

# What's on Your Mind?

## April 2005

**“Yea! The water fountain is working again! Thanks!”**  
You're very welcome.

**“There should be a vending machine so we can get water/colas when the other buildings close.... Thanks!”**

**Look Again!** The Fondren Library Center basement Room 2 has been converted into a Student Lounge complete with a cold drink and snack vending machine.

**“I think you need to clean up the reindeer droppings on the roof – 4<sup>th</sup> floor. They've been up here since last Christmas, and it doesn't look like Santa left Fondren and its staff any presents. I'd appreciate it if you'd take care of this problem ASAP – it makes me want to vomitar!”**

The library forwarded this concern to Campus Planning and Plant Operations Director of Operations and Maintenance, Bob Casagrande. He gave us this answer:

*We climbed up to the very top of the building to see  
If on the definition of droppings we would agree.*

*From the awning above the 4<sup>th</sup> floor appeared,  
Several mysterious droppings, just as you feared.*

*But be not alarmed when we say that found,  
Large ones and small ones and some of them round.*

*Yes, made by the reindeer but not as you say  
But looses by their hooves when Santa said 'stay'.*

*I called for the elves (it's an old Hobbit)  
They called the reindeer and asked them to stop it!*

*~ Bob Casagrande*

**Why did the 4<sup>th</sup> floor seating arrangement change? You used to have privacy & the desks made little walls that prevented distractions & glancing around. Thank you for trying something new, but please bring back the old arrangement that was more conducive to studying.”**

After many complaints about the cold temperatures on the fourth floor, we decided to try moving the furniture away from the air vents in the floor at the outer perimeter of the area. This seems to have improved the frigid temperatures that were being reported to us. At least you won't be distracted by your friends and fellow students shivering.

**“Me cage en.”**

I need a little more information.....?

**“You should consider having locked paper drawers on the copy machines. Some guy just took all the paper out of a copy machine in the science/engineering reading area & walked away with it.”**

SMU Images employs several technicians to service the photocopiers and refill the paper drawers. It may have been one of Images' staff that you saw. Sometimes they may switch paper from one machine to another. Hopefully it was not a pure case of theft.

**“Stephen King's Green Mile.”**

Your suggestion has been sent to our collection development department for consideration. We appreciate your interest in our collection." The Center for Media and Information Technology owns a copy of the movie "The Green Mile" in videotape.

**“I come to the library to study & while I understand that it is with-in your job to talk, the students try hard to be quiet & it is distracting when ya’ll talk so loudly. Even though there are lots of people, ya’ll’s voices travel over everyone & distract & prevent the atmosphere that should be here. Thanks.”**

We are so sorry. I have sent a reminder to all Fondren Library Center staff who work in public services areas to be mindful of the volume of their voices. There are certain areas that are quieter for study. The fourth floor in Fondren Library East and the Mezzanine in the Science Information Center are probably the quietest. The Fondren West Stacks are very quiet also but may be too isolated late at night for some users.

**“That woman at the main desk is unfriendly, surly and sometimes rude. Maybe someone should talk to her about that. It certainly doesn’t encourage me to come to the library or ask questions if I need help.”**

Since I'm not sure which library staff member you are referring to, I'd like you to contact me, Carol Baker, Director of Public Services at 214-768-2323 to discuss this further.

**“Fondren rocks! Way better than Hamon, Bridwell or the Law Library. Please post this on the board. That’d make my day!”**

Thank you so much.

**“The yellow painted study room on the second floor really hurts my eyes and makes studying difficult. I am also concerned because I heard that yellow rooms make you go insane. I think a repaint may be in Fondren’s future.”**

Sorry - the yellow group study room has not turned out to be as “mellow” as was our original vision. Regarding the physiological and psychological aspects of colors, our recent research resulted in both positive and negative expressions for the color **YELLOW**.

We chose to accentuate the positives:

- **“YELLOW** represents the radiance, light and warmth of the sun's life-giving energy...[Yellow is] Bright, happy, exciting, enthusiastic and dynamic”.
- **“YELLOW** encourages open-mindedness and attention to detail”.
- **“YELLOW** is: Happy, Cheerful, Astringent, Intelligent, Shining, Highly Communicative, Expressive, Logical, Purifying, Orderly, Forgiving”.

Actually, **yellows**, oranges, and reds are all considered warm colors. The lighter hues, such as white and **yellow**, represent airy, expansive, and cheerful spaces.

Please **don’t** despair since there are 10 other group study rooms in other colors. Also, the average life of a study room paint job is only about 3 years.