

# Prayer and Meditation Room Survey

## Recommendations

1. Multiple respondents requested for the direction of the Qibla (Kiblah) to be marked (9%), while other users suggested a cupboard to store prayer mats (9%). Respondents requested more seating or cushions along the back wall (9%), while other users requested more privacy of the space by adding curtains to the windows. More recommendations include a Quran to be placed on the top shelf, abayas or skirts, and soundproofing the walls so that people can pray in congregation.
2. Some users suggested improvements outside of the Prayer and Meditation room, including more advertisement to help find the room, and to adjust to the bathroom on the 2nd floor to perform the wudu cleansing ritual more convenient before prayer.
3. One student recommended that there should be more rooms like this one across Duke's campus

## Summary

Between the dates of October 3rd and November 3rd 2016, Julie Riegel and Suffana Humaira conducted user survey on the Prayer and Meditation Room in Perkins Library by emailing a survey to the Duke Muslim Student Association and dispersing a physical paper survey in the Prayer and Meditation Room. The survey consisted of four questions, and took users approximately five minutes to fill out. See Appendix for full survey script.

## Background

Twenty-two users filled out the survey either online or on a paper survey. Fourteen of the 22 participants (64%) used the room at least once a week, and of those fourteen three patrons (14%) specified that they use the room at least once a day. Four users (18%) visit the room once or twice a month, while four more users (18%) visit the room once or twice a semester.

## Key findings

1. Users like that this room is a quiet, peaceful, large, and clean space dedicated for meditation and prayer. They like the convenience of the location of the room, and the availability of prayer mats, janamaz, and hijabs.
2. The things that users did not like about the room are as follows:
  - bright lighting

- too warm
  - no trash can.
  - windows do not allow for privacy
  - direction of the Qibla is not marked.
3. Twelve of the respondents (55%) were very happy with the space, and noted that they would change “nothing” about the room.

## Appendix A: Survey

How often do you use the Prayer & Meditation Room at Perkins Library?

\_\_\_ Often: At least once a week

\_\_\_ Every now and then: Once or twice a month

\_\_\_ Rarely: This is my first time using the room

What kinds of improvements would you recommend for the Meditation & Prayer Room?

Name two things that you like about the room:

Name two things that you do not like about the room: