



University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law

Category: Architecture

Completed in Fall 2015, the University of Utah's new S.J. Quinney College of Law building supports the College's innovative pedagogical objectives by providing the ultimate collaborative environment. The facility is an entirely new development in legal education; inventive ways of allocating and configuring space break down conventional compartmentalized plans and distribute research, instruction, experiential learning, and clinical spaces throughout the building. The design reinforces the College's core values, including the commitment to high-quality legal scholarship and community-engaged learning and public service. Innovation and impact characterize the building's design and the activities of the students, faculty, and staff.

Site

The building occupies a prominent site and forms the initial gateway impression of the University of Utah campus, consistent with the Campus Master Plan objectives. The site is directly across from the light rail connection to downtown Salt Lake City. A large-scale forecourt welcomes the many pedestrians who enter campus through the building itself, or through a series of gracefully stepped gardens, an accessible route that traverses the 28-foot grade change. The dynamic, hospitable interior accommodates building occupants, and the many members of the University community who simply pass through and stop for coffee along their route to other campus destinations.

Program and Solution

The law is based on tradition and precedent, yet it is ever changing. The new College of Law building is a part of the University campus, emblematic of its history and legacy, while the programmatic organization and resultant pedagogy are innovative and groundbreaking.

The building's exterior facade is a play on balance: expressive with materials and form, the dualities inherent in the program. Earthen materials—brick and terracotta—extend from the ground, elemental in nature, evocative of longevity, monumentality, gravity. They house and frame boxes of glass and metal—by design articulating those parts of the program most suggestive of innovation, momentum and outreach.

Community space is elevated to the sixth floor, including an exterior terrace. The surrounding environment and views are brought to a vantage unlike any other on campus: a celebrated space for public events, discourse, and debate. The law library's open stacks form a bridge across the west facade, putting knowledge and information resources on display. The books form a portal for the building and the campus.

The building presents a bold facade toward the south, working in concert with the stadium across the street to form a gateway moment at the edge of campus.





Distributed Library



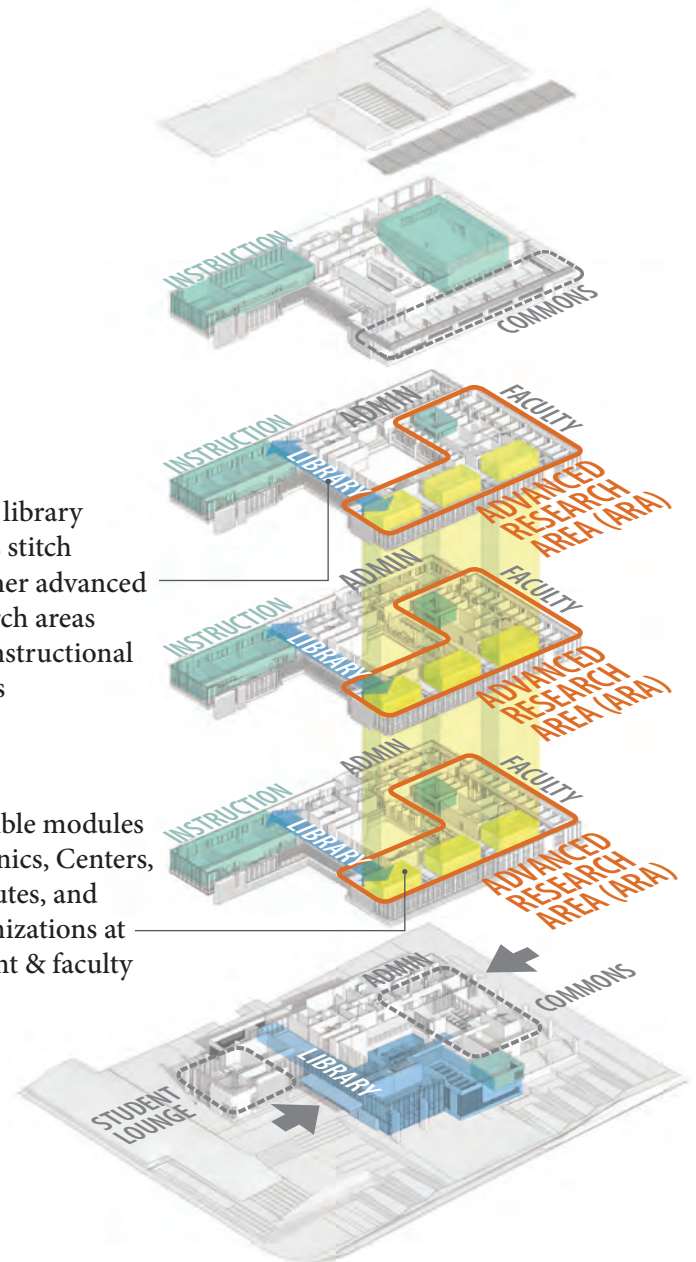
Advanced Research Area

Building Organization

The law library is open and distributed, and defines entry. Circulation, reference functions as building information.

Open library stacks stitch together advanced research areas and instructional spaces

9 flexible modules of Clinics, Centers, Institutes, and Organizations at student & faculty core

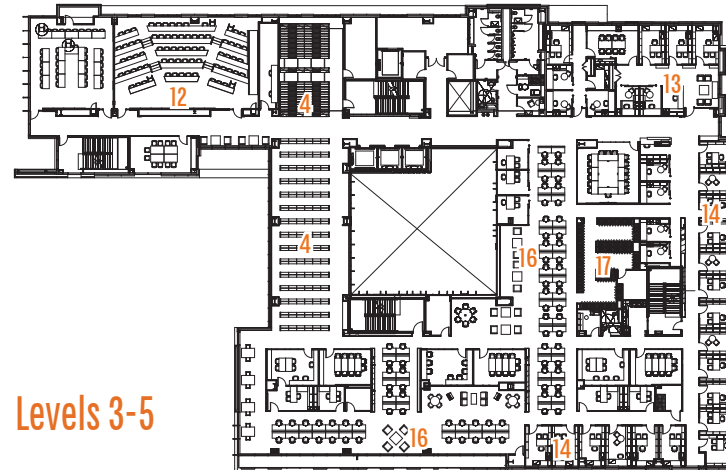
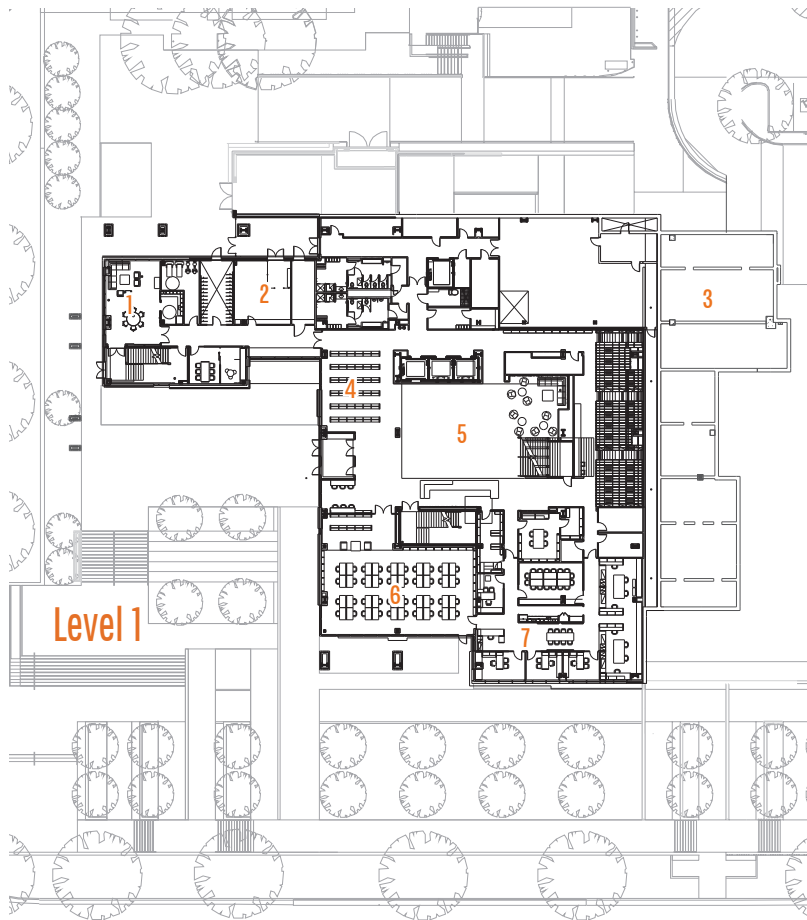
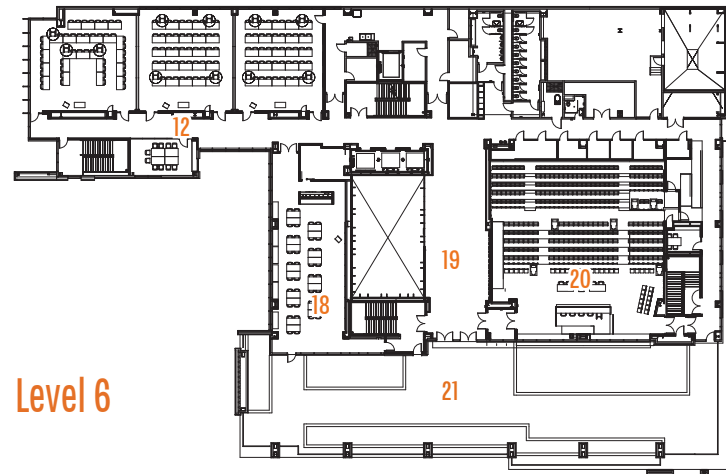
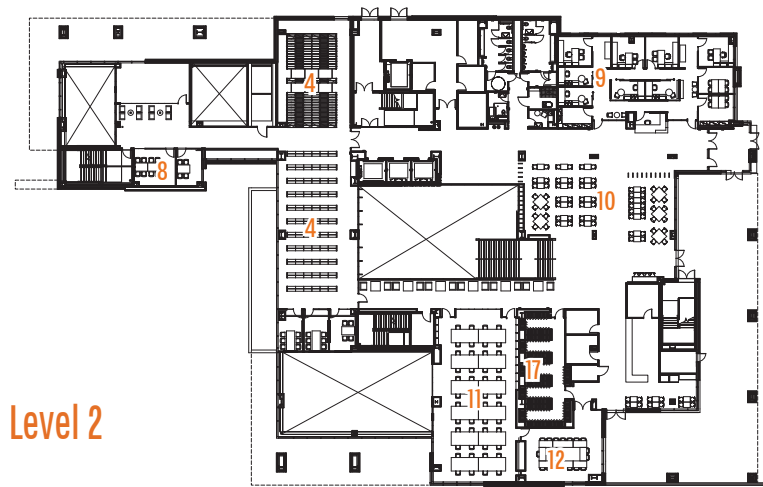


James T Jensen Transactional Training Center

3100

3220





- 1 Student lounge
- 2 Greywater treatment room
- 3 Well water storage tank
- 4 Library stacks
- 5 Atrium commons
- 6 Public reading room
- 7 Library administrative suite
- 8 Group study room
- 9 Administrative suite
- 10 Student dining/cafe
- 11 Quiet reading room
- 12 Classroom
- 13 Administrative suite
- 14 Faculty offices
- 15 Advanced Research Area: research module
- 16 Advanced Research Area: student workstations
- 17 Lockers
- 18 Faculty workshop/meeting room
- 19 Pre-function
- 20 Auditorium/courtroom
- 21 Roof terrace

Campus Gateway



An accessibility garden helps pedestrians navigate the site's 28-foot grade change.

Classrooms are positioned to provide views to nature.



West Facade



South Facade



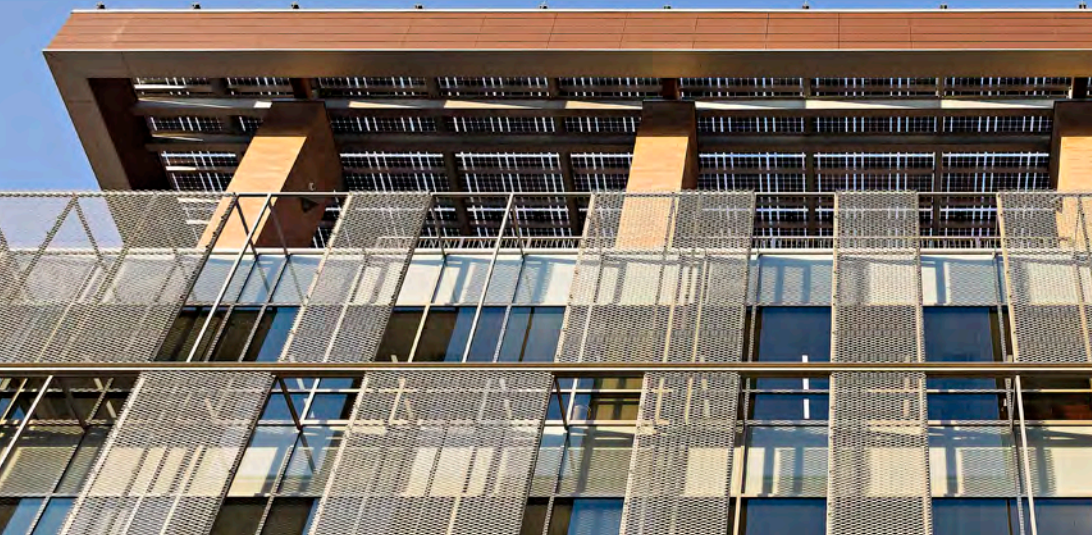
East Facade



North Facade

“It will be a living learning laboratory. Not only will this project contribute a vision for future buildings by reducing energy and water consumption, it will lead a broader conversation about institutional transformation.”

Myron Willson, Director, University of Utah Office of Sustainability



Sustainable Strategies

