

Student Responses to the Question, "Do you have ideas for how the library can use technology to better meet your needs?"

All responses below are just as the students typed them.

1. As a biology major, I often need to search for relevant journal articles. The majority of the articles that I would like to use in my research are not available to Northwestern students unless I have enough days to ILL the article. I wish Northwestern had subscriptions to more online journals. I know this is expensive, but in order to keep up with other biology departments, I think this would be beneficial to the college considering biology is one of the largest majors.
2. as much internet access to everything as possible is best so that you don't have to physically go to the library everytime you need something
3. Better laptops to check out-they are getting old and slow.
4. Continue to loan out laptops for use to students (while in the library).
5. easier to follow home page, more references on-line and possibly easier access to journal articles on-line
6. EBSCO host has rarely helped me, even when I have gotten help from a librarian. Maybe the information I was looking for was not there, but it seemed pretty useless to me. It was too confusing and the program they use for the search engine isn't very efficient.
7. faster computers! they're always so slow, it's a pain to even attempt to use them...and more group study areas would be nice. When I do ESL tutoring, we can rarely find a good place big enough for two but closed off enough to talk...
8. For some of my classes, particularly General Education classes, we need to watch a movie. It would be nice to have a room or an area where we could do this. Also, I know that the LRC has movies and DVD's that you can check out, but maybe the LRC and Library could come together on this and keep the movies in the Library to be checked out.
9. get a SmartBoard for students to practice using. Although the education dept. has one, it's not very accessible to students during "regular" hours. This is a tool that business and education majors need to learn to use and they really don't have one accessible to them.
10. have a faster network connection in the library
11. Have more informational meetings to show students what is available to them at the Library.
12. I am not there that much but possibly have a tutoring area if anyone ever needs help with a subject or a project that someone is there to help out. Or possibly invest in some programs to help student study and that it would be accessible through the library.
13. I cannot think of any technology that the library would need.
14. I hate that a lot of the academic journals just give an abstract when I look up articles on EBSCOhost. I wish they were all in full text.
15. I like the idea of calling reference lib., mainly because I like to access things off

campus and can never figure out how. I think I saw a link with information on the website recently, so if that's the case, kudos. If not, could work on that. Also, those laptops are pretty old.

16. I like the instant messaging idea
17. I love the online chatting on the ILL website.
18. I might be a little old fashion, but i like the things the way they are. There is technology available, but i prefer to ask questions in person.
19. I realize that it isn't spatially practical to house all the journals I desire, but I would greatly appreciate more full text journals online, however that could be accomplished. The limited immediate accessibility of journals is problematic and annoying at times, especially when I have to settle for a decent source because I don't have time to wait for the quality source through interlibrary loan.
20. I really do not have any suggestions. I feel that the library does a good job of using technology.
21. I suppose this isn't really technology related but just a side note. I often find that the books are too old to be used as a credible source, which is understandable because I'm sure it's expensive to constantly buy new books in so many fields. But because of that I usually use internet sources or online books.
22. I think in today's world, technology is how we, as college students, survive and thrive. For so many people, I think we've forgotten how to, never learned how to, or feel uncomfortable asking questions face-to-face for some reason. Being able to quickly and efficiently communicate via email, instant messaging, or other means would be very beneficial.
23. I think it would be helpful if the reference librarians had a blog that students could post questions on and then the librarians would respond. Other classmates could read the blog and get help. Often when writing big research papers everyone in the class has similar questions and I think blogs are a great way to share knowledge.
24. I think RaiderLink is wonderful and has helped me with many papers and project; I appreciate all the information the library provides. Perhaps making information more accessible via internet, technology could better meet the needs of the students.
25. I think that technology is very well utilized in the library.
26. I think that the library page is difficult to navigate. I think it would be really helpful if that could be fixed.
27. I think that the staff does an excellent job of being available to help the students.
28. I think the library does a great job of meeting needs as well as using technology. I am always able to find out if the library has what I need using the website or complete research through EbscoHost.
29. I think they are doing a great job:)
30. I think we have great access to technology and very qualified and helpful librarians who have helped me navigate any new or hidden features on the

- website.
31. I think you do a pretty good job as it is, I just don't ever use the library.
 32. I wish some of the multimedia items from the LRC could be made available in the library. I feel like I am a bit unsure of what the LRC offers versus what Ramaker Library has to offer.
 33. I wish that some of the computers were located in more isolated spots instead of all clumped together.
 34. I would like better resources for chemistry majors. Specifically, the top journals in chemistry, physical chemistry, and physics are not readily available.
 35. I would like there to be a search for primary documents.
 36. If we could have more computers, more private study rooms, and have more sources available online, that would be great.
 37. It is a good place to study I just do not use it.
 38. It seems like the library is pretty up-to-date technology-wise. I appreciate the numerous article databases that it provides, and more of its books are able to be accessed electronically. Raiderlink and WorldCat are also relatively easy to use. It is also REALLY nice that I can renew my books online from my personal computer. It makes life a lot easier! Anything that allows a person do work from his/her own computer and in his/her own room is really helpful.
 39. It would be nice to have more group study locations, and even having a computer or two in those rooms would be helpful. Currently, I haven't had any issues with the laptops, but I know there are days when none are left.
 40. keep it up!
 41. Make the website easier to navigate.
 42. Make wireless internet access on personal laptops easier to use. Also having a few group study rooms with computers and projectors available would also be helpful as long as having more power outlets for laptop computers available.
 43. Maybe after you search for a book, could there be a map of the library with something that has a lighted up area of where your book is located? That would be cool.
 44. Maybe get more computers in the library which can be used to look up references and have the students help those in need. Give step by step piece of paper in order to find the books that the people need.
 45. Maybe have more soundproof rooms where students can listen to music and study at the same time.
 46. More and better laptops.
 47. more books on tape; more educational videos; more expansive databases; better scholarly internet search engine.
 48. More computer would be nice, sometimes they get pretty full
 49. more group study rooms
 50. More online catalogs
 51. Most of what I use technology for at the library is to get books. I much prefer reading a book to browsing the internet or reading something online, and, as an historian, most of the resources I want are books, not internet or other

- related technology. It would be great if the library had a larger book collection. I do really like the new ILL system; it is easy to use and the electronic delivery of article is fast and convenient.
52. My needs are already met with the technology already used by the library. I am satisfied.
 53. New equipment.
 54. no
 55. No
 56. no
 57. no
 58. no
 59. no
 60. NO
 61. no
 62. No
 63. No
 64. no ideas
 65. No ideas thanks
 66. No, I think what they do is great.
 67. No, not as this time.
 68. No, you guys do a great job!
 69. No.
 70. No. I really enjoyed being able to access the inter-library loan articles I requested from my computer in my room. Keep up the good work!
 71. none
 72. none
 73. none
 74. none i can think of at the moment
 75. None that come to mind.
 76. nope
 77. nope
 78. nope
 79. nope
 80. nope
 81. nope!
 82. Nope.
 83. Nope. Everything seems fine.
 84. Nope. I really appreciate the laptop check out.
 85. Not at the moment
 86. Not really
 87. Not really, sorry
 88. Not really. Maybe figure how to get that place quiet. It's never quiet in there.
 89. Not really. When searching for books that aren't there have it say that it isn't

- there rather than just go back to the search site again. It can be confusing.
90. not that i can think of at this point
 91. not that I can think of now
 92. Not that I can think of.
 93. not that I can think of.
 94. Nothing comes immediately to mind.
 95. Option of bringing the laptops outside the library, wider selection of personal reading books (books for fun), scanner,
 96. overall, they do a very good job.
 97. Provide more workable and functional areas for computer usage.
 98. send overdue notices to our cell phones, and have a grace period
 99. Something that might be useful for a individual or group project that is using a powerpoint would be a projector and screen to make sure the presentation looks and works well on the screen.
 100. sometimes during busy times we could use more laptop computers to loan out.
 101. Sometimes the WiFi goes offline, which is particularly frustrating when you want/need to save something to your g-drive. If that could be improved, most of my frustration would be eliminated.
 102. The computers are sometimes slow. The laptops are not worth checking out... they sometimes do not work and the 2 hr limit I always forget about, and have a fee to pay.
 103. The current laptops are pretty outdated and often don't work well.
 104. the library already meets my needs just fine
 105. The library should have more computer access. I think that the lack of computers might discourage students from using the library.
 106. The lights in the study rooms buzz so I don't like to use them because it's quite an annoying sound. Maybe these could be fixed?
 107. the NW network needs to be better before technology can be used to meet needs
 108. The Raider Link site can be temperamental...sometimes I can get it to search for books right away and sometimes not.
 109. The wireless internet in the library doesn't work all the time and it get frustrating when you are trying to complete an assignment online and it kicks you off.
 110. There are a couple of dead spots for wireless internet. It's not a huge deal, but it would ne nice to have a stronger signal everywhere.
 111. There are a lot of books in the library that help for research, but when it comes to finding articles that have a Christian aspect, it becomes very hard even when using ATLAS. I don't know how to solve this but maybe look into getting an array of books that have a Christian aspect to them (i.e. computer science books). If that is not possible, find a way to access all the articles on ATLAS so that we don't have to search for only articles that provide the whole length.
 112. They are doing well!
 113. This would be a change that is most likely undoable, but I think the library would run the most efficiently for both the librarians/library staff and all

students/professors if all of the bookshelves were in the basement closely packed, and only the librarians/staff got books for students. This way, no clean-up would be necessary for the workers, everything would always be in it's place. Also, since student's use books less because of the internet, there wouldn't be a line or anything of students trying to get staff members to get them books. Then upstairs would be all computer lounges, individual study rooms, and group study rooms. Group study rooms could have a computer with a screen to practice powerpoint presentations. I think there would be many, many more students coming to the library if it was set up this way. I know this is pretty impossible, but I think it would be the most efficient. Any small changes toward this suggestion would be nice.

114. When I do use the library, it's usually to quickly print something off, as my personal computer has unreliable access to the G drives. The computers open very slowly, but I also don't think it's much of an issue.
115. When looking up a book, show a map of the library and a star or something pointing out where the needed book is located.
116. Wireless access!
117. wireless access--i'd like to take in my personal laptop and connect to the internet.
118. You are doing a great job!
119. You are doing just fine.