Guide to the Refurbished Rooms at Ramphal

The refurbishment of the Ramphal teaching spaces has been informed throughout by an awareness of the relationship of space to pedagogy. Following extensive research and consultation with stakeholders, the brief to create physically and metaphorically 'open' spaces, in which student-centred learning can flourish, has been balanced by an acknowledgement that much excellent teaching around the University takes place in 'standard' room layouts. For these reasons the lecterns have been removed, and the re-designed spaces make it possible – using the light and easily stackable furniture, advanced technical specs, and easily stored AV equipment – to transform the rooms very easily into a multitude of configurations from 'exam' conditions to completely open. The spaces will accommodate in this way the widest possible choice of potential teaching and learning scenarios.

Each of the rooms have been refurbished with sustainability in mind, and each features the following:
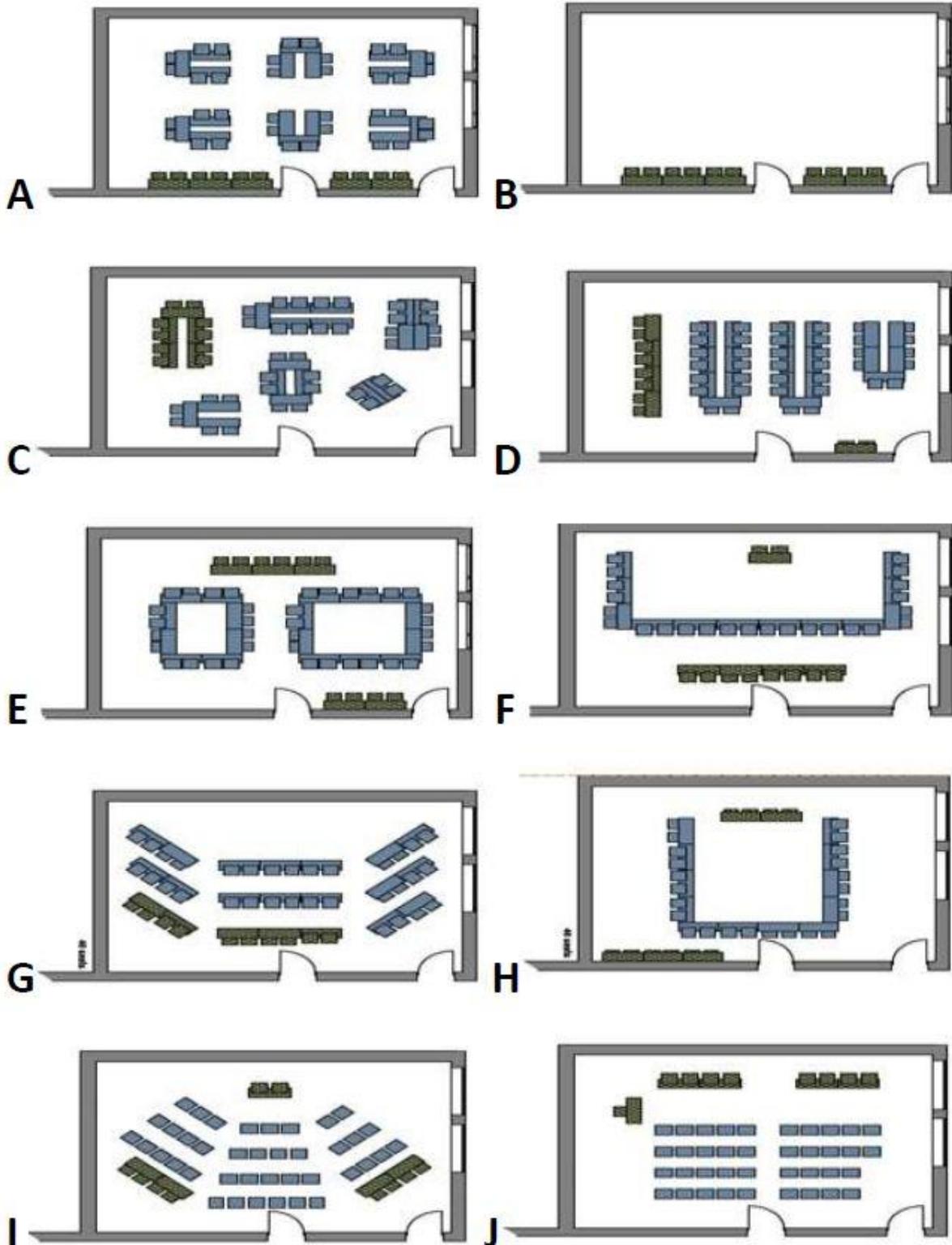
- Upgraded acoustics, including underlay, and acoustic dampers
- Upgraded lighting
- Light and manageable furniture
- Windows placed in internal walls to increase natural light
- Natural ventilation: on environmental grounds it was decided not to install a mechanical ventilation system, so a natural system has been fitted in which air circulates through the teaching rooms via vents in the atrium ceiling

In addition, one of the rooms on the ground floor has been designated as an 'international portal' and has additional video-conferencing technology that will permit a variety of collaborative teaching and learning activities with our partner universities overseas.

AV PROBLEMS? Call: 22463

Suggested Layouts

The rooms can be easily and quickly configured. Surplus tables are stored out of sight behind the timber doors, and chairs stacked at the side of the room. The following are some layout ideas:

Room Specifications

1. A typical classroom (0.03, 0.04, 0.14, 1.01, 1.03, 1.04, 1.13, 1.15) has:

   - New floor finishes
   - Repainted walls
   - Acoustic ceiling panels with integrated lighting and speakers
   - Storage unit for furniture and AV equipment
   - Manually-operated ventilation grilles to windows
   - Wall-mounted glass writing board, black and white
   - Stackable tables and chairs
   - New signage to outside of the room
   - New internal windows with integrated blinds in selected rooms
   - Dual 1080p high definition projectors.
   - Simple to use touch screen control system with ability to display multiple inputs on both screens
   - Document visualizers
   - AV designed to support multiple room layouts operable from multiple locations in the room

2. The International Portal (0.12) will have the same specifications as the standard teaching rooms PLUS:

   - High definition video conferencing system which will allow users to connect to multiple room based VC systems, laptops and mobile devices.
   - Facility to record video conferences.
   - Facility to stream live video conferences to remote audiences.
   - Smart board

All fully supported by AV Services.

AV Specifications

All rooms

- Twin high definition 1080p projectors with independent switching to allow users to display multiple inputs across both screens.
- Picture in picture functionality to allow multiple images on a single screen.
- High resolution document cameras.
- DVD/VHS.
- Fixed PC.
- VGA and HDMI input for laptops and other portable devices.
- Motion sensing control panel which is turned on when users approach the teaching hub.
- All rooms are connected to a remote AV management tool which notifies AVS if the control system or projector should fail.
- iPad control will be implemented by the end of the year and will allow iPad users to take control of the AV system from anywhere in the room.
- Digitally controlled audio system.
- Lavaliere microphones with desk mounted charging stations.
- ENERGY STAR qualified audio amplifiers that conserve energy and reduce running costs.
- DDA compliant phased array induction loop systems for students with hearing impairments.

Video Portal

- High Definition video conferencing equipment which can connect to both mobile and room based VC systems, including iPads.
- Smartboard – Users can annotate over the PC input and broadcast to a remote site during a video conference.
- The video portal can connect to 4 sites simultaneously and also has the ability to record video and audio from all sites.
- Multiple cameras to capture large groups.
- Live video conferences can be displayed on the 65" signage screen in the atrium.