the classrooms for open study that a class would be starting resulted in the ability to relatively seamlessly toggle between room uses.
- The number of desktop computers in the Autzen Family Classroom was reduced by half to 12 stations for FY2023 to accommodate more flexible teaching and open study space. Observations throughout the year during library instruction sessions for OSU students showed that the average number of classroom computers used during library instruction sessions was 2.0 and the maximum number used during any session was 5 (see Table 3). These observations indicate that the current number of desktop computers in the room is more than sufficient for OSU library instruction needs.
- The Autzen Family Classroom saw relatively small but consistent use as a quiet study space throughout FY2023 as indicated by counts made during Spring 2023 (see Figure 1). Signage indicating the availability of the room for quiet study was sufficient for creating a culture of quiet study (see Figure 2). Students gravitated to tables in the room where they could spread out and use their own devices primarily for individual study (see Figures 3 and 4).

Key Decisions

- As a result in the successful student adoption of the Autzen Family Classroom for its intended purpose as a quiet study space, and because of the continued ability of library instructors to use the Autzen Family Classroom when they need it for OSU library instruction, no changes in Autzen Family Classroom use procedures will be made for the coming year.
- Room use prioritization will continue in the following order:
    - Library-led student instruction
    - Library partner (e.g., Academic Success) student instruction
    - Open student study
    - Library presentations
    - Library or library partner meetings or events

Next Steps:
The changes made in FY2023 are just one step in revisioning Autzen to meet evolving instructional and student study needs. As we consider the use of the main floor of the Valley Library holistically, we will continue to examine what kinds of instruction, open study, and computing needs students and instructors have in this space. For example, we can explore whether other private study zones can be set up in the space. We can also consider whether the room might be divided into other configurations. Each of these longer-term options would require more funding and a broader consideration of the Valley Library's main floor needs.

To inform our longer-term decisions about desktop computer support in the Auzen Family Classroom, we will continue to track classroom computer use. We will also continue to have conversations with members of the Library Information Technology (LIT) department about the feasibility of maintaining these computers.

Assessment:
During Spring 2023 week-long Autzen Family Classroom space use counts were taken by LEAD staff during weeks 2, 6, and 10 to better understand how students use the space during open study times. Morning, afternoon, and evening counts were made each day during those weeks and recorded in Suma. Observations included the total number of students in the room, whether they were sitting alone or in a group, what type of seating area they were in, if they were using an OSULP computer, and the noise level.

Throughout FY2023 Research & Learning Department librarians recorded the number of students using OSULP computers during instruction sessions for OSU constituents (either course-based or workshops).

The OSULP stakeholders involved in the FY2022 planning that led to changes in the Autzen Family Classroom use and the space reconfiguration met during Winter 2023 to see if there were any concerns about how the space was being used. No concerns were raised.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Gascho Rempel   08/08/2023
_____   _____
Signature of the person (or persons) who prepared this report   Date submitted

Appendix: Assessment Data

Table 1 - Library Instructional Use of Valley Library Classrooms vs. Home Classroom Over Time

	Classroom Instruction (course-related) taught in Autzen*	Classroom Instruction (course-related) taught in Nishihara*^	Classroom Instruction (course-related) in Home Classroom
9/1/22 - 5/31/23	32	18	42
9/1/21 - 5/31/22	18	14	41
9/1/18 - 5/31/19	69	-	13
9/1/15 - 5/31/16	104	-	0

*Note - includes credit courses taught in the room, which have been recorded inconsistently across instructors e.g., HC407 only counted once instead of 10 times depending on the instructor
^West/Nishihara started being used for teaching in Fall 2019

Table 2 - Instructional use of the Valley Library classrooms vs. virtual instruction over time

	Classroom Instruction (course-related) taught in Valley Library classrooms*	Classroom Instruction (course-related) virtual	Workshops taught in Valley Library classrooms	Workshops taught virtually
9/1/22 - 5/31/23	50	2	26	42
9/1/21 - 5/31/22	32	13	6	46
9/1/18 - 5/31/19	69	1	48	0
9/1/15 - 5/31/16	104	4	72	0

*Note - includes credit courses taught in the room, which have been recorded inconsistently across instructors e.g., HC407 only counted once instead of 10 times depending on the instructor

Table 3 - Use of Autzen Classroom computers during OSU library class sessions, before and after COVID.

	FY2019*	FY2022	FY2023^
Average Number of Classroom Computers Used per Session	5.6	3.5	2.0
Maximum Number of Classroom Computers Used per Session	13	6	5
Minimum Number of Classroom Computers Used per Session	0	2	0
Average Percent of Classroom Computers Used per Session	50%	29%	9%
Total Number of Session Observations	n=8	n=4	n=21

*The data for FY2019 is somewhat impacted by one teaching instance in which the instructor forgot to prompt students to bring their laptops ahead of time and the whole class of 13 needed the classroom computers as a result.

^The one exception not factored into the FY2023 data is a high school visit in which the students used all of the classroom computers plus additional Chromebooks.

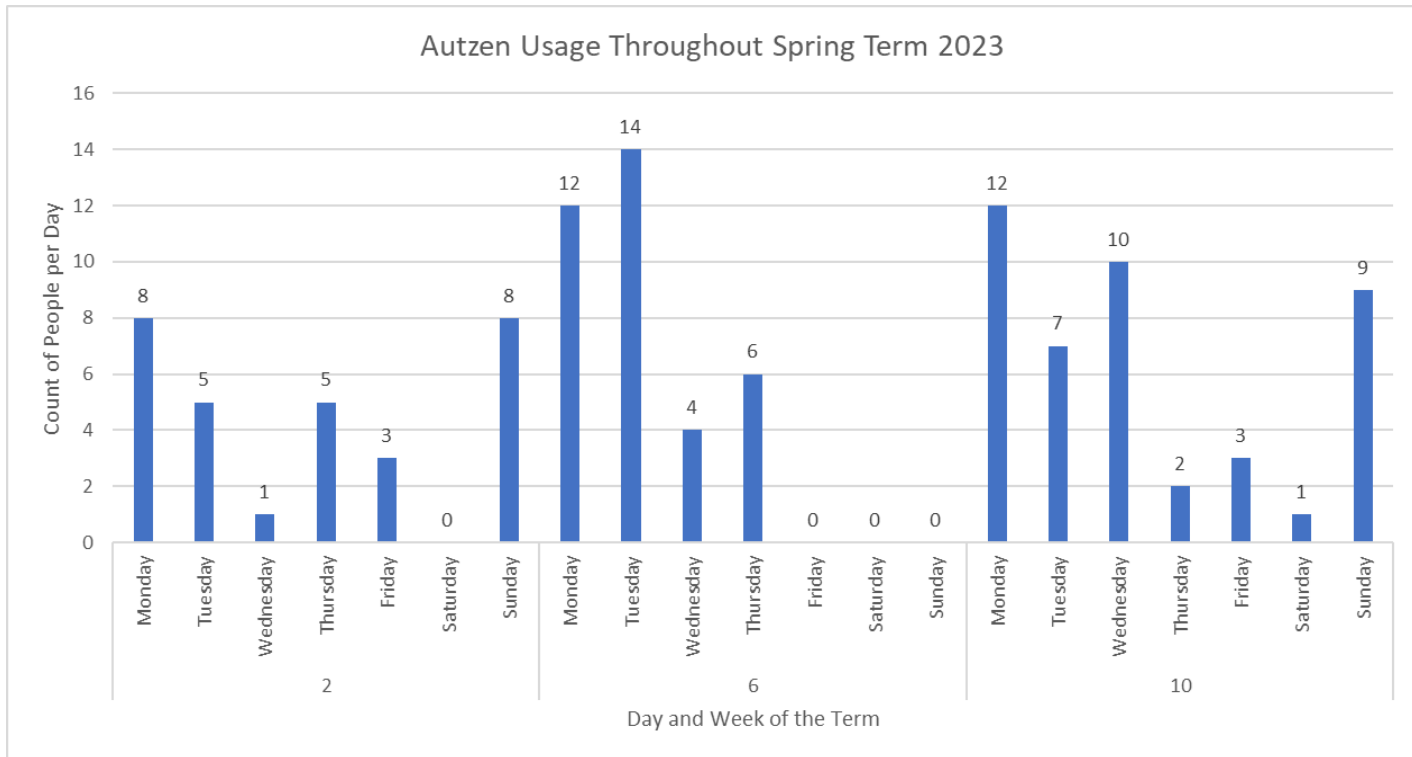Figure 1 - Autzen Classroom use for open study during Spring Term 2023.

Figure 2 - Noise level observations in Autzen Classroom during open study throughout Spring Term 2023. Silent is the quietest option, followed by quiet. The "noisy" classification was never observed during this period.
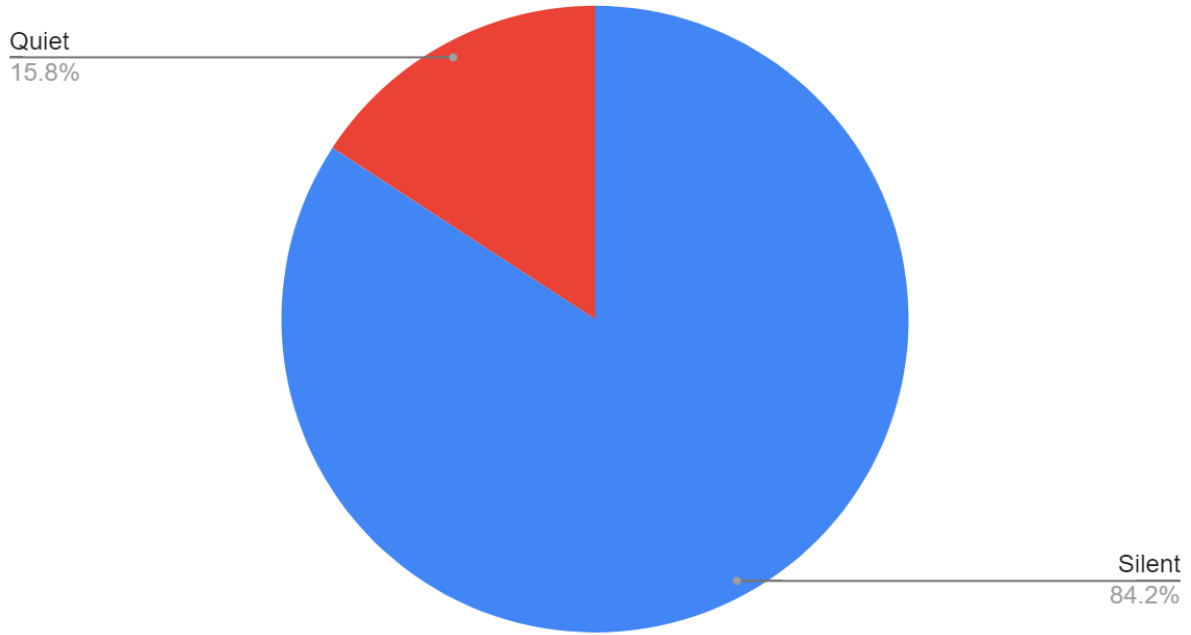
Figure 3 - Autzen Classroom sitting patterns during open study during Spring Term 2023
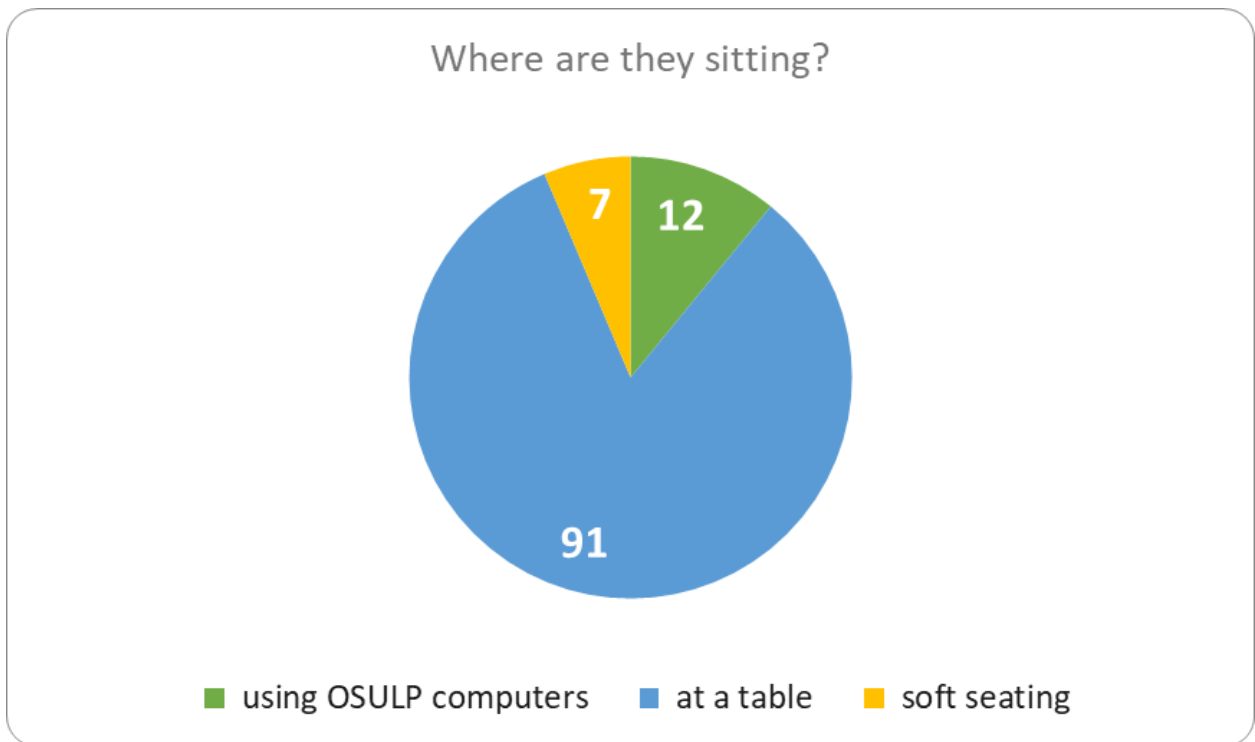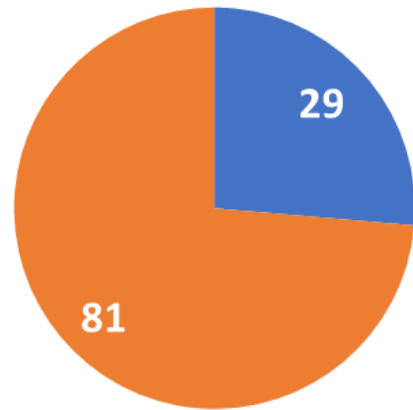

Figure 4 - Autzen Classroom individual or group study use during open study - Spring Term 2023

Sitting alone or in a group?

29

81

group   alone