Project Background

Since construction began in the spring of 2005, the Student Resource Building was envisioned to act as a campus gateway which connects the University of California, Santa Barbara campus to the adjacent neighborhood of Isla Vista. This 68,413 square-feet facility also functions as a unique student hub and contains predominately student resource centers and university administrative offices. A child care center is also attached to the south side of this building which also features a garden pavilion. This building contains 3 levels all above grade.

The unique building was designed by Sasaki Associates with all MEP and Structural engineering by ARUP. Prominent architectural features include a unique elliptical Multipurpose Room on the north east side of the building as well a triple height forum at the heart of the building with pedestrian walkways located on either of side of the upper levels.

The roof in this area is raised approximately 10 feet above the rest of the roof structure and as such, allows room for operable clerestories to wrap all four sides. This not only allows for the space to be naturally lit during most hours of the year, but also allows a big proportion of this building to be naturally ventilated. Occupant circulation through this space is reliant primarily on the exposed staircase located in the forum as well as the pedestrian bridges that span the two sides on the upper levels. There is also a passenger elevator located near the west entry of the building.

A highly transparent glass and metal curtain wall system on the northern facade allows for efficient daylight utilization. The south façade is mostly clad with light-weight masonry rain screen and smaller sunshade equipped windows. A mixture of these elements is employed in the east and west facades.

Through the careful implementation of sustainable building practices, the Student Resource Building is expected to earn a LEED-NC Gold rating. This $1.9 million USD project was delivered using the traditional design-bid-build methodology and was completed at the end of last year in November 2006.