



BUILT TO BELONG: A STUDENT-DRIVEN APPROACH TO DESIGNING LIBRARY SPACES

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BACKGROUND



Starting with students



Inspired by others



At the right time

PHOTOVOICE & RECRUITMENT

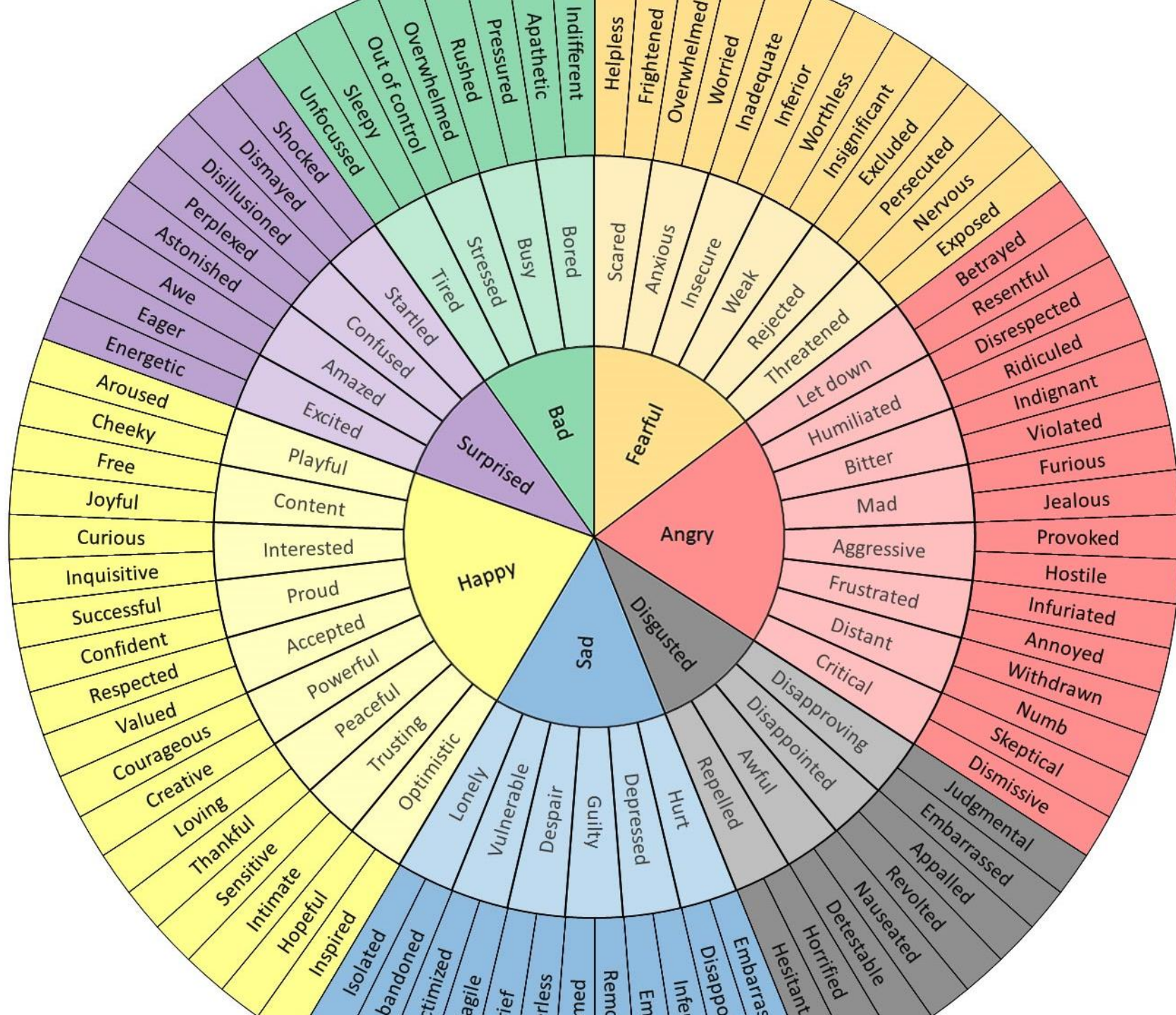
- Photovoice is a qualitative method that uses photos to capture participants feelings on a particular subject
- This allows the participants to feel ownership in the study and reflect on the subject of their choosing
- Communication plan and recruitment timeline
- LibGuide: <https://pitt.libguides.com/belonging>



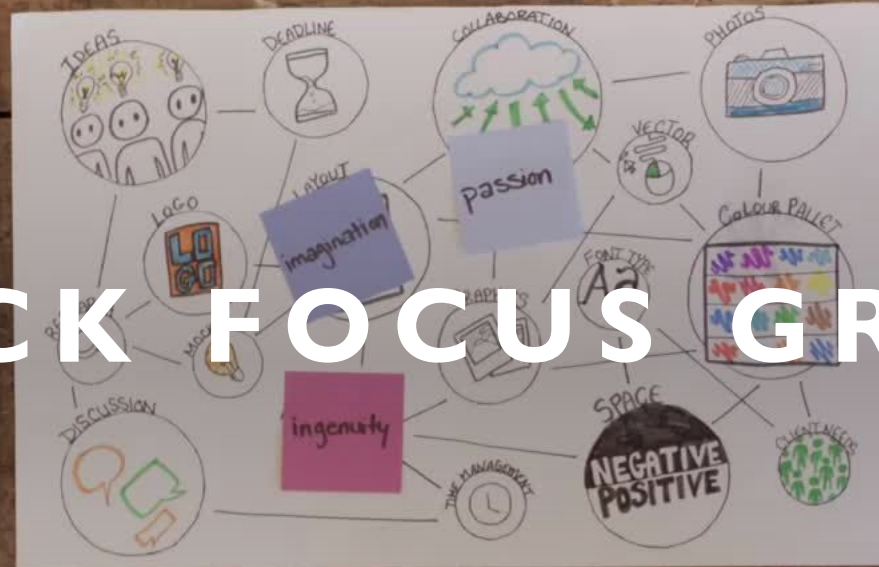


FOCUS GROUPS

FEELINGS WHEEL



MOCK FOCUS GROUP



REFLECTION

- Ease of use?
 - Strengths or Weaknesses of using this method?
 - Could you use this method at your institution?
-
- Here are our students' comments on these four pictures...



Author:

This photo is located in the Owen library on campus and showcased are some cubicles students use.

I selected this image because a majority of the Owen library has cubicles and can make students feel isolated while doing work. This photo evokes feelings of loneliness and despair.

This photograph was taken in the Owen Library and displays some of the depressing cubicles scattered throughout the library. The cubicles evoke feelings of loneliness and despair when students are working.



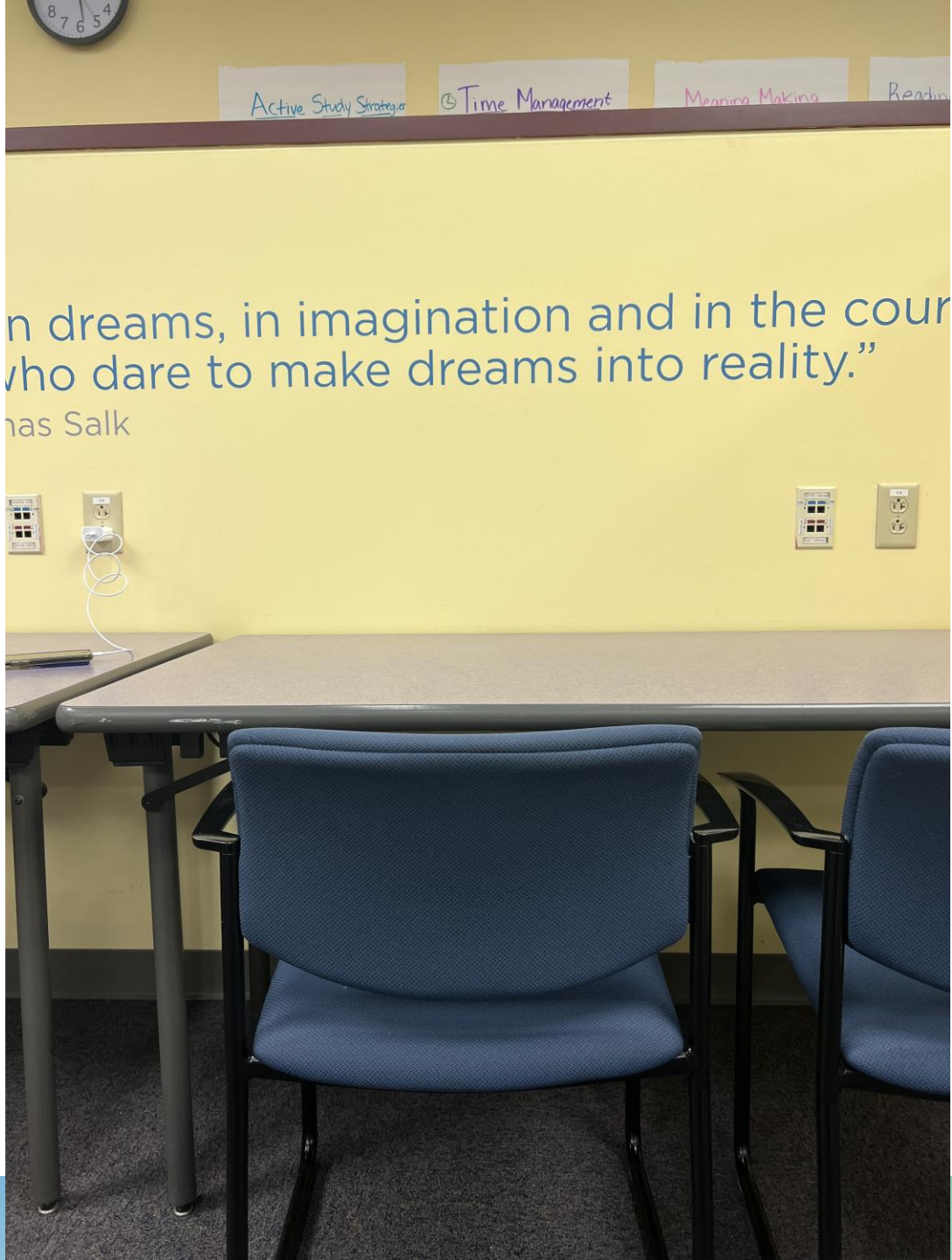
Author:

This is against the wall on the third floor, with study chairs looking out a window.

I like how everyone was studying in this picture. Everyone was focused and able to concentrate on their own work.

This photo makes me feel content. I like how everyone is studying in their own little world. Some of the library can feel dreary because of the lack of windows and natural light but in this area that is not an issue."

Studying by a Window



Author:

In this picture I am sitting at a table doing work on my own.

I choose this image because it is a comfortable space that can be improved. I like that there is a quote for decoration and outlets for my laptop. But the color of the walls is a little jarring.

This photo makes me overwhelmed because of the colors, but content in terms of the environment.

Doing work in front of quotes!



Author:

This photo was taken on the first floor of Hillman library. It displays the tables and the very bright lighting throughout the first floor. There are not many students in this photo as well, as it was taken late in the evening.

I chose this photo because, this space in the library has never really been a space I have enjoyed. With the construction occurring on the other floors of the library, I once used to complete my work here, however, I quickly found another place that I preferred to do my homework and assignments.

This photo evokes the feelings of being sad, vulnerable, and inferior. I have never enjoyed being on the first floor of the library and feel feelings of insecurity whenever I am in that vicinity.

First Floor Blues

FUTURE PLANNING

- Initial thoughts from March focus groups
- Currently we are coding our student responses
- During the upcoming Fall semester, we will have a curated digital collection of images for all students to provide feedback
 - The collection will be displayed at all Pitt campus libraries
- Short and long term implications and implementation

QUESTIONS? CONTACT INFO

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