

Here is a synopsis of the answers to the question I posted on Aug 20 on the Michlib and collib listservs:

“We are a small, private, business university and our attendance on Saturdays is dismal. I’d like some ideas on increasing it. Does anyone do special things on Saturdays to bring in students? Any ideas on increasing attendance in general? Any advertising verbiage that might attract student’s attention? Our Sunday attendance is decent because they are getting ready for Monday, but on Saturdays, it’s nothing but crickets.”

- Book club/read book to students
- Gaming day/Cards/Old fashioned games/Trivia
- Food and/or Food Truck
- Stress that is a safe space
- Gathering space
- Promote tutoring/studying group/private study room
- Presentation on reducing student debt and other topics
- Consider an after-hour event: Poetry, folk music, stand-up comics (tell them they have to keep it clean or you shut off the microphone!)
- Display student art/poetry
- Establish a writing group that shares chapters
- Market to Gen Z
- Advertise library at sporting events: make commercial with athletes studying and show before games
- Database workshop
- Popup librarian on Saturdays outside dining hall to promote library
- Posters in residence halls about Quiet Study on Saturdays
- Post on social media about the library open on Saturdays
- Promote Study Tables for athletes
- Modify hours to match when students are coming in
- Promote library on campus web page
- Saturday open houses
- Student/faculty survey; why not coming in??
- Free table of books, take one, leave one
- Invite local author to speak

Thank you to everyone to took the time to answer. I appreciate it and will certainly put some of these in to action.

– Becky Grai, Strosacker Library