



## HOUSTON ACTION RESEARCH TEAM



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### *HPL, Strategic Planning Project, Fall 2013*



This HART, made up of three Rice undergraduates majoring in Architecture, Statistics, Policy Studies and French, collaborated on Houston Public Library's (HPL) strategic master planning process with HPL staff and consultants from Page Southerland Page, a Houston engineering and design firm, and Group 4, a California-based firm specializing in library design.

Team members used statistical software and GIS to analyze data and create maps of library use across Houston. Their research provided HPL staff with unexpected findings about how Houstonians use public libraries, and their insights are now informing HPL's policy and capital project planning. The team's invaluable contribution to HPL's Master Planning process led to a second HPL HART in Spring 2014, and to a \$100,000+ grant from the Library Foundation to fund a series of HPL-HART projects over the next three years.

