



Oregon State University
Libraries and Press

Assessment Annual Report

Service or Collection

Library Plaza

Fiscal Year

FY22

Overview

Library Plaza

The outdoor library plaza was visible, high traffic, and underutilized space. During the pandemic, tents were set up outside and well used. Statistics showed a consistent use of space particularly during spring, summer, and fall with a big drop off in winter during colder temperatures and precipitation.

Historically the low walls surrounding the plaza edge are used as casual seating. To build off this use the library created seating in the plaza space adjacent to the low wall on the plaza's north end.

This project was donor funded based on the presentation of the tent usage as an indicator of student need and interest.

New outdoor seating was ordered and put into place late fall of 2022. As is indicated below in the layout on the plaza map, we customized tables to accommodate shade/table size/wheelchair access. Half covered, half not, some with wheelchair access, different styles of seats for different body types but with a consistent aesthetic. This is part of why the student input will be important for determining ratios.

Carousel, Shade

Layout Drawing

www.landscapiforms.com

Date: 02/07/2022

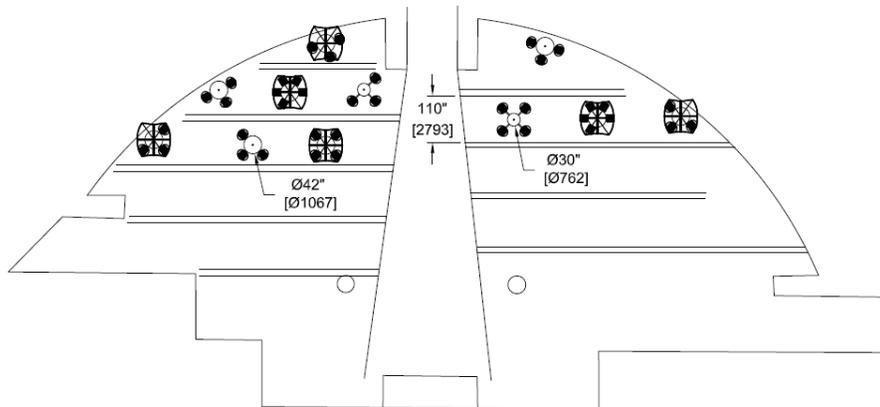
Ph: 800.521.2546

- (1) CAROUSEL 3 SEAT UNIT, CASUAL HT, HOOP SEAT
- (1) CAROUSEL 4 SEAT UNIT, CASUAL HT, HOOP SEAT
- (6) CAROUSEL 3 SEAT UNIT, DINING HT, HOOP SEAT
- (1) CAROUSEL 4 SEAT UNIT, DINING HT, HOOP SEAT
- (2) CAROUSEL 5 SEAT UNIT, DINING HT, BACKED GRID SEAT
- (6) SHADE UMBRELLA, TABLE MT

- ____ APPROVED
- ____ REVISE AND RESUBMIT
- ____ REJECTED

COMMENTS MADE ON THESE SUBMITTALS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY. ANY CHANGES REQUIRE RE-SUBMITTAL AND APPROVAL. CUSTOMER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFIRMING ALL QUANTITIES, DIMENSIONS, AND INSTALLATION TECHNIQUES.

BY: _____ DATE: _____



From Fall 2020-October 2021 tents were placed in the front of the library plaza space while the interior was reservation only through the spring 2021. They were well used and open to all without reservations required. Qualitatively there was interest from staff and students to keep an outdoor library space available to support students and OSU. Creating a library plaza with tables and covering available

Strategic Significance:

Use of outdoors library space has been casual use of existing structures, specifically the low concrete walls that run along the plaza and outside java. This was an expansion of library space that is visibly welcoming to OSU Students and community patrons alike.

Takeaways:

- Watch for behaviors and usage from our OSU community that indicates an opportunity for new space development and/or proposals for donors to support.
- Though the tents were originally set up due to covid, the opportunity to consider using the plaza space more permanently arose from a campus community that values intentional outdoor spaces.

Key Decisions:

Commitment of donor funds, resources, and FTE to manage the project confirmed in Summer 2021.

Next Steps:

There is qualitative data from staff observations of use that the new plaza furniture is popular. I would like to supplement those observations with some quantitative data by doing counts in the future. The quantitative data can be based on counts of which structures are used, and behaviors within the plaza space (groups/individuals, device usage, seat/table style).

It would be prudent to monitor usage, assess need for additional structures, and get feedback from students and the OSU Community prior to further investment.

Assessment:

Data from tents:

Counts were made from March 29, 2021 to September 15, 2021 every hour from 10:30 am through 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

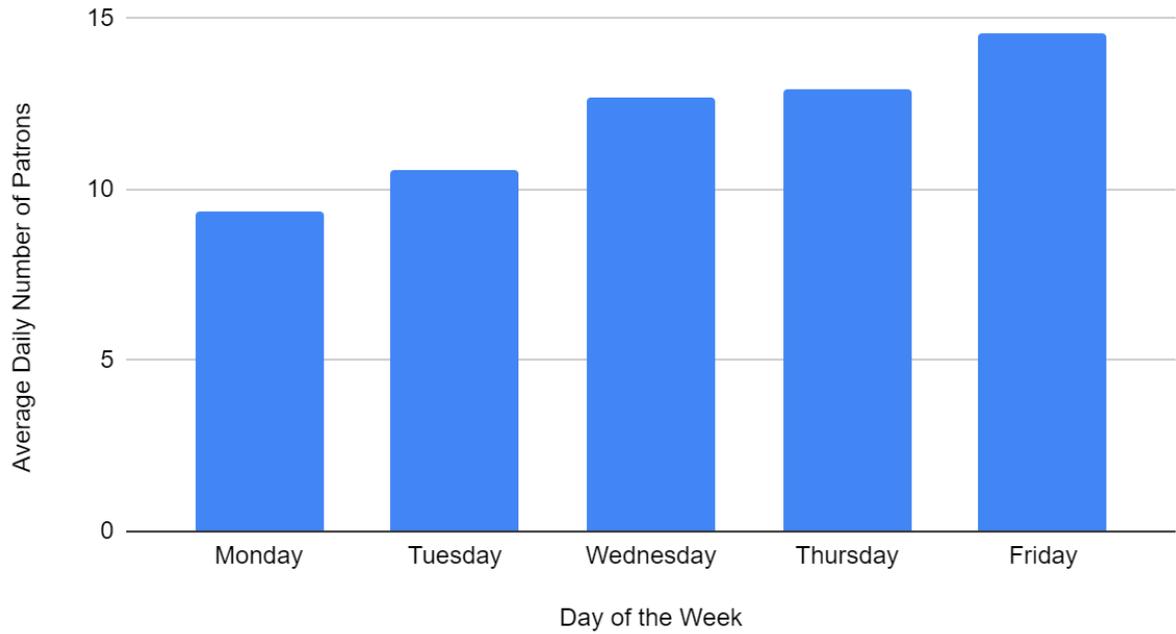
Signature of the person (or persons) who prepared this report

Date submitted

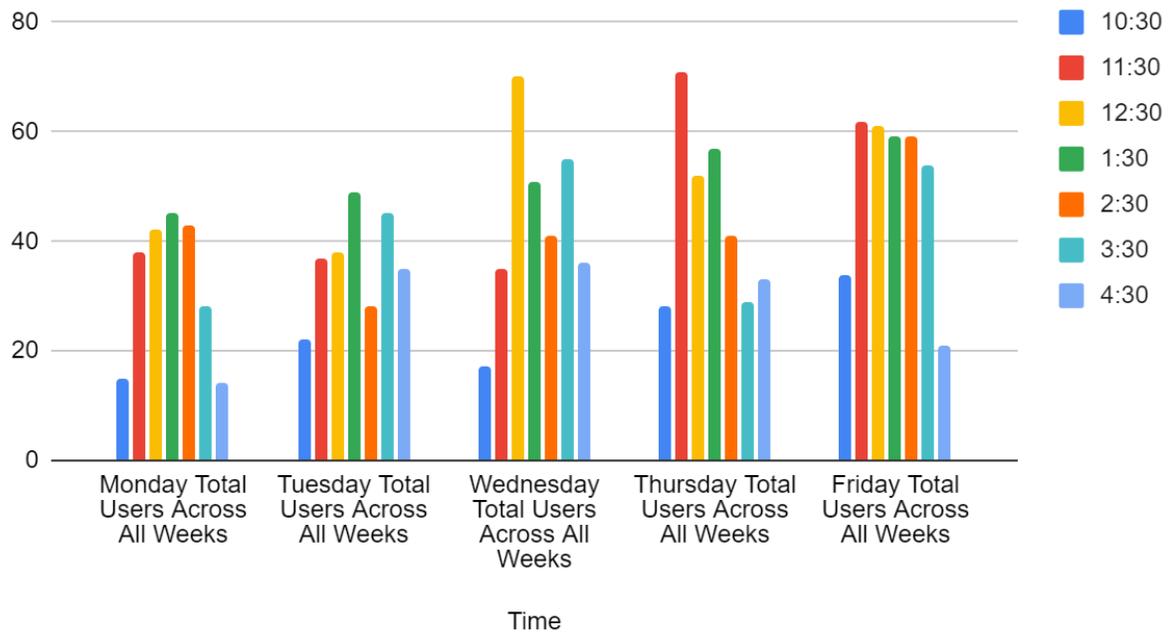
Attachments

Appendix A: Assessment Data

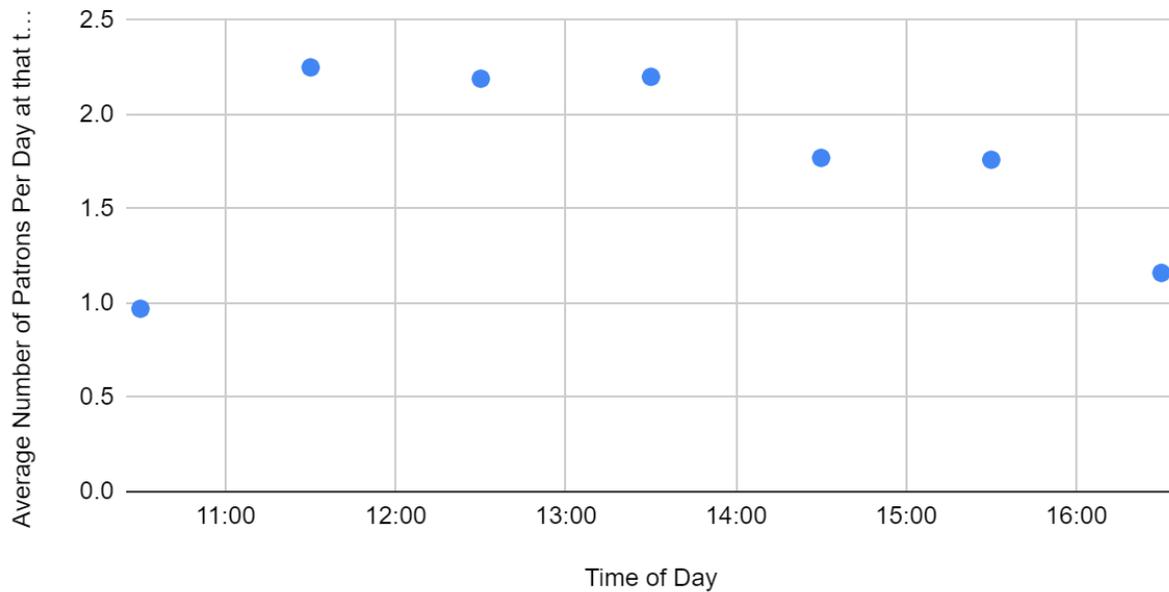
Average Daily Number of Patrons vs. Day of the Week



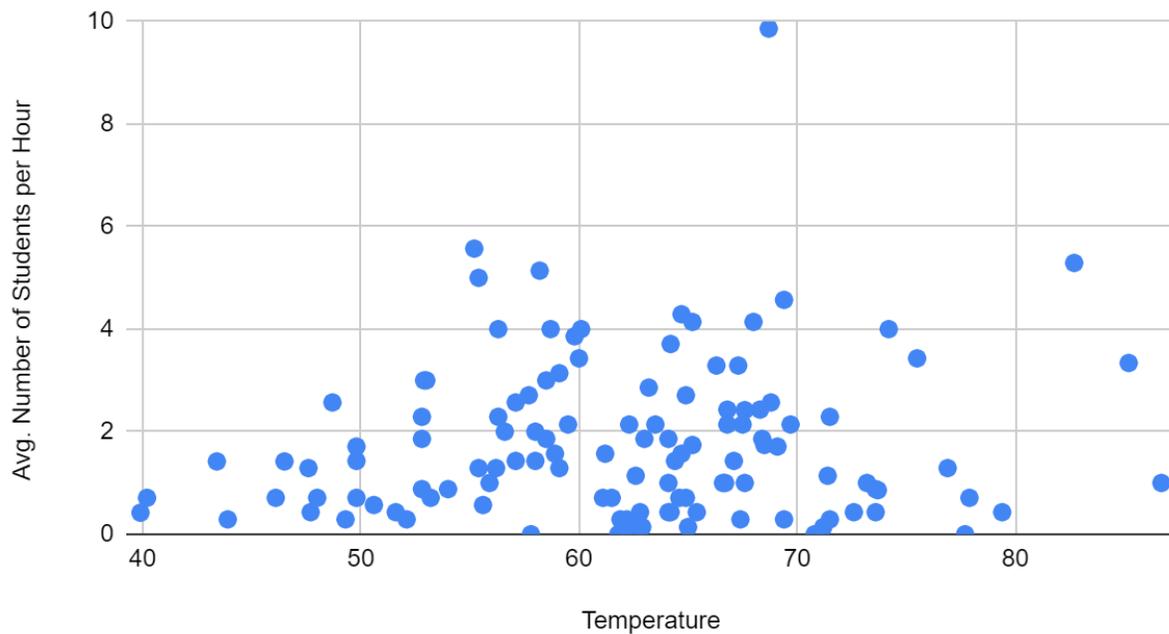
Total Number of Users



Average Number of Patrons Per Day at that time vs. Time of Day



Avg. Number of Students per Hour vs. Temperature



A survey was available to users in April 2021; responses was low.

Comments from users of the tents included:

-This would be great for the warmer seasons like spring and summer, but it would not be ideal fall or winter because it is too cold and wet outside.

-The tents are epic.

-This has been a really great addition to campus to help give students other safe-ish places to work beyond staying home.

Input was requested from 12 staff and 30 student employees regarding type of structure. The ordered units were based on the indicated variety of preferences, and to support body types and accessibility needs.