

## FEFPA

Florida Educational Facilities Planners' Association, Inc.

Summer 2021 Conference  
Diplomat Beach Resort  
Hollywood, Florida  
July 13, 2021

## Next-Generation Higher Ed STEM Facilities: Trends, Planning, and Metrics

Mark W. Ranyak, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP  
Laboratory Consultant

Michael Davison, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP  
Laboratory Consultant

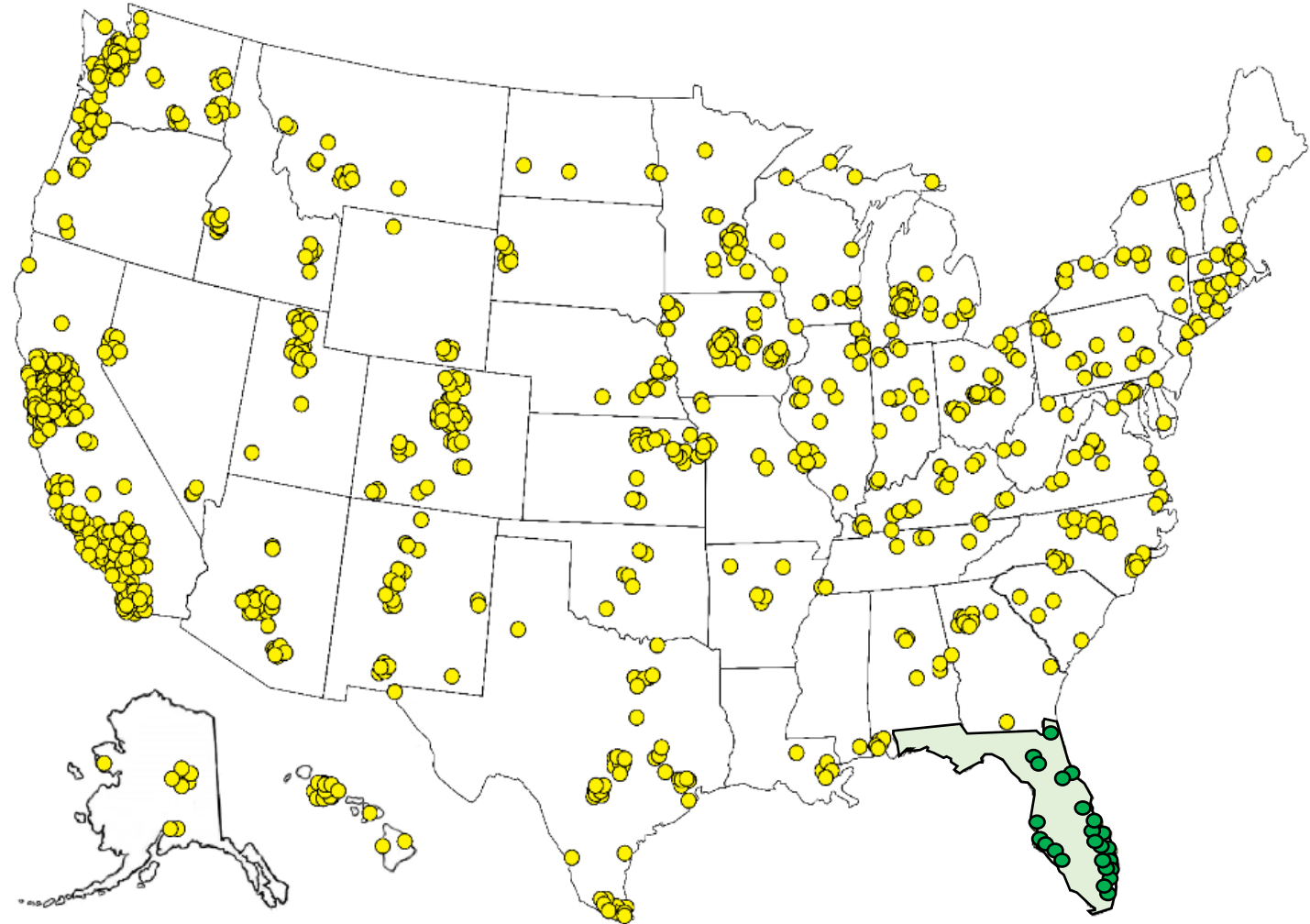
### RESEARCH FACILITIES DESIGN



# What Is Our Perspective ?

## Laboratory Programming & Design Consultants – National Perspective

- 26 Architects, Engineers, Designers, & Technical Support Staff
- Focused 100% on Planning & Design of Laboratories
- Collaborated with more than 480 Architectural Firms
- More than 1,150 Projects in 50 States throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, Asia & Middle East
- 450 College and University Clients
- 90 Million GSF of Building Space
- \$23 Billion Construction Value
- **More than 30 Florida Projects**



## Laboratory Programming & Design Consultants – Local Experience

### Broward College

- Science Building, South Campus

### Eckerd College

- New Science Building Programming

### Florida Atlantic University

- STEM/Life Sciences Building, Jupiter
- Research Laboratory II, Harbor Branch
- Biological & Geosciences Joint Use Facility
- FAU/Scripps 1, Jupiter
- FAU/Scripps 2, Jupiter
- Physical Science Building, Boca Raton

### Florida Institute of Technology

- F. W. Olin Physical Science Building

### Florida South Western University

- Renovation of Leonhardt Hall

### Indian River State College

- William & Helen Thomas STEM Center

### Institute for Health Living

- Incubator Laboratory Facilities

### Lake-Sumter State College

- Science Building Renovation

### Max Planck Society

- Florida Institute for Neuroscience

### New College of Florida

- Heiser Natural Sciences Addition

### Palm Beach State College

- Health & Science Building, Lake Worth
- Health & Science Building, Palm Beach Gardens

### Saint Johns River State College

- Health & Science Building

### Scripps Research

- Advanced Technology Building
- Biomedical Building
- Drug Discovery Building

### South Florida State College

- Health & Science Building, Highlands

### St. Lucie County

- Treasure Coast Research & Education Master Plan

### Stetson University

- Sage Hall Programming

### University of Florida

- Vet Med Academic Building
- Biological & Geosciences Joint Use Facility
- Microbiology Building

### University of Miami

- Frost Institute of Chemistry & Molecular Science
- RSMAS Laboratory Renovation

### University of North Florida

- Building 50 Renovation

### University of South Florida

- Science Center

### University of West Florida

- Science Laboratory Building

### USDA Fort Pierce

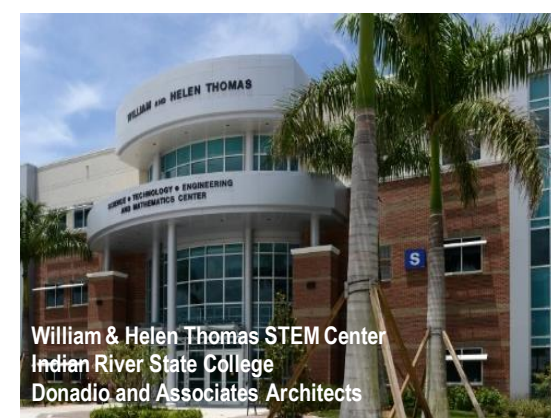
- Horticultural Research Laboratory

# What Is Our Perspective ?

As Laboratory Design Consultants, RFD has Collaborated with more than 480 Architectural Design Partners in our 35+ year practice.

## Florida firms we've partnered with:

- Caldwell Associates
- Donadio and Associates
- Eckerd College
- EDSA
- Harvard Jolly Architecture
- Flad Architects
- Leo A Daly
- PGAL
- Ranon & Partners, Inc.
- RG Architects
- RLF Architects
- RSH
- Schenkel Shultz Architecture
- Spillis Candela / DMJM
- VOA Associates / Stantec
- The Weitz Company



# What Are Best Practices ?

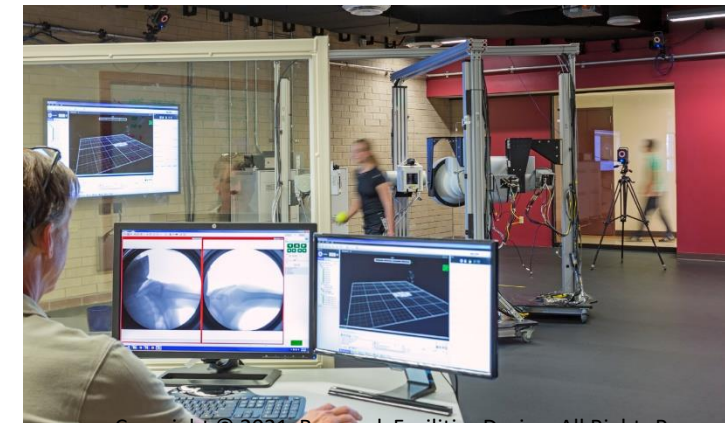
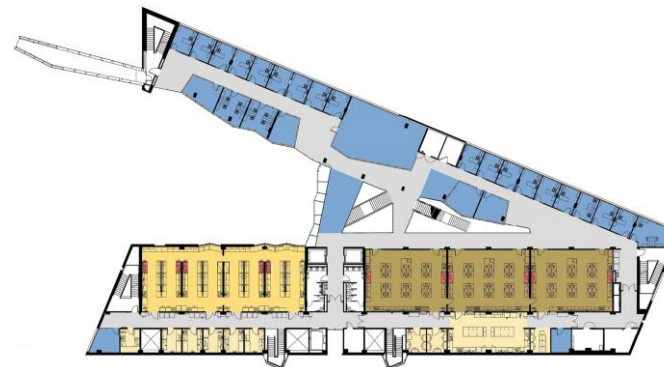
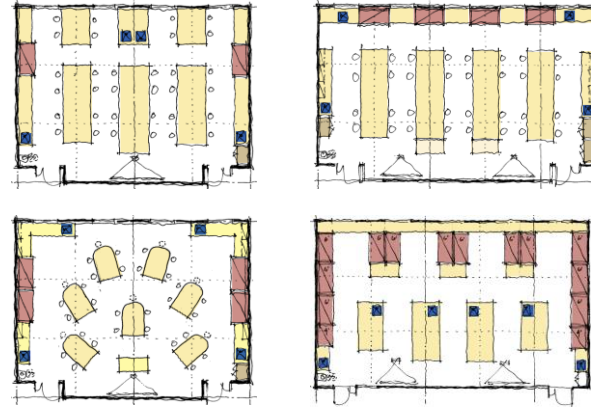
## *STEM Education for the Future - 2020 Visioning Report*, National Science Foundation

- Examined 7 outstanding STEM institutions for “Lessons for the Future”
- STEM learning environments are student-centered, project-based, and personalized.
- STEM learning environments intentionally build communities of practice between students and faculty, recognizing that learning is a social act that includes guidance and mentoring.



# Presentation Outline

- **Considerations for STEM Environments**
  - STEM Communities
  - Recruitment & Retention
  - Engaged, Active & Applied Learning
  - Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning
- **Planning Trends for STEM**
  - Building Planning Considerations
  - Active Learning Laboratories
  - Research & Project Laboratories
- **Innovation & Maker Spaces**
- **Benchmarking & Metrics**
- **Key Takeaways**



# Extending STEM Communities

- **Programs** for Science & Technology
- **Places** for extended learning
- **People** that broaden your community

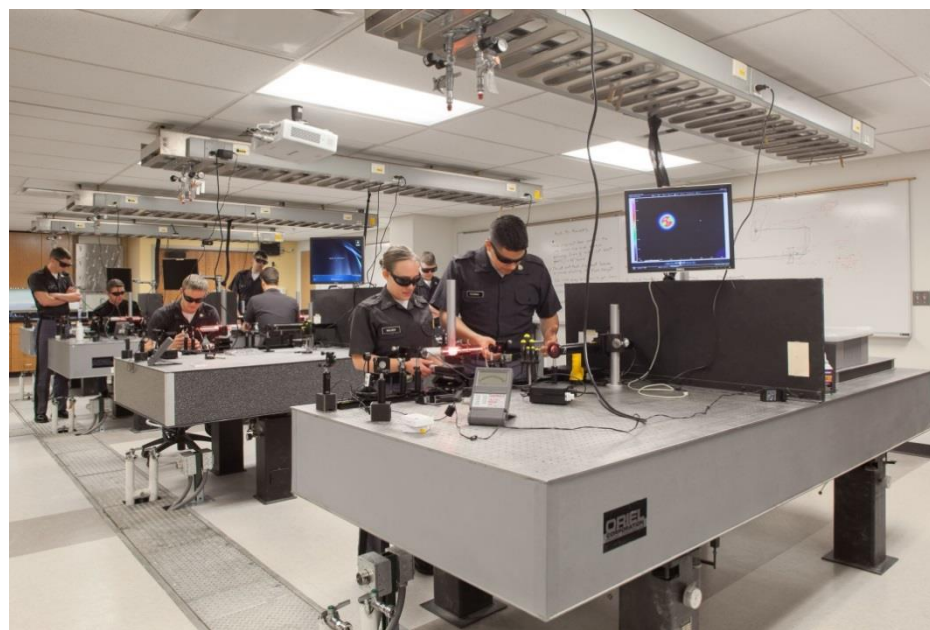
# The Programs - Basic Sciences

# Developing STEM Communities

## Chemistry



## Physics



## Biology



## Earth Sciences



Heiser Addition  
New College of Florida  
Harvard Jolly Architecture



# The Programs - Engineering

# Developing STEM Communities

## Electrical Engineering



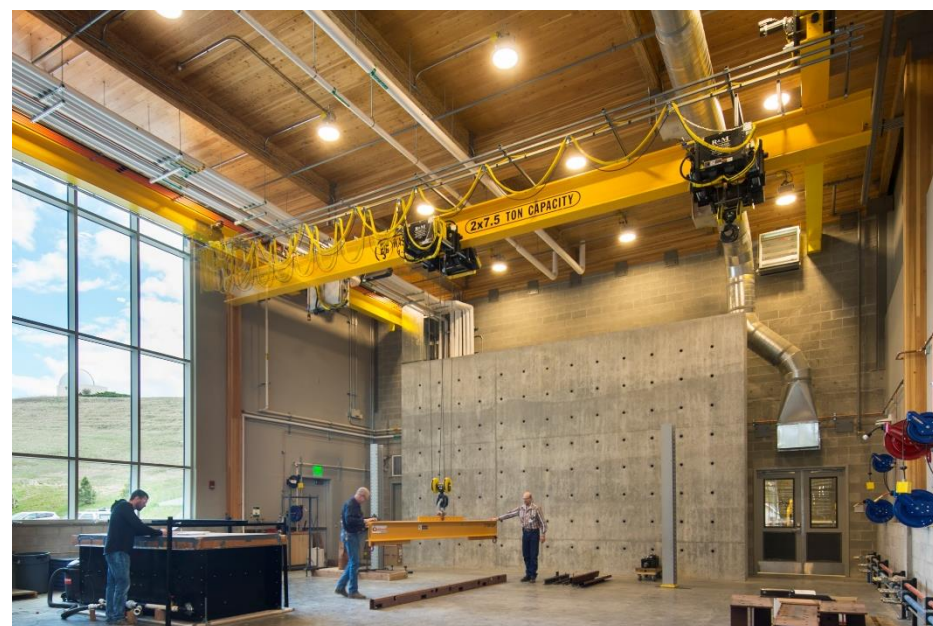
## Bio - Engineering



## Mechanical Engineering



## Civil Engineering



# The Programs – Other STEM Disciplines

## Developing STEM Communities

**Allied Health**



**Robotics**



**Environmental Sciences**



**Computer Science**



# The Places – Formal & Informal

## Developing STEM Communities



# The Places – Outdoor Spaces

# Developing STEM Communities

F. W. Olin Physical Science Building  
Florida Institute of Technology  
The Weitz Company



Research Laboratory II  
Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch  
PGAL

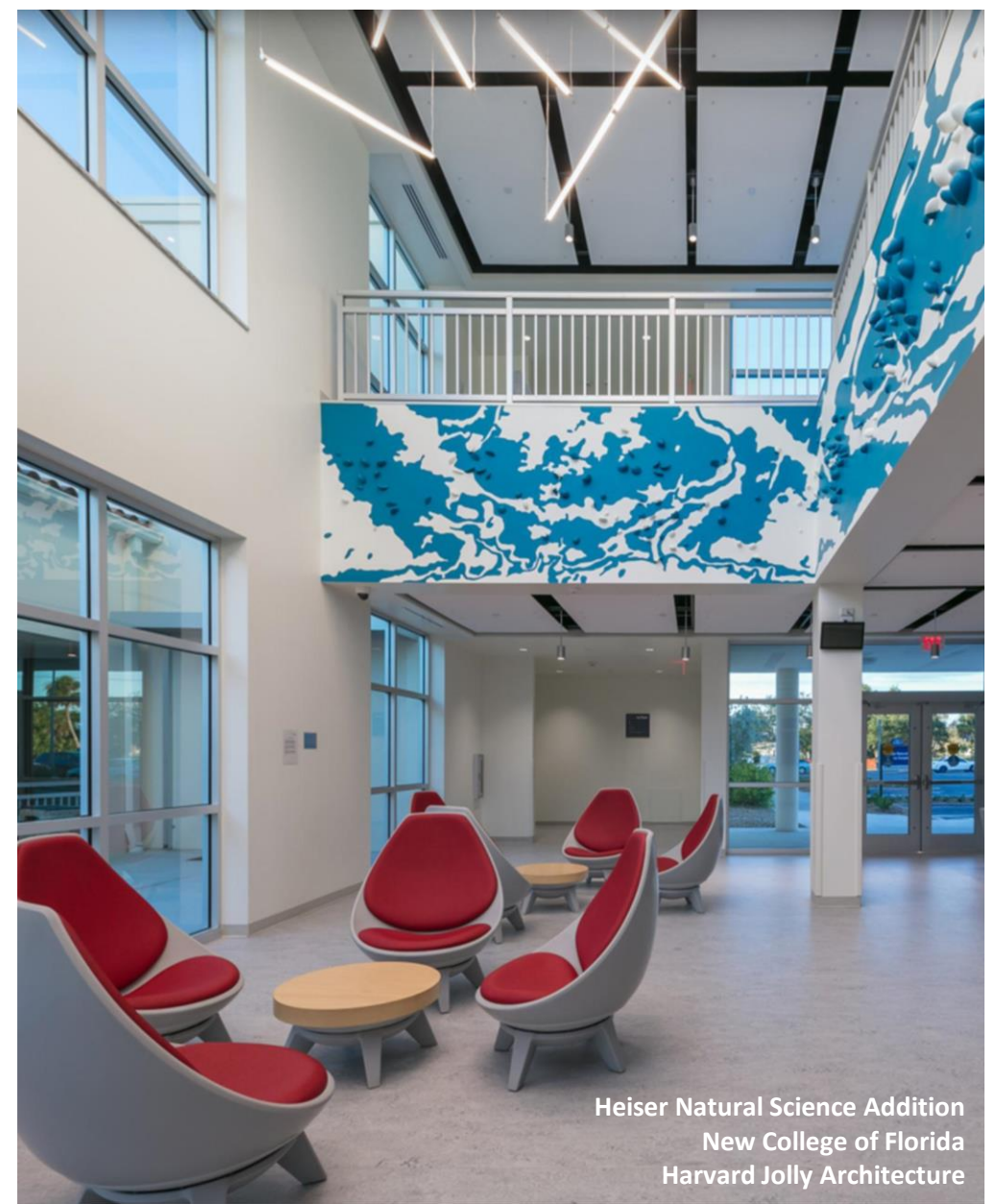


Biological & Geosciences Joint Use Facility  
University of Florida/Florida Atlantic University  
Schenkel Shultz Architecture



# The People – Students, Faculty, Staff, Community, Outreach

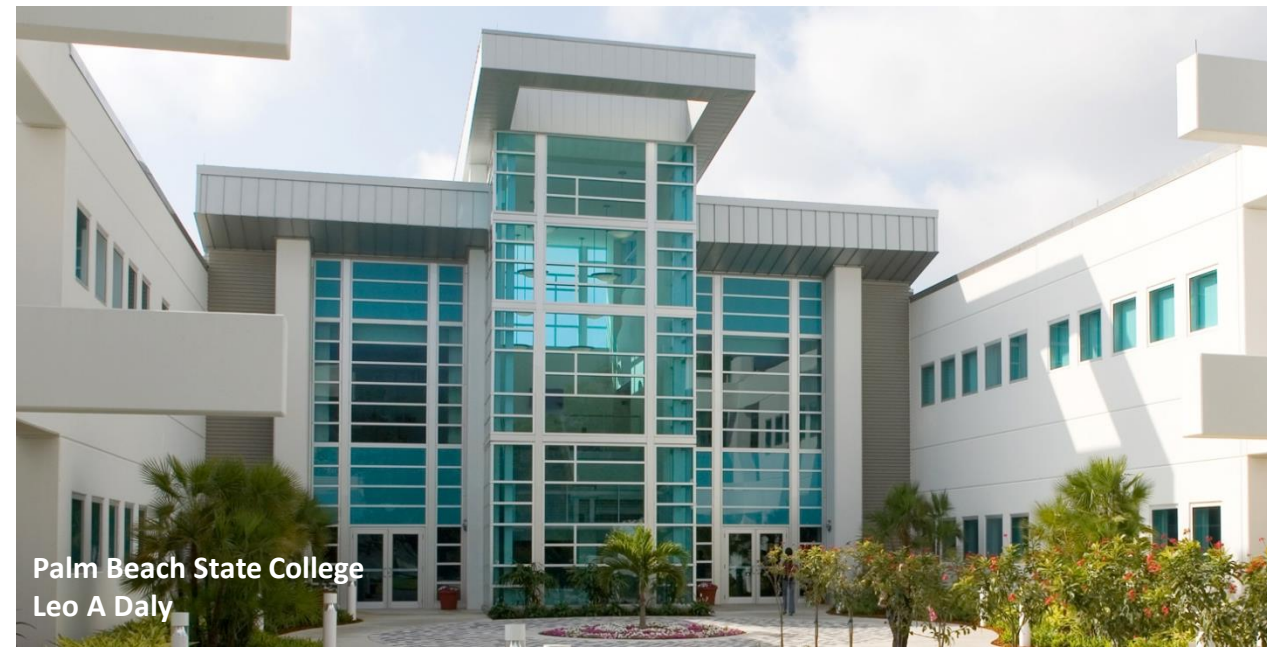
## Developing STEM Communities



Heiser Natural Science Addition  
New College of Florida  
Harvard Jolly Architecture

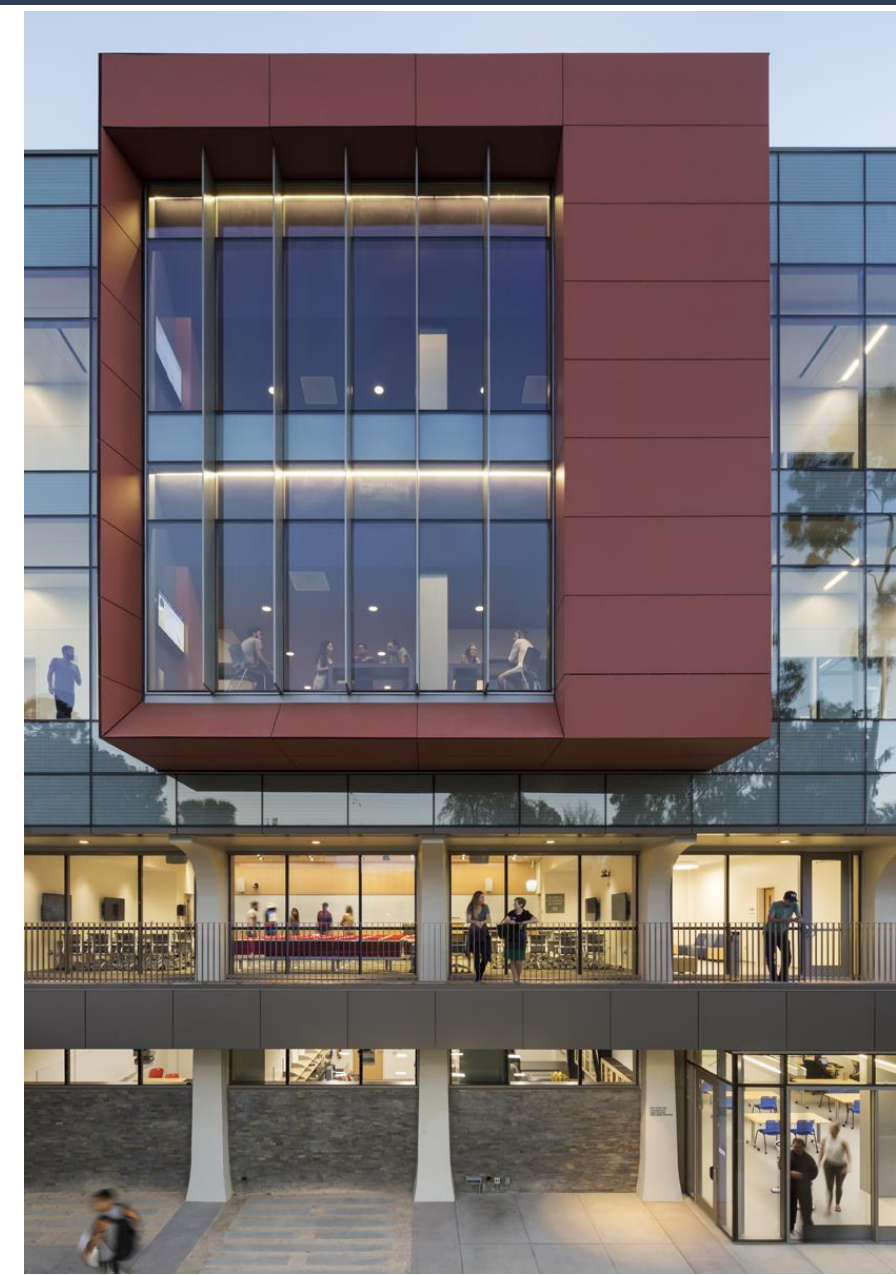
# Importance of 'Curb Appeal'

# Recruitment & Retention



# Importance of 'Curb Appeal' - Renovations

Recruitment & Retention



# Importance of 'Curb Appeal' - Campus Landmarks

Recruitment & Retention



Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience  
PGAL



Heiser Addition – New College of Florida  
Harvard Jolly Architecture



# Active Learning in Teaching Laboratories – Chemistry

Engaged, Active & Applied Learning



Florida SouthWestern State College  
RG Architects

# Active Learning in Teaching Laboratories – Physics

Engaged, Active & Applied Learning



# Active Learning in Teaching Laboratories – Engineering

Engaged, Active & Applied Learning



# Entire Building as a Learning Environment

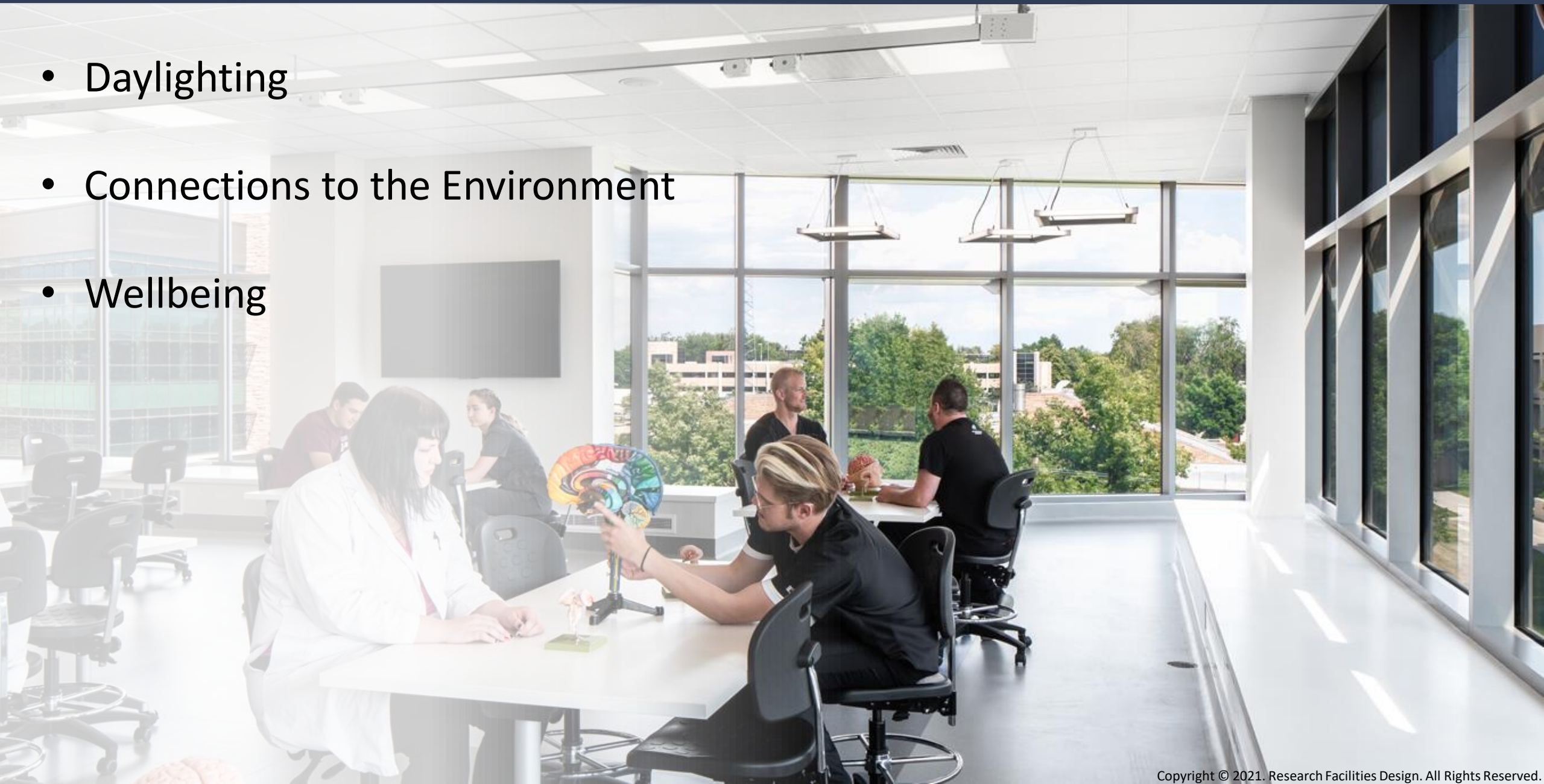
# Engaged, Active & Applied Learning



## Transparency - to Exterior

## Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning

- Daylighting
- Connections to the Environment
- Wellbeing



# Transparency - from Corridors

# Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning



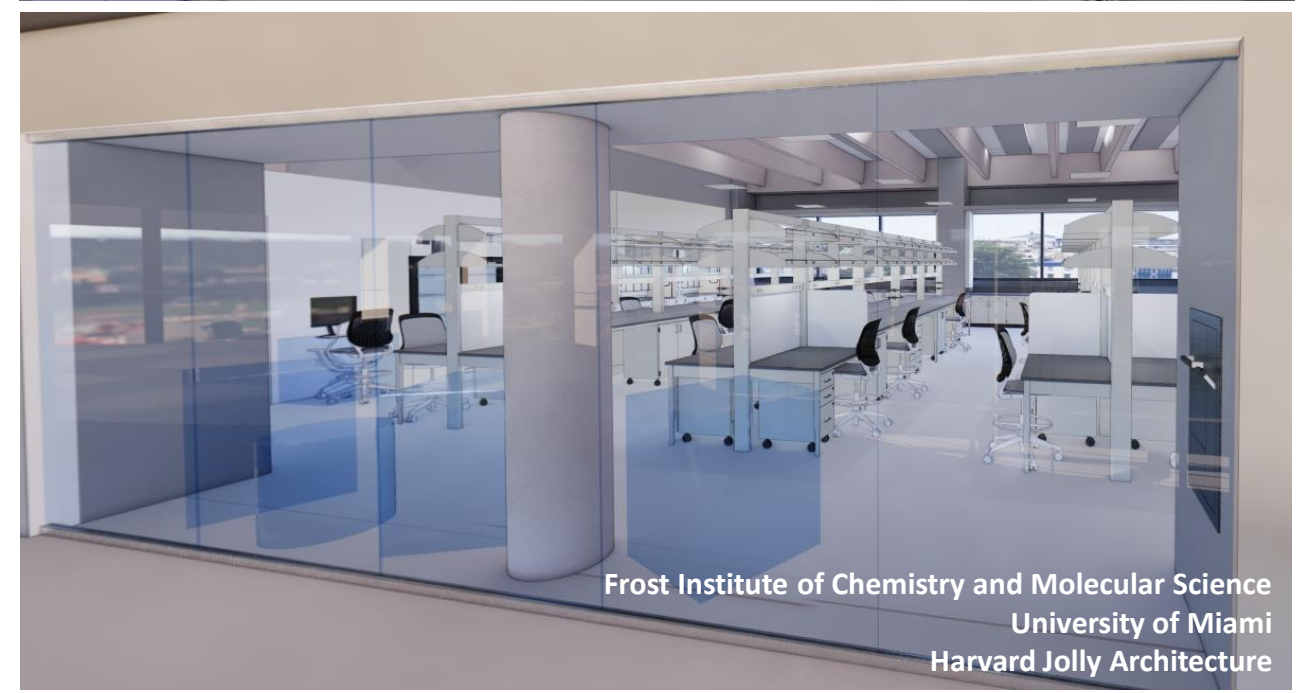
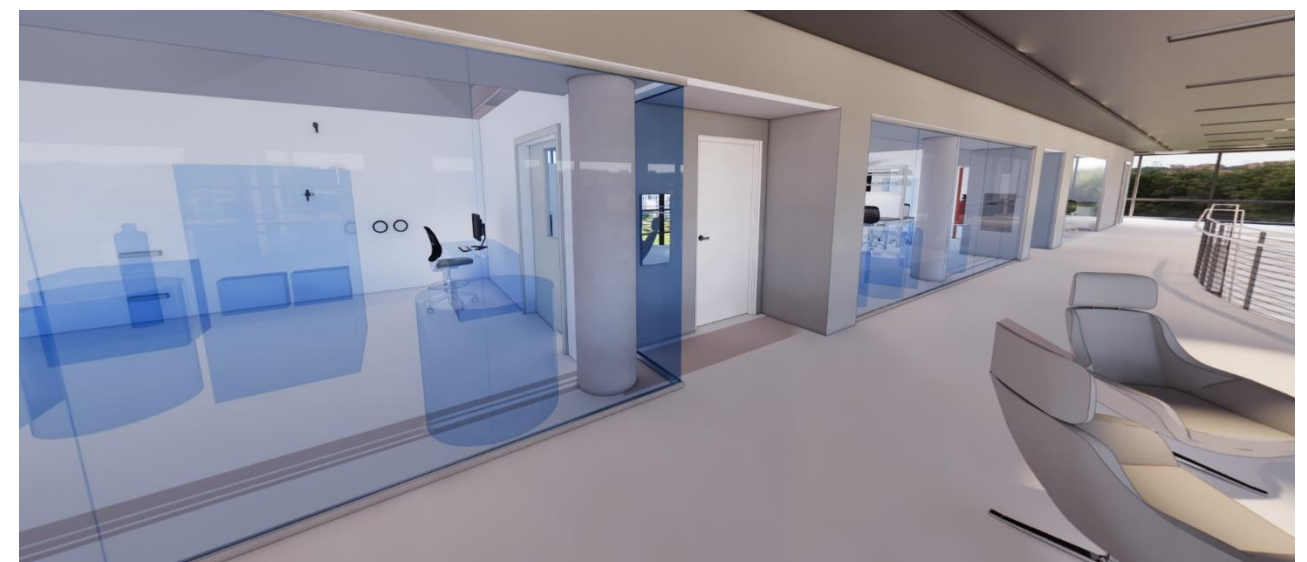
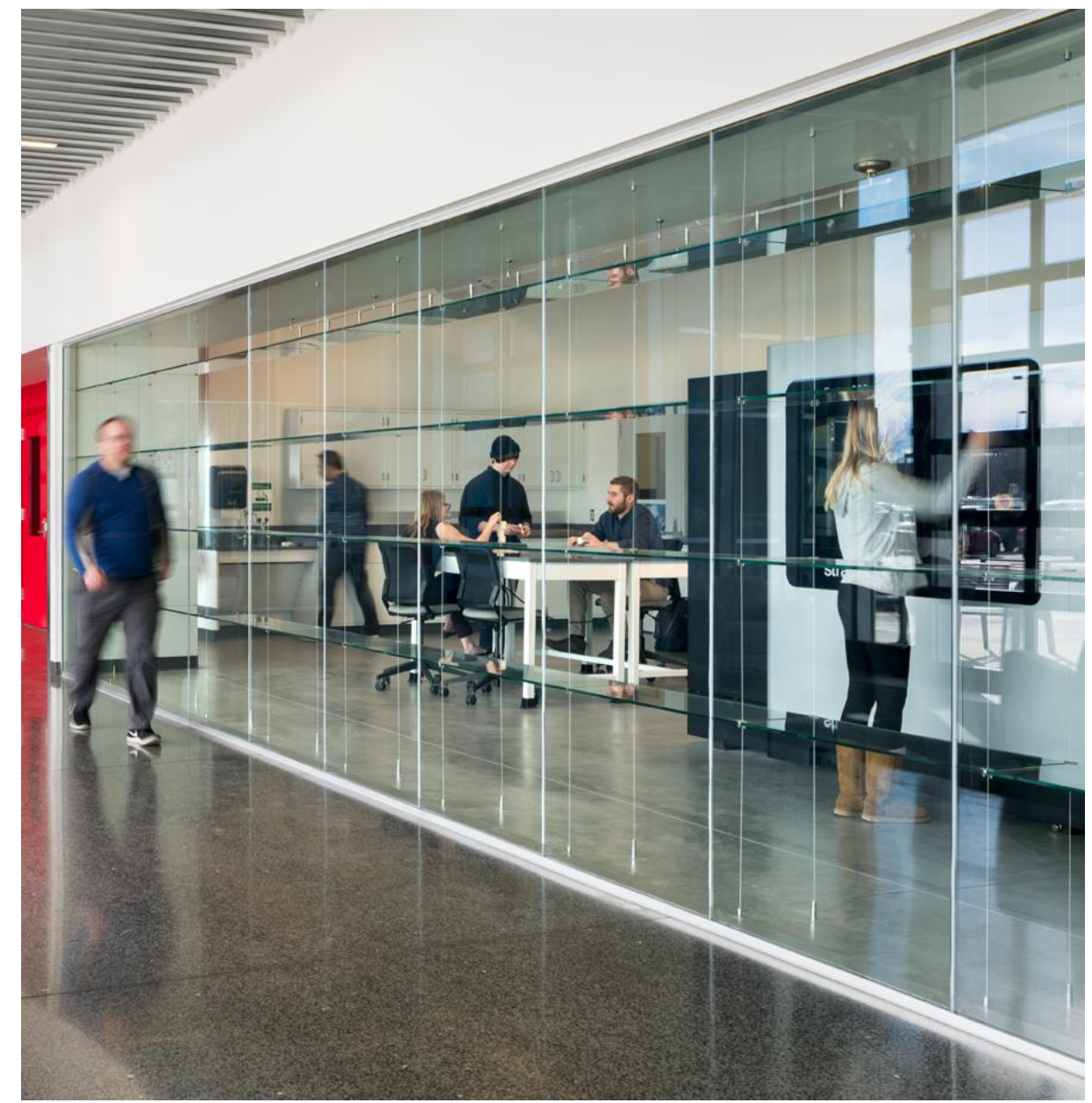
Florida SouthWestern State College  
RG Architects



Indian River State College  
Donadio and Associates

# Transparency - from Corridors

# Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning



# Transparency - Between Spaces

# Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning





# Connections – Vertical Hubs of Activity

Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning



# Extended Learning – Scientific Art

# Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning

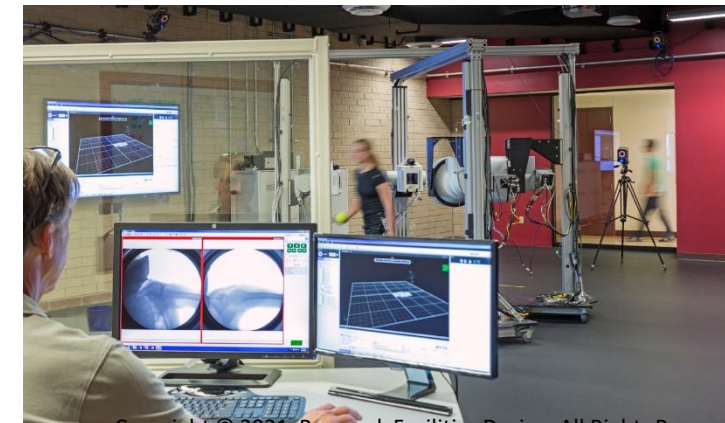
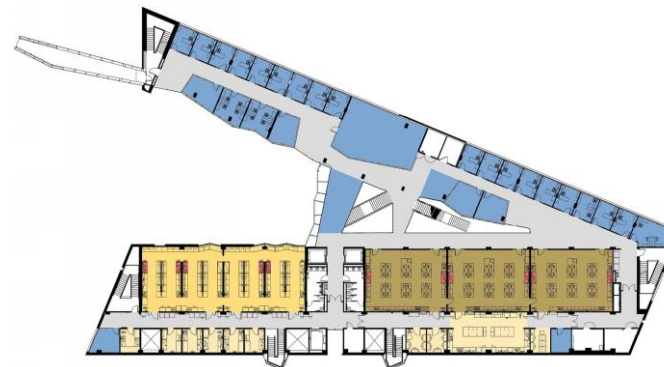
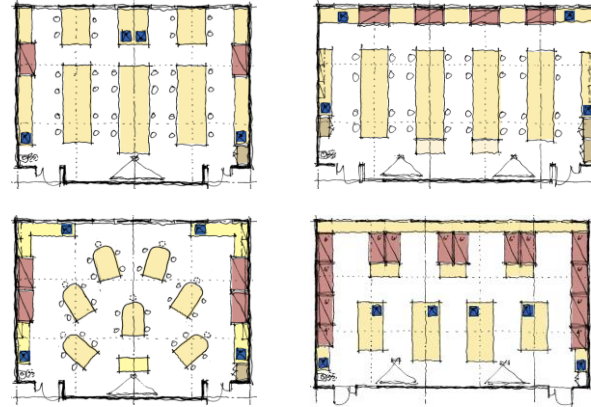


Indian River State College  
Donadio and Associates



# Presentation Outline

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  - Research & Project Laboratories
- Innovation & Maker Spaces
- Benchmarking & Metrics
- Key Takeaways




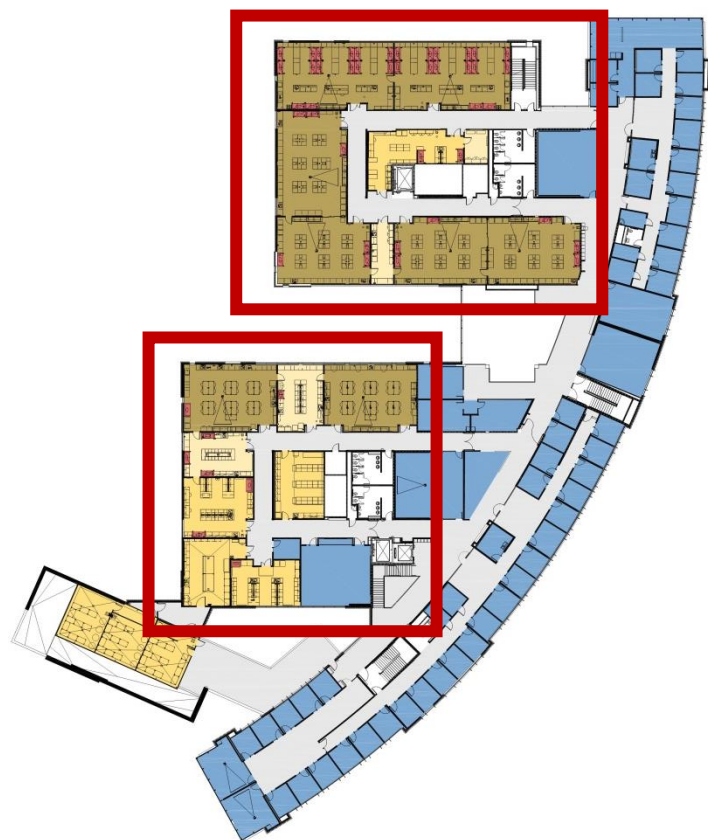
# Organized by Building Systems

## Building Planning Considerations

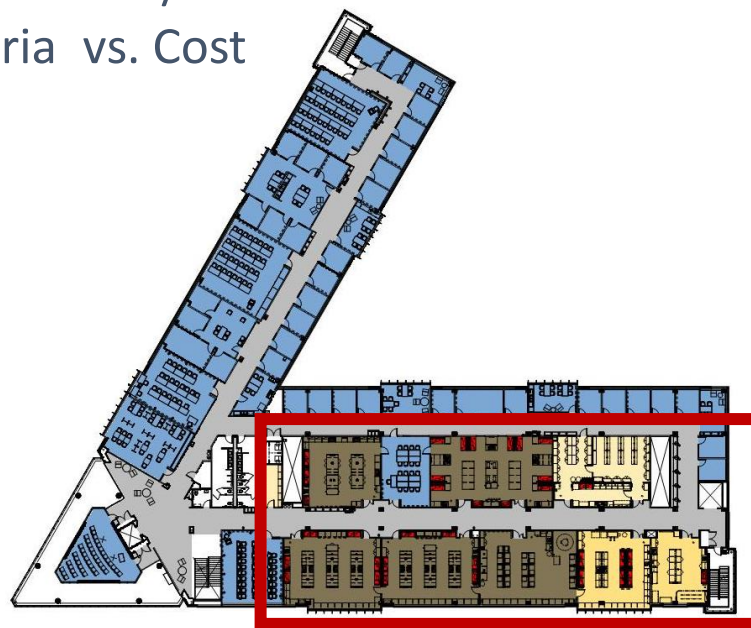
### Energy Efficiency Planning Overlay

- HVAC – 100% Exhaust vs. Recirculated Air / Natural Ventilation
- Structural System – Vibration Criteria vs. Cost
- Piped Service Distribution

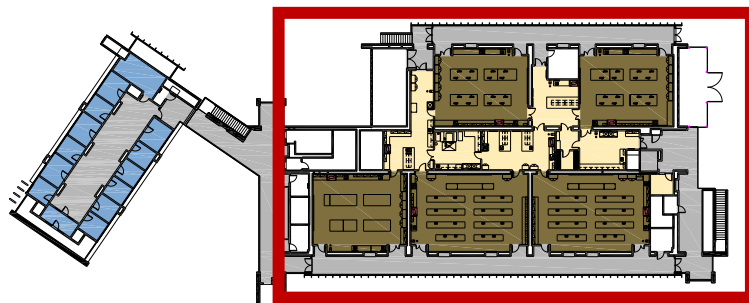
	Teaching Labs
	Research Labs
	Support Labs
	Office / Classroom



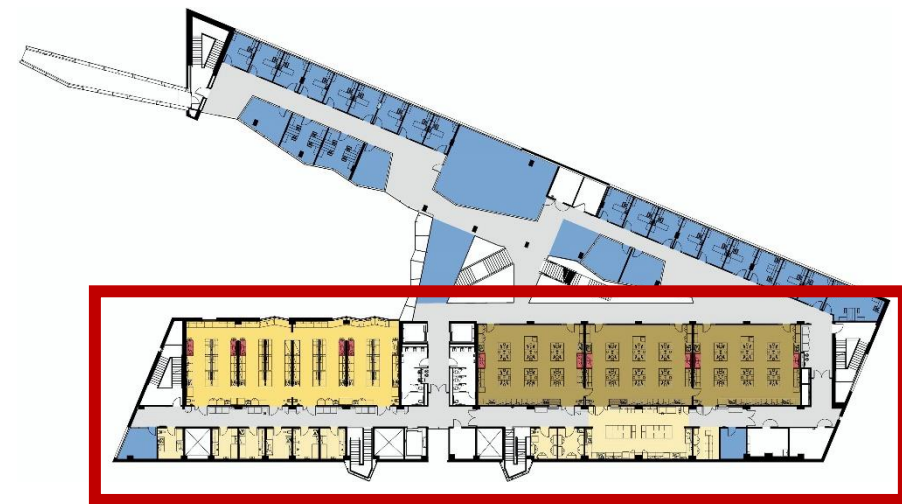
Weber State University



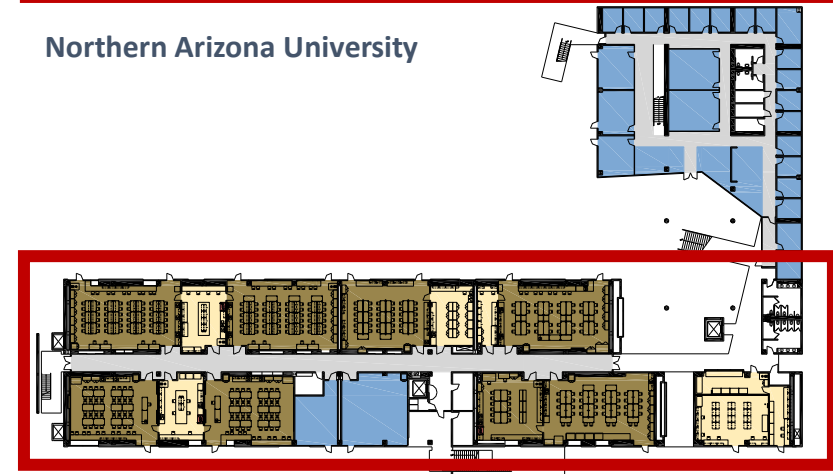
Augsburg College



Crafton Hills College



Northern Arizona University



LA Valley College

# Organized by Program Function

## Zoned by Space Type

- Teaching Laboratories
- Research Laboratories
- Offices / Classrooms



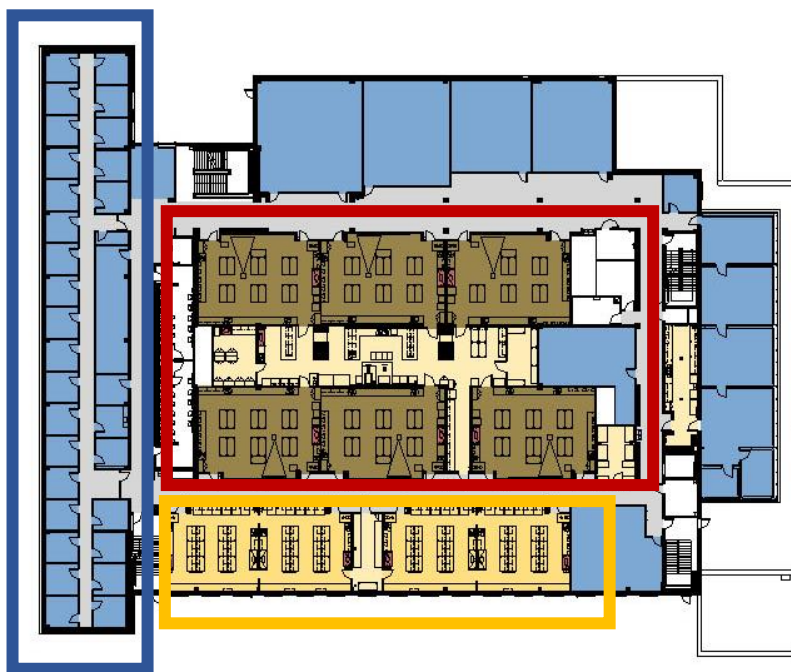
## Building Planning Considerations



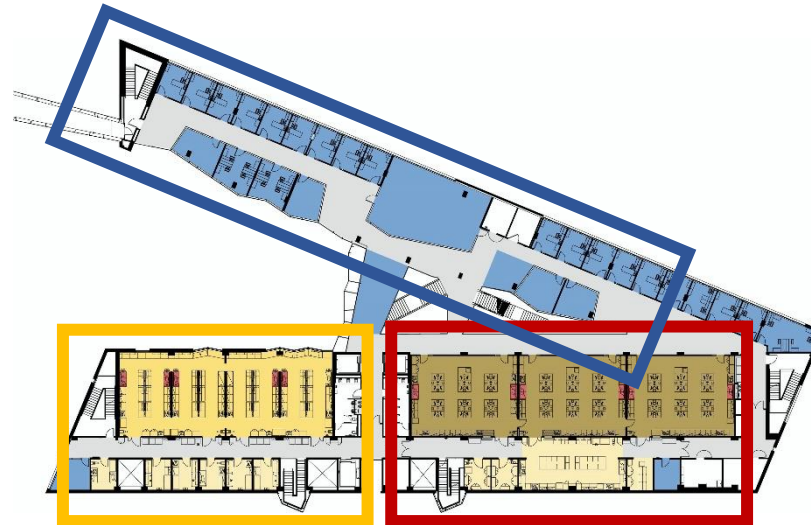
Valparaiso University



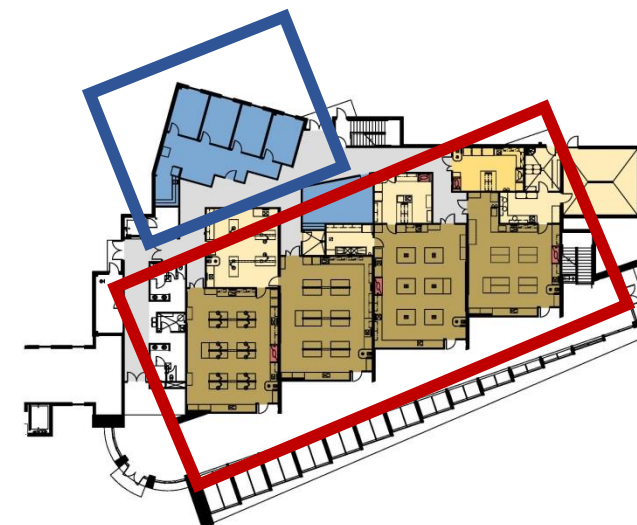
University of Washington - Bothell



Grand Valley State University



Northern Arizona University




Southern Nazarene University

# Organized by Neighborhoods

# Building Planning Considerations

- Clusters of Teaching Labs, Research Labs, and Offices
- Shared use of Lab Support by Teaching and Research
- “Soft” Learning Spaces

	Teaching Labs
	Research Labs
	Support Labs
	Office / Classroom



Gustavus Adolphus College



Marshall University



# Structure, Floor Heights & Vibration

# Building Planning Considerations

- Steel vs. Concrete Frame – Floor Assembly Depth
- Floor to Floor Heights – MEP Distribution
- Trend Toward Flat Slab Concrete

## Structural Systems for 30 Recent Projects:

- **39% Concrete Frame** with shear wall lateral bracing
- **58% Steel Frame** with steel frame lateral bracing
- **3% Timber** construction in select functional areas

2011 – 2015	Floor – to – Floor	2016 – Beyond
5%	<b>14'-0"</b>	<b>14%</b>
14%	<b>14'-6"</b>	<b>32%</b>
24%	<b>15'-0"</b>	<b>30%</b>
38%	<b>15'-6"</b>	<b>10%</b>
19%	<b>16'-0" +</b>	<b>14%</b>

STRUCTURES & MATERIALS ENGINEERING BLDG  
University of California, San Diego

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 16'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 14'-6"



PHYSICS & NANOTECHNOLOGY BUILDING  
University of Minnesota

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 16'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 16'-0"



SANDLER NEUROSCIENCES CENTER 19A  
University of California, San Francisco

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 20'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 15'-0"



HEALTH SCIENCE BIOMED RESEARCH BLDG 2  
University of California, San Diego

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level B: 21'-0"  
Level 1 - R: 17'-0"



MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENGINEERING BLDG  
University of California, Riverside

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 20'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 15'-4"



CLEAN TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY BLDG  
Washington State University

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 16'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 16'-0"



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING BUILDING 2  
University of California, Merced

Steel Frame/Braced Frame  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level B: 18'-0"  
Level 1 - R: 15'-0"



ENGINEERING VI PHASE I  
University of California, Los Angeles

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level B - 1: 18'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 15'-6"



ENGINEERING RESEARCH BUILDING  
University of Texas, Arlington

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 16'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 16'-0"



INTERDISCIPLINARY SCI & ENGINEERING BLDG  
University of Delaware

Concrete Frame/Shear Wall  
Floor to Floor Heights: Level 1: 16'-0"  
Level 2 - R: 16'-0"

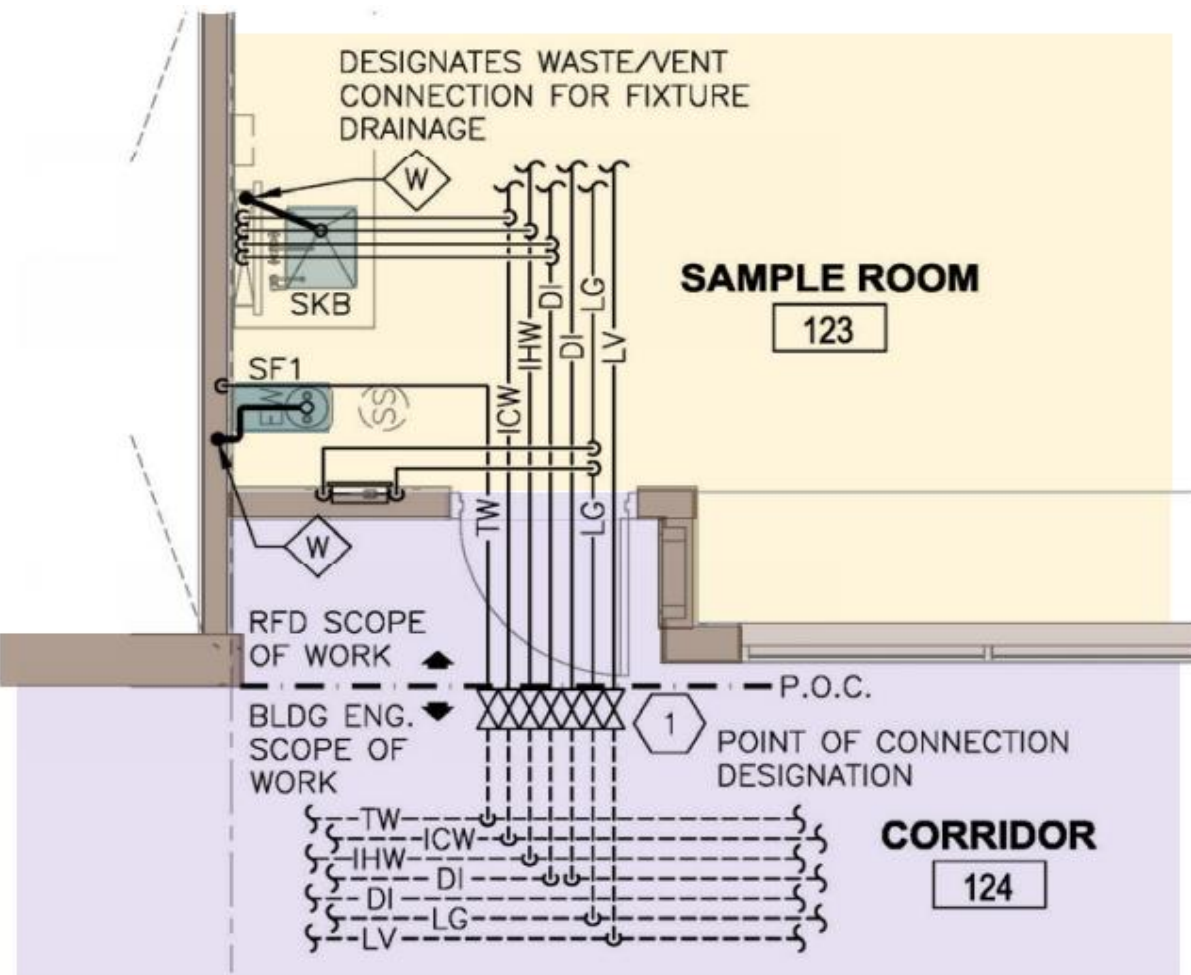


# Structure, Floor Heights & Vibration

## Building Planning Considerations

### Concrete Frame + Flat Slab

- Reduced Floor to Floor Heights
- Economy of Installation
- Ease of Renovations





# Laboratory Planning Module

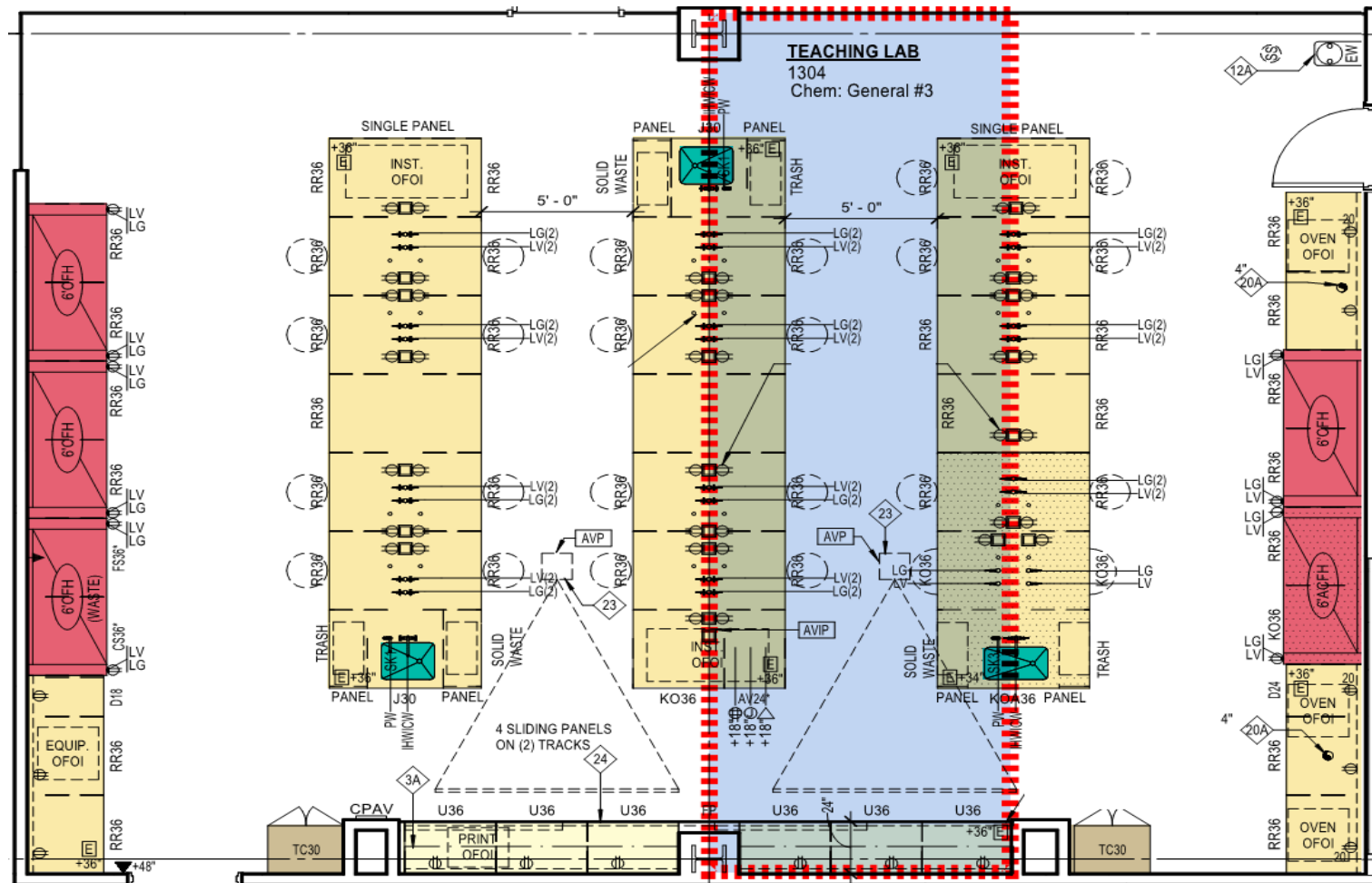
# Building Planning Considerations

- Basic Planning Module Getting Deeper – 30' to 33' Deep
- Two Way Module
- Engineering Labs Benefit from Wider Modules

2011 – 2015	Private	2016 – Beyond
20%	10'-0"	5%
0%	10'-4"	0%
<b>50%</b>	<b>10'-6"</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>30%</b>	<b>10'-8"</b>	<b>20%</b>
0%	<b>11'-0"</b>	<b>25%</b>

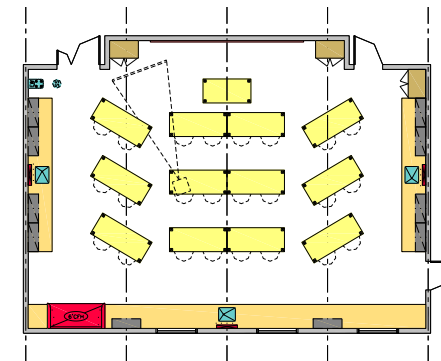
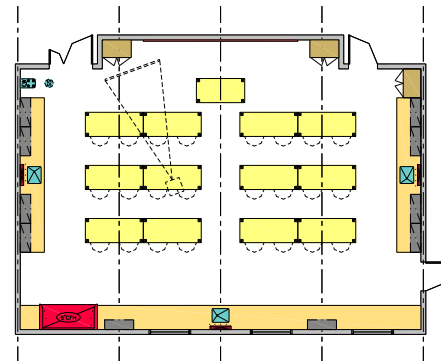
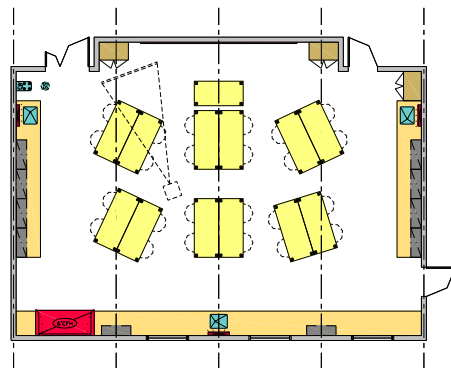
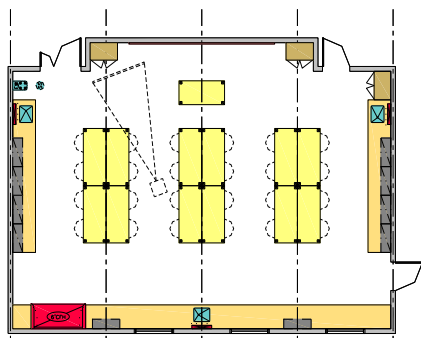
2011 – 2015	Public	2016 – Beyond
0%	10'-0"	0%
17%	10'-4"	0%
<b>75%</b>	<b>10'-6"</b>	<b>82%</b>
0%	10'-8"	9%
8%	11'-0"	9%

2011 – 2015	Comm. College	2016 – Beyond
30%	10'-0"	0%
0%	10'-4"	0%
<b>60%</b>	<b>10'-6"</b>	<b>81%</b>
0%	10'-8"	6%
10%	11'-0"	13%

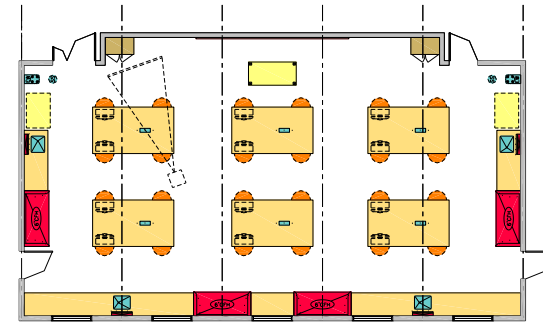
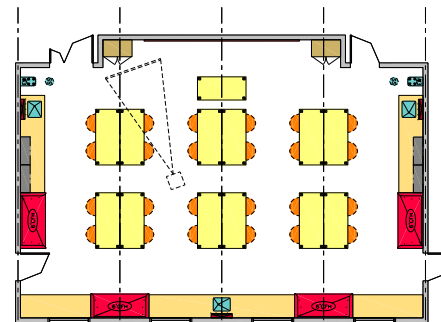
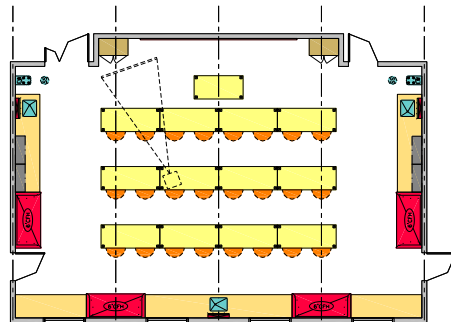
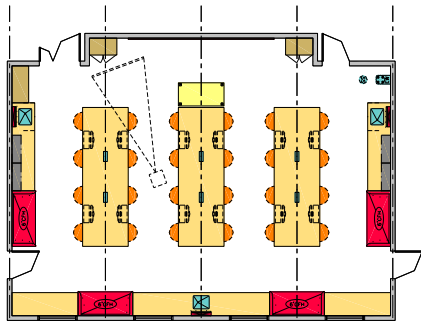


# Traditional Laboratory Layouts

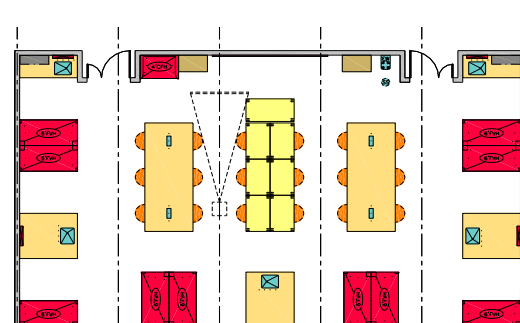
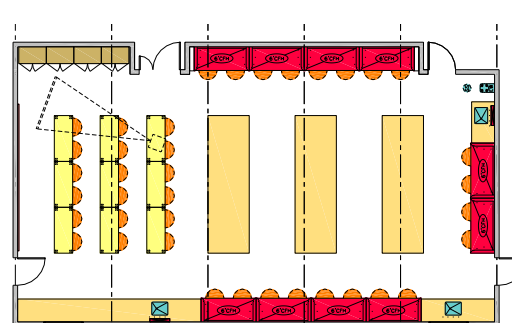
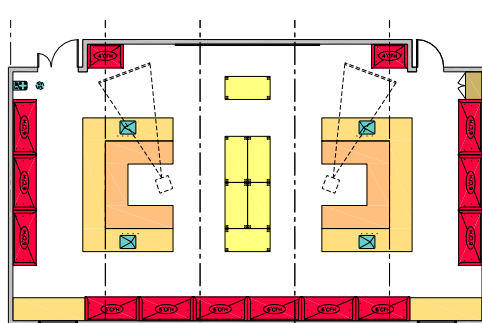
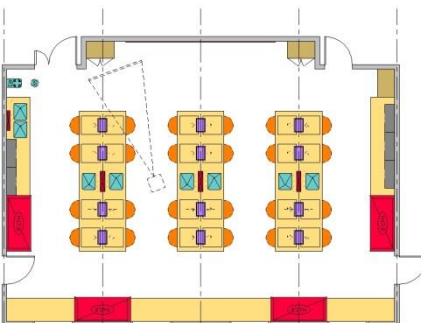
# Science Learning Laboratories



Earth Science - Physics - Engineering



Biology - Microbiology - Plant Sciences - Zoology



General Chemistry - Organic Chemistry

# Laboratory Design Trends – Greater Flexibility

# Science Learning Laboratories



# Evolving Teaching Laboratory Layouts – Organic Chemistry Example

# Science Learning Laboratories

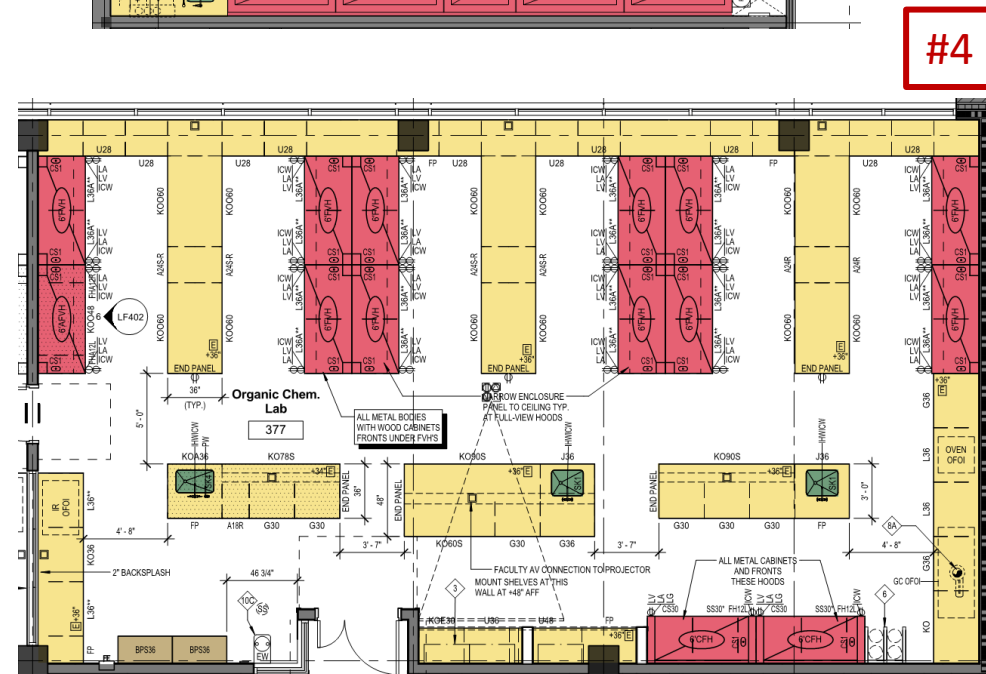
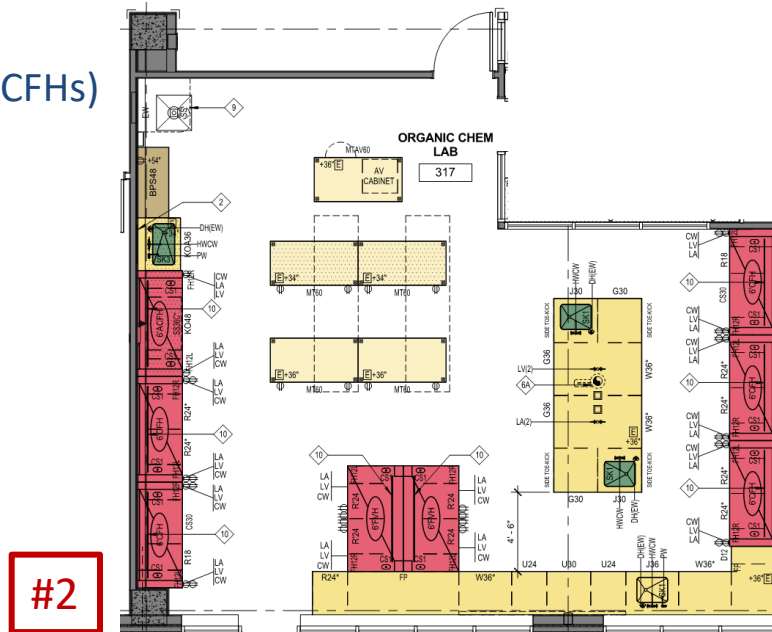
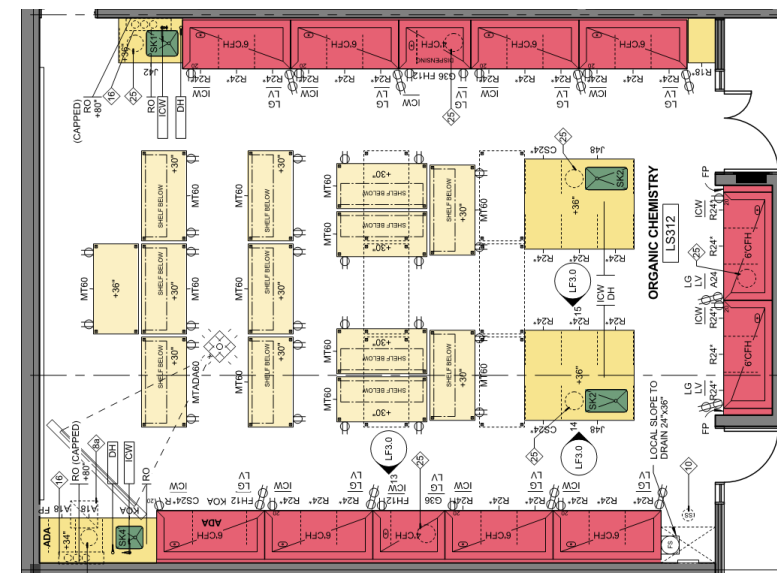
## Small, Medium, Large

**#1** 16 Students in **945 nsf** (8 CFHs)  
59.0 nsf / Student

**#2** 16 Students in **975 nsf** (8 CFHs)  
61.0 nsf / Student

**#3** 20 Students in **1,260 nsf** (10 CFHs)  
63.0 nsf / Student

**#4** 24 Students in **1,665 nsf** (12 CFHs)  
69.4 nsf / Student



# Laboratory Design Trends – Paired Teaching Laboratories

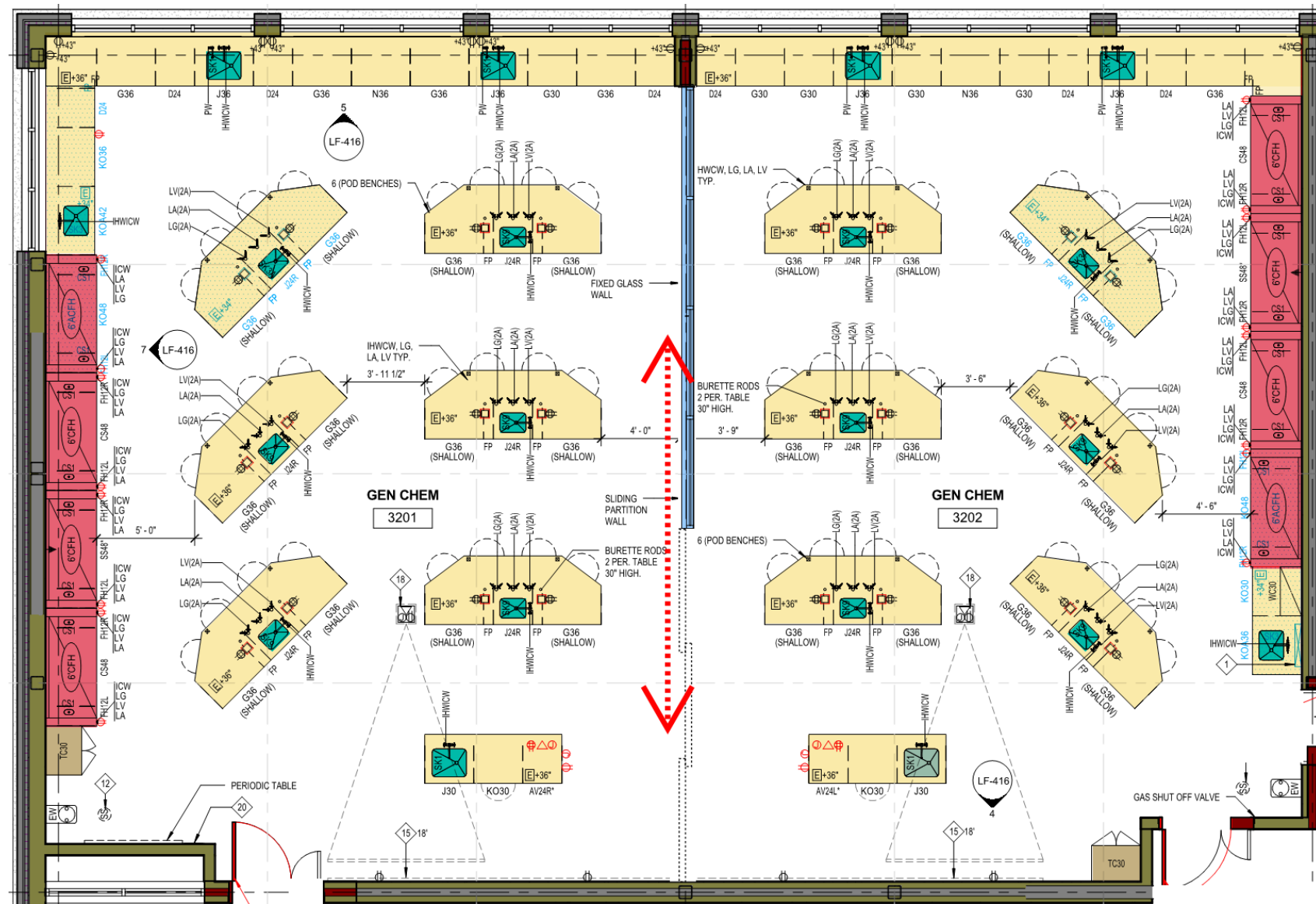
# Science Learning Laboratories

## Individual Lab Configuration – 1,320 nsf

- 24 Students each
- 1 Faculty each
- Sliding Glass Partition

## Studio Lab Configuration – 2,640 nsf

- 48 Students
- 1 Faculty + 2 TAs



# Laboratory Design Trends – Paired Teaching Laboratories

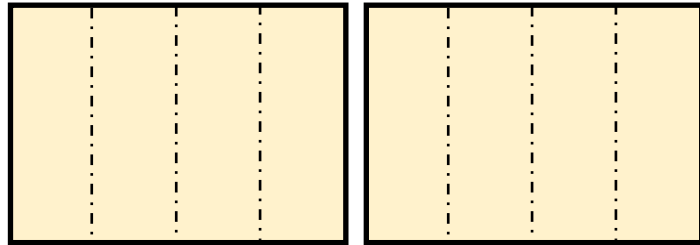
## Science Learning Laboratories



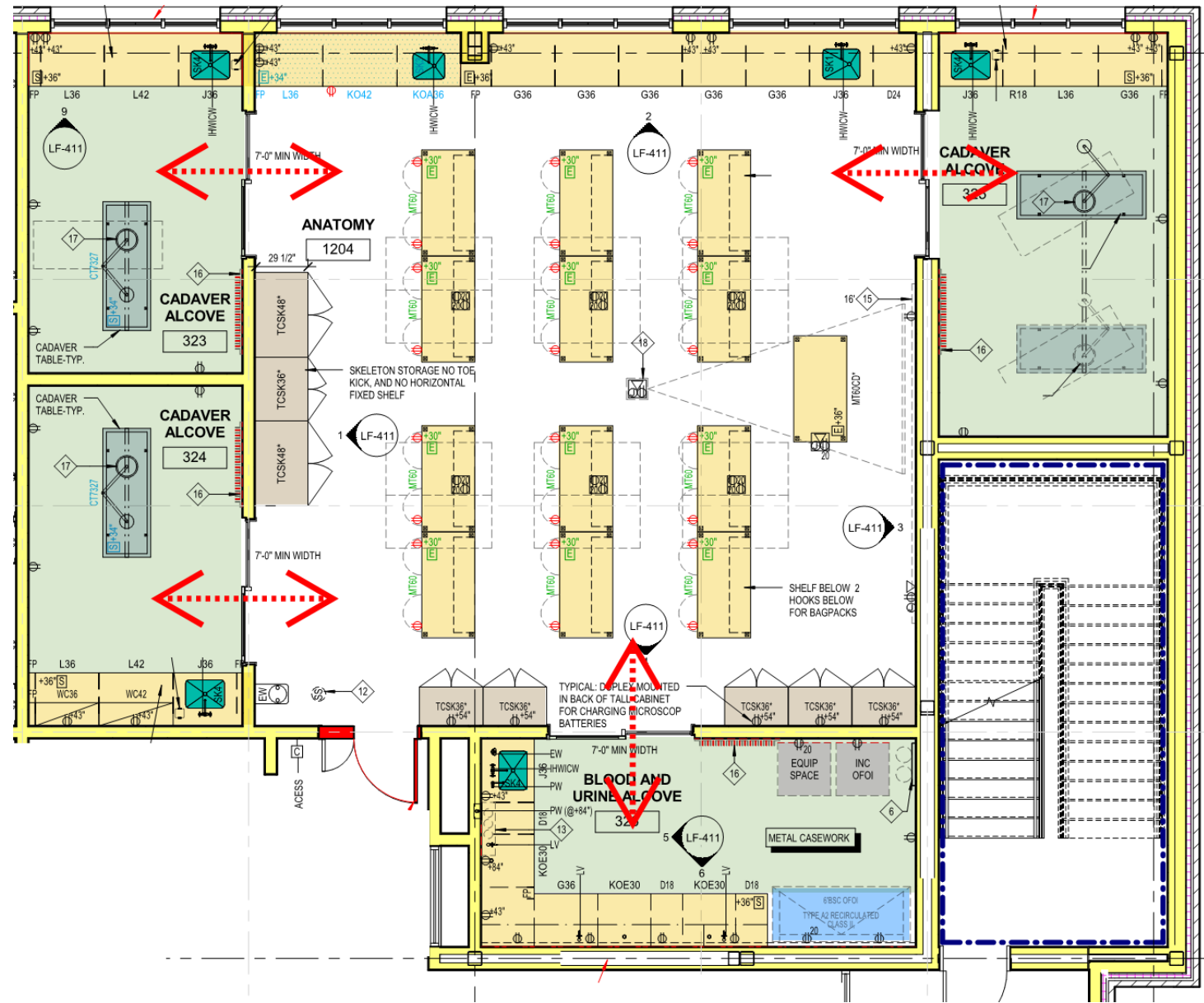
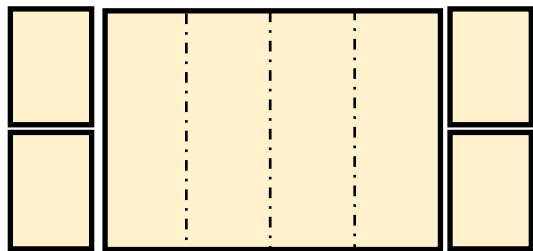
# Laboratory Design Trends – Multi-Use Teaching Laboratories

## Science Learning Laboratories

- 2 labs at 1,320 nsf each = **2,640 nsf**



- Single Lab = 1,320 nsf + Alcoves = 660 nsf
- Total Area = **1,980 nsf**



# Laboratory Design Trends – Multi-Use Teaching Laboratories

Science Learning Laboratories





## Laboratory Design Trends – Engineering Fluids Lab Example

## Engineering Learning Laboratories

- Equipment Scale Lab Sizing
- Metrics Less Useful
- Teaching Zone Variable



# Laboratory Design Trends – Engineering Project Labs

## Engineering Learning Laboratories



# Research Accommodations – Metrics

Environments for Discovery

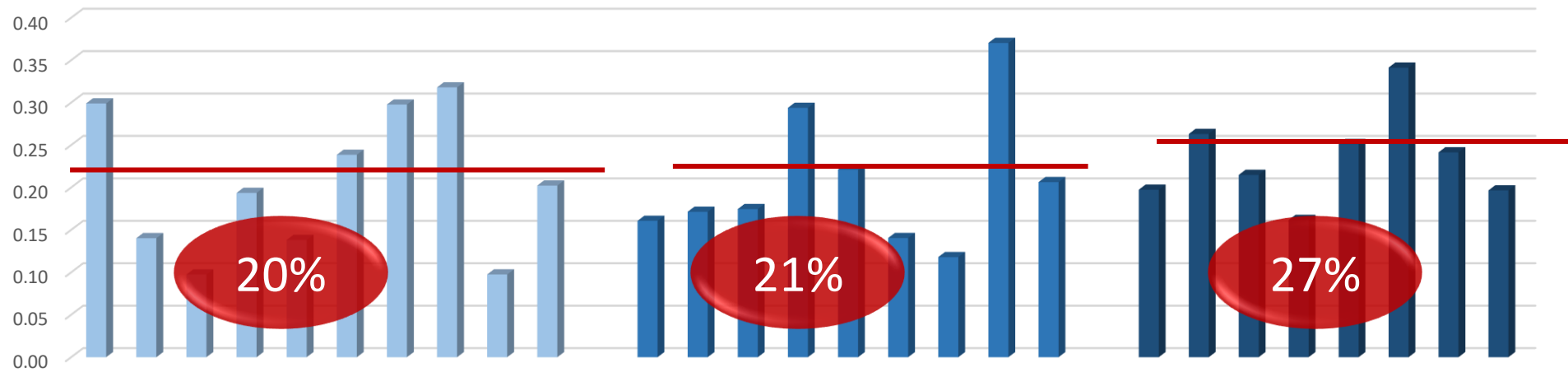
Research Area / Teaching + Research + Support

2005 - 2010

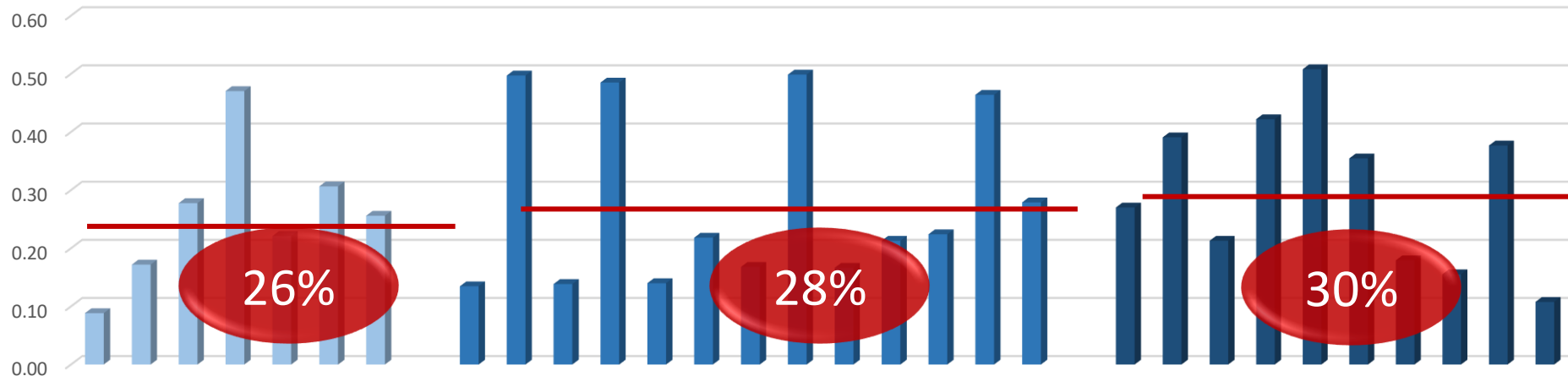
2011 - 2015

2016 - Beyond

Private College

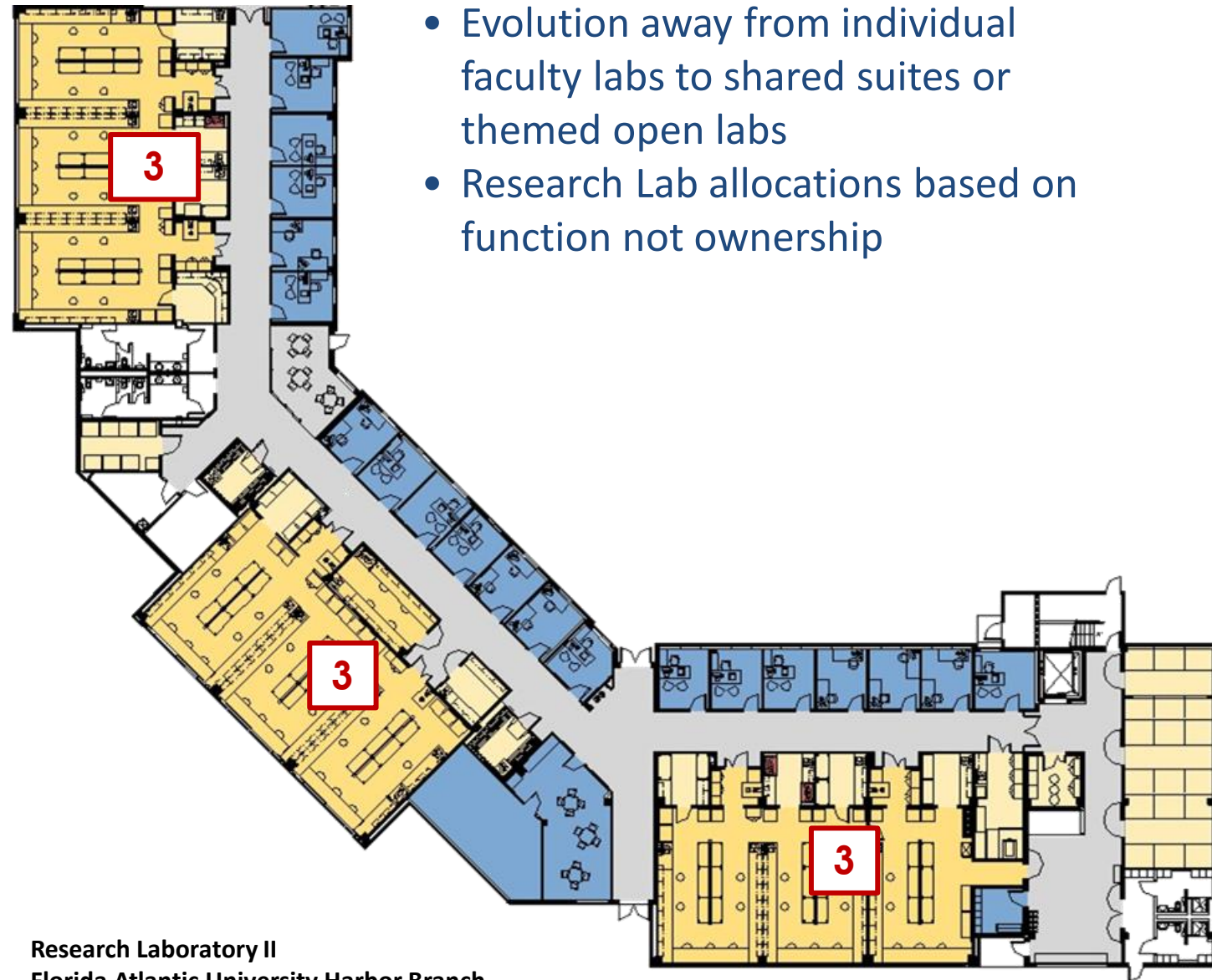


Public University



# Research Accommodations

- Evolution away from individual faculty labs to shared suites or themed open labs
- Research Lab allocations based on function not ownership

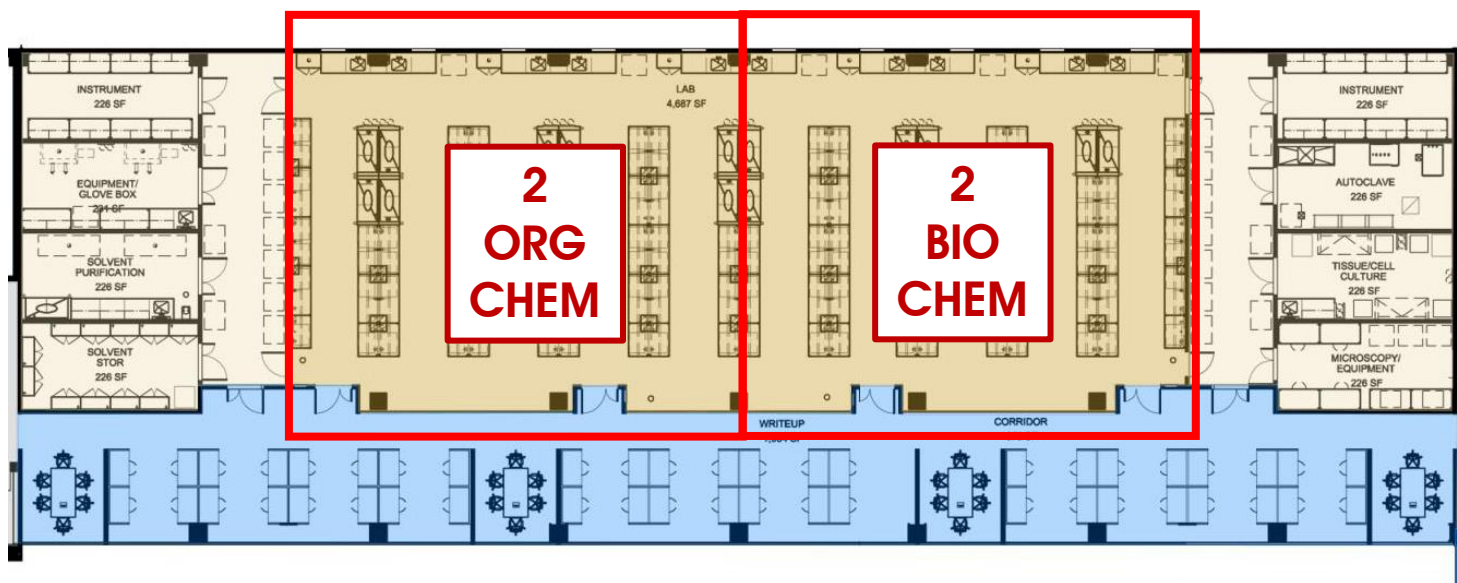


Research Laboratory II  
Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch  
PGAL

# Research Accommodations

## Environments for Discovery

- Evolution away from individual faculty labs to shared suites or themed open labs
- Research Lab allocations based on function not ownership



Frost Institute of Chemistry and Molecular Science  
University of Miami  
Harvard Jolly Architecture



# Undergraduate Research – Student Desks & Flexible Benches

Environments for Discovery



# Undergraduate Research Accommodations – Leveraged Research

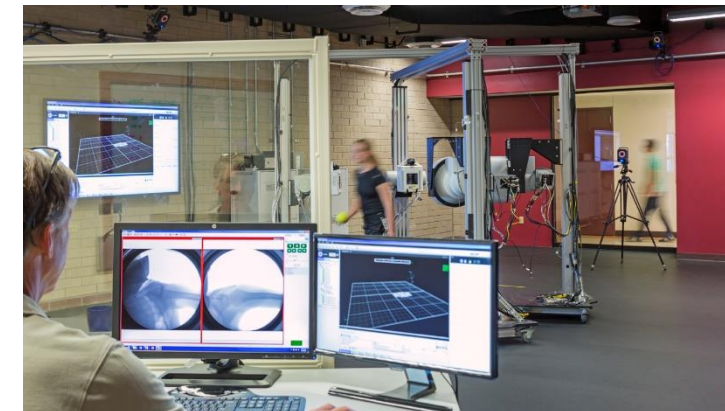
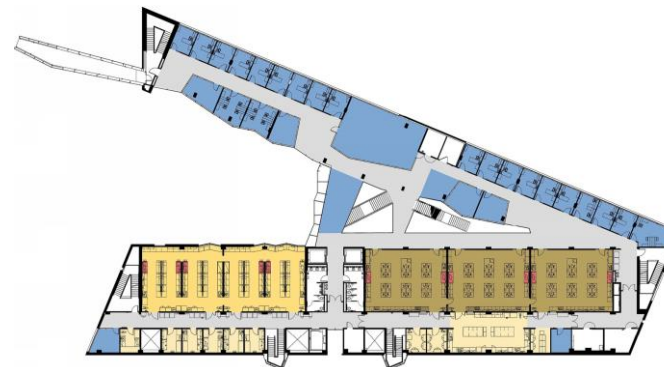
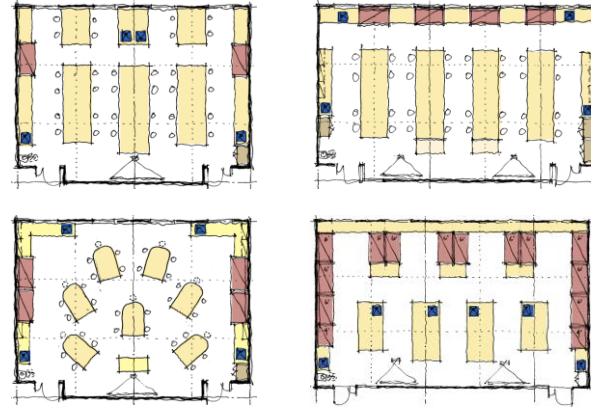
Environments for Discovery

- Modest dedicated Research allocation during the academic year
- Coupled with Teaching Laboratory for extended use during the summer
- Shared Laboratory Support Space in between



# Presentation Outline

- Considerations for STEM Environments
  - STEM Communities
  - Recruitment & Retention
  - Engaged, Active & Applied Learning
  - Transparency, Connections & Extended Learning
- Planning Trends for STEM
  - Building Planning Considerations
  - Active Learning Laboratories
  - Research & Project Laboratories
- Innovation & Maker Spaces
- Benchmarking & Metrics
- Key Takeaways





# Maker Space Types & Users

## Maker Spaces Variations:

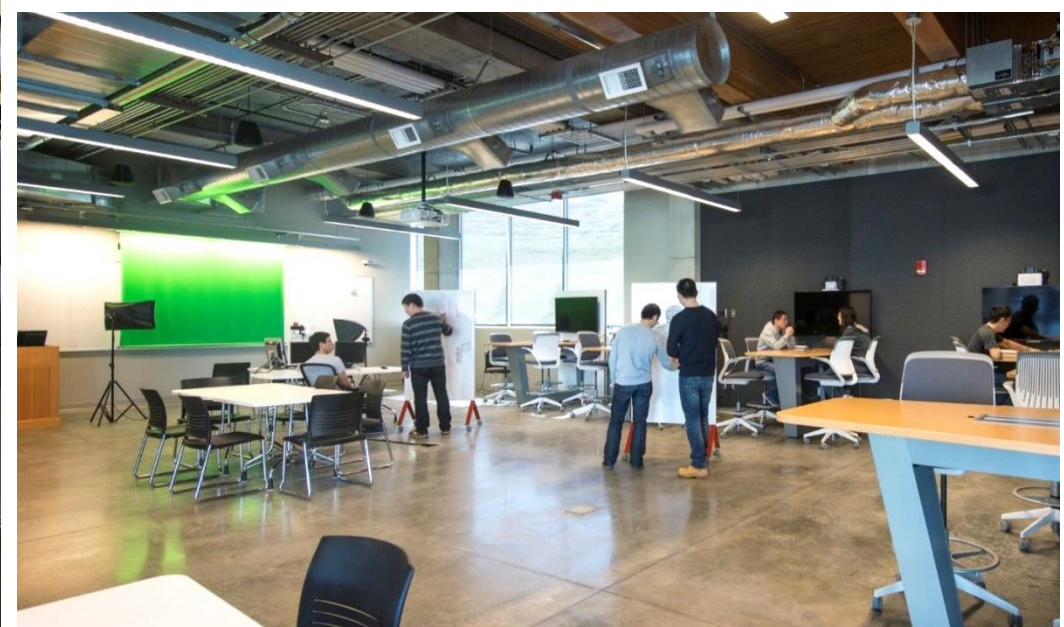
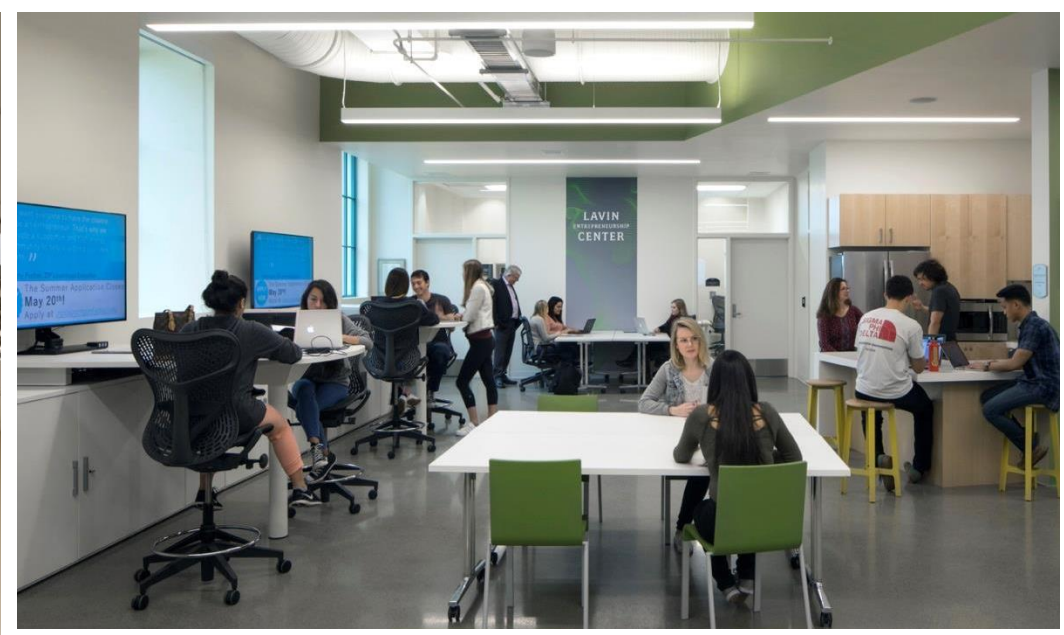
- Ideation & Visualization Labs
- Lightweight Tools & Materials Spaces
- Prototyping Labs
- Large Scale Shops
- Project Assembly Labs

## Maker Spaces Users:

- Scheduled Design Courses
- Senior Project / Capstone Teams
- Clubs & Competitions
- Entrepreneurial Incubator Projects
- Non-STEM Students & Outreach



# Design & Ideation Spaces



# Maker 'Light'



# Fabrication and Shops

## Large, Expensive Equipment:

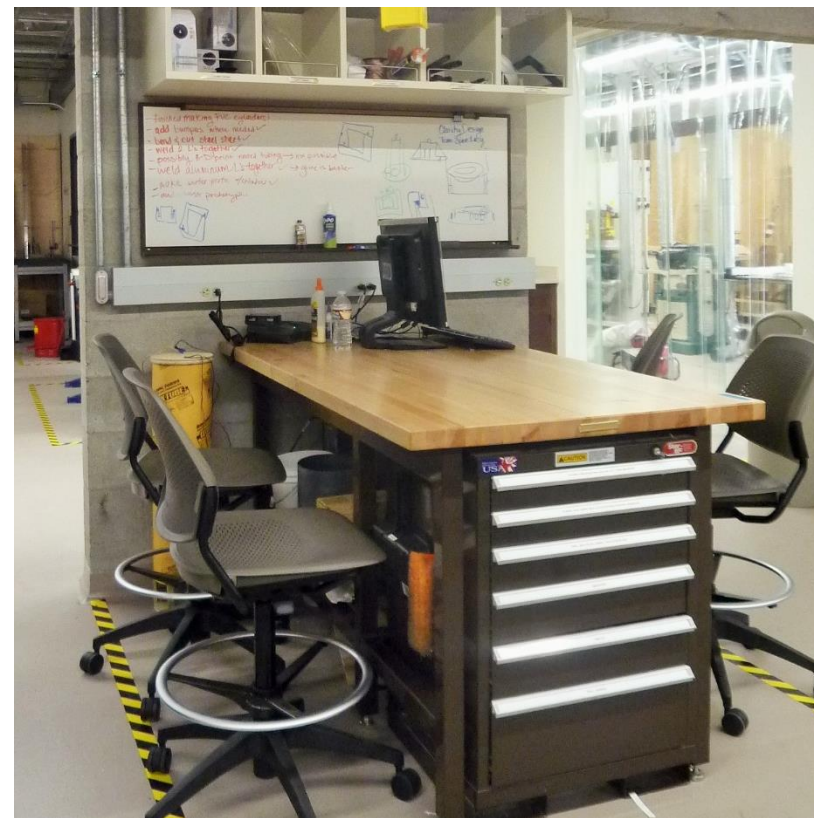
- Woodworking
- Machining
- Composites
- CNC



# Project & Assembly

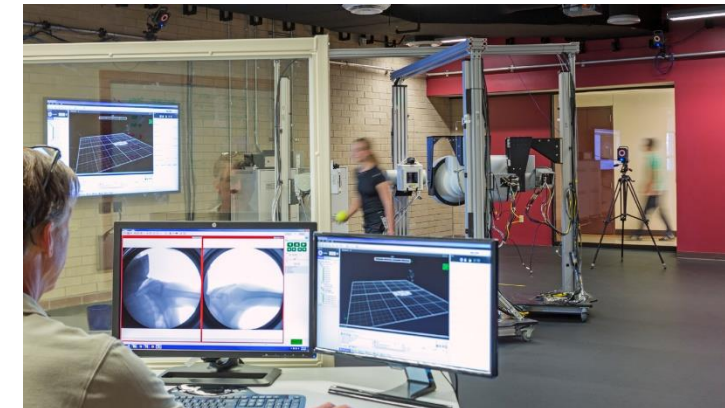
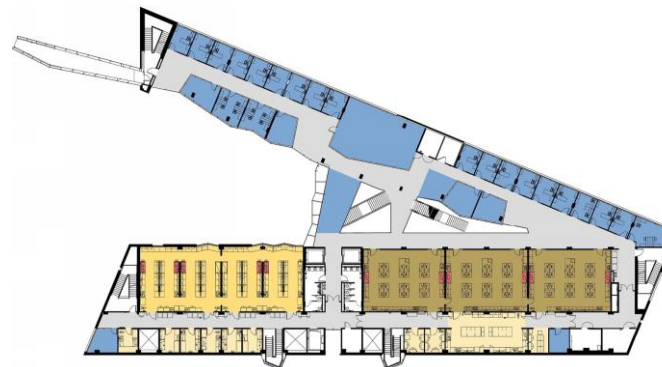
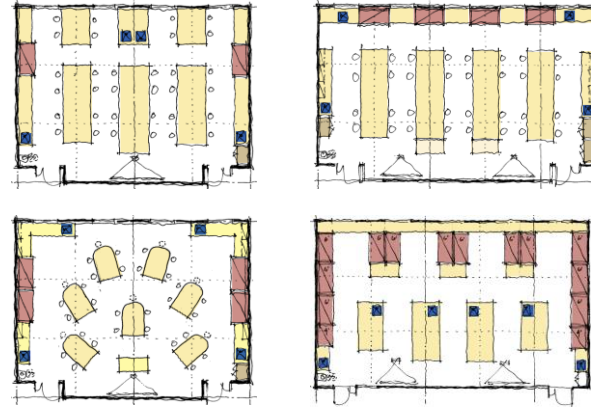
## Project Space

- Student Benches
- Work & Tool Stations
- Student Storage
- Open Floor Space



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- **Benchmarking & Metrics**
- **Key Takeaways**



# Benchmarking Application to Your Project

- Use as a 'Guide' not a 'Predictor'
- Align with Similar Projects
- Checks and Balances

**South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI)**  
 Completion: 2014  
 Location: Adelaide, Australia  
 Net (pharm) building: 13,000  
 Laboratory & Laboratory Support: 81,240  
 Construction Cost: \$36,000,000

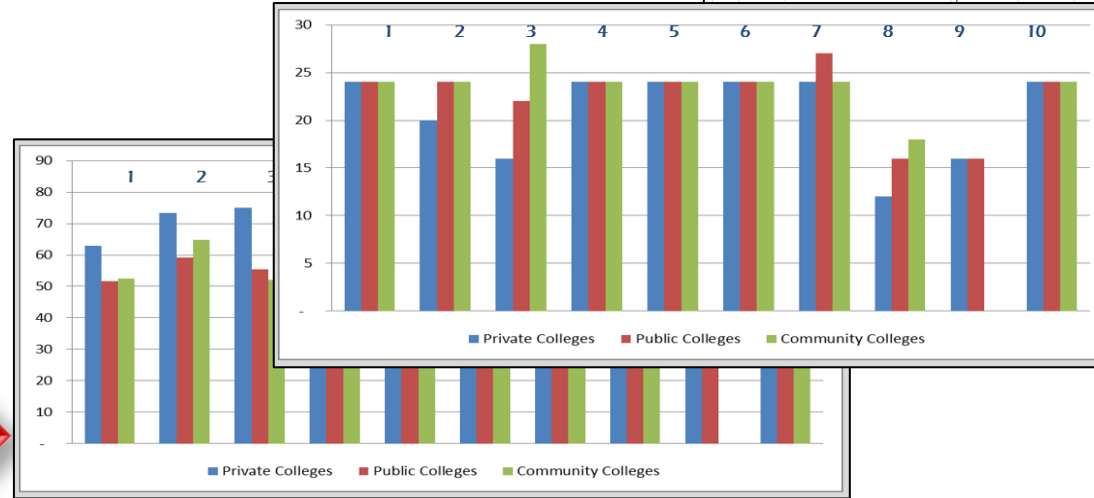
**Energy Biosciences Institute**  
 Completion: 2014  
 Location: Berkeley, California  
 Net (pharm) building: 15,108  
 Laboratory & Laboratory Support: 81,240  
 Construction Cost: \$36,000,000

**Engineered Biosystems Building EBB1**  
 Completion: 2018  
 Location: Atlanta, Georgia  
 Net (pharm) building: 10,000  
 Laboratory & Laboratory Support: 45,430  
 Construction Cost: \$36,000,000

### ROOM LIST / SPACE TABULATION

#### Overall Space Summary

Department	Option "A" - Reduce Pl's				March 27, 2012		Option "B" - Reduce All				March 27, 2012		
	Lab	Support	Office	Other	Total	Delta	Lab	Support	Office	Other	Total	Delta	
1 College of Science	13,740	8,400	13,390	2,050	37,580	-13,360	20,310	12,390	15,990	2,250	50,940	0	
	15	38%					23	38%					
2 College of Engineering	12,690	7,665	8,550	1,600	30,505	-12,035	19,260	11,130	10,350	1,800	42,540	0	
	15	38%					23	37%					
3 Core Facilities	0	4,830	0	0	4,830	0	0	4,830	0	0	4,830	0	
4 Vivarium	0	31,350	0	0	31,350	0	0	31,350	0	0	31,350	0	
5 Building Facilities	0	3,150	0	6,800	9,950	0	0	3,150	0	6,800	9,950	0	
<b>Total ASF</b>	<b>26,676</b>	<b>55,396</b>	<b>21,940</b>	<b>10,450</b>	<b>114,462</b>	<b>-25,395</b>	<b>39,940</b>	<b>62,851</b>	<b>26,340</b>	<b>10,850</b>	<b>139,981</b>	<b>0</b>	
Assumed Net/Gross Ratio						<b>0.57</b>						<b>0.57</b>	
Estimated Total Building Area						<b>200,810</b>						<b>245,580</b>	
						Construction Cost/GSF by Type of Space				Construction Cost/GSF by Type of Space			
						Laboratory + Support	Core Functions	Vivarium	Office/Admin + Conference				
						\$400	\$400	\$500	\$225	\$400	\$400	\$500	\$225
Estimated Construction Cost						<b>\$73,496,053</b>					<b>\$366</b>	<b>\$89,843,421</b>	



# Net / Gross Building Efficiency Ratio

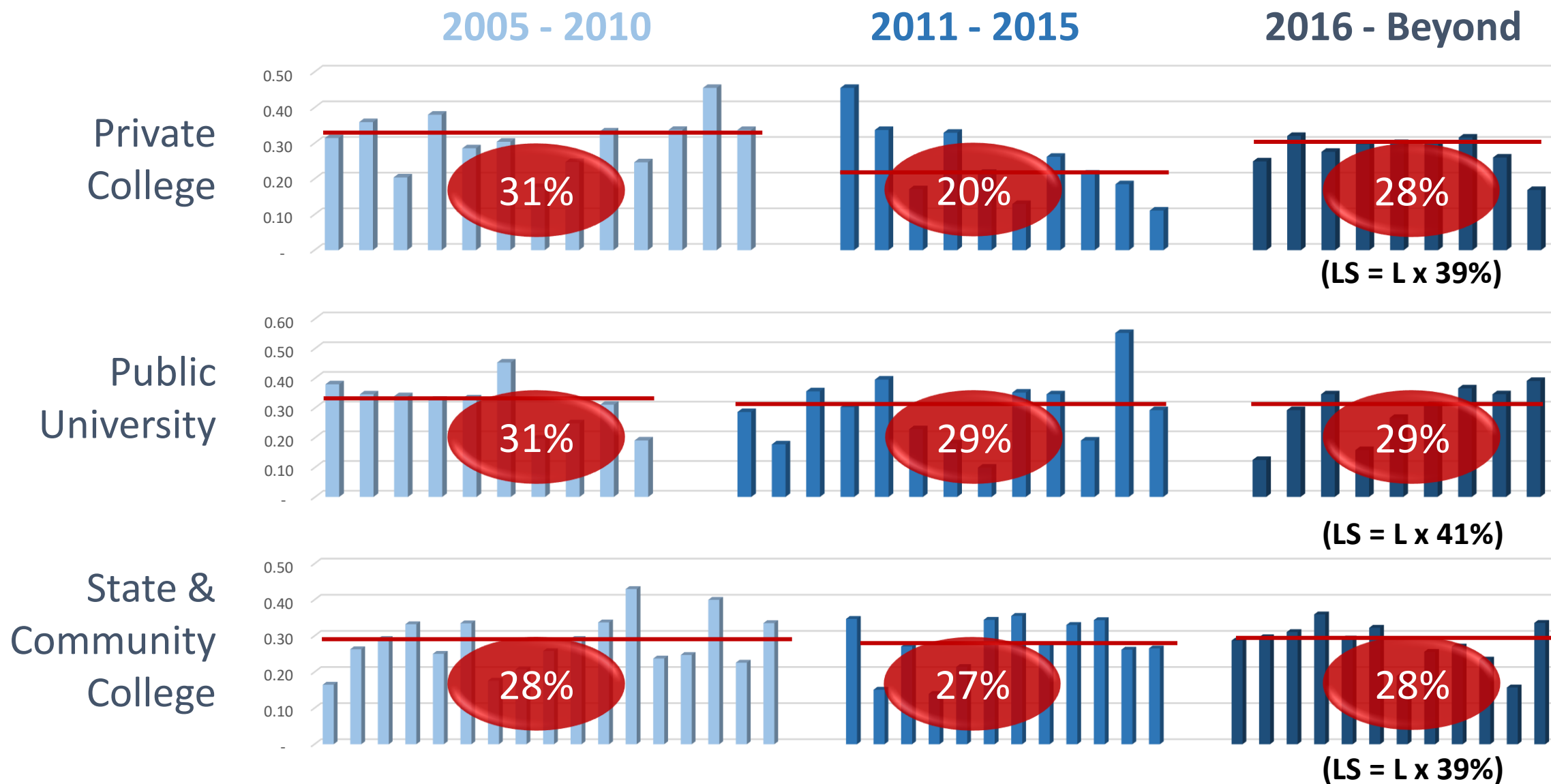
**Total Net SF / Total Gross SF**





# Laboratory Support Area Ratio

Lab Support / Lab + Lab Support



# Laboratory Support Area Ratio

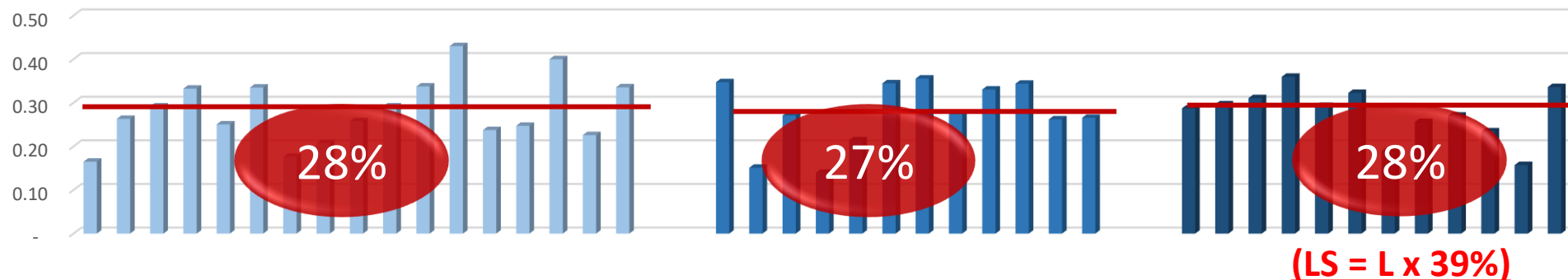
Lab Support / Lab + Lab Support



## Example:

- 10 teaching labs x 1,320 NSF each
- 13,200 NSF teaching lab area
- **13,200 x 39% = 5,148 NSF laboratory support space over and above the teaching lab space**

State & Community College



# Laboratory Support Area Ratio

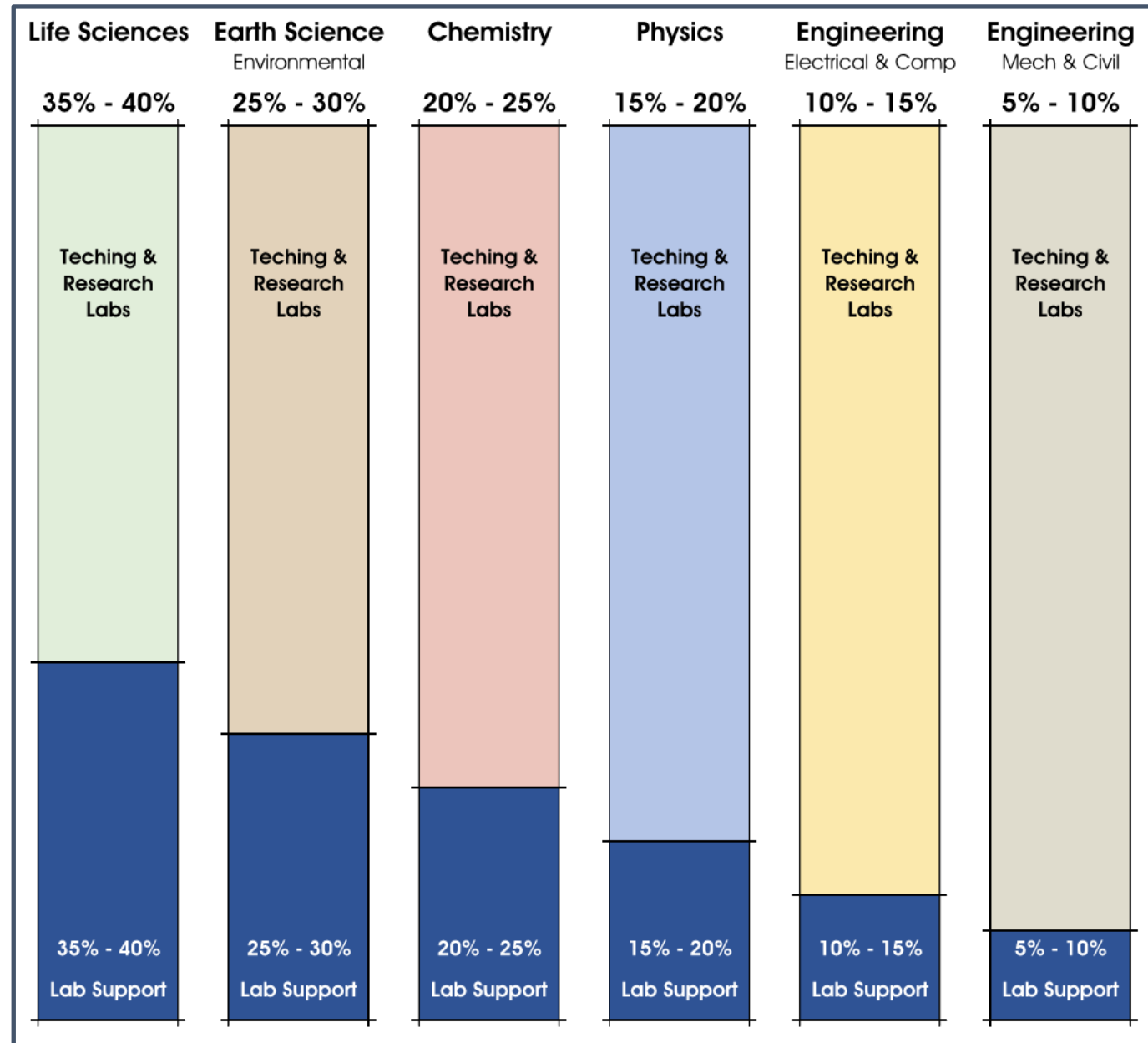
## Programming Tools

### Lab Support / Lab + Lab Support

- Lab Support Ratios vary significantly by Discipline
- Life Sciences have much higher Lab Support Ratios
- Engineering facilities have much lower Lab Support Ratios
- Chemistry & Physics somewhere in between

### Why is lab support important?

- Can help make laboratory space more flexible and efficient
- Helps recruit & retain faculty & staff
- Improves equipment usable life & functionality
- Can support work force training
- Supports transfer students' knowledge base
- Improves student experience

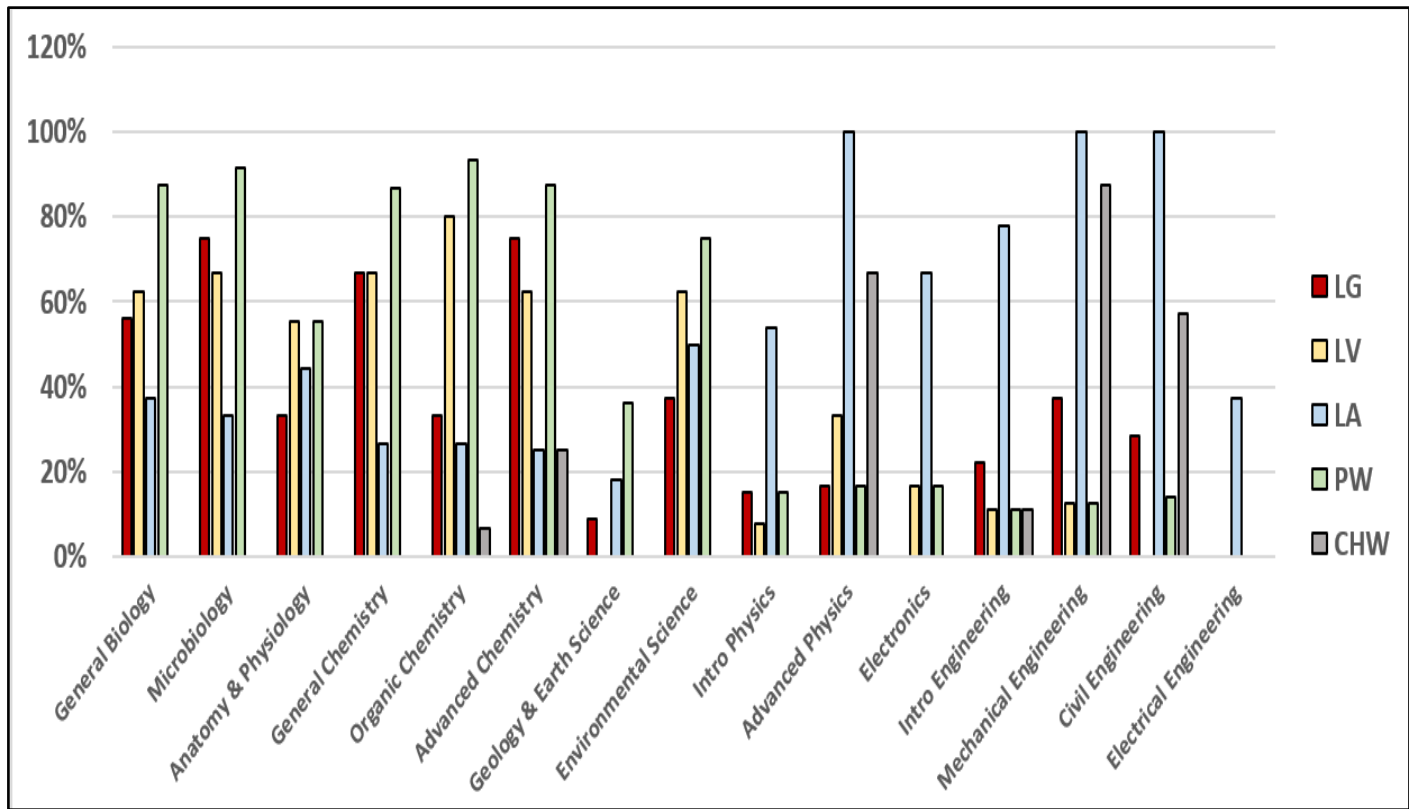


# STEM Teaching Laboratory Piped Services

- Overall decreasing density of piped services
- Purified Water and Lab Vacuum are still common in Biology and Chemistry
- High density of Compressed Air in Engineering Labs – much less in other disciplines
- Reduction in use of Natural Gas for Sustainability, Safety and Cost Reasons

## 2015 – Current Piped Services Distribution

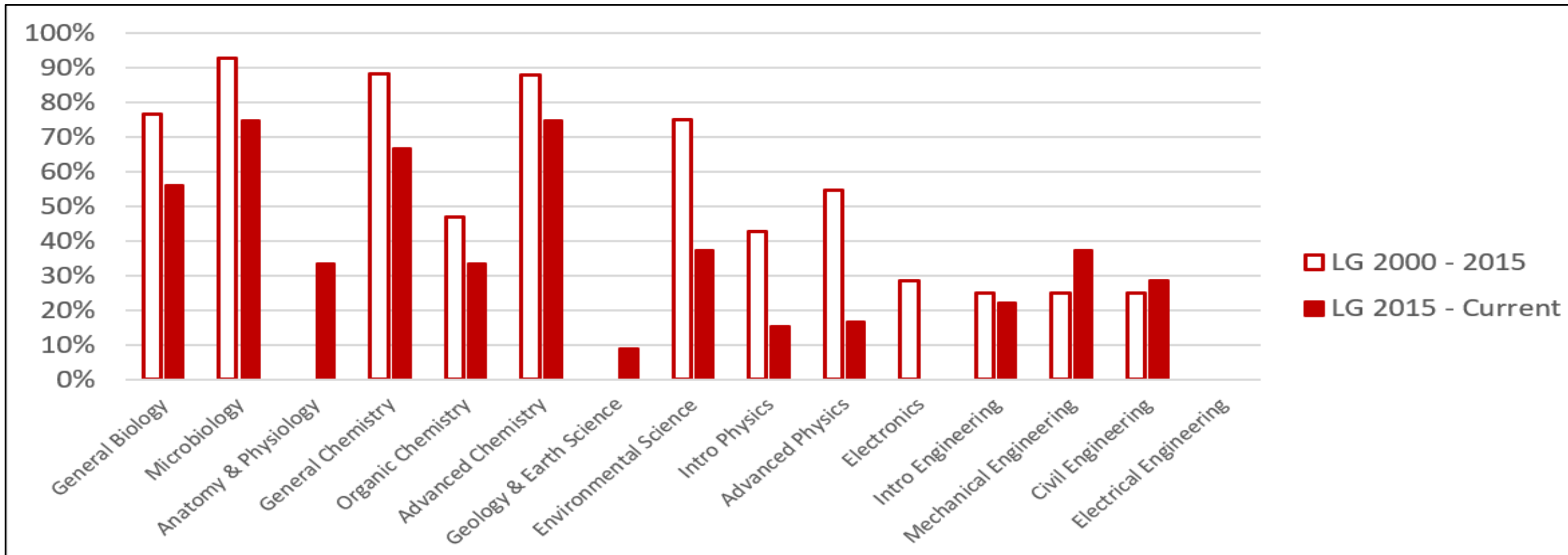
2015 - Current	LG	LV	LA	PW	CHW
General Biology	56%	63%	38%	88%	0%
Microbiology	75%	67%	33%	92%	0%
Anatomy & Physiology	33%	56%	44%	56%	0%
General Chemistry	67%	67%	27%	87%	0%
Organic Chemistry	33%	80%	27%	93%	7%
Advanced Chemistry	75%	63%	25%	88%	25%
Geology & Earth Science	9%	0%	18%	36%	0%
Environmental Science	38%	63%	50%	75%	0%
Intro Physics	15%	8%	54%	15%	0%
Advanced Physics	17%	33%	100%	17%	67%
Electronics	0%	17%	67%	17%	0%
Intro Engineering	22%	11%	78%	11%	11%
Mechanical Engineering	38%	13%	100%	13%	88%
Civil Engineering	29%	0%	100%	14%	57%
Electrical Engineering	0%	0%	38%	0%	0%



# STEM Teaching Laboratory Piped Services

- Overall decreasing density of piped services
- Purified Water and Lab Vacuum are still common in Biology and Chemistry
- High density of Compressed Air in Engineering Labs – much less in other disciplines
- **Reduction in use of Natural Gas for Sustainability, Safety and Cost Reasons**

## Comparison - Natural Gas Reductions in Teaching Labs



# Laboratory Ventilation Air

## Almost Always Recirculating Air:

- Computer Sciences
- GIS
- Astronomy

## Sometimes Recirculating Air:

- Physics
- Engineering
- Geology
- Earth Science

## Almost Always Once - Through Air:

(Minimum Make-up Air)

- Maker Spaces
- Shops
- Mechanical & Civil Engineering

## Always Once - Through Air:

(Required Elevated Air Change Rates)

- Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Biology



# Laboratory Ventilation Air

## Recirculating Air:

- Computer Sciences
- GIS
- Astronomy



# Laboratory Ventilation Air

## Sometimes Recirculating Air:

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# Laboratory Ventilation Air

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(Minimum Make-up Air)

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# Laboratory Ventilation Air

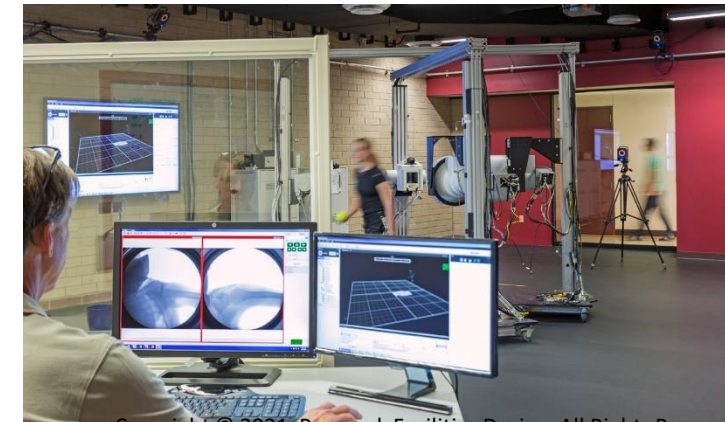
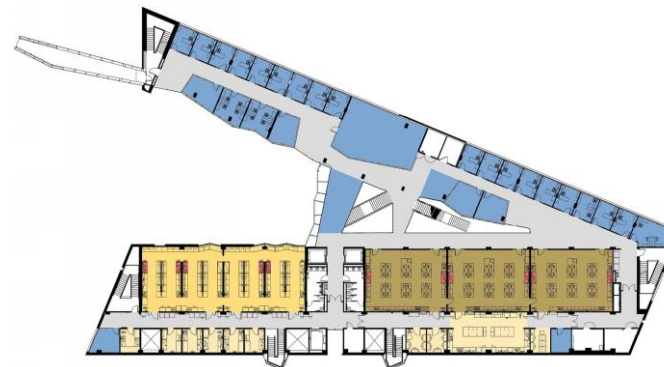
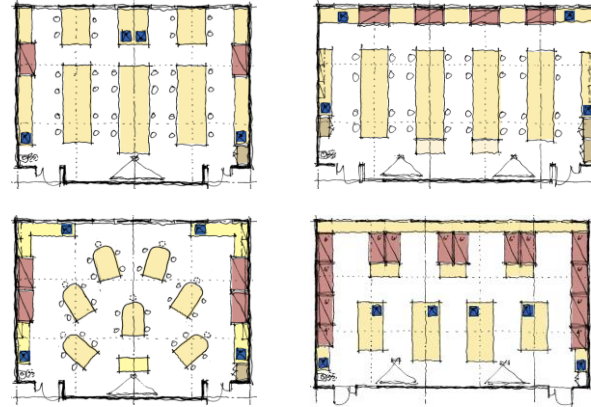


## Always Once - Through Air (Required Elevated Air Change Rates)

- Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Anatomy & Physiology
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# Key Takeaways

- 1. Extend your STEM Community**  
*Focus on the People –  
Students, Faculty, Outreach*
- 2. Connect your Learning Environments**  
*Clusters & Multi-use Neighborhoods  
Engage Future STEM Learners*
- 3. Learn from others but identify and  
celebrate what is unique about YOU.**



# Key Takeaways



**4. STEM can be 'Magic'!!**

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