

February 6, 1975

Dear Peggy,

I thought you might be interested in my short story regarding fluorescent lights.

In August 1974 the Arch. Reading Room was renovated. As part of the renovation a bank of four (4) fluorescent fixtures were placed in my small office adjacent to the Reading Room. This office is approximately 11' x 18'. This lighting, at first was, sensational as previously the room had been rather dark - there is no window.

All during the fall, I have been extremely tired, headachey, and blah by the end of the day. I had thought that personal problems were bothering me so never considered the lighting.

Last week - an artist and lighting expert visited the Reading Room and asked about the excessive (to him) lighting. Two boys from the School loosened several of the tubes over my desk and since then I am not tired or headachey etc. I am now convinced it was the lighting and not my problems which were distressing to me.

I can not say who could have made the decision to put so much lighting in this room. The preliminary drawings which I have seen called for just two fixtures, but we have ended up with four and each one of those has 4 tubes.

Anyway I feel much better and the glare is definitely better and I think I should ask to have two of the fixtures removed as I was told by the artist if I tripped and asked compensation that it would not be considered as I have several lights not going that are in the room.

Natalie Hall
Architecture Reading Room
Lasserre Building #9