



Green School Building  
New Construction

**VCBO ARCHITECTURE**

Architect of Record  
524 S. 600 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102  
www.vcbo.com  
Peter Brunjes, AIA, LEED AP  
801/575-8800

**ELLENZWEIG**

Design and Program Architect  
www.ellenzweig.com

**DESIGN TEAM**

Peter Brunjes, AIA, LEED AP,  
Principal, Managing Architect  
Miltos Catomeris, AIA,  
Principal, Design Architect  
Michael Lauber, AIA,  
Program Architect  
Derek Payne, AIA, LEED AP,  
Project Manager  
Big-D Construction,  
General Contractor

**OWNER/CLIENT**

University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Dr. Lorris Betz,  
Senior Vice President  
801/581-7480

Type of School and Grades  
Served: University

Capacity: 1,100 students

Size of Site: 3.7 acres

Area of Building:

156,180 square feet

Volume of Building:

2.3 million cubic feet

Space per Student:

142 square feet

Cost per Student: \$25,455

Square Foot Cost: \$179

Cost of Construction:

\$28 million

Total Project Cost: \$40 million

Contract Date: May 2003

Completion Date: May 2005

Percent of Completion: 100%

# University of Utah, Spencer F. and Cleone P. Eccles Health Sciences Education Building, Salt Lake City, Utah

VCBO Architecture / Ellenzweig



EXTERIOR

The first university project to receive LEED certification in Utah, the Health Sciences Education Building (HSEB) is the teaching and student center for all of the Health Sciences on the University of Utah campus.

The thought processes that led to LEED certification also resulted in an overall creative design, because sustainable design elements also helped meet the challenges of fitting a 156,000-square-foot building onto a tight site in a dense urban setting. Constant reviews of the LEED checklist during design and construction led to the incorporation of many innovations into the final solution.

The HSEB uses daylighting as the predominant light source during daytime hours. The four-story atrium is a central organizing element in this



ATRIUM

PHOTOS: TOP, ROB BESHLINE; BOTTOM, PAUL RICHER/RICHER IMAGES



BUILDING PLAZA



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF BUILDING AND PLAZA

strategy, allowing visual connections on floors 2 through 5, symbolically connecting the different disciplines occupying various locations in the building. An innovative feature of the atrium is the passive smoke evacuation in lieu of a mechanical system.

The building exterior, primarily glass curtain wall, metal panel, and red brick (similar to adjacent buildings), identifies the HSEB as part of the Health Sciences campus. The glass curtain wall defines the exterior

of the main corridor and the atrium, marking these elements as special spaces and maximizing their openness. On the west façade, sunscreens and fritted glass reduce glare and heat on the interior and animate the exterior with ever-changing shadows throughout the day. LEED credits were realized through extensive daylighting and the high-efficiency glass curtain wall.

The building design considers the importance of encouraging foot and bicycle traffic



EXTERIOR



DAYLIT HALLWAY

by providing attractive public gathering spaces. The café is located on the pedestrian entry façade, with access to the outdoor plaza.

As a destination, the café and plaza are most easily reached on foot. This integration of exterior space with the building's interior functions creates a pleasing transition and provides natural gathering spaces that contribute to a healthy ambience appropriate to the Health Sciences campus.

The HSEB is built to last and

to produce dividends in terms of lower operating costs and increased efficiency for years to come. With a life expectancy of 50 to 80 years, the HSEB is destined to become a beloved symbol of the progressive thinking that characterizes its academic setting.

A recent survey of faculty and students reported a very high level of satisfaction with the building's sustainability features, from recycling and daylighting, to encouraging carpooling and foot traffic. ■

PHOTOS: TOP LEFT & BOTTOM LEFT & RIGHT, PAUL RICHER/RICHER IMAGES; TOP RIGHT, ROB BESHUNE