# Room for new knowledge?

User perspectives on the library as space and place.

EAHIL 2016, 6-11 June, Seville

Presentation by Idun K. Østerdal & Anja Johansen Medicine and Health Library



Norwegian University of Science and Technology

# **Background**

- Digitalization of library resources
- Library as learning environment and meeting place
- Room for new knowledge?



### Our research aims

- Map current use and user perspectives
- Develop the library space into an inspiring learning environment
- Use and test methods for UX-design

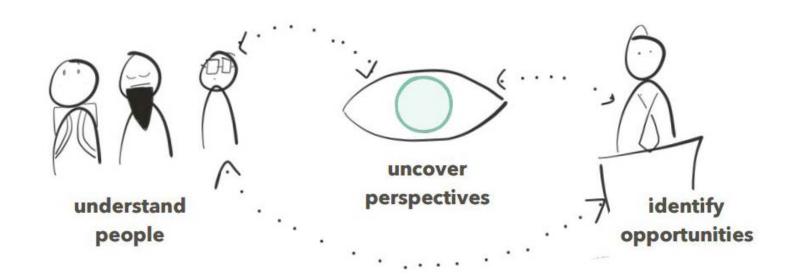




# **UX-design**

#### **UX - User experience**

- What do users think and want from the library?
- How to access this knowledge?





## Research questions

- 1. What do the users of the library like about the physical library spaces and facilities?
- 2. What are they less content with?
- 3. Are there facilities or services they would like us to offer that we do not have today?



#### **Methods**

- Counting traffic in the library
- User interview (short, on site)
- User interview (1 hour)



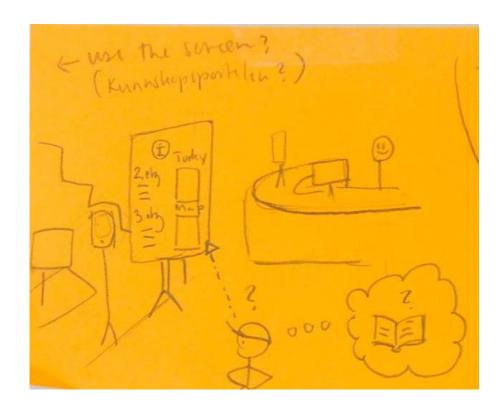
# Findings: Use of library space (1)



Visual mapping of 2nd floor, south wing.



# Findings: Use of library space (2)



**UX-workshop:** From data collection to sketching and problem solving



# Findings: Use of library space (3)

"It is bright and spacious here! I like the varied work spaces - I can use a sofa while reading or a desk for writing."

"Nice to have different activities in the library. More relaxed downstairs, but although more noisy – but that's very cozy, like at a café!"







### Discussion and conclusion

- Making input from users an important part of the development process
- Importance of continuous testing
- Identify actions based on findings
- Benefits of combining methods
  - Traffic counting
  - Ethnography
  - In-depth interview
  - Short, on-site interviews (5-10)



## Thank you!



Instagram: **@bmhoya** 

Twitter: @NTNU\_UB\_Medbib

#### **Contact information:**

Idun K. Østerdal idun.k.osterdal@ntnu.no Anja Johansen anja.johansen@ntnu.no

