

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences Building California State University, San Bernardino

Designers:	Anthony J. Lumsden FAIA principal for design, John Lumsden project designer, Tom Wooge FF&E layout
Company:	DMJM / AJLA
Completion Date:	2002
Program Elements:	Faculty offices, administrative offices, exhibition spaces, computer labs, wet-labs, auditoria, lecture classrooms, library resource center and archives, dining facilities
Size:	130,000 square feet of new construction on five floors above grade and one below
Budget:	\$25 Million
Activities:	Design of the new facility with input from faculty members, administration, and observation of the activities of the various schools. All aspects of the building design from site planning and adjacency studies and initial schematic floor plans through construction documents
Client:	California State University San Bernardino William F. Shum, Director Physical Planning and Development 550 University Parkway San Bernardino, CA 92407-2397 (909) 880-5136 Ph. (909) 880-5989 Fax

General description:

The School of Social and Behavioral Sciences is located at the point where the main east west pedestrian spine of the California State University, San Bernardino campus transitions into an open landscaped area with views to nearby mountains. The building extends above and below this spine to form a gateway at this transition. Faculty and administrators analyzed alternative sectional functional locations resulting in a preference for plans with different floor sizes. Building massing related to different floor sizes is used to change the scale of the building in relation to the existing campus.



The building is arranged in five levels and a basement. Access, interdepartmental adjacencies and privacy are a major determinant of their sectional placement. The building is organized sectionally by department and function. Auditoriums and labs and classrooms, which have the largest student access loads, are positioned on the first and second floors to maximize convenient access and security.

Upper floors of the building are organized into three parallel bars. Skylit and glazed spaces between these bars serve as circulation for the building and provide natural light and views to exterior landscape. Major corridors and circulation are further enhanced by a series of skylights with penetrations and open stairs between levels distributing the natural light from above. These parallel corridors serve and distinguish between faculty offices and student access to laboratory and classrooms. Lobbies and corridors connected to these vertical circulation nodes are designed to provide views to landscaped spaces and adjacent hills and to introduce natural light into the corridor system to create a beneficial ambiance and orient the building users.

Student classrooms and staff offices are located on opposite sides of the building, each accessible by separate corridor systems, which are connected by stairs and skylights to provide a maximum of convenience and accessibility between faculty members. Wonderful views to adjacent landscaped areas and to near by mountains are provided in all these office and classroom spaces. Exterior sunshades and "Low E" glass minimize the heat gain

The building for the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences accommodates the disciplines of psychology, anthropology, archeology, sociology and political sciences. It houses faculty offices, administration, classrooms, laboratories, observation and testing areas, auditoriums, multi-media spaces and computer labs.

Auditoriums and large classrooms are also shared by other departments of the university campus and are located on the first and second floors to be directly accessible from the exterior for privacy and convenience.

Access to these areas is at grade or by exterior ramps or stairs on earth embankments. Outdoor decks and landscape supplement these embankments for student activity and transition the mass of the building into the landscaped outdoor areas adjacent to the main east-west pedestrian spine of the campus.

Sectionally, the building is organized by departments. Labs requiring direct connection to the service docks are located at the basement



level which extends below the pedestrian spine to connect to an existing truck service bay. This extension retains the concept of minimum vehicular intrusion into the pedestrian domain. Light wells and upper volumes extend into the basement lighting the lower level lobbies and circulation.

These varied floor areas and programs were organized incorporating a vertical and horizontal circulation system based in convenient access, which introduces natural light and views into the corridors and lobby spaces.

Examples of the Design Process

Problem: How can the working environment of faculty be enhanced?

Solution: Faculty offices are elevated and oriented toward the best views with large amounts of glass. Student classrooms and staff offices are separated and located on opposite sides of the building, each accessible by separate corridor systems. The semi-private circulation spaces have large amounts of natural light and views within corridors from overhead skylights and windows. Faculty offices are connected by stairs and light wells to provide a maximum of convenience and accessibility between faculty members. This creates opportunities for communication with convenient and open stairs between faculty office floors. Wonderful views to adjacent landscaped areas and to nearby mountains are provided in all these office spaces. Exterior sunshades and “Low E” glass minimize the heat gain.

Problem: The 130,000 square-foot program for the new building will create a very massive building. How can the appearance of this mass be reduced?

Solution: The building is designed to minimize its bulk and relate to the surrounding buildings. Faculty and administrators analyzed alternative sectional functional locations resulting in a preference for plans with different floor sizes. The different floor sizes are used to reduce the scale of the building in relation to the existing campus. Large auditoriums project out from underneath the building and the first and second floor level. Access to these areas is at grade or by exterior ramps or stairs on earth embankments. Outdoor decks and landscape supplement these embankments for student activity and transition the mass of the building into the landscaped outdoor areas adjacent to the main east-west pedestrian spine of the campus.

Problem: Other departments of the university campus share Auditoriums and large classrooms. How can operational flexibility, security and access control to different areas of the facility be maintained?

Solution: Auditoriums, labs and classrooms, which have the largest student access loads, are positioned on the first and second floors to maximize convenient access, security,

and privacy. These areas have multiple access points that can be independently controlled so that portions of the building can be closed and secured while other areas can remain open.

Problem: Create flexible laboratory spaces

Solution: Large lab blocks are accessed from the perimeter maximizing future reconfiguration options.

Problem: Some labs require direct access to existing truck service bay located across the existing pedestrian circulation spine. How can important pedestrian circulation patterns be maintained while allowing direct access to truck loading areas?

Solution: Extend the labs located in the basement of the building under the pedestrian spine to the service bay. Open two floors at the ground level and allow students to pass through the footprint of the building without entering it. The building extends above and below this spine to form a gateway at this transition. This extension retains the concept of minimum vehicular intrusion into the pedestrian domain. Light wells and upper volumes extend into the basement lighting the lower level lobbies and circulation.



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November 1, 2002

Long Beach City College
4901 East Carson Street
Long Beach, CA 90808

RE: Social and Behavioral Sciences Building at California State University
San Bernardino

To whom it may concern,

As Director of Physical Planning and Development for California State University at San Bernardino, I have been very aware of the design of the building developed by Anthony Lumsden for the Behavioral Science department since its inception. The design of the building is a great success and is very beautiful. It is especially rewarding that the building has been developed out of very logical analysis of the program and the site.

The building is on budget and will be completed in September 2002.

The disposition of functions, the adjacencies, the massing of the building, and the sectional organization were developed through analysis of the desired locations expressed by the staff. These functions are organized so that the elements of architecture that make the use of the building more enjoyable such as spatial variety, natural light, and views to the exterior have been used to greatly enhance the building and will contribute substantially to the pleasure of the staff and students using the facility. Assistant Dean of Behavioral Science, Dr. Jenny J. Zorn has commented that she was, "delighted and surprised by the wonderful natural light in the building".

The Behavioral Science facility is sited to relate to the adjacent structures, to views to the landscaped areas and mountains, and to the established pedestrian circulation routes. On the East side, adjacent to the pedestrian spine, the terraced outdoor spaces modify the building scale to relate to the existing campus structures.

The President of California State University at San Bernardino Dr. Albert K. Karnig and Dr. David De Moro are very enthusiastic about the building as are Dean Dr. John Conley and Assistant Dean Dr. Jenny J. Zorn. My staff shares my own very positive opinion of the building.

Mr. Lumsden's design process is focused on solving the whole complex of data and client goals that buildings like the Behavioral Science facility require. It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Lumsden very highly as an architect. In addition to the Behavioral Science Building, he has designed many other structures in California that have received public acclaim.

Yours truly,

William F. Shum
Director of Physical Planning and Development

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