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CS465
Homework 1
There are two doors that lead to room 216. On one door (left picture), there is no door handle and people cannot actually enter the room through the door. The actual entrance to the room is shown in the picture on the right. I had to go through another door in a different part of the building in order reach this entrance. This entrance is much more hidden, and was difficult for me to find the first time I was trying to locate the room. I feel that it is misleading to not have a handle on the door in the left picture. I feel that it indicates that no one has access to room 216. It would be very helpful to simply have a note on the door that directs people to the actual entrance to room 216.
This object appears on many of the desks in Siebel Center. It is not obvious to people that they can lift it up and find power outlets in this object. It took me a few months to realize what exactly it is. I might be helpful to have a simple sticker or marking on the object that indicates that it is a power source.
Most of the I-card readers in Siebel Center are attached to the door and are right on top of or directly next to the door handle. This card reader, on the other hand, is off to the right side, and not black like the other readers in the building. Also, the color of the reader makes it blend into the wall. It might take people a while to notice that the reader is off to the side. They may expect it to be fastened onto the door.
To open this door, people need to pull the door. Most doors have a vertical handle to indicate that people should pull to open the door. However, these door handles are horizontal. This might be confusing to people, because it indicates that people should push, but they actually need to pull to open the door.
In this setup, there are multiple screens and keyboards, and it is hard to figure out which keyboards correspond to which screens. It may be helpful to somehow label the items in a way that lets users know what each piece of equipment does, or to make the setup in such a way that it is obvious what each piece of equipment is used for.
This is a light switch in Siebel Center. It is not easy to tell which switches correspond to which lights without randomly pushing the switches and watching to see what happens. It may be less confusing if there were labels for each switch indicating what the switch does. People may not want to take the time and figure out for themselves what each switch does.
This is a hallway in the back of a lecture hall in Siebel Center. It looks like it leads to an exit, but it also leads to another hallway (on the left at the end of this hallway). This separate hallway then leads to another part of this lecture room. It took me nearly a full school year to realize that this separate hallway existed, and to where it lead.
The label for this room is off to the right side, and can easily be missed. Even while standing in front of this room when taking this picture, the room number is blocked by the pole. It is easy for people to overlook this room, especially with the confusing numbering of rooms in Siebel Center. Normally, the room number label is in closer proximity to the door.
The top picture is the right side of a hallway, and the bottom picture is the left side of the hallway. I stood in the same spot when taking the picture; they are simply different angles of the hallway. In the top picture, the room number is 3212 and in the bottom picture is room number 3219. It is common in buildings for one side of a hallway to have odd numbered rooms and the other even. However, the numbers are usually in order. In this hallway, the numbers are not in order at all. It would make more sense if room 3219 was 3211 or 3213 instead. I have found room numbering to be very confusing in Siebel Center. Often, even numbered rooms are in one section of the building and odd in another section (rather than on different sides of a hallway), which is even more confusing.
It is very common to have drinking fountains right outside of or very close to the bathroom. However, the drinking fountains in this area are to the right and around the corner (see red arrow). They are hard to find and very easy to miss. They would be easier to find if they were right outside of the bathrooms, where people expect them to be. A sign that directs people to the drinking fountain would also be helpful.