ELISE VIST AND LAUREN BURR

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Program: PhD

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Alice and Schrödinger is a playful exploration of the Mike and Ophelia Lazaridis Quantum-Nano Centre. Using a combination of near-field communication chips, which users access in specific locations, and bluetooth-based iBeacons, which let users know when they’re near something interesting, Alice and Schrödinger encourages users to wander around the building, seeking out snippets of conversations between Alice, an IQC graduate student, and Schrödinger, her curious and excitable cat. Tours, even self-guided ones, require users to follow a clear, linear path from one fact to another, restricting them to the path that the designer thinks is most interesting. Instead, Alice and Schrödinger allows people to pick and choose what kind of information they’re interested in, and let the architecture of the building and their own whims draw them to different locations.