



# **LibQUAL<sup>+</sup>**

## *2014 Survey*

**Anglia Ruskin University**

### **SHORT FORM REPORT**

**Contributors:**

**Colleen Cook**  
McGill University

**Martha Kyrillidou**  
Association of Research Libraries

**Fred Heath**  
University of Texas

**Gary Roebuck**  
Association of Research Libraries

**Bruce Thompson**  
Texas A&M University

**Amy Yeager**  
Association of Research Libraries

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Association of Research Libraries / Texas A&M University

[www.libqual.org](http://www.libqual.org)

Association of Research Libraries

21 Dupont Circle, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036

Phone 202-296-2296

Fax 202-872-0884

<http://www.libqual.org>

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Acknowledgements

This notebook contains information from the 2014 administration of the LibQUAL+® protocol. The material on the following pages is drawn from the analysis of responses from the participating institutions collected in 2014.

The LibQUAL+® project requires the skills of a dedicated group. We would like to thank several alumni members of the LibQUAL+® team for their key roles in the development of this service. From Texas A&M University, the qualitative leadership of Yvonna Lincoln has been key to the project's integrity. The behind-the-scenes roles of Bill Chollet and others from the library Systems and Training units were also formative in the early years. From the Association of Research Libraries, we are appreciative of contributions made by Consuella Askew, MaShana Davis, David Green, Richard Groves, Kaylyn Groves, Amy Hoseth, Kristina Justh, Mary Jackson, Jonathan Sousa, and Benny Yu.

A New Measures initiative of this scope is possible only as the collaborative effort of many libraries. To the directors and liaisons at all participating libraries goes the largest measure of gratitude. Without your commitment, the development of LibQUAL+® would not have been possible. We would like to extend a special thank you to all administrators at the participating consortia and libraries that are making this project happen effectively across various institutions.

We would like to acknowledge the role of the Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education (FIPSE), U.S. Department of Education, which provided grant funds of \$498,368 over a three-year period (2001-03). We would also like to acknowledge the support of the National Science Foundation (NSF) for its grant of \$245,737 over a three-year period (2002-04) to adapt the LibQUAL+® instrument for use in the science, math, engineering, and technology education digital library community, a project known as DigiQUAL that produced valuable insights on the evolution of our work. We would like to express our thanks for the financial support that has enabled the researchers engaged in this project to exceed all of our expectations in stated goals and objectives and deliver a remarkable assessment tool to the library community.

Colleen Cook  
McGill University

Martha Kyriallidou  
Association of Research Libraries

Fred Heath  
University of Texas

Gary Roebuck  
Association of Research Libraries

Bruce Thompson  
Texas A&M University

Amy Yeager  
Association of Research Libraries

## 1.2 LibQUAL+®: A Project from StatsQUAL®

I would personally like to say a word about the development of LibQUAL+® over the last few years and to thank the people that have been involved in this effort. LibQUAL+® would not have been possible without the many people who have offered their time and constructive feedback over the years for the cause of improving library services. In a sense, LibQUAL+® has built three kinds of partnerships: one between ARL and Texas A&M University, a second one among the participating libraries and their staff, and a third one comprising the thousands of users who have provided their valuable survey responses over the years.

LibQUAL+® was initiated in 2000 as an experimental project for benchmarking perceptions of library service quality across 13 ARL libraries under the leadership of Fred Heath and Colleen Cook, then both at Texas A&M University Libraries. It matured quickly into a standard assessment tool that has been applied at more than 1,000 libraries. Through 2013, we have had 2,663 institutional surveys implemented across 1,295 institutions in over 29 countries, 21 language translations, and over 1.8 million respondents. About 42% of the users who respond to the survey provide rich comments about the ways they use their libraries.

There have been numerous advancements over the years. In 2005, libraries were able to conduct LibQUAL+® over a two session period (Session I: January to May and Session II: July to December). The LibQUAL+® servers were moved from Texas A&M University to an external hosting facility under the ARL brand known as StatsQUAL®. Through the StatsQUAL® gateway we will continue to provide innovative tools for libraries to assess and manage their environments in the coming years. In 2006, we added an experimental version of the LibQUAL+® Analytics (for more information, see Section 1.6). Between 2007 and 2010 we incorporated additional languages including non-roman languages like Chinese, Greek, Hebrew, and Japanese. In 2012, we added Korean, and in 2013 we tested Arabic with the group of libraries in the Gulf Region.

In 2008, we started experimenting with a new technology platform that incorporates many desired enhancements and tested a shorter version of the LibQUAL+® survey known as LibQUAL+® Lite. In 2010, we launched the new platform in our operational environment after researching extensively the LibQUAL+® Lite behavior [see: Kyrillidou, M. (2009). *Item Sampling in Service Quality Assessment Surveys to Improve Rates and Reduce Respondent Burden: The 'LibQUAL+® Lite' Randomized Control Trial (RCT)* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from <[https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/bitstream/handle/2142/14570/Kyrillidou\\_Martha.pdf?sequence=3](https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/bitstream/handle/2142/14570/Kyrillidou_Martha.pdf?sequence=3)>.

In 2010, we introduced a participation fee that rewards systematic periodic participation in LibQUAL+® in a way that the implementation fee gets reduced when a library implements the protocol on an annual or biennial basis. In 2011, we introduced a Membership Subscription fee to support access to the data repository for those years that libraries do not implement a survey and for future enhancement of LibQUAL+® Analytics. In 2013, we introduced the customization feature for the Position/User group categories, and in 2014 we are introducing a version of the survey questionnaire for mobile devices, as well as testing support for locally developed questions.

LibQUAL+® findings have engaged thousands of librarians in discussions with colleagues and ARL on what these findings mean for local libraries, for their regions, and for the future of libraries across the globe. Consortia have supported their members' participation in LibQUAL+® in order to offer an informed understanding of the changes occurring in their shared environment. Summary highlights have been published on an annual basis showcasing the rich array of information available through LibQUAL+®:

LibQUAL+® 2013 Survey Highlights

<[https://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/2013--\\_LibQUAL\\_Highlights.pdf](https://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/2013--_LibQUAL_Highlights.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2012 Survey Highlights

<[https://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/2012\\_LibQUAL\\_Highlights.pdf](https://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/2012_LibQUAL_Highlights.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2011 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2011\\_Full.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2011_Full.pdf)>

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2011\\_Full\\_Supplement.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2011_Full_Supplement.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2010 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2010\\_Full.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2010_Full.pdf)>

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2010\\_Full\\_Supplement.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/LibQual/publications/LibQUALHighlights2010_Full_Supplement.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2009 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2009\\_Full.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2009_Full.pdf)>

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2009\\_Full\\_Supplement.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2009_Full_Supplement.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2008 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2008\\_Full1.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2008_Full1.pdf)>

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2008\\_Full\\_Supplement1.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2008_Full_Supplement1.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2007 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2007\\_Full1.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2007_Full1.pdf)>

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/2007\\_Highlights\\_Supplemental.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/2007_Highlights_Supplemental.pdf)>

LibQUAL+® 2006 Survey Highlights

<<http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights2006.pdf>>

LibQUAL+® 2005 Survey Highlights

<<http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/LibQUALHighlights20051.pdf>>

LibQUAL+® 2004 Survey Highlights

<<http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/ExecSummary%201.3.pdf>>

LibQUAL+® 2003 Survey Highlights

<[http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/ExecSummary1.1\\_locked.pdf](http://www.libqual.org/documents/admin/ExecSummary1.1_locked.pdf)>

Summary published reports have also been made available:

<<http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/libqualpubs/index.shtml>>

The socio-economic and technological changes that are taking place around us are affecting the ways users interact with libraries. We used to think that libraries could provide *reliable and reasonably complete access* to published and scholarly output, yet we now know from LibQUAL+® that *users have an insatiable appetite for content. No library can ever have sufficient information content that would come close to satisfying this appetite. Furthermore, our websites, access technologies and discovery tools are not quite maximizing the value libraries can deliver. There is a lot of room for improvement in this area!*

The team at ARL and beyond is proud to develop and nurture the community that has been built around LibQUAL+®. We believe that closer collaboration and sharing of resources will bring libraries nearer to meeting the ever-changing needs of their demanding users. It is this spirit of collaboration and a willingness to view the world of libraries as an organic, integrated, collaborative, complementary and cohesive environment that can bring forth scalable innovations and break new ground. Innovation, demonstrating value and marketing services effectively are key activities contributing to stronger libraries with better services and improved learning and research outcomes for our users.

In an example of collaboration, LibQUAL+® participants are sharing their results within the LibQUAL+® community with an openness that nevertheless respects the confidentiality of each institution and its users. LibQUAL+® participants are actively shaping our Share Fair gatherings, our in-person events, and our understanding of how the collected data can be used. LibQUAL+® offers a rich resource that can be viewed using many lenses, should be interpreted in multiple ways, and is a powerful tool libraries can use to understand their environment. Furthermore, we recognize that this tool is one of the strategic elements of the evolving assessment infrastructure libraries are building, as can be seen from the Library Assessment Conference gatherings.

LibQUAL+® is a community mechanism for improving libraries and I hope we see an increasing number of libraries utilizing it successfully in the years to come. I look forward to your continuing active involvement in helping us understand the many ways we can improve library services.

With warm regards,

Martha Kyrillidou, PhD  
Senior Director, ARL Statistics and Service Quality Programs  
Association of Research Libraries

## 1.3 LibQUAL+®: Defining and Promoting Library Service Quality

### What is LibQUAL+®?

LibQUAL+® is a suite of services that libraries use to solicit, track, understand, and act upon users' opinions of service quality. These services are offered to the library community by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The program's centerpiece is a rigorously tested Web-based survey paired with training that helps libraries assess and improve library services, change organizational culture, and market the library. The survey instrument measures library users' minimum, perceived, and desired service levels of service quality across three dimensions: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place. The goals of LibQUAL+® are to:

- Foster a culture of excellence in providing library service
- Help libraries better understand user perceptions of library service quality
- Collect and interpret library user feedback systematically over time
- Provide comparable assessment information from peer institutions
- Identify best practices in library service
- Enhance library staff members' analytical skills for interpreting, and acting on data

Since 2000, more than 1,295 libraries have participated in LibQUAL+®, including college and university libraries, community college libraries, health sciences libraries, academic law libraries, and public libraries---some through various consortia, others as independent participants. LibQUAL+® has expanded internationally, with participating institutions in Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe. It has been translated into a number of languages, including Arabic, Afrikaans, Chinese (Traditional), Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Spanish, Swedish, and Welsh. The growing LibQUAL+® community of participants and its extensive dataset are rich resources for improving library services.

### How will LibQUAL+® benefit your library?

Library administrators have successfully used LibQUAL+® survey data to identify best practices, analyze deficits, and effectively allocate resources. Benefits to participating institutions include:

- Institutional data and reports that enable you to assess whether your library services are meeting user expectations
- Aggregate data and reports that allow you to compare your library's performance with that of peer institutions
- Workshops designed for LibQUAL+® participants
- Access to an online library of LibQUAL+® research articles
- The opportunity to become part of a community interested in developing excellence in library services

LibQUAL+® gives your library users a chance to tell you where your services need improvement so you can respond to and better manage their expectations. You can develop services that better meet your users' expectations by comparing your library's data with that of peer institutions and examining the practices of those libraries that are evaluated highly by their users.

### How is the LibQUAL+® survey conducted?

Conducting the LibQUAL+® survey requires little technical expertise on your part. Use our online Management Center to set up and track the progress of your survey. You invite your users to take the survey by distributing the URL for your library's Web form via e-mail or posting a link to your survey on the library's Web site. Respondents complete the survey form and their answers are sent to the LibQUAL+® database. The data are analyzed and presented to you in reports describing your users' desired, perceived, and minimum expectations of service.

### What are the origins of the LibQUAL+® survey?

The LibQUAL+® survey evolved from a conceptual model based on the SERVQUAL instrument, a popular tool for assessing service quality in the private sector. The Texas A&M University Libraries and other libraries used modified SERVQUAL instruments for several years; those applications revealed the need for a newly adapted tool that would serve the particular requirements of libraries. ARL, representing the largest research libraries in North America, partnered with Texas A&M University Libraries to develop, test, and refine LibQUAL+®. This effort was supported in part by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE).

## 1.4 Web Access to Data

Data summaries from the 2014 iteration of the LibQUAL+® survey will be available to project participants online in the Data Repository via the LibQUAL+® survey management site:

**<<http://www.libqual.org/repository>>**

## 1.5 Explanation of Charts and Tables

A working knowledge of how to read and derive relevant information from the tables and charts used in your LibQUAL+® results notebook is essential. In addition to the explanatory text below, you can find a self-paced tutorial on the project web site at:

[http://www.libqual.org/about/about\\_survey/tools](http://www.libqual.org/about/about_survey/tools)

Both the online tutorial and the text below are designed to help you understand your survey results and present and explain those results to others at your library.

### **Radar Charts**

Radar charts are commonly used throughout the following pages to display both aggregate results and results from individual institutions. Basic information about radar charts is outlined below, and additional descriptive information is included throughout this notebook.

#### **What is a radar chart?**

Radar charts are useful when you want to look at several different factors all related to one item. Sometimes called “spider charts” or “polar charts”, radar charts feature multiple axes or “spokes” along which data can be plotted. Variations in the data are shown by distance from the center of the chart. Lines connect the data points for each series, forming a spiral around the center.

In the case of the LibQUAL+® survey results, each axis represents a different survey question. Questions are identified by a code at the end of each axis. The three dimensions measured by the survey are grouped together on the radar charts, and each dimension is labeled: Affect of Service (AS), Information Control (IC), and Library as Place (LP).

Radar charts are used in this notebook to present the item summaries (the results from the 22 core survey questions).

#### **How to read a radar chart**

Radar charts are an effective way to show strengths and weaknesses graphically by enabling you to observe symmetry or uniformity of data. Points close to the center indicate a low value, while points near the edge indicate a high value. When interpreting a radar chart, it is important to check each individual axis as well as the chart’s overall shape in order to gain a complete understanding of its meaning. You can see how much data fluctuates by observing whether the spiral is smooth or has spikes of variability.

Respondents’ minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted on each axis of your LibQUAL+® radar charts. The resulting “gaps” between the three levels are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red. Generally, a radar graph shaded blue and yellow indicates that users’ perceptions of service fall within the “zone of tolerance”; the distance between minimum expectations and perceptions of service quality is shaded in blue, and the distance between their desired and perceived levels of service quality is shown in yellow. When users’ perceptions fall outside the “zone of tolerance,” the graph will include areas of red and green shading. If the distance between users’ minimum expectations and perceptions of service delivery is represented in red, that indicates a negative service adequacy gap score. If the distance between the desired level of service and perceptions of service delivery is represented in green, that indicates a positive service superiority gap score.

#### **Means**

The mean of a collection of numbers is their arithmetic average, computed by adding them up and dividing by their total number.

In this notebook, means are provided for users' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality for each item on the LibQUAL+® survey. Means are also provided for the general satisfaction and information literacy outcomes questions.

### **Standard Deviation**

Standard deviation is a measure of the spread of data around their mean. The standard deviation (SD) depends on calculating the average distance of each score from the mean. If all users rated an item identically, the SD would be zero. Larger SDs indicate more disparate opinions of the users about library service quality.

In this notebook, standard deviations are provided for every mean presented in the tables. In a very real sense, the SD indicates how well a given numerical mean does at representing all the data. If the SD of the scores about a given mean was zero, the mean perfectly represents everyone's scores, and all the scores and the mean are all identical!

### **Service Adequacy**

The service adequacy gap score is calculated by subtracting the minimum score from the perceived score on any given question, for each user. Both means and standard deviations are provided for service adequacy gap scores on each item of the survey, as well as for each of the three dimensions of library service quality. In general, service adequacy is an indicator of the extent to which you are meeting the minimum expectations of your users. A negative service adequacy gap score indicates that your users' perceived level of service quality is below their minimum level of service quality and is printed in red.

### **Service Superiority**

The service superiority gap score is calculated by subtracting the desired score from the perceived score on any given question, for each user. Both means and standard deviations are provided for service superiority gap scores on each item of the survey, as well as for each of the three dimensions of library service quality. In general, service superiority is an indicator of the extent to which you are exceeding the desired expectations of your users. A positive service superiority gap score indicates that your users' perceived level of service quality is above their desired level of service quality and is printed in green.

Sections with charts and tables are omitted from the following pages when there are three or fewer individuals in a specific group.

In consortia notebooks, institution type summaries are not shown if there is only one library for an institution type. Individual library notebooks are produced separately for each participant.

## **1.6 A Few Words about LibQUAL+® 2014**

Libraries today confront escalating pressure to demonstrate value and impact. As Cullen (2001) has noted,

Academic libraries are currently facing their greatest challenge since the explosion in tertiary education and academic publishing which began after World War II... [T]he emergence of the virtual university, supported by the virtual library, calls into question many of our basic assumptions about the role of the academic library, and the security of its future. Retaining and growing their customer base, and focusing more energy on meeting their customers' expectations is the only way for academic libraries to survive in this volatile environment. (pp. 662-663)

Today, "A measure of library quality based solely on collections has become obsolete" (Nitecki, 1996, p. 181). These considerations have prompted the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) to sponsor a number of "New Measures" initiatives. The New Measures efforts represent a collective determination on the part of the ARL

membership to augment the collection-count and fiscal input measures that comprise the ARL Index and ARL Statistics, to date the most consistently collected statistics for research libraries, with outcome measures such as assessments of service quality and satisfaction. One New Measures Initiative is the LibQUAL+® service (Cook, Heath & B. Thompson, 2002, 2003; Heath, Cook, Kyrillidou & Thompson, 2002; Kyrillidou & Cook, 2008; Kyrillidou, Cook, & Rao, 2008; Thompson, Cook & Heath, 2003; Thompson, Cook & Thompson, 2002; Thompson, Kyrillidou & Cook, 2007a, 2007b, 2008).

Within a service-quality assessment model, "only customers judge quality; all other judgments are essentially irrelevant" (Zeithaml, Parasuraman, Berry, 1990, p. 16). LibQUAL+® was modeled on the 22-item SERVQUAL tool developed by Parasuraman, Berry and Zeithaml (Parasuraman, Berry & Zeithaml, 1991). However, SERVQUAL has been shown to measure some issues not particularly relevant in libraries, and to not measure some issues of considerable interest to library users.

The final 22 LibQUAL+® items were developed through several iterations of studies involving a larger pool of 56 items. The selection of items employed in the LibQUAL+® survey has been grounded in the users' perspective as revealed in a series of qualitative studies involving a larger pool of items. The items were identified following qualitative research interviews with student and faculty library users at several different universities (Cook, 2002a; Cook & Heath, 2001).

LibQUAL+® is not just a list of 22 standardized items. First, LibQUAL+® offers libraries the ability to select five optional local service quality assessment items. Second, the survey includes a comments box soliciting open-ended user views. Almost half of the people responding to the LibQUAL+® survey provide valuable feedback through the comments box. These open-ended comments are helpful for not only (a) understanding why users provide certain ratings, but also (b) understanding what policy changes users suggest, because many users feel the obligation to be constructive. Participating libraries are finding the real-time access to user comments one of the most useful devices in challenging library administrators to think outside of the box and develop innovative ways for improving library services.

LibQUAL+® is one of 11 ways of listening to users, called a total market survey. As Berry (1995) explained,

When well designed and executed, total market surveys provide a range of information unmatched by any other method... A critical facet of total market surveys (and the reason for using the word 'total') is the measurement of competitors' service quality. This [also] requires using non-customers in the sample to rate the service of their suppliers. (p. 37)

Although (a) measuring perceptions of both users and non-users, and (b) collecting perceptions data with regard to peer institutions can provide important insights Berry recommended using multiple listening methods and emphasized that "Ongoing data collection... is a necessity. Transactional surveys, total market surveys, and employee research should always be included" (Berry, 1995, p. 54).

### **LibQUAL+® Lite**

In 2010, the LibQUAL+® Lite customization feature was introduced: a shorter version of the survey that takes less time to fill in. The Lite protocol uses item sampling methods to gather data on all 22 LibQUAL+® core items, while only requiring a given single user to respond to a subset of the 22 core questions. Every Lite user responds to one "linking" item from each of the subscales (Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place), and to a randomly-selected subset of five items from the remaining 19 core LibQUAL+® items. However, all 22 core items are completed by at least some users on a given campus. As a consequence, because individual Lite users only complete a subset of the core items, survey response times are roughly cut in half, while the library still receives data on every survey question. Each participating library sets a "Lite-view Percentage" to determine what percentage of individuals will randomly receive the Lite versus the long version of the survey.

The mechanics of item sampling strategy and results from pilot testing are described in Martha Kyrillidou's dissertation. Findings indicate that LibQUAL+® Lite is the preferred and improved alternative to the long form of

22 core items that has been established since 2003. The difference between the long and the Lite version of the survey is enough to result in higher participation rates ranging from 3.1 to 10.6 percent more for surveys that reduce average response times from 10 to 6 minutes (Kyrillidou, 2009, Thompson, Kyrillidou & Cook, 2009a; Thompson, Kyrillidou & Cook, 2009b).

### Score Scaling

"Perceived" scores on the 22 LibQUAL+® core items, the three subscales, and the total score, are all scaled 1 to 9, with 9 being the most favorable. Both the gap scores ("Adequacy" = "Perceived" - "Minimum"; "Superiority" = "Perceived" - "Desired") are scaled such that higher scores are more favorable. Thus, an *adequacy* gap score of +1.2 on an item, subscale, or total score is better than an adequacy gap score of +1.0. A *superiority* gap score of -0.5 on an item, subscale, or total score is better than a superiority gap score of -1.0.

### Using LibQUAL+® Data

In some cases LibQUAL+® data may confirm prior expectations and library staff will readily formulate action plans to remedy perceived deficiencies. But in many cases library decision-makers will seek additional information to corroborate interpretations or to better understand the dynamics underlying user perceptions.

For example, once an interpretation is formulated, library staff might review recent submissions of users to suggestion boxes to evaluate whether LibQUAL+® data are consistent with interpretations, and the suggestion box data perhaps also provide user suggestions for remedies. User focus groups also provide a powerful way to explore problems and potential solutions. A university-wide retreat with a small-group facilitated discussion to solicit suggestions for improvement is another follow-up mechanism that has been implemented in several LibQUAL+® participating libraries.

Indeed, the open-ended comments gathered as part of LibQUAL+® are themselves useful in fleshing out insights into perceived library service quality. Respondents often use the comments box on the survey to make constructive suggestions on specific ways to address their concerns. Qualitative analysis of these comments can be very fruitful. In short, LibQUAL+® is not 22 items. LibQUAL+® is 22 items plus a comments box!

Cook (2002b) provided case study reports of how staff at various libraries have employed data from prior renditions of LibQUAL+®. Heath, Kyrillidou, and Askew edited a special issue of the *Journal of Library Administration* (Vol. 40, No. 3/4) reporting additional case studies on the use of LibQUAL+® data to aid the improvement of library service quality. This special issue has also been published by Hayworth Press as a monograph. Kyrillidou (2008) edited a compilation of articles that complements and provides an updated perspective on these earlier special issues. These publications can be ordered by sending an email to [libqual@arl.org](mailto:libqual@arl.org). Numerous other articles have been published in the literature and a good number of references can be located on the LibQUAL+® publication page search engine under 'Related articles.'

### Data Screening

The 22 LibQUAL+® core items measure perceptions of total service quality, as well as three sub-dimensions of perceived library quality: (a) *Service Affect* (9 items, such as "willingness to help users"); (b) *Information Control* (8 items, such as "a library Web site enabling me to locate information on my own" and "print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work"); and (c) *Library as Place* (5 items, such as "a getaway for study, learning, or research").

However, as happens in any survey, some users provided incomplete data, inconsistent data, or both. In compiling the summary data reported here, several criteria were used to determine which respondents to omit from these analyses.

**1. Complete Data.** The Web software that presents the core items monitors whether a given user has completed all items. On each of these items, in order to submit the survey successfully, users must provide a rating

of (a) minimally-acceptable service, (b) desired service, and (c) perceived service or rate the item "not applicable" ("N/A"). If these conditions are not met, when the user attempts to leave the Web page presenting the core items, the software shows the user where missing data are located, and requests complete data. The user may of course abandon the survey without completing all the items. *Only records with complete data on the presented core items and where respondents chose a "user group," if applicable, were retained in summary statistics.*

**2. Excessive "N/A" Responses.** Because some institutions provided access to a lottery drawing for an incentive (e.g., an iPod) for completing the survey, some users might have selected "N/A" choices for all or most of the items rather than reporting their actual perceptions. Or, some users may have views on such a narrow range of quality issues that their data are not very informative. *It was decided that records of the long version of the survey containing more than 11 "N/A" responses and records of the Lite version containing more than 4 "N/A" responses should be eliminated from the summary statistics.*

**3. Excessive Inconsistent Responses.** On the LibQUAL+® survey, user perceptions can be interpreted by locating "perceived" results within the "zone of tolerance" defined by data from the "minimum" and the "desired" ratings. For example, a mean "perceived" rating of 7.5 on the 1-to-9 (9 is highest) scale might be very good if the mean "desired" rating is 6.0. But a 7.5 perception score is less satisfactory if the mean "desired" rating is 8.6, or if the mean "minimum" rating is 7.7.

One appealing feature of such a "gap measurement model" is that the rating format provides a check for inconsistencies (i.e., score inversions) in the response data (Thompson, Cook & Heath, 2000). Logically, on a given item the "minimum" rating should not be higher than the "desired" rating on the same item. For each user a count of such inconsistencies was made. *Records of the long version of the survey containing more than 9 logical inconsistencies and records of the Lite version containing more than 3 logical inconsistencies were eliminated from the summary statistics.*

### **LibQUAL+® Norms**

An important way to interpret LibQUAL+® data is by examining the zones of tolerance for items, the three subscale scores, and the total scores. However, the collection of such a huge number of user perceptions has afforded us with the unique opportunity to create norms tables that provide yet another perspective on results.

Norms tell us how scores "stack up" within a particular user group. For example, on the 1-to-9 (9 is highest) scale, users might provide a mean "perceived" rating of 6.5 on an item, "the printed library materials I need for my work." The same users might provide a mean rating on "minimum" for this item of 7.0, and a mean service-adequacy "gap score" (i.e., "perceived" minus "minimum") of -0.5.

The zone-of-tolerance perspective suggests that this library is not doing well on this item, because "perceived" falls below "minimally acceptable." This is important to know. But there is also a second way (i.e., normatively) to interpret the data. Both perspectives can be valuable.

A total market survey administered to more than 100,000 users, as was LibQUAL+® in 2004 and 2005, affords the opportunity to ask normative questions such as, "How does a mean 'perceived' score of 6.5 stack up among all individual users who completed the survey?", or "How does a mean service-adequacy gap score of -0.5 stack up among the gap scores of all institutions participating in the survey?"

If 70 percent of individual users generated "perceived" ratings lower than 6.5, 6.5 might not be so bad. And if 90 percent of institutions had service-adequacy gap scores lower than -0.5 (e.g., -0.7, -1.1), a mean gap score of -0.5 might actually be quite good. Users simply may have quite high expectations in this area. They may also communicate their dissatisfaction by rating both (a) "perceived" lower and (b) "minimum" higher. This does not mean that a service-adequacy gap score of -0.5 is necessarily a cause for celebration. But a service-adequacy gap score of -0.5 on an item for which 90 percent of institutions have a lower gap score is a different gap score than the same -0.5 for a different item in which 90 percent of institutions have a higher service-adequacy gap score.

Only norms give us insight into this comparative perspective. And a local user-satisfaction survey (as against a total market survey) can never provide this insight.

**Common Misconception Regarding Norms.** An unfortunate and incorrect misconception is that norms make value statements. Norms do not make value statements! Norms make fact statements. If you are a forest ranger, and you make \$25,000 a year, a norms table might inform you of the fact that you make less money than 85 percent of the adults in the United States.

But if you love the outdoors, you do not care very much about money, and you are very service-oriented, this fact statement might not be relevant to you. Or, in the context of your values, you might interpret this fact as being quite satisfactory.

**LibQUAL+® Norms Tables.** Of course, the fact statements made by the LibQUAL+® norms are only valuable if you care about the dimensions being evaluated by the measure. More background on LibQUAL+® norms is provided by Cook and Thompson (2001), and Cook, Heath and B. Thompson (2002). LibQUAL+® norms are available on the LibQUAL+® Web site at::

[http://www.libqual.org/resources/norms\\_tables](http://www.libqual.org/resources/norms_tables)

### Response Rates

At the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio in January 2000, participants were cautioned that response rates on the final LibQUAL+® survey would probably range from 25-33 percent. Higher response rates can be realized (a) with shorter surveys that (b) are directly action-oriented (Cook, Heath & R.L. Thompson, 2000). For example, a very high response rate could be realized by a library director administering the following one-item survey to users:

Instructions. Please tell us what time to close the library every day. In the future **we will close at whatever time receives the most votes.**

Should we close the library at?

(A) 10 p.m.    (B) 11 p.m.    (C) midnight    (D) 2 p.m.

Lower response rates will be expected for total market surveys measuring general perceptions of users across institutions, and when an intentional effort is made to solicit perceptions of both users and non-users. Two considerations should govern the evaluation of LibQUAL+® response rates.

**Minimum Response Rates.** Response rates are computed by dividing the number of completed surveys at an institution by the number of persons asked to complete the survey. However, we do not know the actual response rates on LibQUAL+®, because we do not know the correct denominators for these calculations.

For example, given inadequacy in records at schools, we are not sure how many e-mail addresses for users are accurate. And we do not know how many messages to invite participation were actually opened. In other words, what we know for LibQUAL+® is the "lower-bound estimate" of response rates.

For example, if 200 out of 800 solicitations result in completed surveys, we know that the response rate is at least 25 percent. But because we are not sure whether 800 e-mail addresses were correct or that 800 e-mail messages were opened, we are not sure that 800 is the correct denominator. The response rate involving only correct e-mail addresses might be 35 or 45 percent. We don't know the exact response rate.

**Representativeness Versus Response Rate.** If 100 percent of the 800 people we randomly selected to complete our survey did so, then we can be assured that the results are representative of all users. But if only 25 percent of the 800 users complete the survey, the representativeness of the results is not assured. Nor is unrepresentativeness assured.

Representativeness is actually a matter of degree. And several institutions each with 25 percent response rates may have data with different degrees of representativeness.

We can never be sure about how representative our data are as long as not everyone completes the survey. But we can at least address this concern by comparing the demographic profiles of survey completers with the population (Thompson, 2000). At which university below would one feel more confident that LibQUAL+® results were reasonably representative?

<b>Alpha University</b>	
Completers (n=200 / 800)  Gender  Students 53% female  Faculty 45% female  Disciplines  Liberal Arts 40%  Science 15%  Other 45%	Population (N=16,000)  Gender  Students 51% female  Faculty 41% female  Disciplines  Liberal Arts 35%  Science 20%  Other 45%
<b>Omega University</b>	
Completers (n=200 / 800)  Gender  Students 35% female  Faculty 65% female  Disciplines  Liberal Arts 40%  Science 20%  Other 40%	Population (N=23,000)  Gender  Students 59% female  Faculty 43% female  Disciplines  Liberal Arts 15%  Science 35%  Other 50%

The persuasiveness of such analyses is greater as the number of variables used in the comparisons is greater. The LibQUAL+® software has been expanded to automate these comparisons and to output side-by-side graphs and tables comparing sample and population profiles for given institutions. Show these to people who question result representativeness.

However, one caution is in order regarding percentages. When total n is small for an institution, or within a particular subgroup, huge changes in percentages can result from very small shifts in numbers.

### **LibQUAL+® Analytics**

The LibQUAL+® Analytics is a tool that permits participants to dynamically create institution-specific tables and charts for different subgroups and across years. The current interface grants access to 2004-2014 statistical data and unifies the analysis within an institution's data (formerly called institution explorer) and across time (longitudinal analysis) . It provides a one-stop dynamic shop to interactively analyze results and benchmark with other institutions.

Participants can refine the data by selecting specific years, user groups, and disciplines, view and save the selection in various tables and charts, and download their datasets for further manipulation in their preferred software. The current version of LibQUAL+® Analytics is only the beginning of our effort to provide more customized analysis. More features are in development based on feedback we receive from our participants. For a subscription to LibQUAL+® Analytics, e-mail [libqual@arl.org](mailto:libqual@arl.org). Our future plans call for building a full-scale data warehouse with the ability to overlay different data visualization tools on top of it.

### **Survey Data**

In addition to the notebooks, the norms, and the Analytics, LibQUAL+® also makes available (a) raw survey data in SPSS and (b) raw survey data in Excel for all participating libraries. Additional training using the SPSS data file is available as a follow-up workshop and through the Service Quality Evaluation Academy (see below), which also offers training on analyzing qualitative data. The survey comments are also downloadable in various formats from the Web site.

### **ARL Service Quality Evaluation Academy**

LibQUAL+® is an important tool in the New Measures toolbox that librarians can use to improve service quality. But, even more fundamentally, the LibQUAL+® initiative is more than a single tool. LibQUAL+® is an effort to create a culture of data-driven service quality assessment and service quality improvement within libraries.

Such a culture must be informed by more than one tool, and by more than only one of the 11 ways of listening to users. To facilitate a culture of service quality assessment, and to facilitate more informed usage of LibQUAL+® data, the Association of Research Libraries has created the ARL Service Quality Evaluation Academy. For more information about the Academy, see the LibQUAL+® Events page at

[<http://www.libqual.org/events>](http://www.libqual.org/events)

The intensive, five-day Academy teaches both qualitative and quantitative skills that library staff can use to evaluate and generate service-quality assessment information. The Academy is one more resource for library staff who would like to develop enhanced service-quality assessment skills.

### **Library Assessment Conference**

The growing community of practice related to library assessment is convening regularly in North America through the Library Assessment Conference. Gatherings of this community have taken place on a biennial basis since 2006. The proceedings and recent information are available at

[<http://www.libraryassessment.org>](http://www.libraryassessment.org)

For more information, about LibQUAL+® or the Association of Research Libraries' Statistics and Assessment program, see:

[<http://www.libqual.org/>](http://www.libqual.org/)

[<http://www.statsqual.org/>](http://www.statsqual.org/)

[<http://www.arl.org/stats/>](http://www.arl.org/stats/)

[<http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/statistics-assessment>](http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/statistics-assessment)

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## 1.7 Contact Information for Anglia Ruskin University

The person below served as the institution's primary LibQUAL+® liaison during this survey implementation.

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**Name:** Norman Boyd  
**Title:** Training & Quality Coordinator  
**Address:** University Library,  
 Anglia Ruskin University,  
 Queen's Building,  
 Bishop Hall Lane,  
 Chelmsford, CM1 1SQ  
 United Kingdom  
**Phone:** +44 1245 686 3124  
**Email:** norman.boyd@anglia.ac.uk

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## 1.8 Survey Protocol and Language for Anglia Ruskin University

The data below indicate the number of valid surveys collected by language and long/Lite breakdowns.

		Lite	Total (by Language)
<b>English (British)</b>	Count	2,078	<b>2,078</b>
	% of Protocol	100.00%	100.00%
	% of Language	100.00%	100.00%
	% of Total Cases	100.00	100.00
<b>Total</b> (by Survey Protocol)	Count	<b>2,078</b>	<b>2,078</b>
	% of Protocol	100.00%	100.00%
	% of Language	100.00%	100.00%
	% of Total Cases	100.00	100.00

## 2 Demographic Summary for Anglia Ruskin University

### 2.1 Respondents by User Group

User Group	Respondent n	Respondent %
<b>Undergraduate</b>		
First year	459	22.09%
Second year	413	19.87%
Third year	455	21.90%
Fourth year	26	1.25%
Fifth year and above	20	0.96%
Non-degree	19	0.91%
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>66.99%</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>		
Taught Masters degree	290	13.96%
Research Masters degree	35	1.68%
Doctoral Research degree	78	3.75%
Non-degree	39	1.88%
Undecided	9	0.43%
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>21.70%</b>
<b>Academic Staff</b>		
Professor	6	0.29%
Reader	1	0.05%
Senior / Principal Lecturer	47	2.26%
Lecturer	19	0.91%
Research Staff	6	0.29%
Other Academic Status	7	0.34%
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>4.14%</b>
<b>Library Staff</b>		
Senior Management	0	0.00%
Department Head / Team Leader	2	0.10%
Professional Staff	11	0.53%

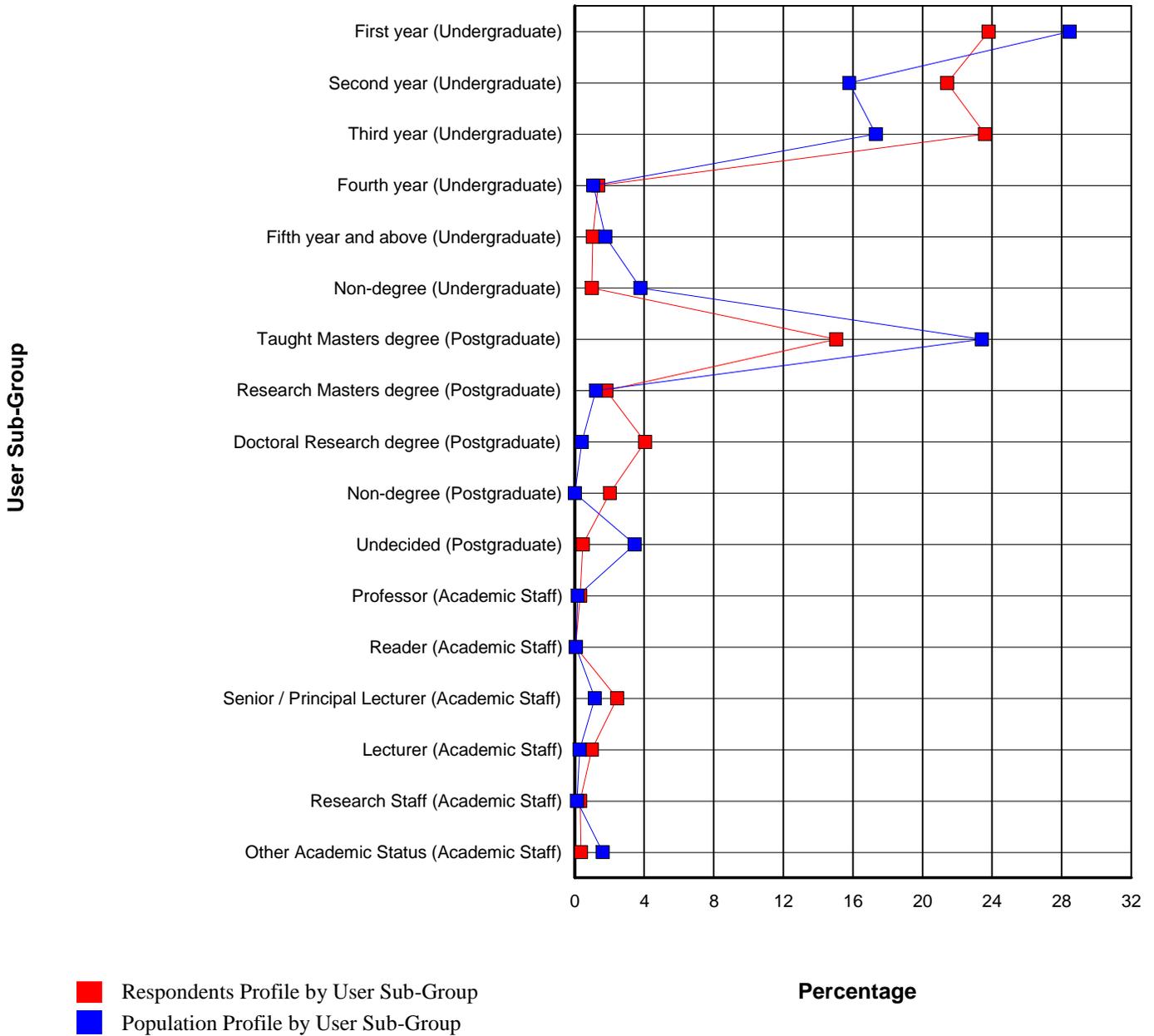
Support Staff	24	1.15%
Other	0	0.00%
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1.78%</b>
<b>Staff</b>		
Administrative or Academic Related Staff	84	4.04%
Other staff positions	28	1.35%
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>5.39%</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,078</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
All	All	

## 2.2 Population and Respondents by User Sub-Group

The chart and table below show a breakdown of survey respondents by sub-group (e.g. First year, Masters, Professor), based on user responses to the demographic questions at the end of the survey instrument and the demographic data provided by institutions in the online Representativeness section\*.

The chart maps the percentage of respondents for each user subgroup in red. Population percentages for each user subgroup are mapped in blue. The table shows the number and percentage for each user sub-group for the general population (N) and for survey respondents (n).

*\*Note: Participating institutions were not required to complete the Representativeness section. When population data is missing or incomplete, it is because this data was not provided.*



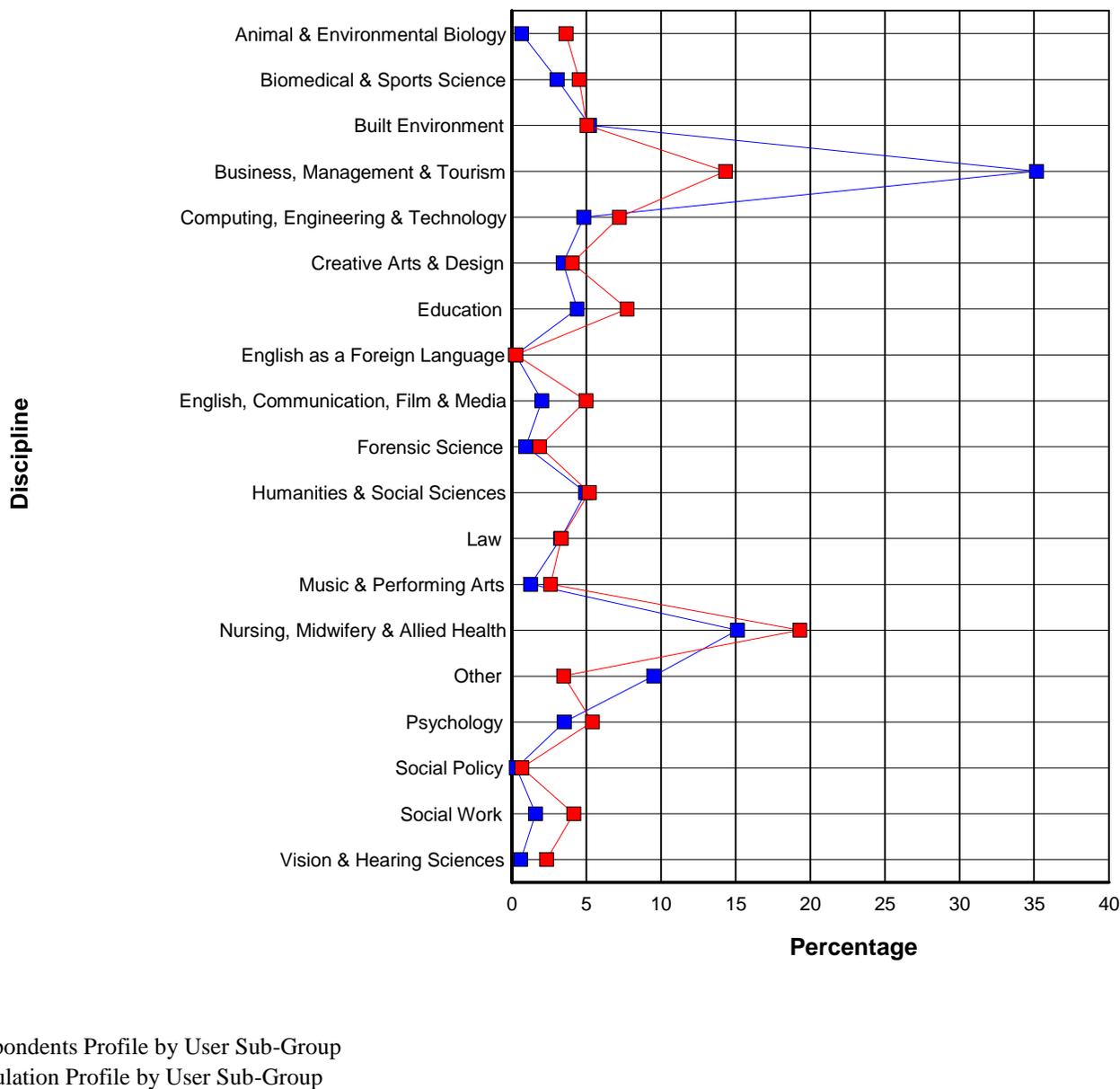
User Sub-Group	Population N	Population %	Respondents n	Respondents %	%N - %n
First year (Undergraduate)	9,230	28.46	459	23.79	4.66
Second year (Undergraduate)	5,119	15.78	413	21.41	-5.63
Third year (Undergraduate)	5,615	17.31	455	23.59	-6.28
Fourth year (Undergraduate)	345	1.06	26	1.35	-0.28
Fifth year and above (Undergraduate)	570	1.76	20	1.04	0.72
Non-degree (Undergraduate)	1,224	3.77	19	0.98	2.79
Taught Masters degree (Postgraduate)	7,589	23.40	290	15.03	8.36
Research Masters degree (Postgraduate)	394	1.21	35	1.81	-0.60
Doctoral Research degree (Postgraduate)	132	0.41	78	4.04	-3.64
Non-degree (Postgraduate)	0	0.00	39	2.02	-2.02
Undecided (Postgraduate)	1,116	3.44	9	0.47	2.97
Professor (Academic Staff)	54	0.17	6	0.31	-0.14
Reader (Academic Staff)	20	0.06	1	0.05	0.01
Senior / Principal Lecturer (Academic Staff)	374	1.15	47	2.44	-1.28
Lecturer (Academic Staff)	92	0.28	19	0.98	-0.70
Research Staff (Academic Staff)	40	0.12	6	0.31	-0.19
Other Academic Status (Academic Staff)	520	1.60	7	0.36	1.24
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32,434</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,929</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## 2.3 Population and Respondents by Customized Discipline

The chart and table below show a breakdown of survey respondents by discipline, based on user responses to the demographic questions and the demographic data provided by institutions in the online Representativeness section\*.

This section shows survey respondents broken down based on the customized discipline categories supplied by the participating library. The chart maps percentage of respondents for each discipline in red. Population percentages for each discipline are mapped in blue. The table shows the number and percentage for each discipline, for the general population (N) and for survey respondents (n).

*\*Note: Participating institutions were not required to complete the Representativeness section. When population data is missing or incomplete, it is because this data was not provided.*



Discipline	Population N	Population %	Respondents n	Respondents %	%N - %n
Animal & Environmental Biology	209	0.65	70	3.63	-2.98
Biomedical & Sports Science	974	3.04	87	4.51	-1.48
Built Environment	1,673	5.22	97	5.03	0.18
Business, Management & Tourism	11,277	35.15	276	14.32	20.84
Computing, Engineering & Technology	1,548	4.83	139	7.21	-2.38
Creative Arts & Design	1,101	3.43	78	4.05	-0.61
Education	1,403	4.37	149	7.73	-3.35
English as a Foreign Language	80	0.25	5	0.26	-0.01
English, Communication, Film & Media	646	2.01	96	4.98	-2.97
Forensic Science	297	0.93	36	1.87	-0.94
Humanities & Social Sciences	1,585	4.94	100	5.19	-0.25
Law	1,052	3.28	64	3.32	-0.04
Music & Performing Arts	404	1.26	50	2.59	-1.33
Nursing, Midwifery & Allied Health	4,849	15.12	372	19.29	-4.18
Other	3,053	9.52	67	3.48	6.04
Psychology	1,130	3.52	104	5.39	-1.87
Social Policy	96	0.30	13	0.67	-0.38
Social Work	510	1.59	80	4.15	-2.56
Vision & Hearing Sciences	193	0.60	45	2.33	-1.73
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32,080</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## 2.4 Respondent Profile by Answer to the Question: The library that you use most often:

The library that you use most often:	Respondents n	Respondents %
Cambridge	1,155	56.59
Chelmsford	726	35.57
Guild House	98	4.80
Other	62	3.04
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## 2.5 Respondent Profile by Age:

This table shows a breakdown of survey respondents by age; both the number of respondents (n) and the percentage of the total number of respondents represented by each age group are displayed.

Age:	Respondents n	Respondents %
Under 18	5	0.24
18 - 22	848	41.55
23 - 30	548	26.85
31 - 45	436	21.36
46 - 65	200	9.80
Over 65	4	0.20
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## 2.6 Respondent Profile by Sex:

The table below shows a breakdown of survey respondents by sex, based on user responses to the demographic questions and the demographic data provided by institutions in the online Representativeness section\*. The number and percentage for each sex are given for the general population and for survey respondents.

\*Note: Participating institutions were not required to complete the Representativeness section. When population data is missing or incomplete, it is because this data was not provided.

Sex:	Population N	Population %	Respondents n	Respondents %
Female	18,098	56.55	1,347	66.00
Male	13,908	43.45	694	34.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32,006</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## 2.8 Respondent Profile by Full or part-time student?

<b>Full or part-time student?</b>	<b>Population N</b>	<b>Population %</b>	<b>Respondents n</b>	<b>Respondents %</b>
Full-time	23,768	74.26	1,528	75.16
Part-time	8,238	25.74	325	15.99
Does not apply / NA		0.00	180	8.85
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32,006</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2,033</b>	<b>100.00</b>

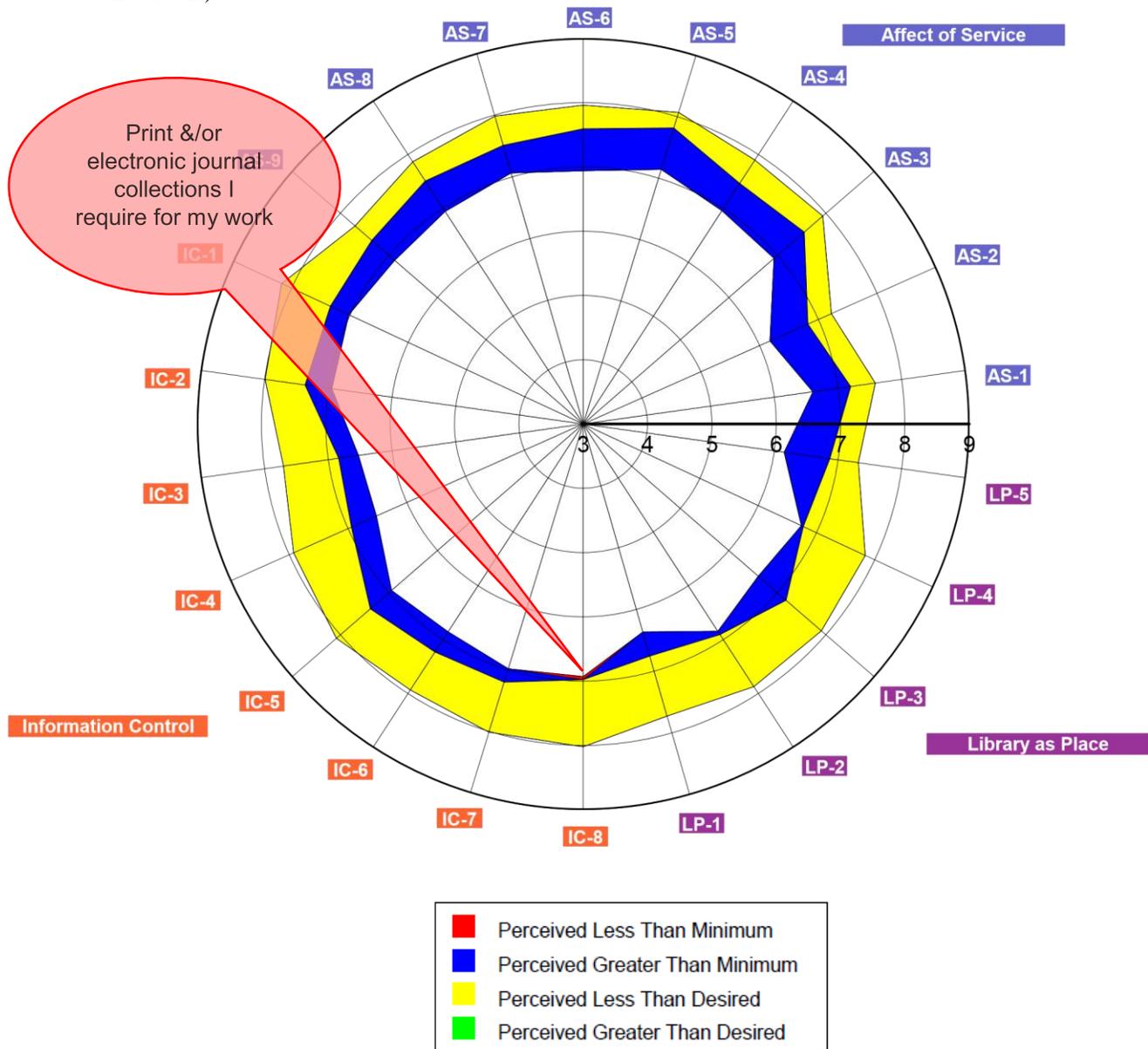
### 3. Survey Item Summary for Anglia Ruskin University

#### 3.1 Core Questions Summary

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red.

The following two tables show mean scores and standard deviations for each question, where *n* is the number of respondents for each particular question. (For a more detailed explanation of the headings, see the Introduction to this notebook.)

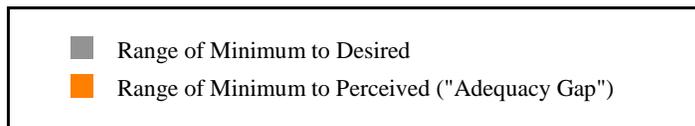
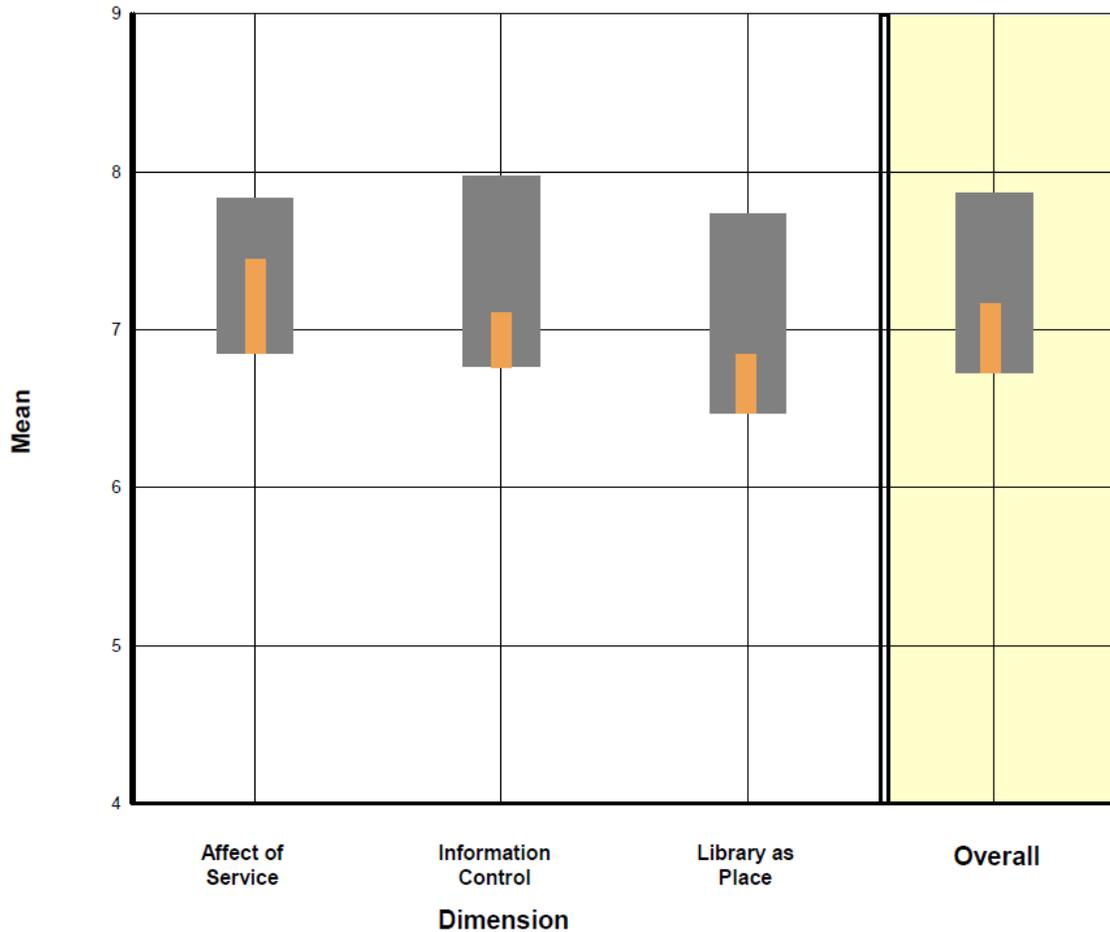


ID	Question Text	Minimum Mean	Desired Mean	Perceived Mean	Adequacy Mean	Superiority Mean	n
<b>Affect of Service</b>							
AS-1	Library staff who instill confidence in users	6.61	7.59	7.20	0.59	-0.39	444
AS-2	Giving users individual attention	6.18	7.22	6.82	0.65	-0.40	557
AS-3	Library staff who are consistently courteous	6.93	7.93	7.56	0.62	-0.38	461
AS-4	Readiness to respond to users' enquiries	6.96	7.90	7.47	0.51	-0.43	470
AS-5	Library staff who have the knowledge to answer user questions	7.14	8.07	7.82	0.67	-0.25	510
AS-6	Library staff who deal with users in a caring fashion	6.94	7.96	7.59	0.65	-0.37	1,977
AS-7	Library staff who understand the needs of their users	7.06	7.98	7.51	0.45	-0.47	517
AS-8	Willingness to help users	6.94	7.87	7.51	0.57	-0.35	482
AS-9	Dependability in handling users' service problems	6.88	7.70	7.36	0.47	-0.34	418
<b>Information Control</b>							
IC-1	Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office	7.02	8.17	7.34	0.32	-0.83	515
IC-2	A library Web site enabling me to locate information on my own	6.95	7.99	7.37	0.42	-0.63	612
IC-3	The printed library materials I need for my work	6.53	7.70	6.84	0.31	-0.87	522
IC-4	The electronic information resources I need	6.52	7.93	6.94	0.43	-0.98	2,018
IC-5	Modern equipment that lets me easily access needed information	6.95	8.08	7.39	0.44	-0.70	620
IC-6	Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own	6.86	7.93	7.23	0.38	-0.70	634
IC-7	Making information easily accessible for independent use	6.98	8.02	7.20	0.22	-0.81	593
IC-8	Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work	6.98	8.02	6.93	-0.05	-1.09	490
<b>Library as Place</b>							
LP-1	Library space that inspires study and learning	6.37	7.73	6.76	0.39	-0.97	1,997
LP-2	Quiet space for individual work	6.84	7.87	6.91	0.06	-0.97	502
LP-3	A comfortable and inviting location	6.61	7.91	7.18	0.57	-0.72	509
LP-4	A haven for study, learning, or research	6.74	7.84	6.78	0.03	-1.06	494
LP-5	Space for group learning and group study	6.15	7.32	6.87	0.72	-0.45	467
<b>Overall:</b>		6.73	7.86	7.17	0.44	-0.69	2,041

ID	Question Text	Minimum SD	Desired SD	Perceived SD	Adequacy SD	Superiority SD	n
<b>Affect of Service</b>							
AS-1	Library staff who instill confidence in users	1.72	1.42	1.57	1.62	1.53	444
AS-2	Giving users individual attention	1.97	1.73	1.69	1.74	1.68	557
AS-3	Library staff who are consistently courteous	1.62	1.22	1.52	1.69	1.55	461
AS-4	Readiness to respond to users' enquiries	1.49	1.28	1.48	1.49	1.40	470
AS-5	Library staff who have the knowledge to answer user questions	1.63	1.26	1.35	1.66	1.44	510
AS-6	Library staff who deal with users in a caring fashion	1.69	1.31	1.46	1.69	1.50	1,977
AS-7	Library staff who understand the needs of their users	1.61	1.23	1.44	1.62	1.48	517
AS-8	Willingness to help users	1.63	1.41	1.46	1.55	1.38	482
AS-9	Dependability in handling users' service problems	1.50	1.35	1.31	1.43	1.26	418
<b>Information Control</b>							
IC-1	Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office	1.66	1.19	1.45	1.70	1.51	515
IC-2	A library Web site enabling me to locate information on my own	1.62	1.27	1.49	1.73	1.58	612
IC-3	The printed library materials I need for my work	1.68	1.48	1.57	1.72	1.74	522
IC-4	The electronic information resources I need	1.58	1.26	1.50	1.82	1.65	2,018
IC-5	Modern equipment that lets me easily access needed information	1.54	1.15	1.43	1.58	1.45	620
IC-6	Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own	1.62	1.27	1.44	1.56	1.49	634
IC-7	Making information easily accessible for independent use	1.53	1.21	1.45	1.72	1.59	593
IC-8	Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work	1.61	1.27	1.57	1.84	1.76	490
<b>Library as Place</b>							
LP-1	Library space that inspires study and learning	1.75	1.52	1.71	1.96	1.99	1,997
LP-2	Quiet space for individual work	1.79	1.55	1.85	2.15	2.14	502
LP-3	A comfortable and inviting location	1.73	1.31	1.59	1.78	1.67	509
LP-4	A haven for study, learning, or research	1.68	1.39	1.73	1.93	2.02	494
LP-5	Space for group learning and group study	1.97	1.88	1.68	2.16	2.12	467
<b>Overall:</b>		1.29	0.99	1.15	1.26	1.16	2,041

### 3.2 Core Question Dimensions Summary

On the chart below, scores for each dimension of library service quality have been plotted graphically. The exterior bars represent the range of minimum to desired mean scores for each dimension. The interior bars represent the range of minimum to perceived mean scores (the service adequacy gap) for each dimension of library service quality.



The following table displays mean scores for each dimension of library service quality measured by the LibQUAL+® survey, where *n* is the number of respondents for each particular dimension. (For a more detailed explanation of the headings, see the Introduction to this notebook.) A complete listing of the survey questions and their dimensions can be found in Appendix A.

Dimension	Minimum Mean	Desired Mean	Perceived Mean	Adequacy Mean	Superiority Mean	n
Affect of Service	6.85	7.83	7.45	0.59	-0.38	2,016
Information Control	6.77	7.97	7.11	0.34	-0.86	2,038
Library as Place	6.47	7.73	6.84	0.37	-0.89	2,020
<b>Overall</b>	6.73	7.86	7.17	0.44	-0.69	2,041

The following table displays standard deviation for each dimension of library service quality measured by the LibQUAL+® survey, where *n* is the number of respondents for each particular dimension. (For a more detailed explanation of the headings, see the Introduction to this notebook.) A complete listing of the survey questions and their dimensions can be found in Appendix A.

Dimension	Minimum SD	Desired SD	Perceived SD	Adequacy SD	Superiority SD	n
Affect of Service	1.47	1.18	1.30	1.40	1.27	2,016
Information Control	1.35	1.02	1.24	1.42	1.29	2,038
Library as Place	1.60	1.37	1.55	1.75	1.76	2,020
<b>Overall</b>	1.29	0.99	1.15	1.26	1.16	2,041

### 3.3 Local Question Summary

This table shows mean scores of each of the local questions added by the individual library or consortium, where  $n$  is the number of respondents for each particular question. For a more detailed explanation of the headings, see the introduction to this notebook.

Question Text	Minimum Mean	Desired Mean	Perceived Mean	Adequacy Mean	Priority Mean	n
Ability to navigate library Web pages easily	7.02	7.99	7.27	0.25	-0.72	361
Enabling me to find information myself 24 hours a day	7.17	8.14	7.54	0.36	-0.61	416
Helpfulness in dealing with users' IT problems	7.03	7.91	7.45	0.42	-0.46	361
Library staff teaching me how to effectively use the electronically available databases, journals, and books	6.78	7.69	7.52	0.74	-0.17	389
Making me aware of library services	6.43	7.49	7.14	0.71	-0.35	407

This table shows the standard deviations for each of the local questions added by the individual library or consortium, where  $n$  is the number of respondents for each particular question. For a more detailed explanation of the headings, see the introduction to this notebook.

Question Text	Minimum SD	Desired SD	Perceived SD	Adequacy SD	Superior SD	n
Ability to navigate library Web pages easily	1.51	1.24	1.50	1.54	1.49	361
Enabling me to find information myself 24 hours a day	1.66	1.20	1.51	1.75	1.53	416
Helpfulness in dealing with users' IT problems	1.59	1.34	1.52	1.82	1.52	361
Library staff teaching me how to effectively use the electronically available databases, journals, and books	1.86	1.59	1.59	1.93	1.66	389
Making me aware of library services	1.80	1.55	1.59	1.84	1.80	407

### 3.4 General Satisfaction Questions Summary

This table displays the mean score and standard deviation for each of the general satisfaction questions: Satisfaction with Treatment, Satisfaction with Support, and Satisfaction with Overall Quality of Service, where  $n$  is the number of respondents for each question. These scores are calculated from responses to the general satisfaction questions on the LibQUAL+® survey, in which respondents rated their levels of general satisfaction on a scale from 1-9.

Satisfaction Question	Mean	SD	n
In general, I am satisfied with the way in which I am treated at the library.	7.69	1.34	997
In general, I am satisfied with library support for my learning, research, and/or teaching needs.	7.17	1.59	1,044
How would you rate the overall quality of the service provided by the library?	7.41	1.30	2,041

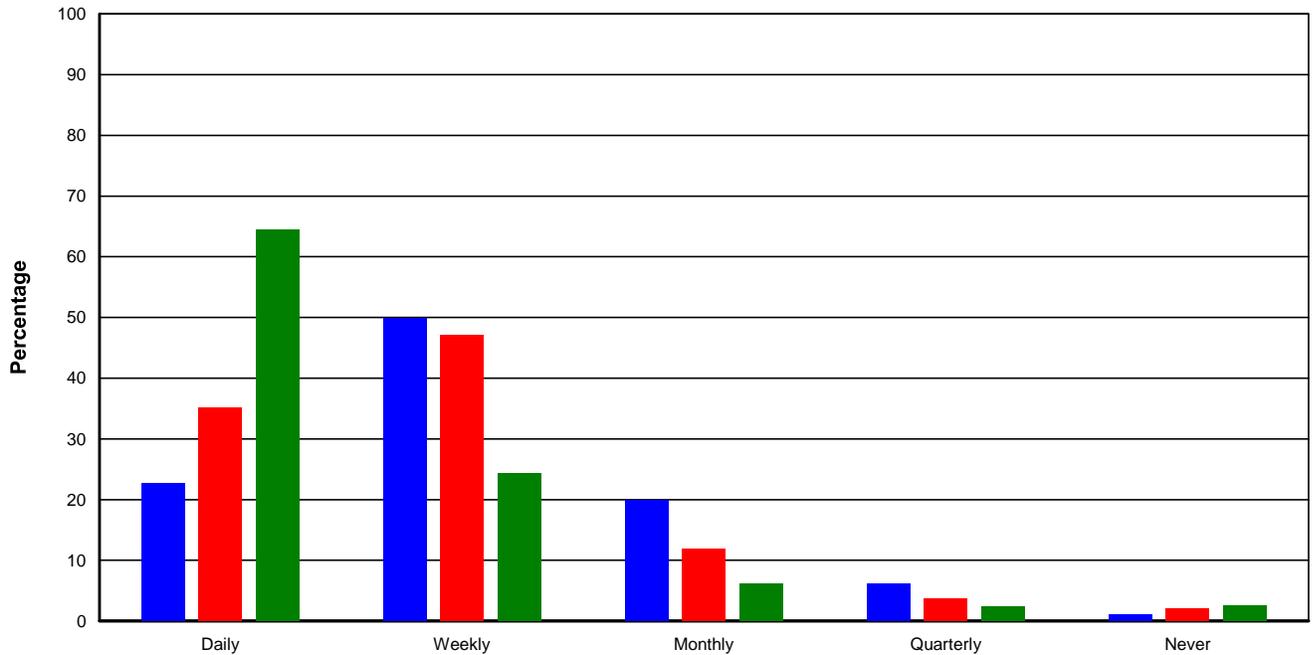
### 3.5 Information Literacy Outcomes Questions Summary

This table displays the mean score and standard deviation for each of the information literacy outcomes questions, where  $n$  is the number of respondents for each question. These scores are calculated from responses to the information literacy outcomes questions on the LibQUAL+® survey, in which respondents rated their levels of general satisfaction on a scale from 1-9 with 1 being "strongly disagree" and 9 representing "strongly agree".

Information Literacy Outcomes Questions	Mean	SD	n
The library helps me stay abreast of developments in my field(s) of interest.	6.54	1.75	734
The library aids my advancement in my academic discipline or work.	7.28	1.48	871
The library enables me to be more efficient in my academic pursuits or work.	7.22	1.51	907
The library helps me distinguish between trustworthy and untrustworthy information.	6.59	1.74	873
The library provides me with the information skills I need in my work or study.	7.11	1.50	697

### 3.6 Library Use Summary

This chart shows a graphic representation of library use (both on the premises and electronically), as well as use of non-library information gateways such as Yahoo™ and Google™. Bars represent the frequency with which respondents report using these resources: Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, or Never. The table below the chart displays the number and percentage of respondents who selected each option.



**Frequency**

- How often do you use resources within the library?
- How often do you access library resources through a library Web page?
- How often do you use Yahoo™, Google™, or non-library gateways for information?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Never	n/%
How often do you use resources within the library?	464 22.73%	1,020 49.98%	407 19.94%	127 6.22%	23 1.13%	2,041 100.00%
How often do you access library resources through a library Web page?	717 35.13%	963 47.18%	244 11.95%	76 3.72%	41 2.01%	2,041 100.00%
How often do you use Yahoo™, Google™, or non-library gateways for information?	1,317 64.53%	498 24.40%	125 6.12%	48 2.35%	53 2.60%	2,041 100.00%

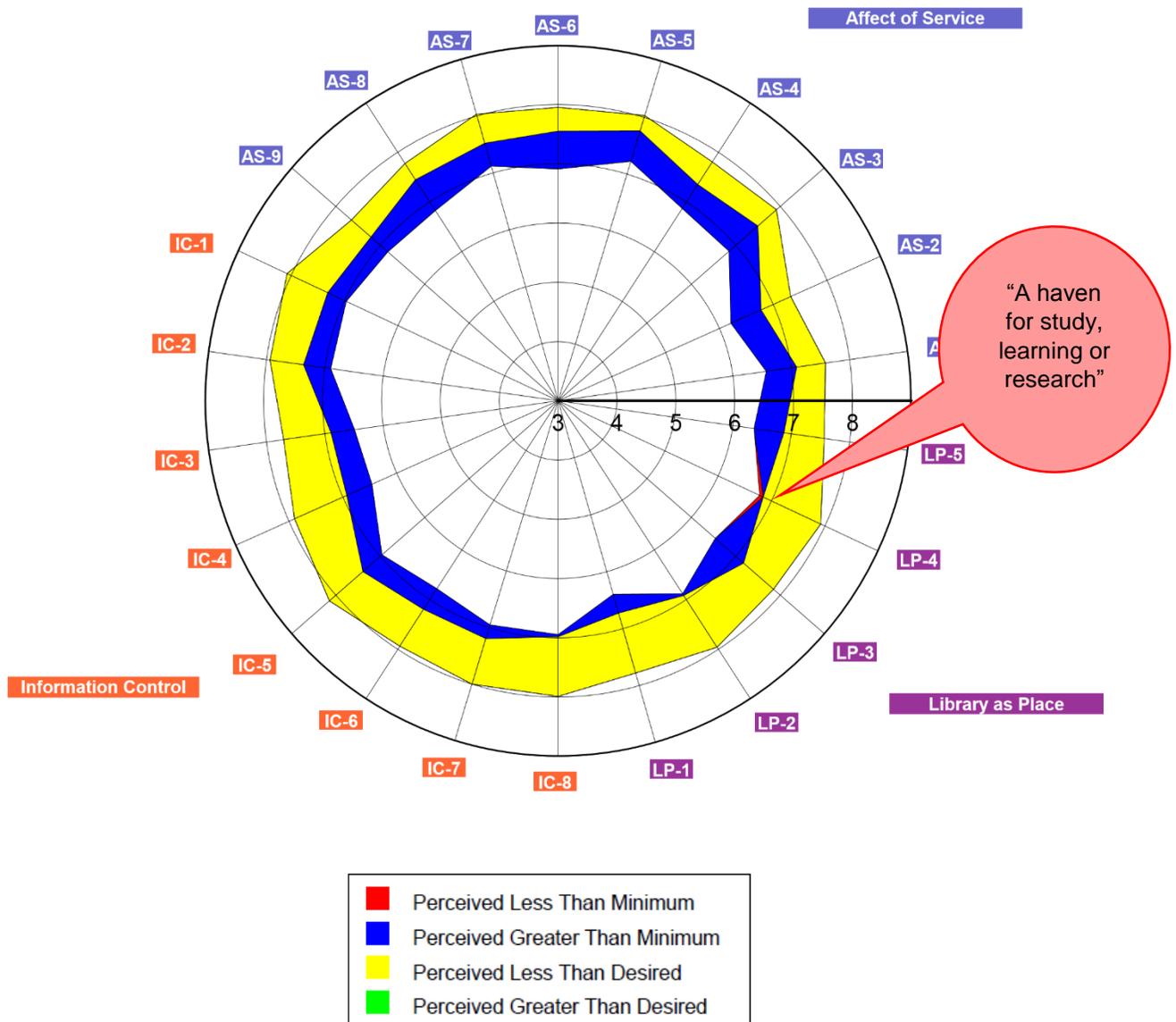
THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES OF USER-GROUPS  
ARE SHOWN AS RADAR CHARTS (WITHOUT THE SUBSEQUENT DATA)  
TO CREATE A SHORTER REPORT. Full details are available on request

Norman Boyd

## 4 Core Questions Summary for Undergraduate

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

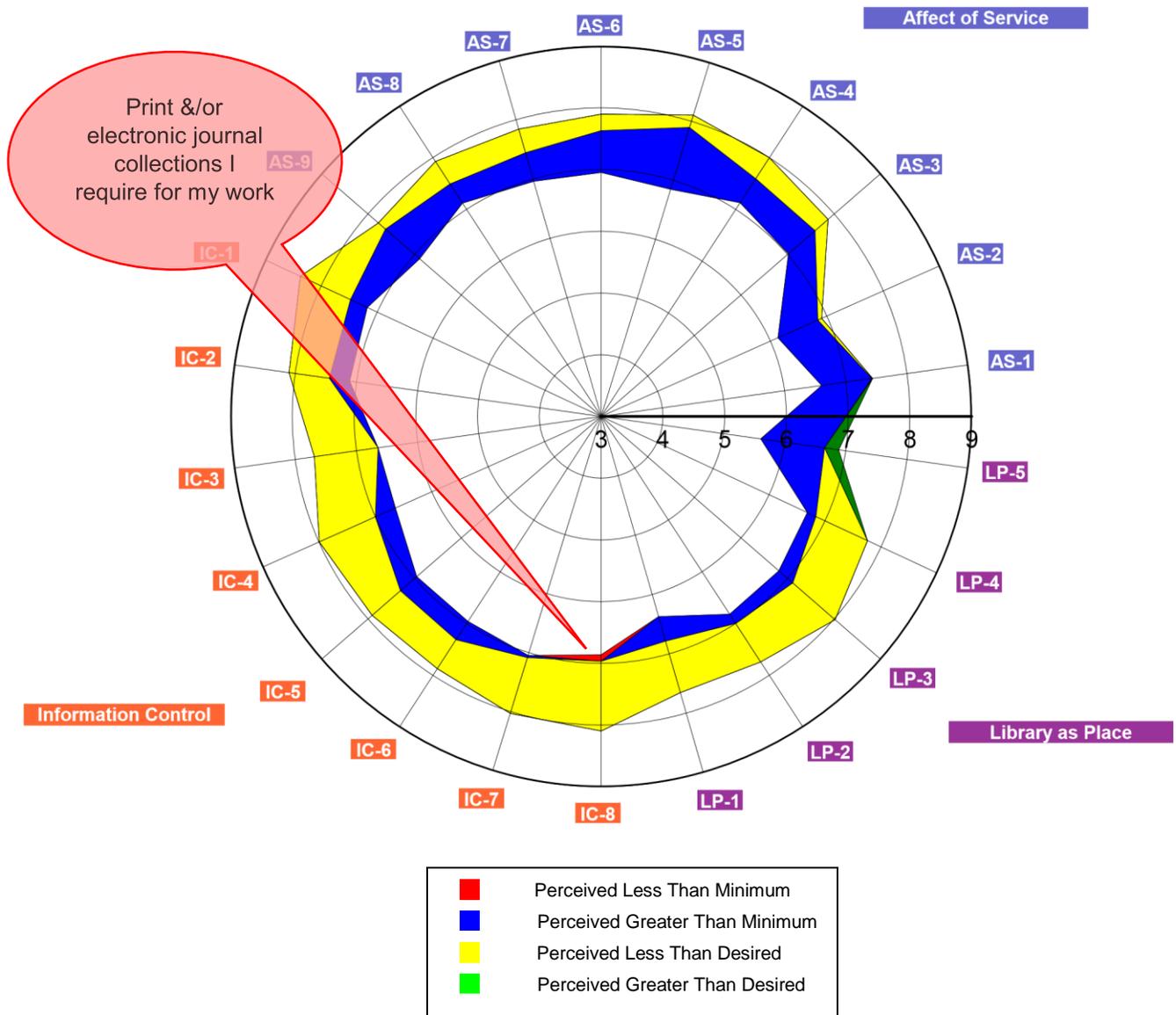
On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red.



## 5 Core Questions Summary for Postgraduate

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red.

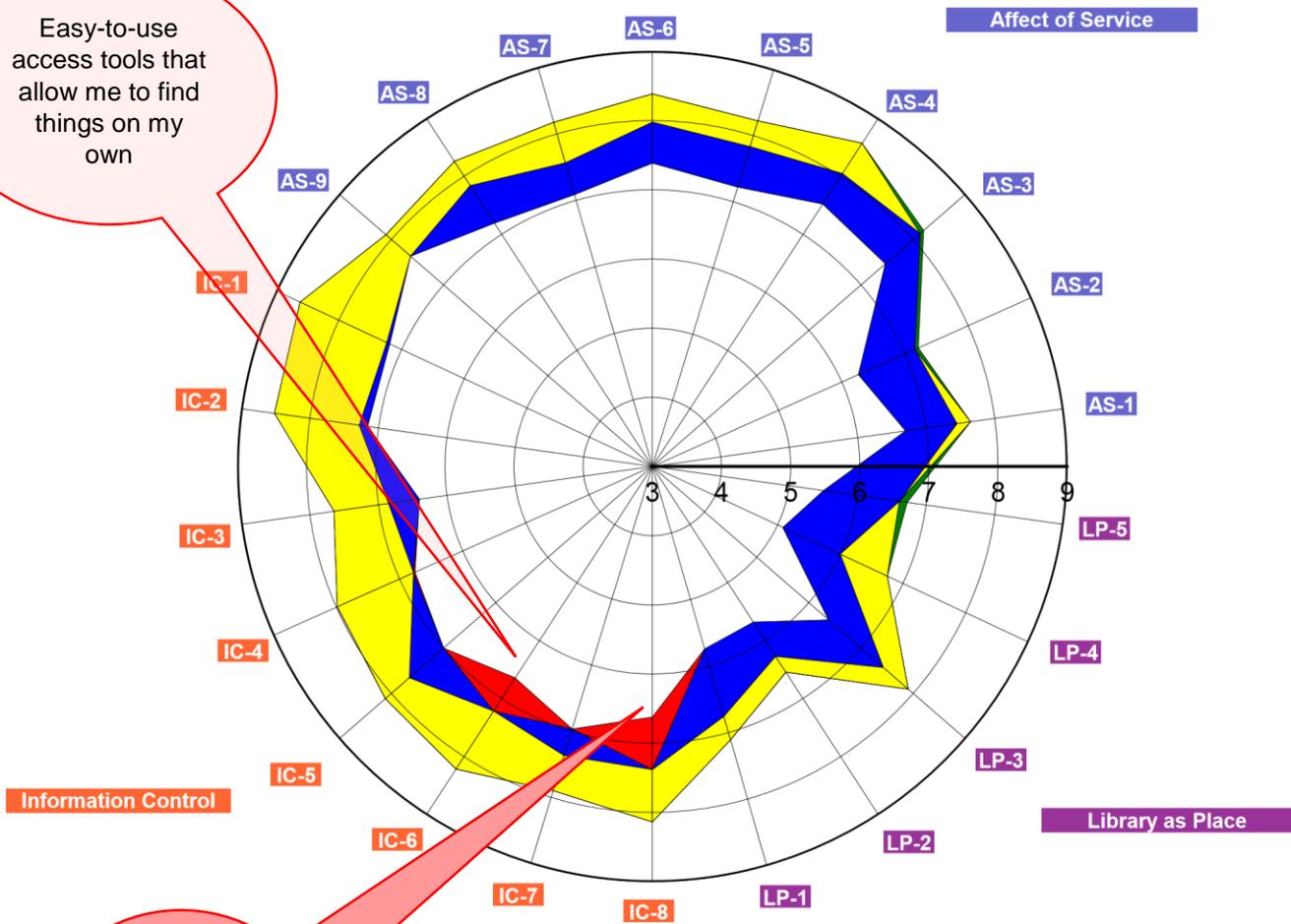


## 6 Core Questions Summary for Academic Staff

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red. Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own

Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own



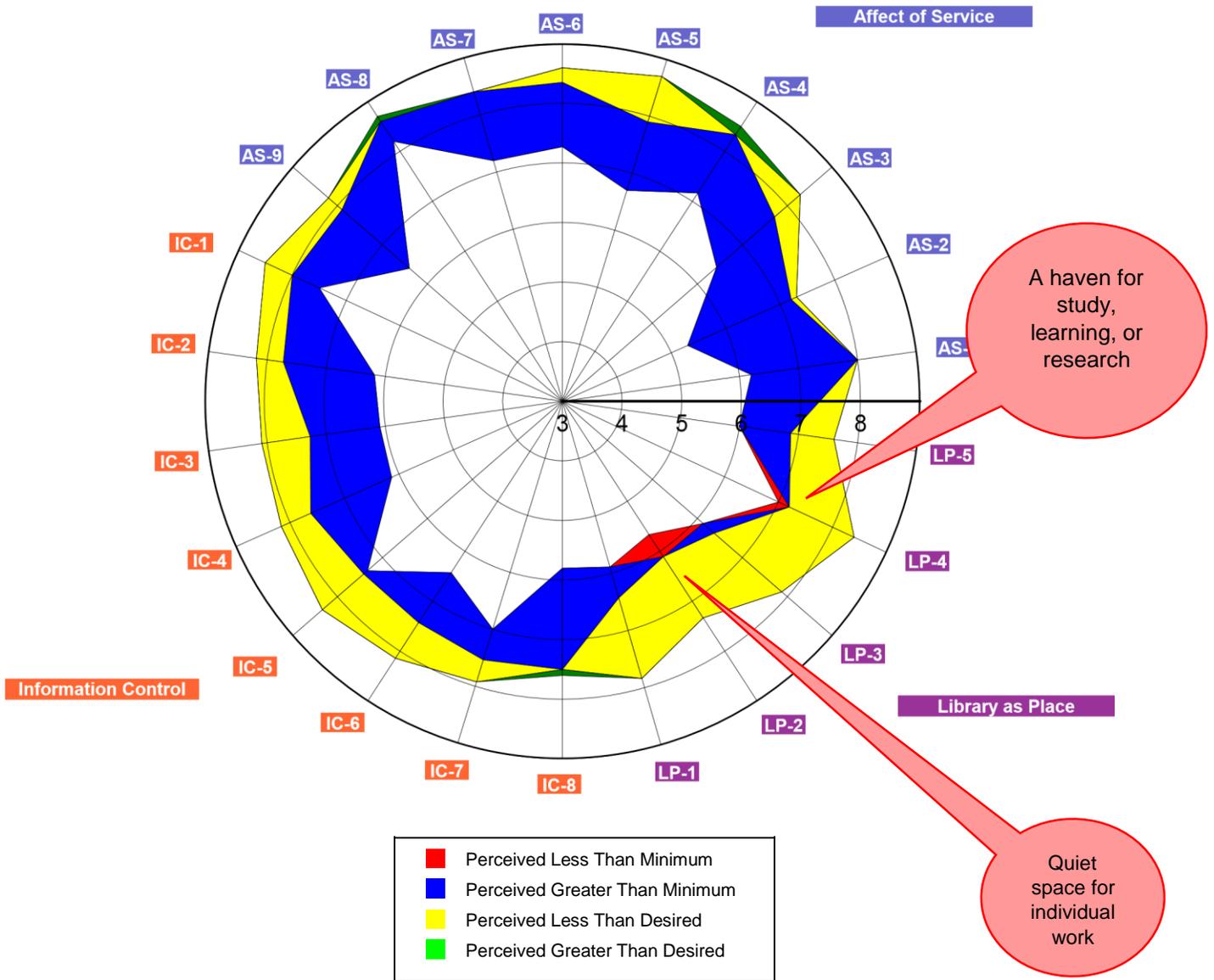
Print &/or electronic journal collections I require for my work



## 7 Core Questions Summary for Library Staff

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

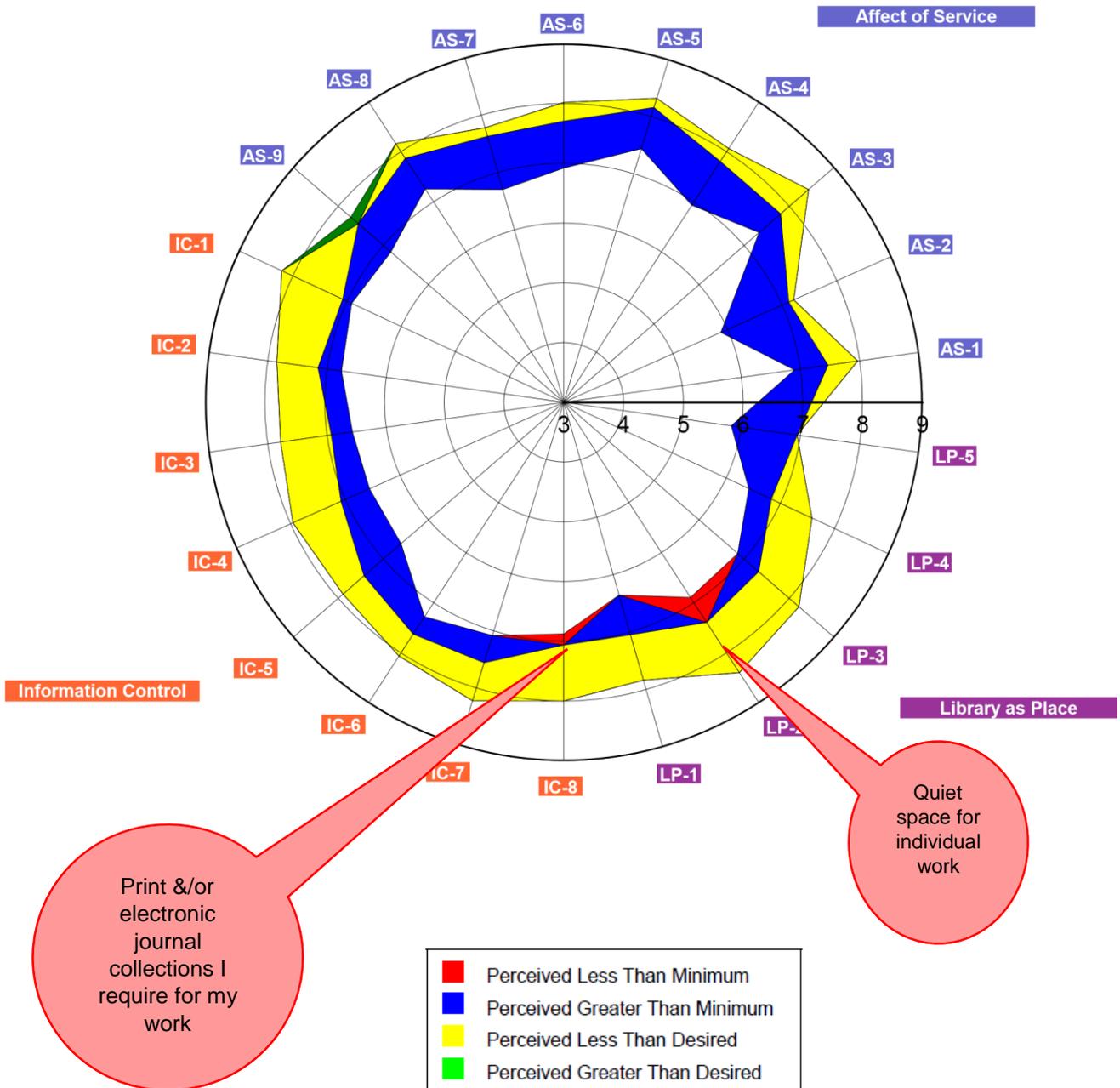
On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red.



## 8 Core Questions Summary for Staff

This radar chart shows the aggregate results for the core survey questions. Each axis represents one question. A code to identify each question is displayed at the outer point of each axis. While questions for each dimension of library service quality are scattered randomly throughout the survey, on this chart they are grouped into sections: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place.

On each axis, respondents' minimum, desired, and perceived levels of service quality are plotted, and the resulting "gaps" between the three levels (representing service adequacy or service superiority) are shaded in blue, yellow, green, and red.



## Appendix A: LibQUAL+® Dimensions

LibQUAL+® measures dimensions of perceived library quality---that is, each survey question is part of a broader category (a dimension), and scores within those categories are analyzed in order to derive more general information about library users' perceptions of service. These dimensions were first based on the original SERVQUAL survey instrument (the framework for the LibQUAL+® survey tool; for more information on the origins of LibQUAL+®, go to <<http://www.libqual.org/Publications/>>). The LibQUAL+® survey dimensions have evolved with each iteration, becoming more refined and focused for application to the library context. Dimensions for the current iteration of the LibQUAL+® survey is outlined below.

### **LibQUAL+® 2004 - Present Dimensions**

After the 2003 survey was completed, factor and reliability analyses on the resulting data revealed that two of the dimensions measured by the survey--Access to Information and Personal Control--had collapsed into one. The following three dimensions have been measured since then: Affect of Service, Information Control, and Library as Place. In addition, three core items were eliminated from the 2003 version of the survey, leaving 22 core items on the final survey instrument.

The list below displays the dimensions used to present the results in the 2012 notebooks, along with the questions that relate to each dimension. (*Note: The questions below are those used in the College and University implementation of the survey, American English version.*)

#### **Affect of Service**

- [AS-1] Employees who instill confidence in users
- [AS-2] Giving users individual attention
- [AS-3] Employees who are consistently courteous
- [AS-4] Readiness to respond to users' questions
- [AS-5] Employees who have the knowledge to answer user questions
- [AS-6] Employees who deal with users in a caring fashion
- [AS-7] Employees who understand the needs of their users
- [AS-8] Willingness to help users
- [AS-9] Dependability in handling users' service problems

#### **Information Control**

- [IC-1] Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office
- [IC-2] A library Web site enabling me to locate information on my own
- [IC-3] The printed library materials I need for my work
- [IC-4] The electronic information resources I need
- [IC-5] Modern equipment that lets me easily access needed information
- [IC-6] Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own
- [IC-7] Making information easily accessible for independent use
- [IC-8] Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work

#### **Library as Place**

- [LP-1] Library space that inspires study and learning
- [LP-2] Quiet space for individual activities
- [LP-3] A comfortable and inviting location
- [LP-4] A getaway for study, learning or research
- [LP-5] Community space for group learning and group study





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