

STUDENT LIFE & ACADEMICS UNDER 5,000 SQ.FT.

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STUDENT LIFE & ACADEMICS

UNDER 5,000 SQ.FT.

PROJECT TITLE: CAEN Lab Quiet Space

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 2200 SF

PROJECT BUDGET: \$430K

DID YOU WORK WITH AN OUTSIDE FIRM OR CONSULTANT? IF YES, LIST COMPANY NAME: Haworth

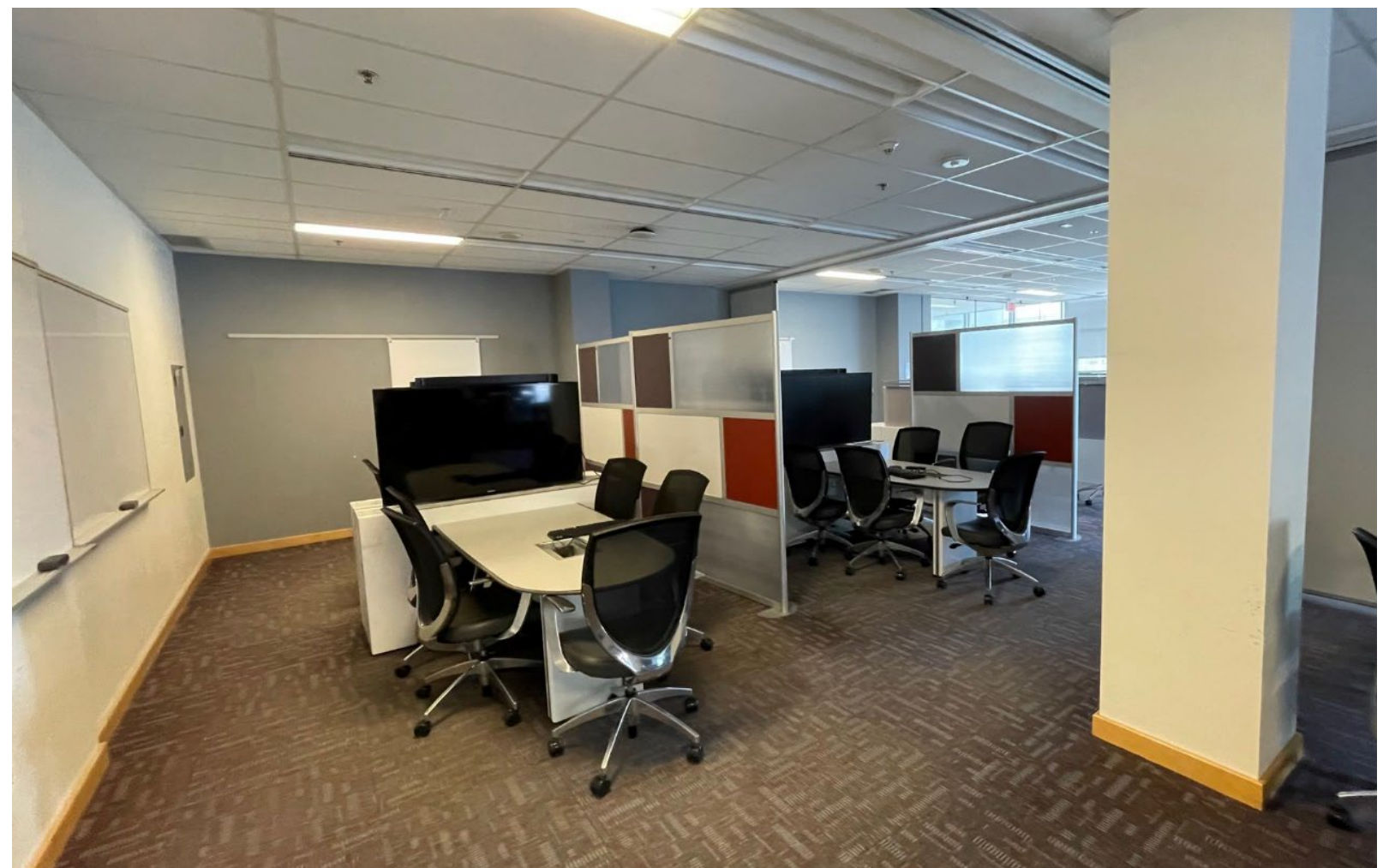
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The CAEN Lab in the Beyster Building is the College of Engineering's most visited computing and learning space on north campus. The goal for the renovation was to dramatically transform the outdated computer lab into an inclusive and accessible learning and studying environment that serves as a resource for all students with a particular emphasis on designing for neurodiversity.

At the onset of the project, the project team recognized the critical role research-based design would have on the outcome of the project. We relied on research and consultation with subject matter experts to guide the design. The team reviewed industry research and whitepapers and partnered with Haworth research specialists to deepen our understanding of the many variables to consider when designing for neurodiversity. We also met with a small group of students with neurodivergent conditions to gain perspective of their needs and the ways they interact with the physical environment. The students also reviewed several design iterations and provided meaningful feedback that was incorporated into the final design.

Thoughtful design consideration was given to a number of elements--visible, audible, olfactory, tactile, space legibility, and proprioception—all affecting the way users interact with and perceive the physical space. The furniture solutions encourage focused individual and small-group work to reduce opportunities for distraction. The furniture solutions provide a variety of options for posture and privacy--from small semi-enclosed booths--to individual height-adjustable workstations--to acoustic lounge chairs and privacy work pods—each type with wheelchair accessible options to provide an equitable experience. Zoned sound masking and furniture with sound absorptive properties help support the quiet environment. User control and adjustment of the environment was key. Height adjustable desks, task lamps, adjustable ergonomic seating, and dimmable lighting was provided. The old fluorescent lighting was replaced with dimmable LED fixtures, as fluorescent lighting can cause adverse effects for some neurodivergent conditions. Careful consideration was made to the color and texture of the furniture and architectural finishes such as paint and carpet. The space features quiet colors and soft, tactile and visual textures. Faux plants and colors found in nature help users feel calm further aiding in user comfort and well-being. The zoning of the furniture, wide aisles, and open sight lines aid with space legibility and security.

The resulting space has proven successful and is an exceptional environment for focus work for all users. What is good for some is good for all.



BEFORE

CAEN Lab Quiet Space



AFTER

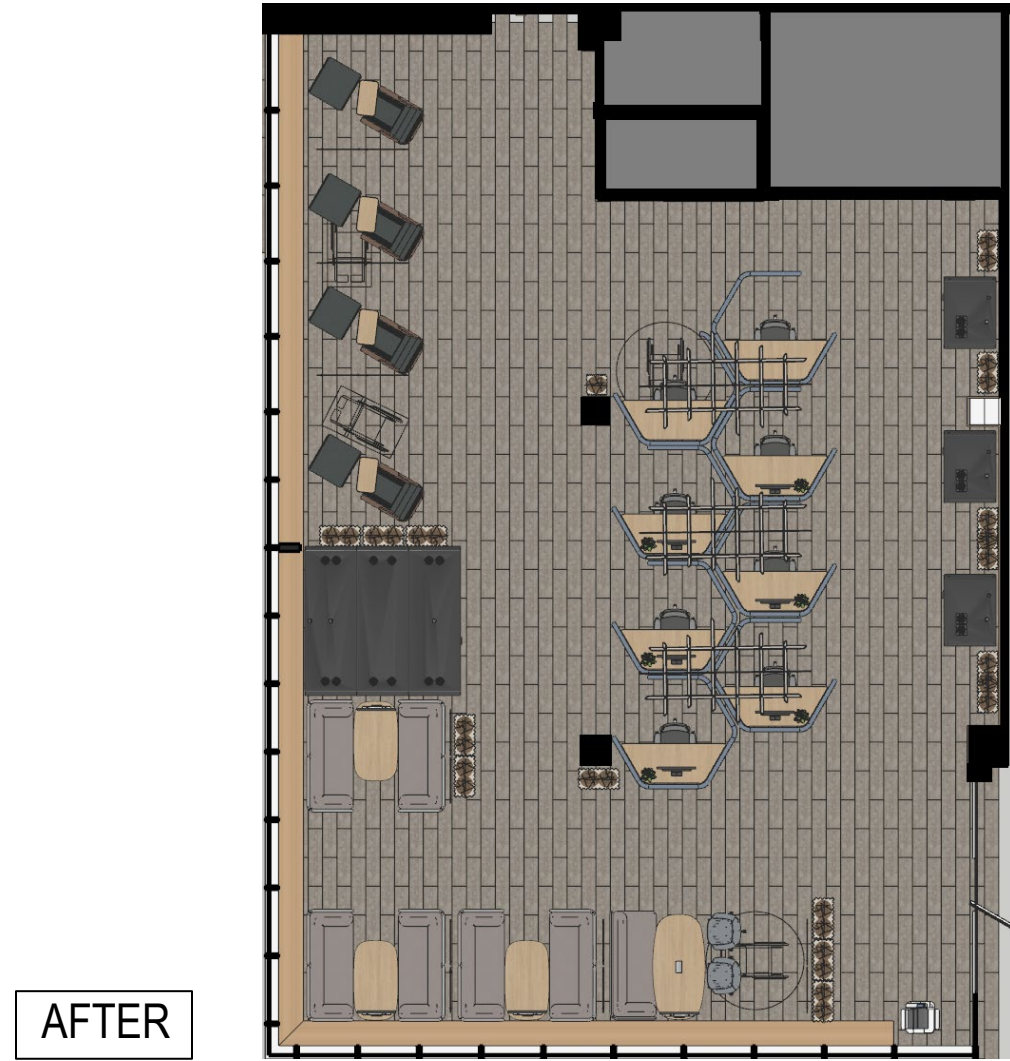
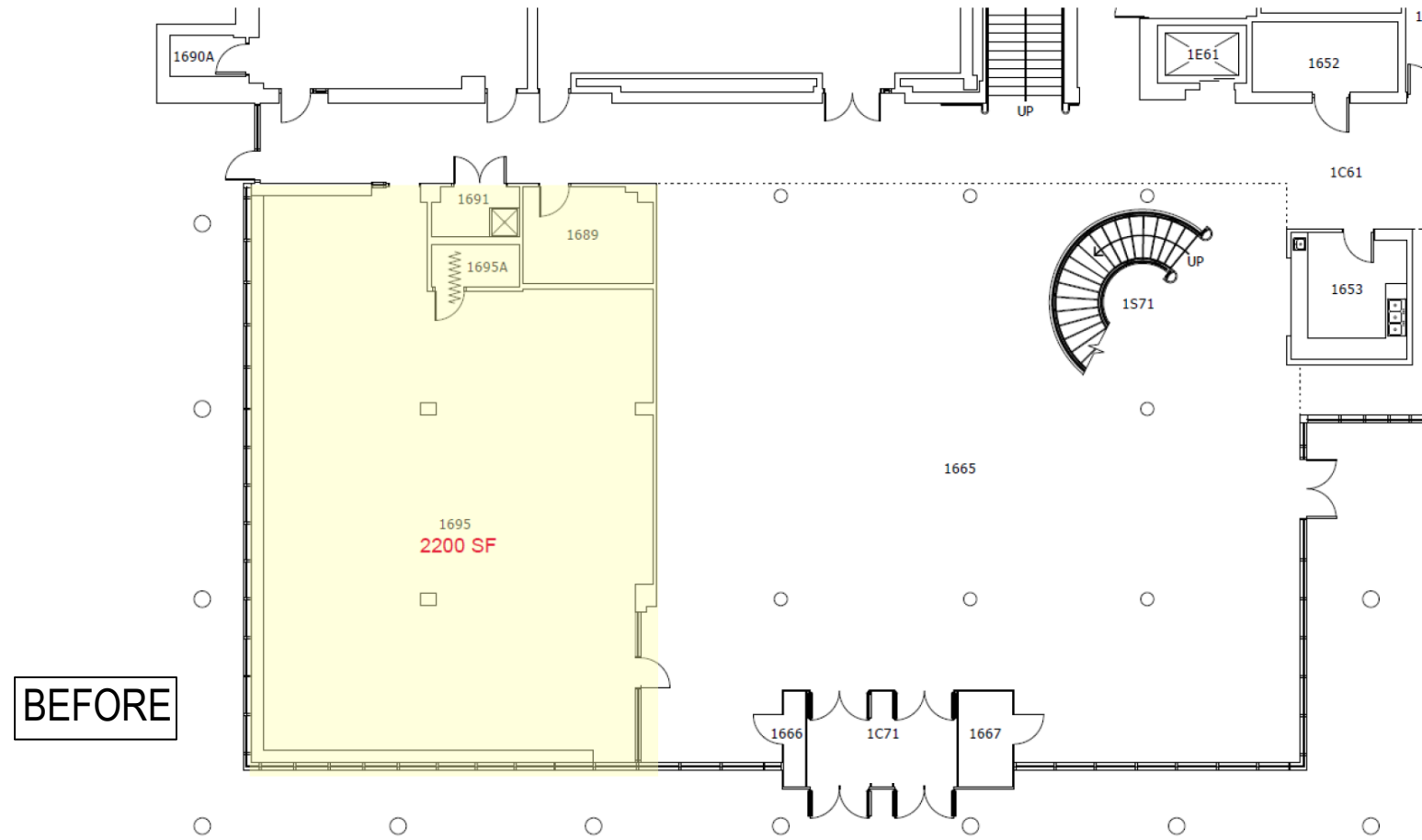
CAEN Lab Quiet Space

PORTION OF PROJECT DESIGNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- PROGRAMMING
- BUDGET PREPARATION
- BUDGET MANAGEMENT
- SPACE PLANNING FURNITURE LAYOUT
- FURNITURE SPECIFICATION
- FINISH SPECIFICATION
- WINDOW TREATMENT SPECIFICATION
- GENERAL LIGHTING SPECIFICATION
- WALL TREATMENT
- CEILING TREATMENT
- GENERAL SIGNAGE
- SPECIALTIES: CUSTOM DETAILS (LIST)

- ****FIRST ACOUSTIC PODS ON CAMPUS****
 - REQUIRED DETAILED CODE ANALYSIS AND CONSULTATION WITH A NUMBER OF DISCIPLINES WHEN DESIGNING THE ENCLOSED ACOUSTIC PODS IN ORDER TO MEET FIRE-SAFETY REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE UNIVERSITY FIRE-MARSHAL. INCLUDED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM DECIBEL TESTING AND PLACEMENT OF THE PODS TO BE WITHIN SIGHT LINES OF STROBES. ADJUSTMENT MADE TO SPRINKLER SYSTEM TO DROP SPRINKLER HEAD INTO LARGE POD.
- WORKED WITH AND COORDINATED OWN CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION SERVICES TEAM
- GUIDED REDESIGN OF LIGHT FIXTURES W/ ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
- DISCIPLINES & TRADES WORKED WITH:
 - MECHANICAL ENGINEER, ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, FIRE MARSHAL, IT DATA SPECIALIST, SOUND MASKING CONSULTANT, WINDOW COVERINGS PROVIDER, FURNITURE MANUFACTURER AND DEALERSHIPS

PROJECT COORDINATION AND REVIEW



CAEN Lab Quiet Space