GET TO KNOW US
What is the engage design lab

Launched and led by the University of Florida’s Interior Design Department, this initiative harnesses the resources of the College of Design, Construction and Planning and invites action research fostering sustained partnerships with practice and industry to develop design strategies and solutions that target specific needs while confronting larger societal concerns of select cohorts and special communities.
Who We Are

FACULTY & CORE CONTRIBUTORS

Margaret Portillo
Professor and Chair, Interim Associate Dean of Research in the College of Design, Construction & Planning

Portillo is a UF Research Foundation Professor who helped create the Engage Design Lab that employs a unique multimethods process to study holistic experiences within interior environments.

Candy Carmel-Gilfilen
Associate Chair, Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator

Carmel-Gilfilen engages in creative, interdisciplinary, collaborative work and projects with market leaders celebrating a commitment to evidence-based design.
Who We Are

FACULTY & CORE CONTRIBUTORS

Nam-Kyu Park, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator

Park’s research focuses on optimizing well-being, health, and human behavior through the design of the built environment. Her principal areas of research address the impact of lighting in interior environments and environmental design for special needs populations. She also examines cultural dimensions of the built environment defining environmental and social sustainability.

Jason Meneely
Associate Professor

Meneely's research explores strategies for enhancing creativity in individuals, teams, and organizations by investigating the collision of cognitive, social, and environmental factors. He also explores the use of technology and physical space to support active learning and is responsible for the design of numerous technology-infused collaborative learning environments on UF’s campus.
Who We Are

FACULTY & CORE CONTRIBUTORS

Sheila Bosch, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Dr. Bosch, previously having served as the Director of Research at Gresham, Smith and Partners, is a national thought leader regarding evidence-based design. Her research with UF’s Engage Design Lab is focused on improving occupants’ experiences in educational and healthcare environments.

Erin Cunningham
Associate Professor

Cunningham’s research focuses on the history and preservation of 19th and 20th Century interior spaces. Her research interests include: social settlement houses, vernacular architecture, and public housing interiors. Her current work also explores the development of a social welfare focus in the interior design profession, and the application of narrative methodology to the study of historic spaces. In both her research and teaching, Professor Cunningham explores interior spaces from a socio-historical perspective, concentrating on issues of race, gender and class.
Who We Are

FACULTY & CORE CONTRIBUTORS

Shabboo Valipoor
Assistant Professor

Valipoor’s research explores the ways of improving occupants’ physiological and psychological health and wellbeing. Her specific focus is on safety and care quality in healthcare facilities and environments for the elderly.

ENGAGE DESIGN LAB COORDINATOR

Elizabeth Calienes
Doctoral Student

Elizabeth Calienes is pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Florida, where she also completed her Master of Interior Design. She is spearheading the Interior Design Department’s Engage Design Lab initiative. Calienes has worked professionally in the fields of shopper marketing, advertising, graphic design and film.
Who We Are

PRO TEM CONTRIBUTORS

Doctoral Students

Lesa Lorusso
Beth McGee
Julie Emminger

Min-Kyoung Kim
Jae hwa Lee
Daejin Kim

Master Student
Maria Sanchez
Engage Design focuses on using design to generate new knowledge and innovative solutions to address pressing social issues. Needs are identified by individuals, public agencies, private organizations, non-profit groups, and educational institutions who are willing to collaborate and participate in an inclusive process and iterative cycle of design thinking involving stakeholder engagement, design development, implementation and assessment.
The **Engage Design Lab** serves as a conduit for the application of theory and research to solve real-world problems that face people. We aim to support all people with a range of physical and cognitive capacities and define the spectrum of “end users” as including those with a range of abilities and needs (e.g., dementia, autism, ADHD etc.) who could be better served by design.

- **Healthcare Environments**  
  (e.g., patients, families, caregivers, and staff from facility management to maintenance)

- **Learning Environments**  
  (e.g., students, teachers, administrators as well as parent volunteers and visiting collaborators).
Guiding Principles

All research, projects and activities reflect the following *guiding principles*:

**INCLUSIVE** Creating inclusive environments that support the diverse make-up of campus, local, national and global communities. Special emphasis is placed on designing to optimize healthcare and educational outcomes for all types of people.

**INNOVATIVE** Advancing and testing imaginative solutions using design thinking and creative problem-solving strategies, methods and technologies applying a human-centered research process to envision, study and/or evaluate cutting-edge interior spaces within the built environment.

**CULTIVATING CHANGE** Integrating high-level research methods and assessment practices to create schematic design solutions, test and refine these solutions and assess environments to optimize individual, community or organizational functioning.

**AWARENESS & ACTION** Raising public awareness of the critical role design plays in improving people’s lives—specifically in the areas of healthcare and education—through multi-media dissemination.

**CONSERVATION** Employing sustainable design practices by thoughtfully reducing the environmental “footprint” of the spaces and prioritizing, when appropriate, the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and environments.
Our advantage

Key benefits of UF Engage Design Lab

- Access to multiple hospitals within a 5 mile radius with a total of 1764 beds
- Ability to conduct research with a large community of over 50,000 higher education students

**Graduate Students**
- Advancing the body of knowledge
- Publishing & presenting at conferences

**Undergraduate Students**
- Testing prototypes
- Fresh and diverse approach to design

**Our Faculty**
OUR PROCESS
How we approach each project

FERN

- Feed
- Evolve
- Reveal
- Narrate
How we approach each project

**FERN**

- **Feed:** input from literature, stakeholders, observations, primary data collection
- **Evolve:** preliminary studies, pilot testing, in-depth data collection, stakeholder engagement
- **Reveal:** execution building upon research outcomes
- **Narrate:** share and bring our findings to life (publishing, presenting, among others)
FEED & EVOLVE: Data Collection Methods

- Intercept interviews
- Observations & Site Analysis
- Visual Surveys capture first person experiences using graphic imagery or integration of new and emerging technologies (e.g., virtual reality)
  - VR – Panoramic pov
  - Mobile missions
FEED & EVOLVE: Narrative Analysis

WHITNEY’S EXPERIENCE  ENT Patient

“You won’t always have someone to make your appointment for you or keep you company, but being by yourself in a clinic doesn’t have to feel lonely.”

“Typically, I use the kiosk to check in since the front desk can get crowded during the lunch hour but it’s still nice to have someone at the desk to welcome you, especially a familiar face. I’ve found the Resource Hub is my closest hub to the ENT Pad while I’m waiting for the text telling me my doctor is ready to see me.”

JACK’S EXPERIENCE  Cardiac Patient

“Here is waiting room! I asked with a smile at her face, she nodded and pointed me and reminded me to check out the Ed-Ea Share tablet in the exam room on my next visit where I could use more resources like the one from baby and sign up for cooking classes in the near future.”

“Even though my appointment had made me discouraged, finding healthy food options made me feel like I was going in the right direction.”

MARIANNA’S EXPERIENCE  Nurse

“in your clinic I’ve noticed the staff seems more like an afterthought, but having this staff area is always busy. I feel that having a well thought out space for our staff makes me feel more appreciated as a professional in a high-stress field.”

“Each simple moment to decompress can make such a difference in my day. I feel happier and more ready to face the care I give to my patients.”

Perspectives from patients & caregivers
OUR WORK
From Learning Commons to Learning Communities
EDL & The Agency awarded a National ASID grant
A multi-case study will be conducted to better understand mixed-use learning zones that blur the boundaries between commons and classrooms to support diverse stakeholder needs (students, instructors, and staff) while encouraging informal social collision and catalytic learning interactions at all scales. The evidence-based design guidelines developed from this research will help educators and designers successfully implement these spaces in practice.
DCP And The Agency Win A Competitive $70k Grant From ASID - Published On May 26, 2016

The University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning (DCP) and The Agency, housed within the UF College of Journalism and Communications, were awarded $70,000 from the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) to investigate an emerging typology of educational space, the mixed-use learning zone that engages millennial generations of students outside the standard classroom model.

“We’re taking active learning to the next level,” said Sheila Bosch, interior design assistant professor and the principal investigator of the project. “Engaging millennial and subsequent generations of students demands that we look outside the classroom box. Moving beyond traditional classroom-centric research, we will study how learning happens in the ‘in-between’ spaces, where more collaborative and less formal learning occurs.”

This national study will use a mixed methods research approach, including case studies that integrate behavioral mapping with student and teacher first-person narratives of their experience within mixed-use learning zones that straddle study commons and classroom settings to support diverse needs, student engagement and informal social interaction.

“In much the same way that mixed-use planning can activate urban centers, mixed-use learning zones create synergistic adjacencies and blended spaces that keep the learning environment multi-modal, active and vibrant,” said Jason Meneeley, interior design associate professor.

The Agency, a team that conducts millennial generation research, brings Navy to the table – a virtual community of millennials that is representative of the population being studied.

This will be the first external grant for the Engage Design Lab, an initiative led by UF’s Department of Interior Design that invites other disciplines to develop design-based programs and projects that help solve a specific need while confronting the larger societal concerns surrounding healthcare and education. The project team also includes Margaret Portillo, DCP Interim associate dean of research and graduate studies, Candy Carmel-Giffen, associate chair of interior design, and Andy Hopson, The Agency’s executive director.

“The Millennial generation is creating a shift in the field of education and it is our mission as researchers, educators and designers to develop actionable guidelines that address their learning styles,” said Elizabeth Callines, Engage Design Lab coordinator and Ph.D. student. “We are honored to receive the 2016 ASID Transform Grant and cannot think of a better way to kick-off our Engage Design Lab Initiative.”
“We’re taking active learning to the next level,” said Sheila Bosch, interior design assistant professor and the principal investigator of the project. “Engaging millennial and subsequent generations of students demands that we look outside the classroom box. Moving beyond traditional classroom-centric research, we will study how learning happens in the ‘in-between’ spaces, where more collaborative and less formal learning occurs.”
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“The Millennial generation is creating a shift in the field of education and it is our mission as researchers, educators and designers to develop actionable guidelines that address their learning styles,” said Elizabeth Calienes, Engage Design Lab coordinator and Ph.D. student. “We are honored to receive the 2016 ASID Transform Grant and cannot think of a better way to kick-off our Engage Design Lab initiative.”
Case Identification
University IRB

Data Collection & Data Analysis
- Potential Case Identification
  (3D Virtual Tour & Survey Development)
- National Online Sample Survey
- Case Selection
- Behavior Mapping
- Narrative Inquiry

Development of Deliverables

2016
May 1 to Jun 1
Jun 1 to 15
June 15 to December 15
Sep 15 to Nov 15

Dissemination
Jan 18 Jason presenting at DCP Research Seminar Series
Jan 25 Maria presenting poster at DCP Research Symposium
Jan 26 Sheila presenting at DCP Research Symposium

2017
April 15 to August 15
FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG

TIMELINE
FEED & EVOLVE: Case Selection

Heavener Hall – Undergraduate Business
FEED & EVOLVE: Case Selection

AHA Lab - Journalism
FEED & EVOLVE: Case Selection

Hough Hall – Graduate Business
FEED & EVOLVE: Case Selection

Marston Science Library
To improve the overall faculty, student and visitor experience, the College is planning to update* some of the facilities. How important is this initiative to you?

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**FEED: Facilities Survey to Students, Faculty & Staff**

What is your affiliation with the Levin College of Law?

- student
- staff
- faculty

How long have you been at the College?

- less than 1 year
- 2 - 5 years
- 6 - 9 years
- More than 10 years

To improve the overall faculty, student and visitor experience, the College is planning to update* some of the facilities. How important is this initiative to you?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important

Of the spaces identified below, which do you believe are priorities?

- Student Center
- Bailey Court Room
- Faculty Dining Rooms
- Holland Hall 2nd Floor
- Classrooms 6, rooms 270

Please drag and drop the items in order of priority. Please place the item labeled 1 in the list, the item labeled 2 in the list, and so on. Please indicate any other comments you would like to share.

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Please tell us the reason for your Priority #1:

Please tell us the reason for your Priority #2:

Please tell us the reason for your Priority #3:

Please write in any spaces (not included above) that you feel need attention:

Please drag and drop in order of priority, which types of space utilization you would like to see improved or increased at the College?

- eating
- meeting
- studying
- socializing
- other

Any other comments you would like to share:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Answer</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Extremely important</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Very important</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Moderately important</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Slightly important</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Not at all important</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What space utilization would you like to see improved or increased at the College?

- Studying: 26%
- Eating: 40%
- Meeting: 16%
- Socializing: 7%
- Other: 11%

Of the spaces identified below, which do you believe are priority?

- Student Cafeteria: 28%
- Bailey Court Room: 22%
- Holland Hall 3rd Floor Hallways: 17%
- Faculty Dining Room: 11%
- Classrooms: 22%
Color Theory Webinar

Department of Interior Design presents
Jada Schumacher, Associate Professor at Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) who will be presenting on color in branding and environmental graphics.

WHEN
Monday, Feb. 22
1:30 pm to 2:30pm
WHERE
ARCH 411

Jada Schumacher is the founding director of the design company Design Orange and an associate professor of Communication Design at FIT (NYC). She has a MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art and a Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin.

open to all DCP students
REVEAL: Color Study Booklets & Idea Boxes

Cool & Calm Tone Color Palette

Warm, Earth Tones Color Palette

Neutrals with Saturated Color Palette
"WE SHAPE OUR BUILDINGS; THEREAFTER, THEY SHAPE US."

~WINSTON CHURCHILL

INTRODUCTION

This booklet is dedicated to the exploration of the cool and calm tones palette, as it would apply to the University of Florida Levin College of Law. This palette is an appropriate choice for an educational setting as it promotes a relaxed and airy atmosphere, allowing students to study in a space that will facilitate concentration and focus.

Cool and calm tones are derived from Scandinavian design, which is currently inspiring many interior spaces throughout the United States. In this booklet, examples of Scandinavian-inspired corporate offices and restaurants are included to showcase the character of this style. In addition to the clean and modern aesthetic, Scandinavian design also brings in subtle pops of cool colors, light tones of wood, and natural textures. This palette can also be found in natural settings, such as the beach and the tundra.

These images serve as inspiration for the cool and calm tones palette. Scandinavian interiors, natural settings, and soft textures all reveal the aesthetic and mood that this color palette can evoke.
PRECEDEENTS

University of California Berkeley Law School

The Berkeley Law School of the University of California was designed by Ratcliff Architects in an effort to provide an innovative and modern environment for students and faculty to learn and teach. The building is equipped with comfortable and collaborative seating areas to enhance group work experience. In addition, the Berkeley Law School has an open atrium, allowing plenty of sunlight to naturally illuminate the interior space. The architects and designers also considered the environmental impact, which led to the addition of a green roof. The color palette of the Berkeley Law School is natural, fresh, and neutral with a pop of the school’s colors, blue and gold. Lastly, the school uses various wood species within the same space to balance out the coolness of the glass and concrete surfaces.

University of Baltimore School of Law

Behnisch Architecture and Ayers Saint Gross designed the Law Center of the University of Baltimore. For the first time in the university’s history, this new structure unites learning spaces, faculty offices, graduate offices, administrative spaces, and a law library in the same building. As a result, law students can feel part of a unified community of law practitioners and educators. The new building consists of three wings, which are all connected by a central atrium. The introduction of natural light, interesting shapes, and bright pops of colors all come together to create an enjoyable and energetic setting for collaborating. The color palette of this design is fresh, bringing in bright oranges and greens, in general, the interior spaces are clean and white, which closely resemble the aesthetic of the cool and calm tones palette. In this case, the neutral background allows the colors to stand out and add interest.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

Technology in UF Education Spaces

One does not need to look too far from our campus to find great examples of educational settings. Some departments of the University of Florida have implemented new forms of technology to facilitate learning. One example is The Agency from the College of Journalism and Communications, which provides furniture with built-in technological features, such as outlets and USB ports. Also, Heaney Hall has large flat-screen televisions mounted on large branding walls which communicate the mission and upcoming events of the university school. Lastly, the George T. Harrell, M.D., medical education building has large 360 degrees projection screens that allow students to view class presentations regardless of their location. Additional spaces in UF that are worth visiting are Martin Science Library and Pugh Hall, which have study rooms that can be reserved for private or group sessions.

After visiting the UF Levin College of Law, the process of integrating the cool and calm tones palette into the existing space began. A future renovation of the campus will require careful selection of colors and textures. The next section will provide insight on strategies to successfully accomplish this. We hope you consider these recommendations and enjoy our creative suggestions!
Strategies & Materials

Before jumping into renovation, it is important to first establish how the space should look and feel. This is very dependent on the types of materials chosen and how these are implemented. Below are some general suggestions to consider when designing a space in the cool and calm tones palette:

WOODS: Warm the space up with the incorporation of varying light wood species.

FABRIC: Introduce upholstery that is appropriate for the wear & tear of educational settings.

TONES: It is important to add various tones into a space with this palette in order to keep it interesting.

TEXTURES: Add textures on walls and ceilings to soften the space.

SURFACES: Utilizing surfaces such as brushed metal and concrete add a refined look.

REFLECTIVE: Allow light to bounce in the interior space by adding reflective surfaces.

Integration

There are many challenges that come to successfully balancing the cool & calm color palette without having the space look boring. As depicted in these images, interesting textures, varied tones, and a play between materials allow the cool and calm palette to create an inviting space.

1. The subway tiles of this column add texture to the space.

2. Two different species of woods are introduced in a balanced manner.

3. Reflective surfaces can be as simple as glass on stair railings, which allow light to bounce.

4. To stay consistent with the cool & calm color palette, limit the use of color to only a few special objects.

5. Notice how this floor has two tones of grey, which adds interest and divides up the space.

6. The floor of this university atrium is most likely concrete tile, which is a refined-looking surface.

7. This university atrium most likely receives a lot of traffic throughout the day, which is why high-performance fabric is necessary.
Student Space Design

Classrooms are not the only spaces within a university where students learn. It is important for other places like cafeterias, libraries, and corridors to provide a comfortable workplace for students to study and collaborate. Below is a comparison between the existing law school and exemplary college spaces:

The student cafeteria functions well, but does not provide enough options for seating or ergonomic furniture.

The example not only has the cool & calm color palette, but also provides students with various seating options.

Public student workspace should have sufficient light and group seating options.

The this group set-up, which is in the new medical education building, makes information sharing easy.

Corridor & Faculty Lounge Design

Finding one’s way to class or a professor’s office can be a much less stressful experience with clear and easy-to-find signage. In addition, long corridors can become less monotonous with an interesting use of materiality. Like students, the faculty needs workplaces that are flexible and comfortable as shown below:

The faculty conference room may benefit from lighter chairs, an updated look, & furniture with integrated technology.

This conference room has a refined look that allow users to focus and collaborate comfortably.

Long white corridors are sometimes monotonous and easy to get lost in.

Corridors with creative signage and varying materiality provide a pleasant experience.
CONCLUSION

When selecting a color palette for an educational setting, it is important to consider how this decision will affect the performance of students and faculty. With the cool and calm tones palette, users can focus in an inviting and soothing space. In addition to this, the Levin College of Law would benefit from other recommendations, which are outlined below:

- Update technology to facilitate learning and information sharing.
- Add branding walls to communicate the mission/culture of the program, which will inform guests and attract new students.
- Adopt successful innovative strategies from other universities and UF departments for student/faculty spaces.
- Select materials appropriate for educational settings that work well with the cool & calm color palette.
- Integrate materials & colors in a balanced manner to avoid a distracting environment.
- Add interest to the corridors through color & materials.
- Clear & easy-to-find signage will enhance user experience.
- Natural light enhances focus and learning, which is vital in student and faculty spaces.
FEED: Cafeteria interviews, observations & behavioral mapping
FEED: Cafeteria interviews, observations & behavioral mapping
NARRATE: Cafeteria Re-Design Presentations
NARRATE: Cafeteria Re-Design Presentations

"It would be nice if there were two cashiers in the cafeteria instead of one because the line at lunchtime gets really long and it’s really slow."
FEED & EVOLVE: Surveys to evaluate design solutions
EVOLVE: Cafeteria Re-Design posters & on site interviews
EVOLVE & REVEAL: Little Hall Renovations

ID5 | Rendered Perspectives
Our partners
UF Projects

- CLAS: Biology & Psychology
- School of Art + Art History
- Gator Boosters
- Marston Library
- Honors Program (Faculty)
- Rinker (Social Spaces)
- Harn Museum (Retail)
- Museum of Natural History
- Baby Gator
- College of Engineering
Community Projects

- Firestone Building
- CADE Museum
- Governor’s House
- La Hacienda Hotel (Adaptive Reuse)
Thank you

For more information contact:

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Engage Design Lab Coordinator

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156 Architecture Building
T. 352-294-1430