



Project Highlights:

- 195,000 s.f. 8-story building in an urban setting
- Chosen as a Top Ten Green Project by AIA's Committee on the Environment in 2006.
- Completed August 2004
- Designed as a facility for higher education, health care and laboratory space.
- 41% reduction in energy use
- 48% reduction in potable water use
- Achieved LEED Gold certification

UT School of Nursing (Houston, TX)



Architects: BNIM Architects in collaboration with Lake|Flato Architects
Construction Manager: Jacobs/Vaughn, Inc.

CityCraft Services: Owner's Rep Integrative Design Management Sustainability Standard Advisement

The state-of-the-art University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston's School of Nursing and Student Community Center is situated on a small, urban site adjacent to Fay Park, within the heart of the Texas Medical Center campus. A pedagogical model of wellness, comfort, flexibility, environmental stewardship, and fiscal responsibility, it continues the University's shift toward healthy, environmentally responsible actions.

The building program balances the community and individual needs of the students and faculty. Study and support spaces help accommodate the needs of the many nontraditional students in the program. All the departments of the school share the classroom and practical lab spaces.

The building is estimated to use 41% less energy than a conventional, minimally code-compliant building. Design

strategies were implemented on four elevations and the roof, to accept desired daylight and reject unwanted heat. Three vertical atria, a horizontal atrium, a breezeway, and perimeter operable windows provide occupants with natural light and ventilation and connect the building to its site and environment. Water conservation components such as rainwater harvesting, waterless urinals and efficient fixtures reduced water demand by 48%.

This project was chosen as an AIA Committee on the Environment Top Ten Green Project for 2006. It was submitted by BNIM Architects, in Kansas City, Missouri, who designed the project in collaboration with Lake|Flato Architects, in San Antonio, Texas.