

## Library Survey

March 2007

204 responses total, 41% return rate

### 1. How many terms have you been at Bennington College?

28% 1-2 terms  
23% 3-4 terms  
23% 5-6 terms  
15% 7-8 terms  
11% No response

### 2. What are you studying? (Write-in with multiple responses allowed)

2%	Dance	10%	Science/Mathematics
16%	Drama	16%	Social Sciences
6%	Languages	3%	Teaching
16%	Literature	30%	Visual Arts
10%	Music	27%	Unsure/No response

### 3. Which library do you use?

71% Crossett  
1% Jennings  
26% Both  
2% Neither

### 3. What do you use the library for? (check categories with multiple responses allowed)

81%	Check out books	34%	Word-processing
81%	Check out movies	28%	Look at websites
73%	Research (text)	22%	Research (music)
72%	Free printing	22%	Hide out/Solitude
60%	Study/Read for classes	19%	Get help with research
50%	Use the databases	18%	Check out music/scores
41%	Check email	16%	Socialize/Flirt
39%	Read newspapers/magazines	2%	Check out laptops
37%	Research (visual images)		

### 4. What library resources have you used? (check categories with multiple responses allowed)

74%	Catalog	23%	Databases (visual images)
63%	Databases (text)	22%	Journal/Newspaper Finder
61%	Reserves	19%	Databases (music)
33%	Interlibrary loan/Illiad	17%	EBooks
32%	Help from librarian	10%	Research guide
24%	Electronic reserves		

<b>5. Please indicate true or false for the following statements.</b>	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
I know how to find books in the library.	93%	7%
I know how to use the online databases.	95%	5%
It is easy to ask the library staff for help.	95%	5%
I need library resources for my work.	82%	18%
The library has resources that I need for my work.	85%	15%
I wish I knew more about library resources.	54%	46%
Workshops about library resources would be useful.	51%	49%
Online tutorials about library resources would be helpful.	58%	42%
I tend to use Google more than databases for research.	69%	31%
My teachers expect me to use library resources.	77%	23%
I know how to cite sources in a research paper.	87%	13%

**6. Have you been required to access Electronic Reserves for your class(es) through the library's web site?**

32% Yes  
58% No  
10% Unsure

**7. If you have used electronic reserves, how easy/difficult was it to locate your class and the required reading or listening assignment? Did you encounter any technical issues when accessing the material?**

78% Easy to locate  
9% Difficult to locate  
18% Yes technical problems  
23% No technical problems

**8. Have you attended a library session as part of a class? (e.g., the class comes as a group to the library or you were assigned to meet with a reference librarian individually)**

50% Yes  
50% No

**9. If you have attended a library session as part of a class did you find it helpful?**

28% Very helpful - I learned many new things  
53% Somewhat helpful – I learned a few new things  
20% Not helpful – I already knew everything that was covered

**9. Do you own any of the following and have them with you on campus? (check categories with multiple responses allowed)**

93% Laptop computer  
19% Desktop computer  
50% Printer  
37% Flash drive

**10. Where do you use computers and why? (check categories and write-in with multiple responses allowed)**

**A. 91% My Room because...**

60% Location/Convenience  
31% Atmosphere/Ability to control the atmosphere  
16% Comfort  
10% Solitude/Privacy  
8% Quiet

**B. 64% Crossett Library because...**

48% Printing  
25% Research resources  
19% Atmosphere  
13% Location/Convenience  
12% Quiet  
11% Computer resources

**C. 28% Computer Center because...**

59% Printing  
26% Location/Convenience  
22% Computer resources  
10% Quiet  
10% Employed at  
5% Atmosphere

**D. 23% Pod because...**

63% Computer resources  
35% Location/Convenience  
9% Printing

**E. 19% Other locations...**

23% Living Rooms/Common Space  
13% Outside  
8% Dickinson  
5% Commons  
5% Student Center  
5% Digital Darkroom  
<2% Video Cage, Classrooms, Downtown, Dining Hall, Emusic Studio

**11. What do you think about allowing food and drinks in the library?** (check categories with multiple responses allowed)

51%	Library should allow drinks	12%	Library should not allow
28%	Library should allow food	38%	I don't care

**12. What would be the most effective way for the library to convey information to you?** (check categories with multiple responses allowed)

50% Email  
45% Table toppers in Dining Hall  
30% Paper in mailbox  
20% Posters on campus  
5% Other

**13. What is the most convenient way for you to send the library information?** (check categories with multiple responses allowed)

55% Email  
31% Suggestion box in library  
22% Forms from the library website  
12% Social networks on the web (e.g., Facebook)  
9% Phone  
8% Wiki  
5% Other

**14. What do you now know about the library that you wish you had known during your first term? (write-in)**

14% Databases and online resources  
7% Interlibrary loan/Illiad  
5% Locations in the library/library has good places to study  
4% Library staff is helpful  
4% Print resources  
3% Ability to purchase materials/library is willing to purchase material

**15. What changes in the library have you liked and/or disliked in the past year? What changes would you like to see in the future? (write-in)**

**Like...**

6% Blankets  
5% Furniture/atmosphere  
4% New online resources  
4% Library staff  
3% New print resources  
3% Movies additions/arrangement  
2% Laptops

**Dislike...**

2% fewer children's books

**Would like to change...**

10% More books  
7% More spaces, especially quiet and cozy spaces  
5% More clarity about fines/fewer or no fines  
5% More movies  
3% More comfortable furniture  
2% More hours  
2% More online resources  
2% More information about library services/using the library