

Villanova University: School of Law
Villanova, PA

Technical Report 1: *Executive Summary* Date: October 5, 2007

The following report analyses and critiques the existing lighting design of the Villanova University: School of Law. The report below analyses in detail four spaces in the law school as well as gives a general analysis of the lighting design of the building as a whole. The report analyses the luminaires, ballasts, lamps, and other equipment that was involved in the initial design. Design criteria were established for the four individual spaces that will be redesigned at a later date. The four spaces that were looked at in depth were: a 135-seat classroom located on the first floor, a moot courtroom located on the second floor, a double high atrium space with a glass wall facing the courtyard which is the fourth space that will be redesigned.

Each space has multiple uses and the design criteria were based around that. Some of the most important criteria that were present in most spaces were flexibility and control, appearance of space, color appearance and surface characteristics. Others were also considered on a more individual basis. In the days of LEED and the concern for reducing a building's negative environmental impact, controls stood out as one of the most important criteria for the design.

In general, the design criteria laid out were met in each space that was analyzed. The one area that could have been pursued further was the amount of flexibility in the spaces. Flexibility and controls is an issue that could always be taken further. The more flexible the space, the more usages and better performance users can get out of a space. As a whole, the lighting design was very good. A law school must uphold the traditions of excellence and prestige that goes hand in hand with the legal institution in America, and I believe that the current lighting design does that quite well.

The last of the analysis was the verification that the spaces meet the ASHRAE 90.1 standard for power density. Each space was successfully designed to meet that criterion. Some spaces even had room to add more power to the space and perhaps improve upon the current lighting design.

This is a great architectural design and it leaves the lighting designer with the fun and challenging task of finding a way to allow that terrific architecture to be brought to the forefront and portray the excellence that an institution such as this deserves.