Renovations and how ADA updates were addressed at an academic institution

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Land Acknowledgement

Today, the University of North Dakota rests on the ancestral lands of the Pembina and Red Lake Bands of Ojibwe and the Dakota Oyate - presently existing as composite parts of the Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, White Earth Bands, and the Dakota Tribes of Minnesota and North Dakota.

We acknowledge the people who resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Ojibwe and Oyate people permeates this land. As a university community, we will continue to build upon our relations with the First Nations of the State of North Dakota - the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Nation, Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

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Before the Reno

Pre-2018
- – Ripped carpet
- – Multiple service points
- – Students lost – couldn't find exits
- – No designated ADA / gender neutral bathrooms
- – Lighting was dark in the stacks
- – Lack of varied seating
- – Elevators

Renovation

- 2018-2021
  - Workspaces
  - Study rooms
  - UIT
  - Writing Center
  - AI/VR Lab
  - Knowledge Commons
  - Asbestos removal

Assessment

- Definition
- Walkthrough
- DSS
- White Paper

Definition

An umbrella term that encompasses both physical impairments in terms of activity and participation limitations as well as any negative experiences of someone that has a health condition, limiting one or more major life activities, currently or in the past, as well as anyone regarded as having such an impairment, or limited by environmental factors.

Teamwork makes the dream work

- Rebecca
  - Neurodiversity
  - Technical skills background
- Brittany
  - Fresh eyes to the project
  - Organizational skills
- Karlene
  - Visual
  - Auditory
  - Invisible disability

"Nothing about us without us"

– Kumbier & Starkey (2016)

ADA - Functionally Diverse

- Visual
- Mobility / Physical
- Neurodiverse
  - PTSD
  - ADHD
  - Autism
- Auditory
- Invisible

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ADA - Functionally Diverse

- Visual
- Mobility / Physical
- Invisible
- Neurodiverse
  - PTSD
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"We're all temporarily able bodied"

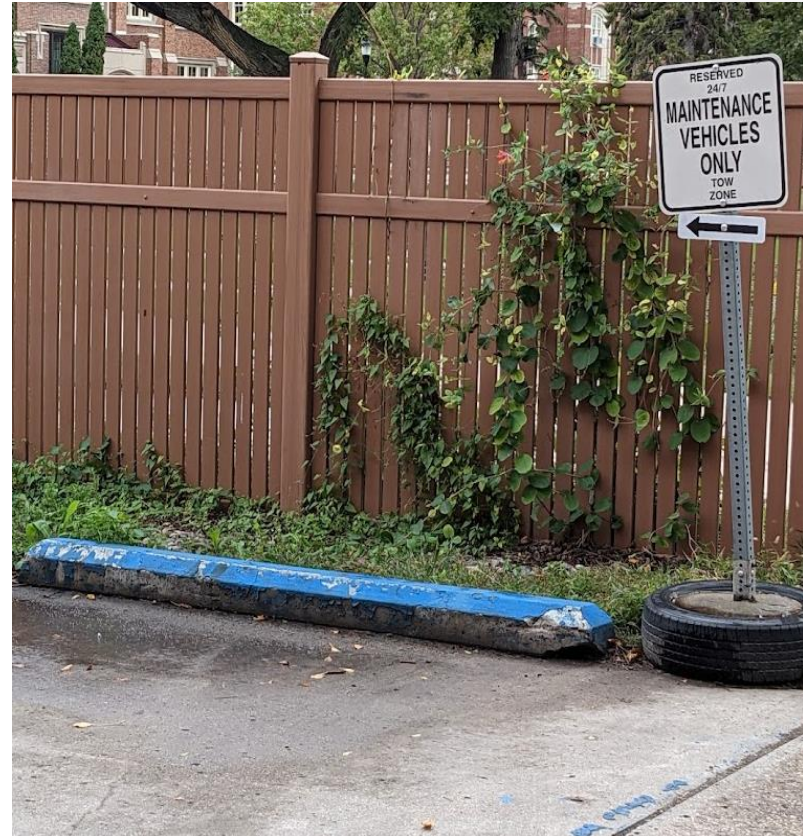**-Brown and Sheidlower, 2019**

ADA considerations

- 15% of world's population
- 64.2% of functionally diverse
- Self-identifying
- Exhaustion
- Passing

How ADA was assessed

- What was covered
  - Virtual services
  - Parking

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How ADA was assessed

- What was covered
  - Virtual services
  - Parking
  - Physical space
- Brought in university's Disability Support Services for a walkthrough

Updates

EDI in plans

Lighting

Wider shelving rows

ADA bathrooms

Elevator

Knowledge Commons
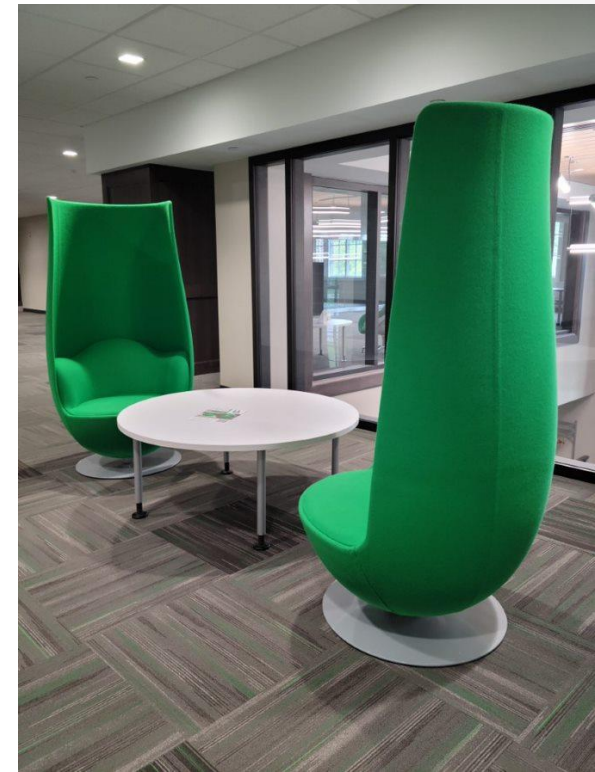
New study rooms with handles rather than doorknobs

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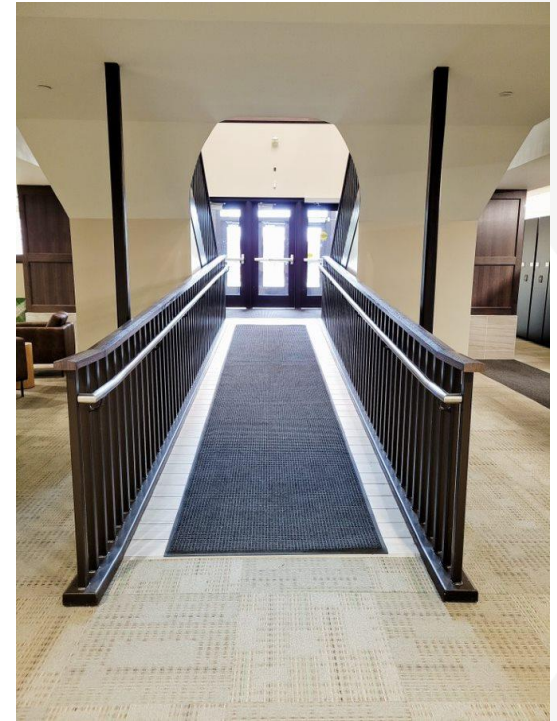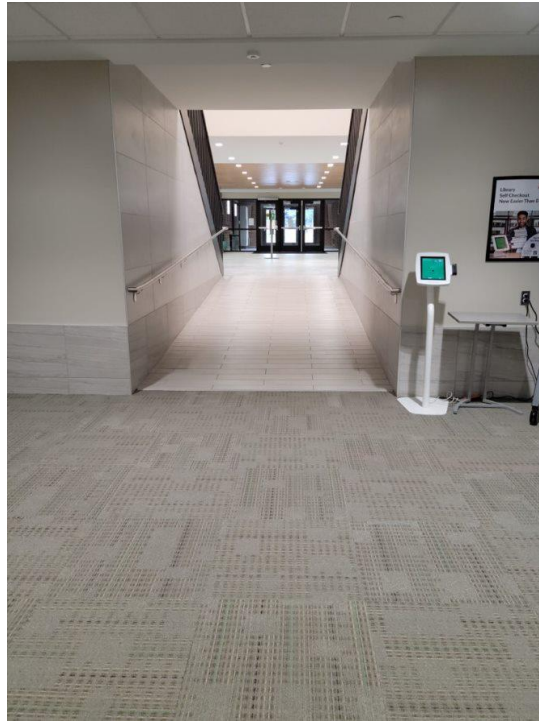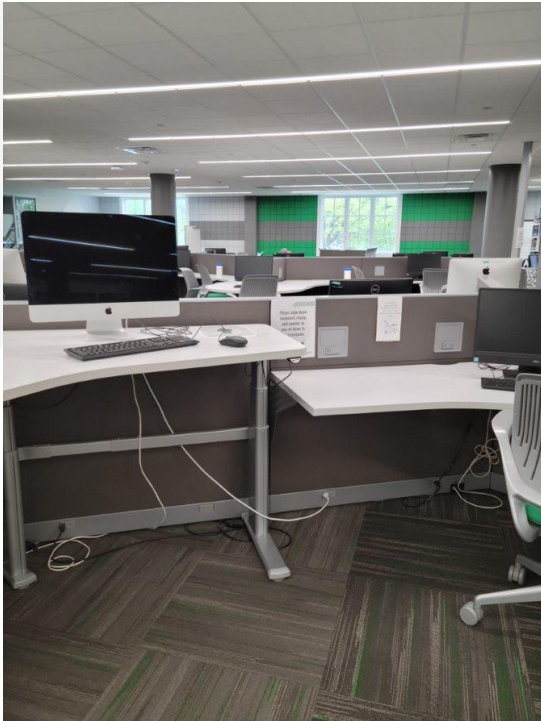
Study spaces & seating

Unisex bathroom, new water fountain

Sit/Stand patron desk & entrance ramps

Next Steps

Survey

Noise reduction for Knowledge Commons

Next Steps

- Survey

- Noise reduction for Knowledge Commons

- Cords across floor need covers

Next Steps

- Survey

- Noise reduction for Knowledge Commons

- Cords across floor need covers

- Compact shelving

Next Steps

1	2	3	4	5
Survey	Noise reduction for Knowledge Commons	Cords across floor need covers	Compact shelving	Wider UND problem parking and bathrooms

Universal Design

- "Always been that way"
- Ignored
- Powerless
- Risk and courage

Universal Design

"When we design things – spaces, technologies, educational platforms, - from the ground up with accessibility in mind rather than as an afterthought, we are including everyone and not just the normative 85% who can easily use whatever we are designing" (Pionke, 2017a).

Resources

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- CFL's ADMINISTRATION!

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