

Georgia College & State University Wellness and Recreation Center

Milledgeville, Ga.

The Student Recreation and Wellness Center at Georgia College & State University was designed to be a comprehensive health education, recreation and fitness facility that also supports indoor intramural activities. The building transforms a large impervious asphalt campus parking lot into a new green space, connecting the center with residential life.

Visitors pass through an access-control point that leads to the center's activity spaces, which include a three-court gymnasium with an elevated jogging track, a competitive swimming pool and leisure pools, fitness and weight training areas, a large multipurpose room and administrative offices. A secondary circulation corridor connecting locker rooms, the fitness center and a cantilevered multipurpose room runs east to west, creating a natural divider between the natatorium and the gymnasium volumes. The center also houses the university's wellness, recreational sports, student health services and counseling departments.

The project team employed many sustainable design strategies, including energy-efficient mechanical systems, daylighting, high-performance glazing and heavily fritted glass, exterior sun-control devices, bio-retention, recyclable materials, and a "super insulated" roof and envelope. Twenty-eight wall-mounted glass plaques weave together the university's themes of fitness and sustainability and contribute to the center's overall LEED Silver certification.



Nestled tightly against the existing athletic fields and residential quad, the new building and open green space create an iconic front door to the west campus.



Large expanses of curtain wall on the east and south facades foster daylight contemporary spaces while providing views of both interior activity and adjacent green spaces.

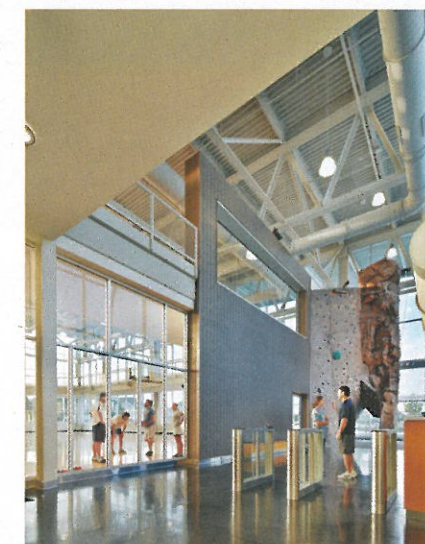


All mechanical systems are integrated into a "penthouse bridge" above the competition pool's spectator seating area.



The fitness area on the second floor boasts an open design with mostly unobstructed views of the entire space.

The front desk is located adjacent to the glass-enclosed three-court gym, allowing staff to observe the majority of activity while monitoring the nearby climbing wall.



Student health and counseling services are accessible via a more private secondary entrance.

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT:

Cannon Design
Boston, Mass.

ARCHITECT OF RECORD:

Menefee Architecture
Atlanta, Ga.

AQUATIC DESIGN ENGINEER:

Councilman-Hunsaker
St. Louis, Mo.

PROGRAMMING CONSULTANT:

Brailsford & Dunlavy
Washington, D.C.

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 120,000

COST: \$28 million

OCCUPANCY: September 2012