Project brief:

The purpose of the project was to refurbish the basement in the north part of the Central Library building to host the newly born Imperial Enterprise Lab. A flexible multi-user facility, with state-of-the-art audio-visual display systems and extended after-hours access for students.

Accommodation in the basement consists of a reception area, flexible work area that can be used in various informal and formal configurations, office facilities for the director and members of staff, including kitchen area, storage, phone booth and boardroom. Outside the facility, but still at basement level, a new DDA toilet has been provided, together with additional storage and a small cleaner's cupboard.

The lift was upgraded to serve as a DDA compliant evacuation lift in the event of a fire, with a secondary escape route provided to the existing stairs at the south of the area where a new refuge has been implemented. A new route has been created via the Sherfield building at level 2 to the existing stairs and lift. The route way has incorporated signage and electronic access doors for mobility-impaired visitors. Externally the stairs in the evacuation route at the back of the library have been replaced by a ramp.

For further details on the Enterprise Lab, refer to: http://www.imperial.ac.uk/enterprise/enterprise-lab/

Project review

The Imperial Enterprise Lab's mission will be to maximise the impact of our dynamic enterprising culture in which every student has the opportunity to develop the contemporary knowledge, skills and experience to translate their ideas into action—through innovation in organisations they join or entrepreneurship in organisations they create. The new central facility and university-wide service will play a key role driving the strategic development of the College's entrepreneurial ecosystem and delivering the world class enterprise objectives of the university's 2015-2020 strategy.

Ultimately, this project will contribute to our overall success in bringing staff and students from all disciplines together with Imperial's global community of alumni and friends, partners and business—stimulating and supporting the development of the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs.

Bruno F. V. Cotta, Founding Director, Imperial Enterprise Lab. http://www.imperial.ac.uk/people/b.cotta

Project facts:

Project Manager: Francisco Villegas Ruiz, Estates Development & Projects
Senior Supplier: Bruna Santandrea, Estates Development & Projects
Construction cost: £1,664,000
Stage 0 to Stage 6 duration: January—October 2016

For further information please contact Estates Development & Projects edp.information@imperial.ac.uk