



1 Angus Tait Building Entrance 2 The Office – Aspect 2 3 Old Portals 4 Underfloor Heating 5 Original Stained Glass Feature Wall

## University of Canterbury Angus Tait Building

**Project Location:** Christchurch

**GHD for University of Canterbury**

**Disciplines:** Project-Management



GHD provided Project Management services for \$4.6M refurbishment of the original 1960's communications centre at the University of Canterbury. The 'Angus Tait' Building conversion project, successfully completed within an operational technology facility, is the first of its kind in New Zealand. The refurbishment included the incorporation of safety, design and operational risk mitigation measures to enable the physical refurbishment, seismic strengthening and digital transformation of this iconic campus building, which remained fully operational during the disruptive, challenging post-earthquake period.

Critical success factors included maintaining 100% operation of the Campus wide communications network without disruption, while removing the entire building roof, underpinning foundations, providing additional shear walls and re-casting floors to provide modern, innovative, sustainable and aesthetic engineering and architectural solutions.

Project deliverables included:

- working with multiple stakeholders to assess Campus wide IT communications risks, operational dependencies and drivers, culminating in the Business Case for improved Data Housing accommodation;
- Consulting with internal UC specialists to develop risk mitigation, enabling works and detailed design migration plans for communications services;
- Integrating centralised, fully synchronised high voltage Campus power generation to provide resilient data and power services;
- Providing fully redundant, sustainable cooling infrastructure to optimise electricity consumption and lower the building's operational risk profile;
- To address seismic performance, the building was strengthened to meet 120% NBS code on the ground floor and 100% on the upper floor, while key services in the building remained operational.

### Judging & Copyright Statement

This project is a Finalist entry in the 2016 INNOVATE NZ Awards of Excellence competition. The winners will be announced on Friday 2 September, 2016.

Images and text remain copyright of ACENZ and the consultant firm entering the project. Users are asked to give credit to the photographer where this is specified. ACENZ and INNOVATE NZ are trademarks of the Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand.