Using LibCal to Manage Study Carrels

Background

LibCal was selected as the management tool for study spaces at LSU Libraries due to its success in managing carrel reservations at the University of Kentucky's EKU Libraries. LSU Libraries traditionally limited study carrel use to faculty and graduate students. To increase usage and make management of these spaces more efficient, undergraduates received access during the spring 2016 semester, and the spaces became popular almost immediately.

Why Make the Change?

LibCal puts the student in control of booking spaces, frees up staff time for other projects, and allows efficient monitoring of usage data.

Just the Facts

- **35 carrels (individual study spaces)**:
  - 11 carrels per semester
  - 1-week deposit
  - Typically reserved for 2 to 5 years

- **130 carrels available for graduate students only**
  - Typically reserved for 2 to 5 years
  - Student receives a key
  - Deposit required

- **35 carrels (individual study spaces)**
  - Booked per semester
  - Deposit required
  - Student receives a key
  - Typically reserved for 2 to 5 years

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The Response

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Why Make the Change?

"Repurpose" is the latest buzzword - that means making the library's limited space efficient, accessible, more useful and more widely used.

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  - Reservation can be made for up to two weeks.
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