

Laboratory case study

Aberystwyth University Wales

Contractor
Timescale
Architect

J.W.G Evans & Sons
1 1/2 weeks on site
University of Aberystwyth

INNOVA
Education

Aberystwyth University offers exceptional learning and working environments and is well known for its postgraduate teaching and facilities. As part of their wider investment strategy, over half a million pounds was allocated in creating a new 21st century scientific laboratory for the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences.

The C66 Kidson room in the Llandinam building on Penglais Campus has been used as a teaching laboratory since the 1970s when it was converted from a former library.



Brief

Following a competitive tendering process, Innova Design Group, interior education specialists, were appointed to design, manufacture and install the furniture for the new cutting-edge laboratories.

An additional challenge of the project due to time constraint was term time working and keeping disruption to a minimum whilst the Geography department carried on with the teaching time table as normal, around the campus.

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From the onset we have been confident in Innova as a specialist laboratory supplier, specifically in higher education. With the short turnaround time scales to complete the project, working with a main contractor which isn't always easy and the project also being a live site, they met the challenge head on. We are extremely happy with end result and would highly recommend Innova.

Nia Jeremiah, Architect, University of Aberystwyth”

Carcase		Manufactured from 18mm MF MDF	Seating		Ergonomic stools and chairs
Worktops		Trespa and Toplab Base	Handles		Zinc alloy inset handles
Edging		ABS Colour matched edging	Hinge		240 ° pivot safety hinges



Solution

The new layout features both row of fixed benching and perimeter units and benching, housing sinks and electrical services for students to work in groups. Gas services are now located around the perimeter with plenty of storage to house specialist equipment and glassware. Additional storage has been incorporated at the back of the room as well as the alcoves, freeing up valuable bench space for practical and theory sessions instead of storing equipment. Student distractions are now minimised and more focused on their learning.

The c66 Kidson Laboratory has been transformed into an inspirational, flexible, multi-functional learning environment, which now accommodates more students, increases lecturing efficiencies and freedom to adapt to new teaching style, harnesses the latest multimedia technology, allows more modern methods for conducting experiments and recording data, greatly enhances the student learning experience in physical geography and earth and environmental sciences.

The initial reaction from staff and students has been fantastic, the staff didn't expect the room to be so spacious, the circulation works wonders, they love the furniture and the whole room has transformed the way the space can be utilised. Students are inspired and eager to study in the new laboratory – The end result is a real WOW factor!



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I really commend you for pulling it off and the attention to detail has been second to none.”

Nia Jeremiah, Architect, University of Aberystwyth

