

THA Architecture in Eugene, Oregon

2012-11-26



The new [Lewis Integrative Science Building](#), in Eugene, Oregon, designed by [THA Architecture](#) with HDR.

Photo: Lara Swimmer

The University of Oregon, in Eugene, Oregon, has opened a new \$65 million, science facility that brings together researchers from a range of different disciplines including Neuroscience, Life Science, Material Science, Physical Science, and Computer Science.

Designed by [THA Architecture](#) with HDR, Inc, the [Robert and Beverly Lewis Integrative Science Building](#) (LISB) is a 103,000-square-foot (9,570-square-meter) addition to the university's science complex. And although the building is clad in brick, like many older projects in the complex, it is a stylistic departure from its 1990s predecessors, in whose designs the influence of [Charles Moore](#) can be seen.



The LISB atrium. Photo: Lara Swimmer

In keeping with a long-standing science-complex tradition, the building is connected to its neighbors. In one case, a glazed atrium connects it with an adjacent building. And in another case, enclosed bridges link it to another structure.



A skybridge to an adjacent building. Photo: Lara Swimmer

Its interior is organized around a wood-plank finished atrium that runs along the building's center for much of its length. Stairways and major corridors are a part of the atrium at each level and light filters down from a skylight.



A study nook in the LISB. Photo: Lara Swimmer

The building will provide students and researchers with access to interdisciplinary labs and high-tech equipment. The facility is home to:

- A 3T whole-body MRI scanner that will be used by researchers in cognitive psychology, human physiology and other disciplines.
- The Center for Sustainable Materials Chemistry, home to the university's green chemistry programs.
- A photovoltaic laboratory that is part of CAMCOR, a shared instrumentation facility open to industrial and academic clients.

The Lewis Integrative Science Building is also expected to achieve LEED Platinum certification. Some of its green features include:

- A green roof.
- A rooftop heat recovery unit.
- An array of 28 solar panels for preheating water.
- Temperature-controlled windows that:
 - Include sensors tied to the building controls to eliminate heating or cooling when window is in the open position.
 - Feature green lights that notify occupants when it is a good time to open the windows without compromising comfort.
- Exterior solar shading, interior light shelves, glass atrium and strategically placed windows reduce the need for artificial lighting.
- Daylight sensors to dim lighting.
- Chilled beams and radiators, along with demand-control ventilation.
- Reclaimed water used for toilets and urinals.
- Bamboo flooring.



Looking up toward the atrium. Photo: Lara Swimmer



Howard Hughes Medical Institute Laboratory Suite. Photo: Lara Swimmer

Source: Architecture Week People & Places Blog