

# CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION



MASTER'S PROJECT - TOMAS ALVAREZ



**MONMOUTH COLLEGE IS A LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTION SEEKING TO INCREASE INTERACTION AMONG ITS ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION.**

**THE PICTURESQUE CAMPUS, LOCATED IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS PRESENTS GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARCHITECTURAL EXPRESSION.**

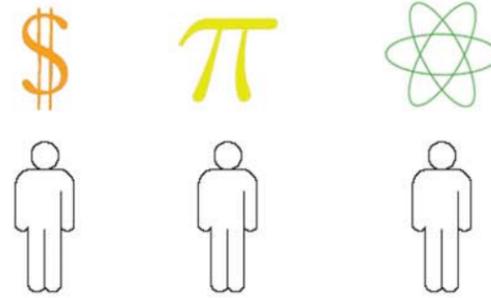
**THE RAPIDLY GROWING TOWN OF MONMOUTH, IL IS CHARACTERIZED BY ITS FARMING COMMUNITY, DIVERSIFIED POPULATION, AND RECENT INTEREST IN SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES.**

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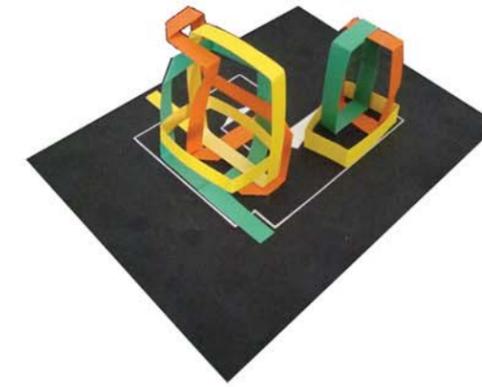
ACADEMIC BUILDING - MONMOUTH  
COLLEGE (IL).

THE PROGRAM MERGES THE DISCIPLINES  
OF BUSINESS, MATHEMATICS, AND SCI-  
ENCE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE NECES-  
SARY COLLABORATION TO ACHIEVE A  
SUCCESSFUL LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION.

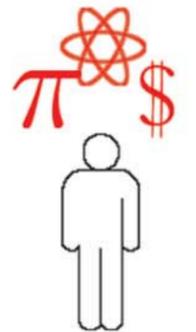
SHARED SPACES, EXPOSED FACULTY OF-  
FICES AND STUDIES, AND GUIDED CIRCU-  
LATION ARE INTENDED TO INCREASE IN-  
TERACTION AMONG STUDENTS AND FAC-  
ULTY.



CONVENTIONAL EDUCATION  
SEPARATES DISCIPLINES AND  
LIMITS EXPOSURE TO OTHER  
FIELDS, HENCE HINDERING STU-  
DENTS' LEARNING CAPACITY.



DNA \*CONCEPTUAL MODEL  
LABS AND CLASSROOMS FROM  
ALL DISCIPLINES ARE DISPERSED  
TO CREATE EXPOSURE  
THROUGH CIRCULATION.



AN EVOLVING CURRICULUM,  
AND A FACILITY THAT ENCOUR-  
AGES INTER-DISCIPLINARY  
COLLABORATION WILL RESULT IN  
A BROADER EDUCATION.

"'INTERDISCIPLINARY' REFERS TO A PROCESS [OF CONSTRUCTING] KNOWLEDGE IN WHICH STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS COME TOGETHER TO ANALYZE DIFFERENCES IN DISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO A PROBLEM AND TO WORK TOWARD A MORE COMPREHENSIVE VIEW THAN ALLOWED BY THE VISION OF ANY ONE FIELD."

"ALL DISCIPLINES HAVE IMPORTED ASPECTS OF OTHER FIELDS TO CLARIFY THEIR OWN DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES."

"[INTERDISCIPLINARY] INITIATIVES SEEK TO PROMOTE CONNECTED LEARNING BEYOND THE DISCIPLINE AS A PRIMARY GOAL -- PURSUING KNOWLEDGE THAT INTEGRATES AND SYNTHESIZES THE PERSPECTIVES OF SEVERAL DISCIPLINES INTO A CONSTRUCTION THAT IS GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS DISTINCTLY DISCIPLINARY PARTS."



1856



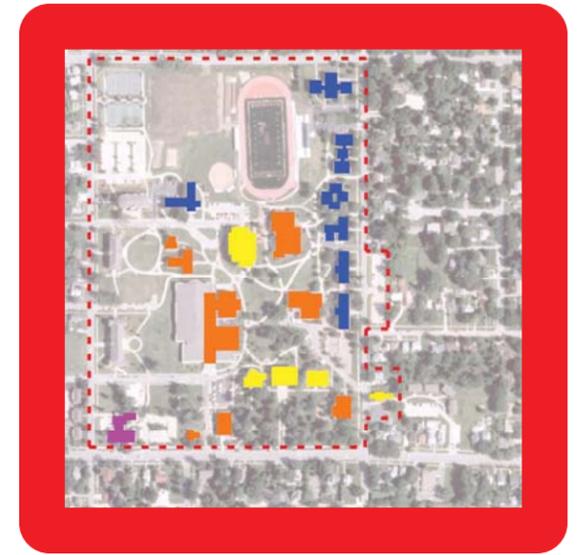
1892



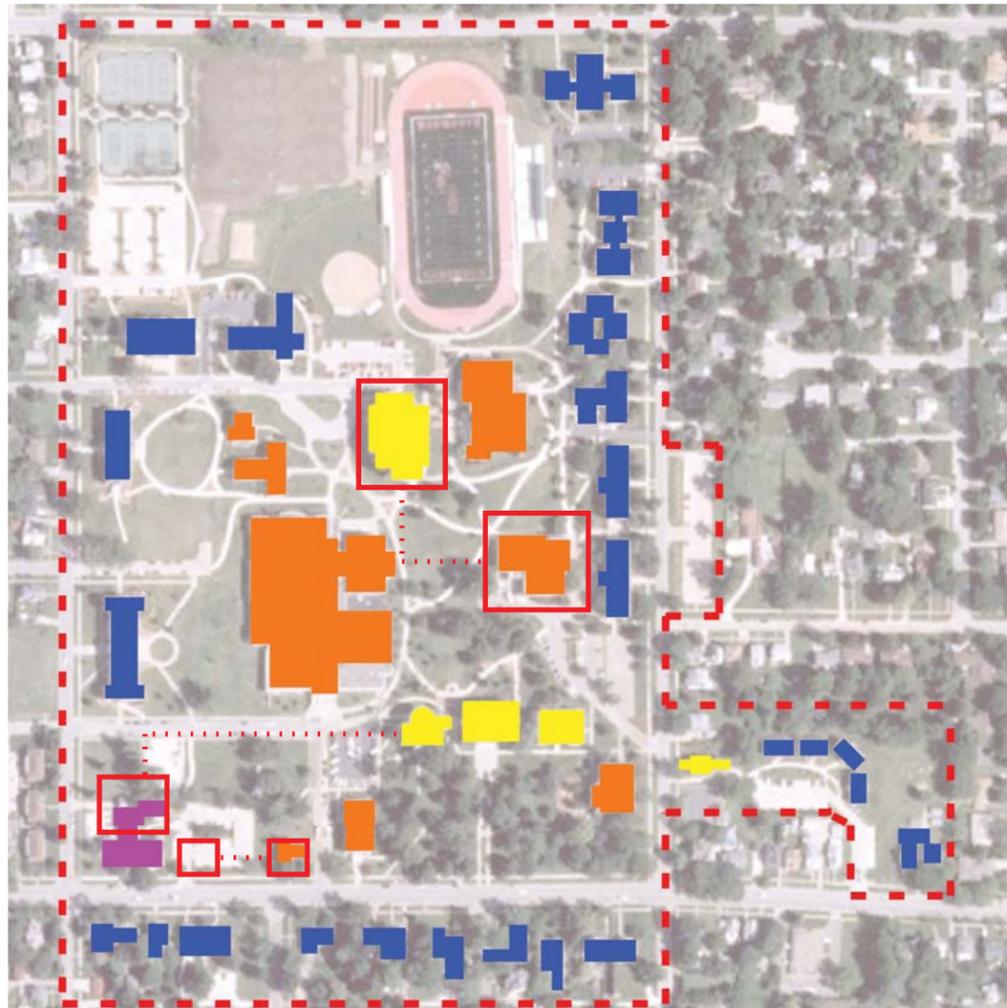
1913



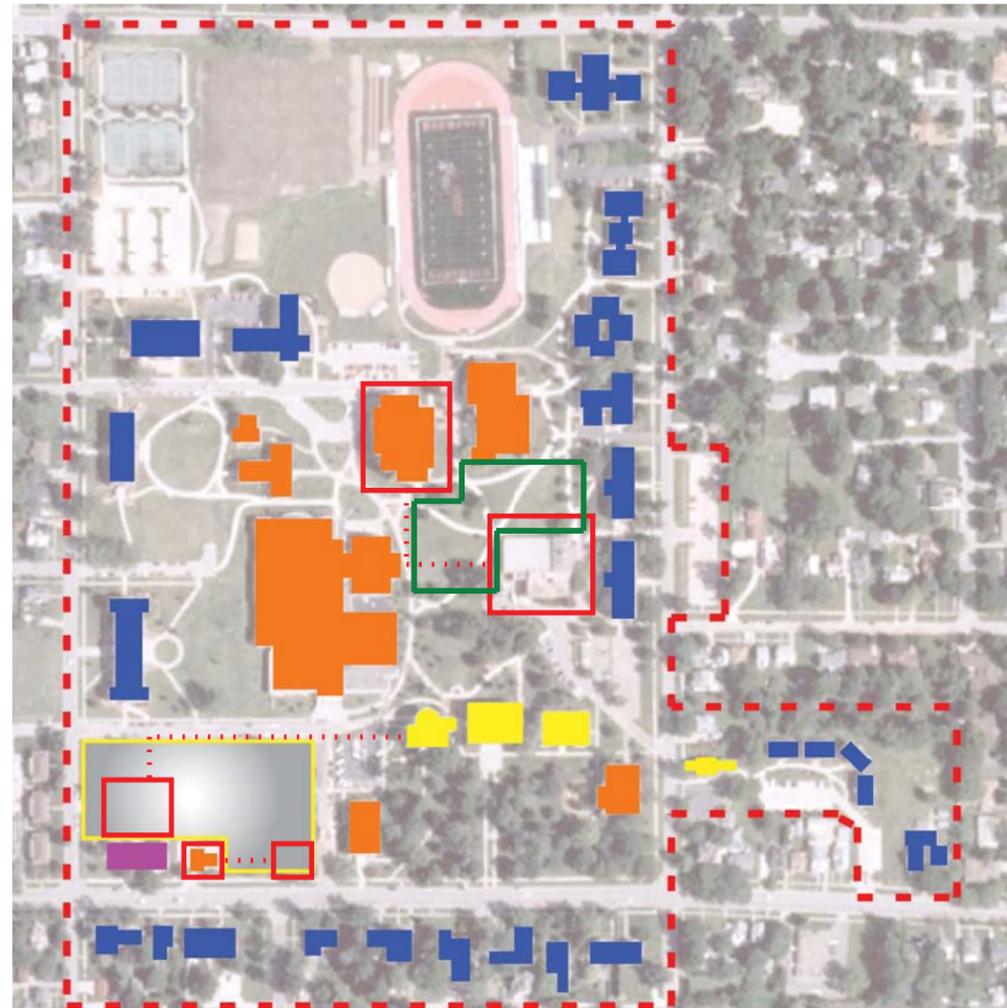
1945



1985



CURRENT



POTENTIAL

QUAD:  
CAFETERIA WILL BE DEMOLISHED AND ITS SERVICES RELOCATED TO CURRENT MATH/SCIENCE BUILDING. THIS WILL CREATE A LARGER OPEN AREA IN THE CENTER OF STUDENT CIRCULATION - FUTURE "QUAD."

IMMEDIATE SITE:  
HISTORIC MARSHALL HALL WILL BE RELOCATED. ADMISSIONS BUILDING WILL BE DOWNSIZED, AND ITS SERVICES RELOCATED TO POLING HALL.

- ACADEMIC
- ADMINISTRATION
- HOUSING
- SERVICE
- QUAD
- IMMEDIATE SITE



**MERGING THREE DISCIPLINES IN ONE ACADEMIC FACILITY WILL RESHAPE THE CULTURE OF THE CAMPUS BY REDIRECTING STUDENT CIRCULATION TO ONE COMMON PLACE.**



- Immediate Site
- Campus Boundaries
- Vehicular Circulation

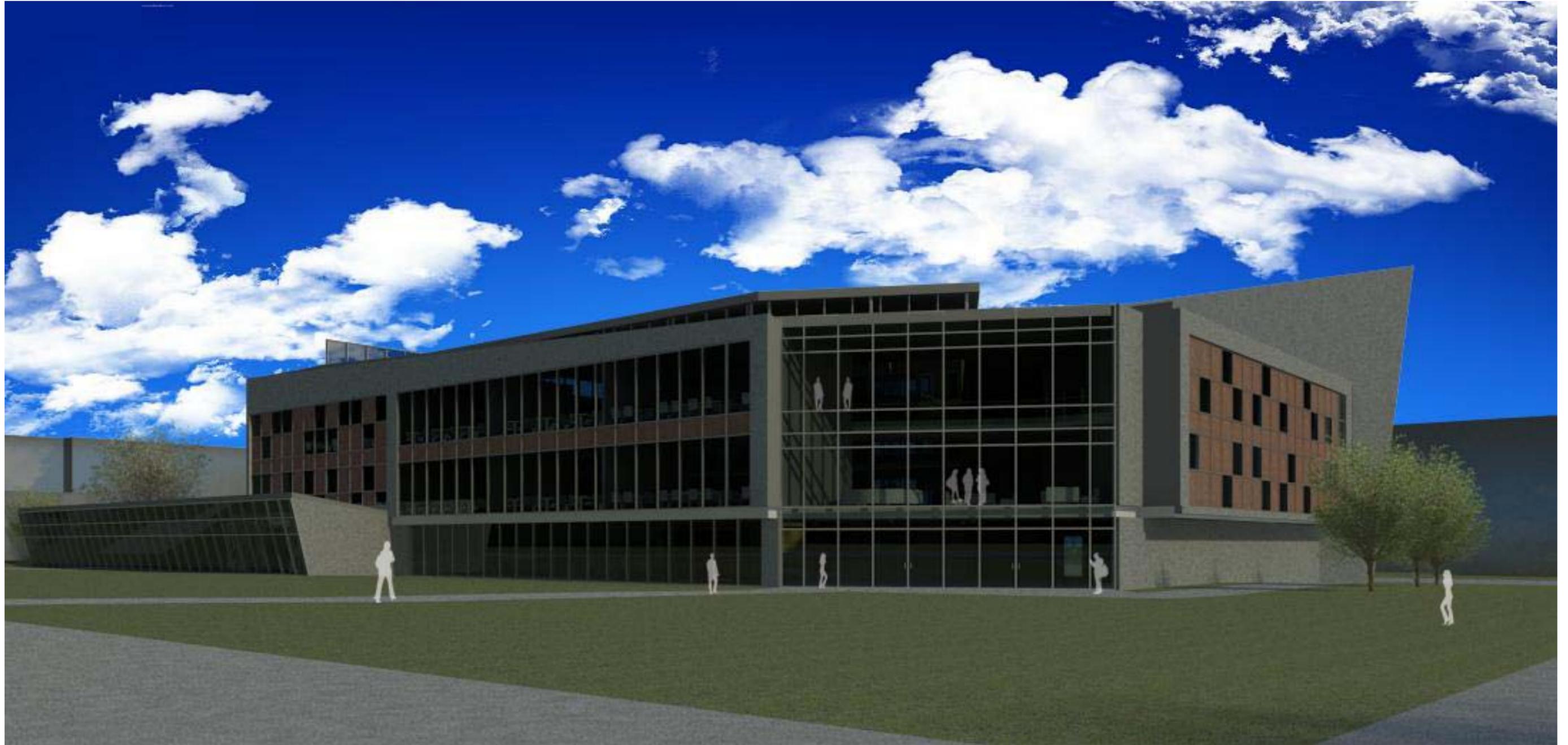


**THE IMMEDIATE SITE IS CHARACTERIZED BY A DIVERSE TOPOGRAPHY.**

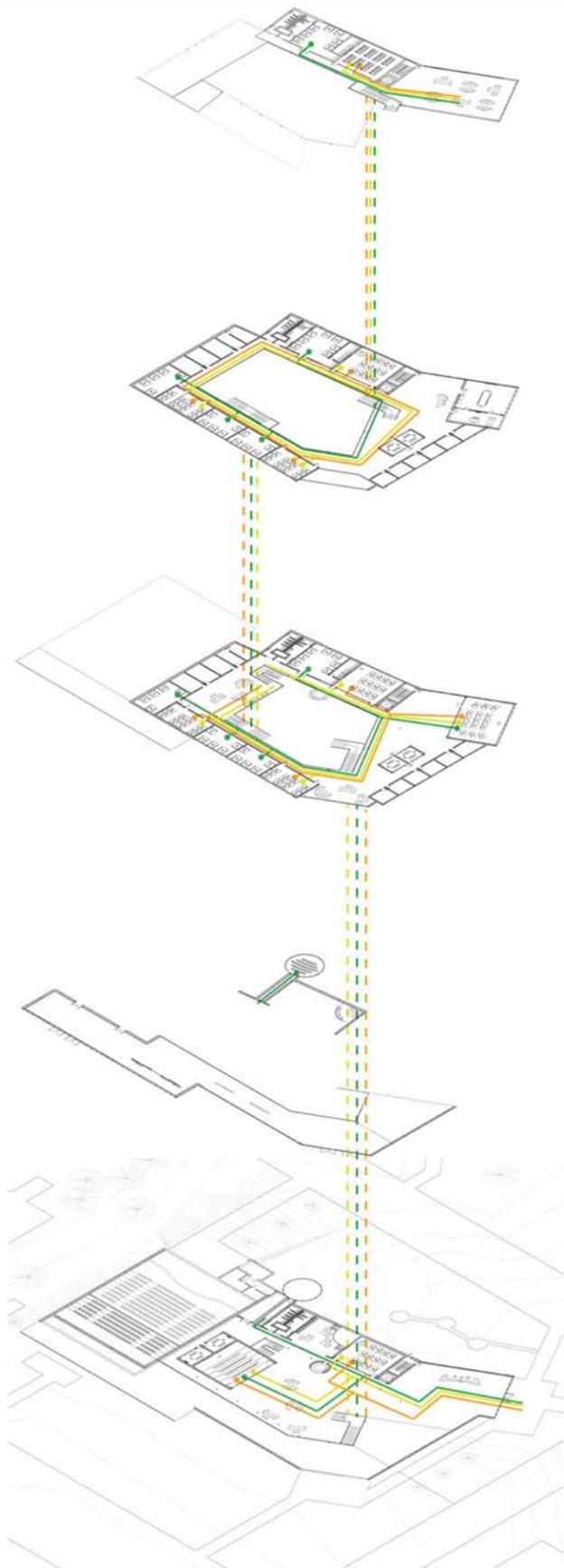
**VARYING FLOOR ELEVATIONS WITHIN THE ATRIUM MIMIC THE PROMINENT LANDSCAPE.**



**AN 800-SEAT AUDITORIUM IS INTEGRATED, AND HIDDEN AS PART OF THE LANDSCAPE.**



**STREET ENTRANCE**



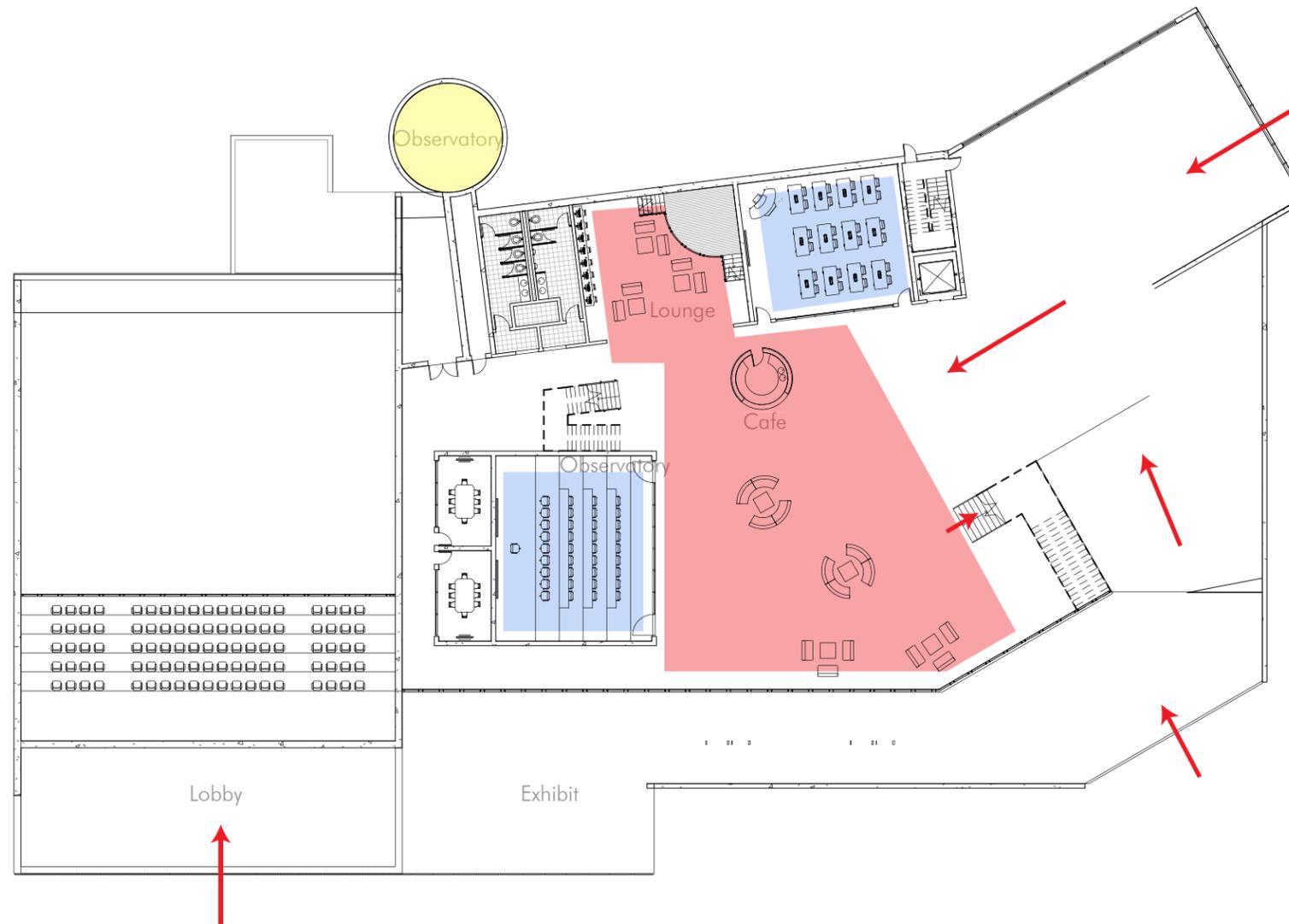
MAIN ENTRANCE DIRECTS TRAFFIC TO THE ATRIUM.

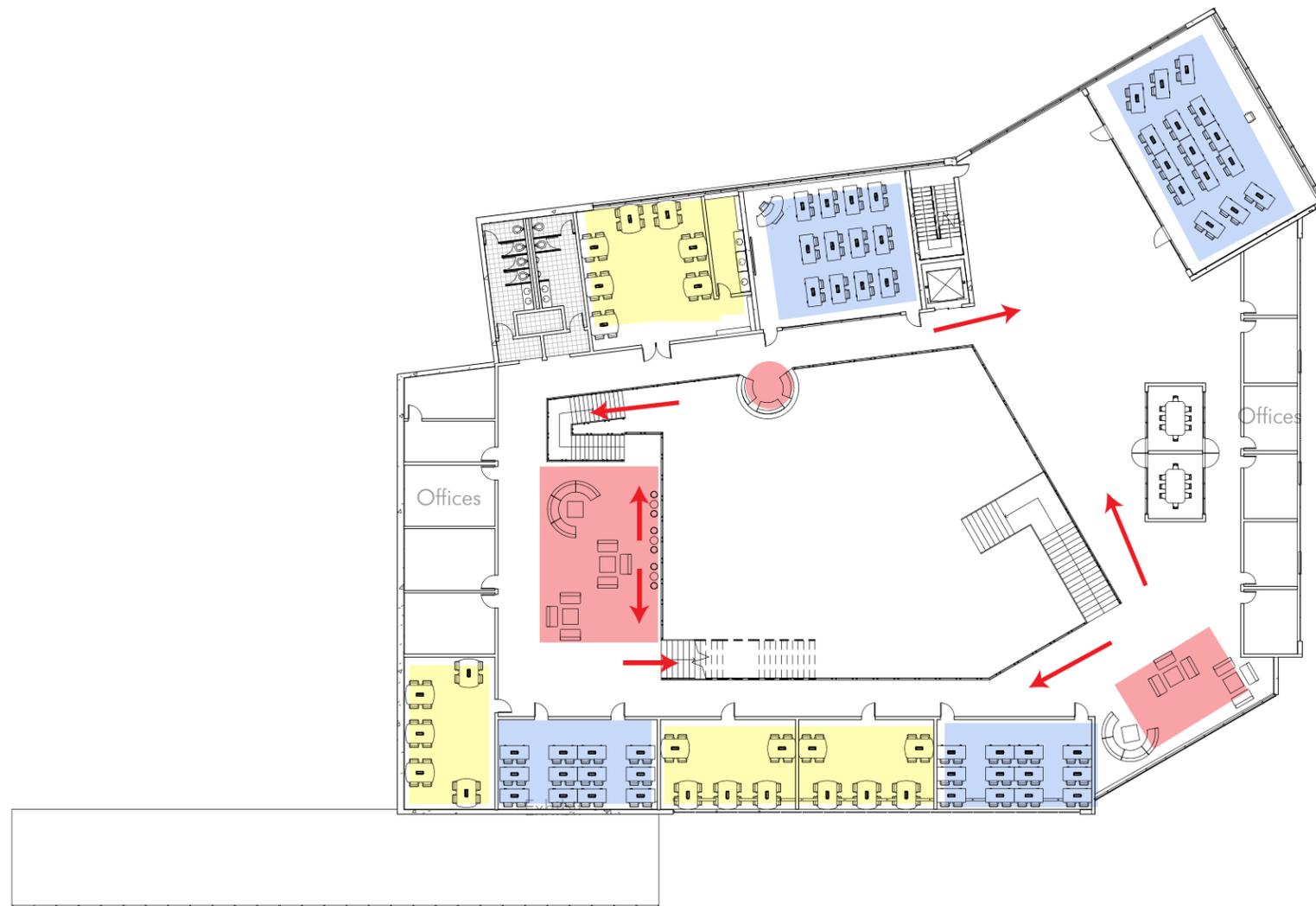
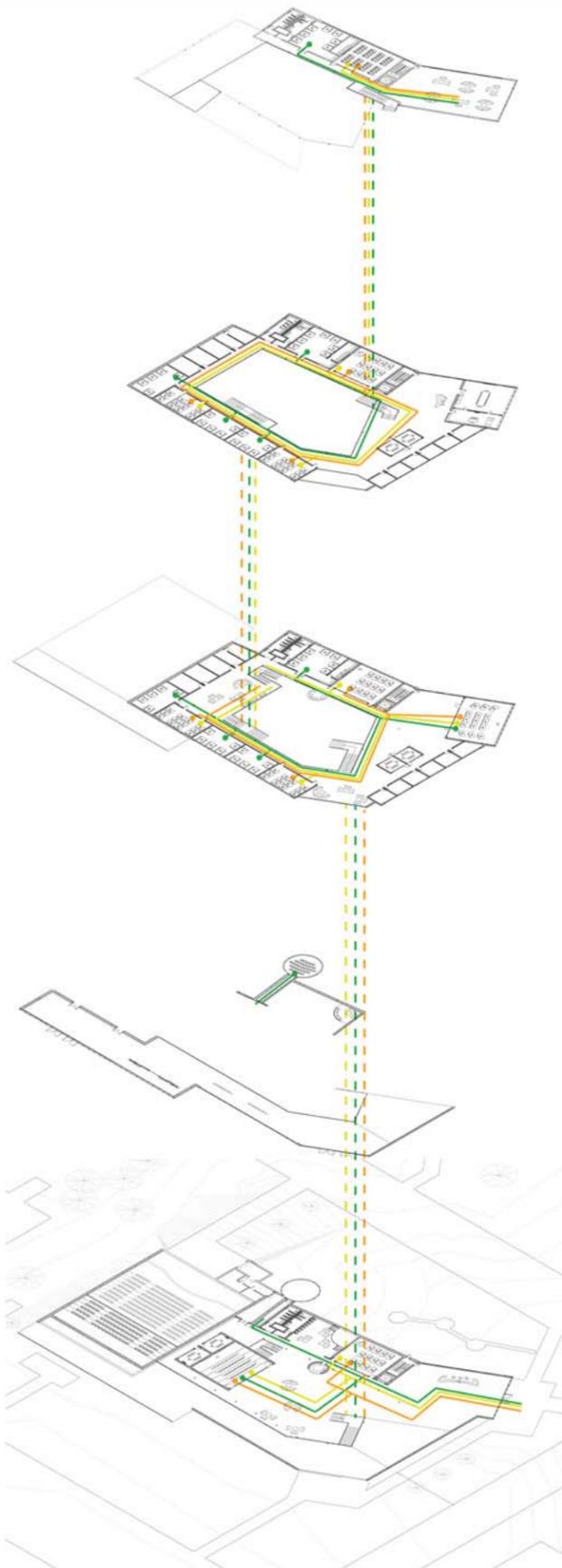
TENANTS WHO ENTER THROUGH THE STREET ENTRANCE ARE GUIDED DOWN A RAMP TOWARD THE MAIN ENTRANCE IN ORDER TO REACH THE ATRIUM.

FOR SOCIAL PURPOSES, THE ATRIUM HOUSES A LARGE STUDY/GATHERING AREA, A CAFE, AND A MORE PRIVATE LOUNGE.

TWO LARGE LECTURE HALLS ARE EXPOSED THROUGH GLASS TO ENGAGE PASSING TENANTS AND INCREASE INTEREST IN ONGOING ACTIVITIES.

THE PRIMARY FORM OF VERTICAL CIRCULATION IS HOUSED AT THE CENTER OF THE ATRIUM, RESULTING IN THE USERS INTERACTING, SEEING, AND BEING SEEN.



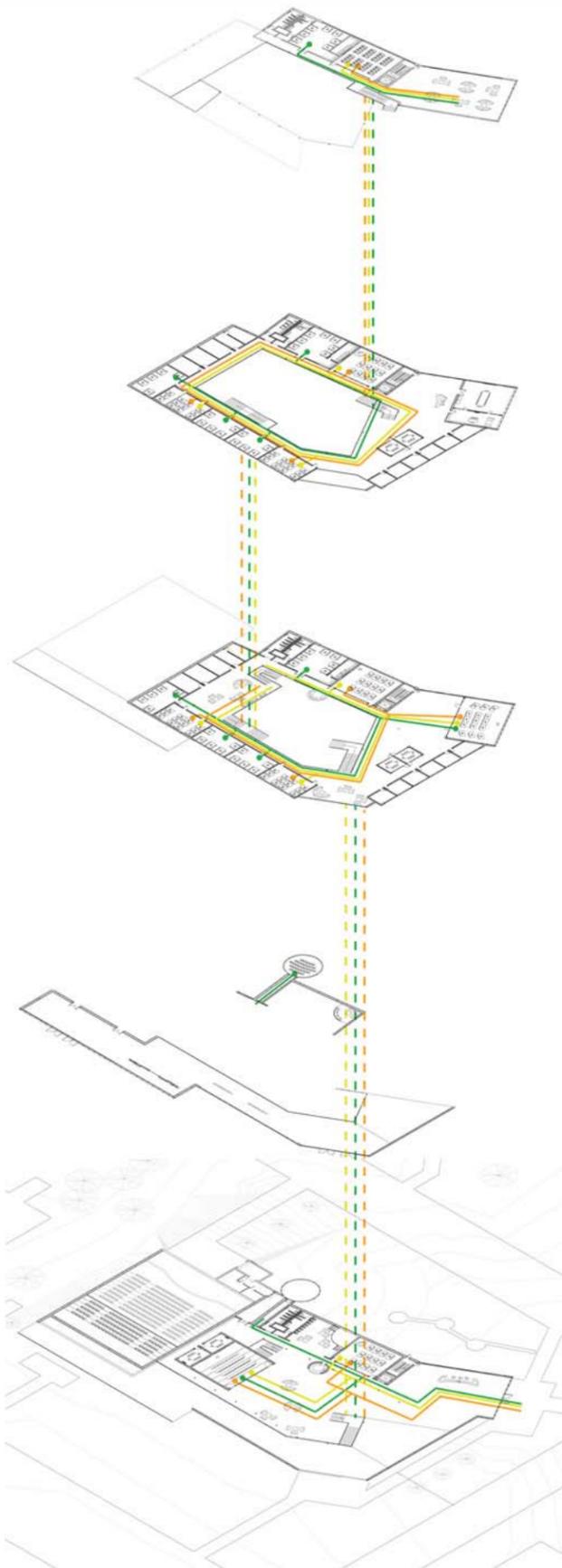


THE MAIN STAIRWAY LEADS TO AN OPEN GATHERING AREA WHICH FEATURES A LARGE GLASS WALL, VISUALLY CONNECTING THE USER TO THE EXTERIOR.

TO CONTINUE ON TO THE 3RD LEVEL, THE USER IS GUIDED AND EXPOSED TO THE ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE IN SHARED LECTURE HALLS AND PHYSICS LABS.

IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION, THE USER NAVIGATES THROUGH A GROUP OF FACULTY OFFICES AND "FLOATING" STUDY ROOMS; ALL OF WHICH ARE EXPOSED THROUGH GLASS WALLS TO ENCOURAGE SOCIAL ACTIVITY.

IN ADDITION, THIS LEVEL FEATURES A SMALL STUDY AREA ABOVE THE CAFE, AND A LOUNGE ABOVE THE 1ST FLOOR LECTURE HALL.

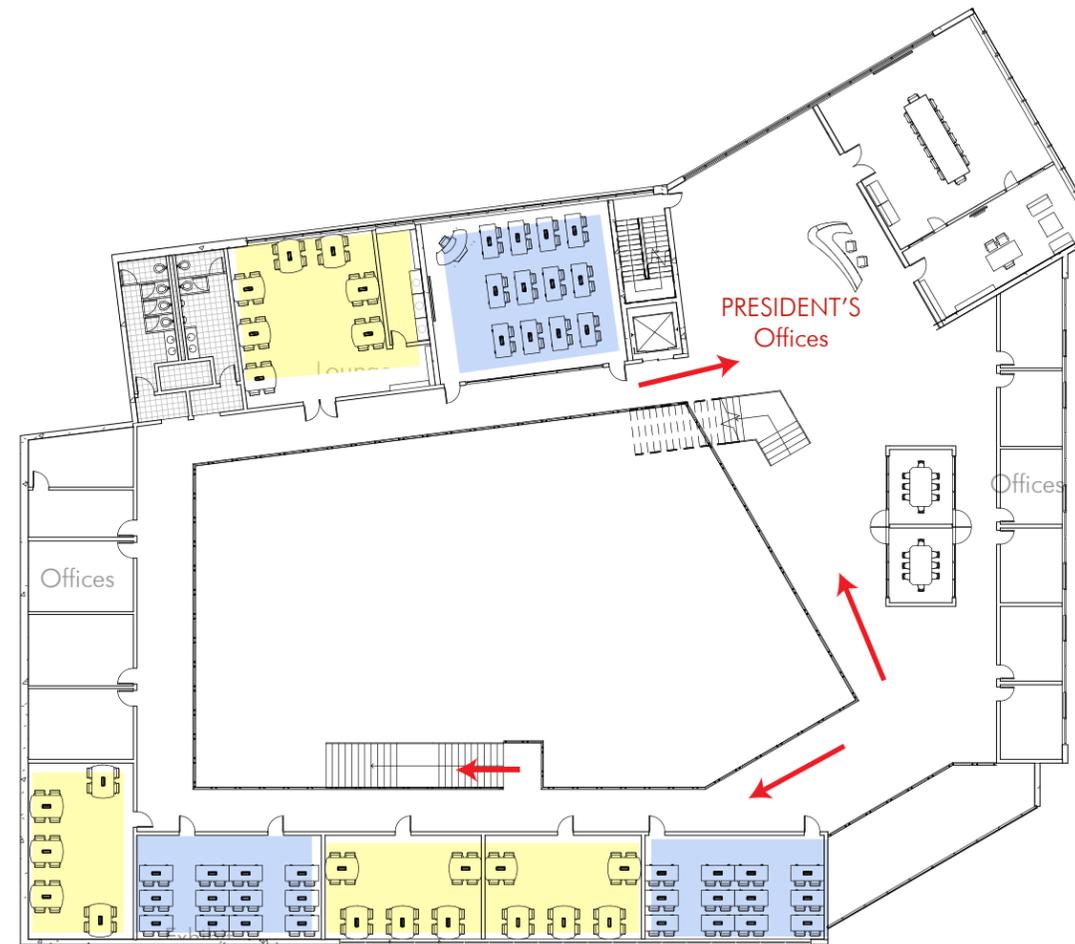


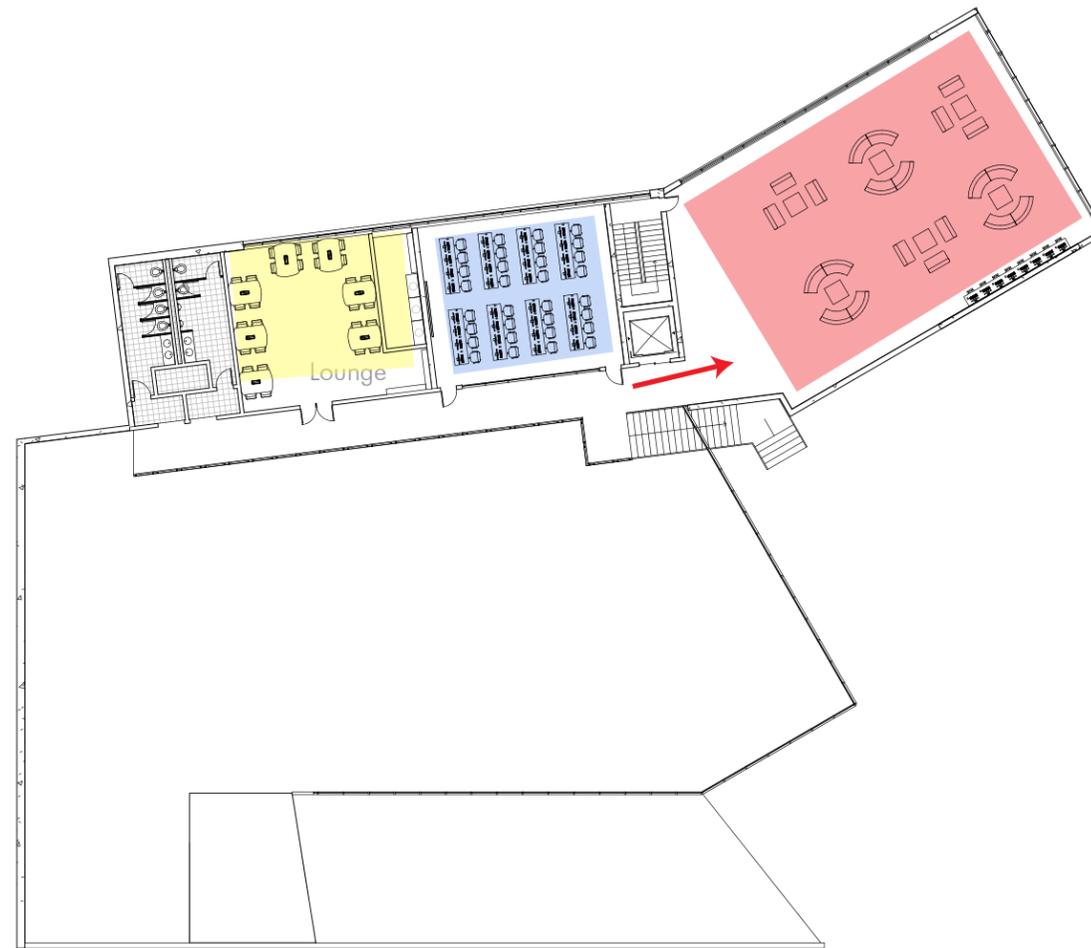
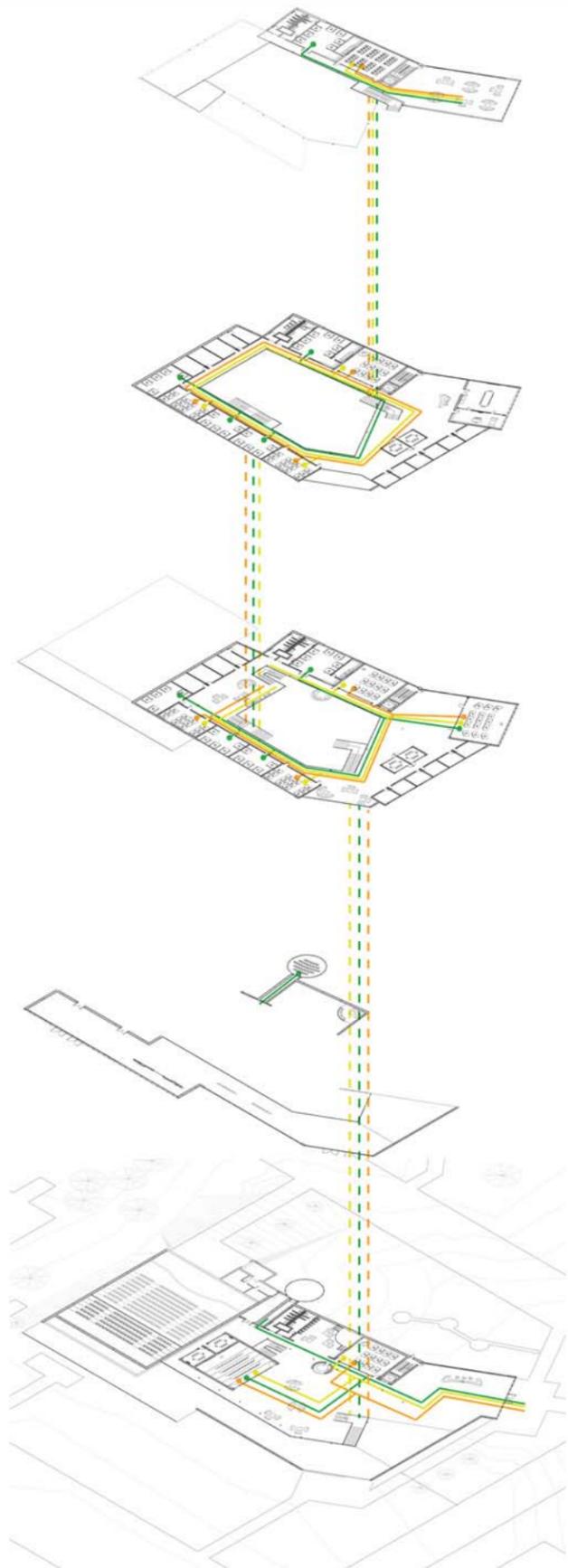
SIMILAR TO THE 2ND FLOOR, THE 3RD FLOOR EXPOSES THE USER TO THE ONGOING ACTIVITIES OF LECTURE HALLS AND LABORATORIES.

EACH STUDENT, REGARDLESS OF THEIR MAJOR IS EXPOSED TO OTHER DISCIPLINES.

IN ADDITION, THE THIRD FLOOR HOUSES THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF MONMOUTH COLLEGE.

IN A SCHEME WHERE INTERACTION LEADS TO COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION, ALL PARTIES SHOULD BE INVOLVED.





THE FOURTH LEVEL HOUSES A COMPUTER LAB AND A LARGE STUDY/GATHERING AREA; BOTH OF WHICH WILL ATTRACT STUDENTS TO CIRCULATE VERTICALLY.

THIS WILL RESULT IN COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION.



LONGITUDINAL SECTION

SECTION



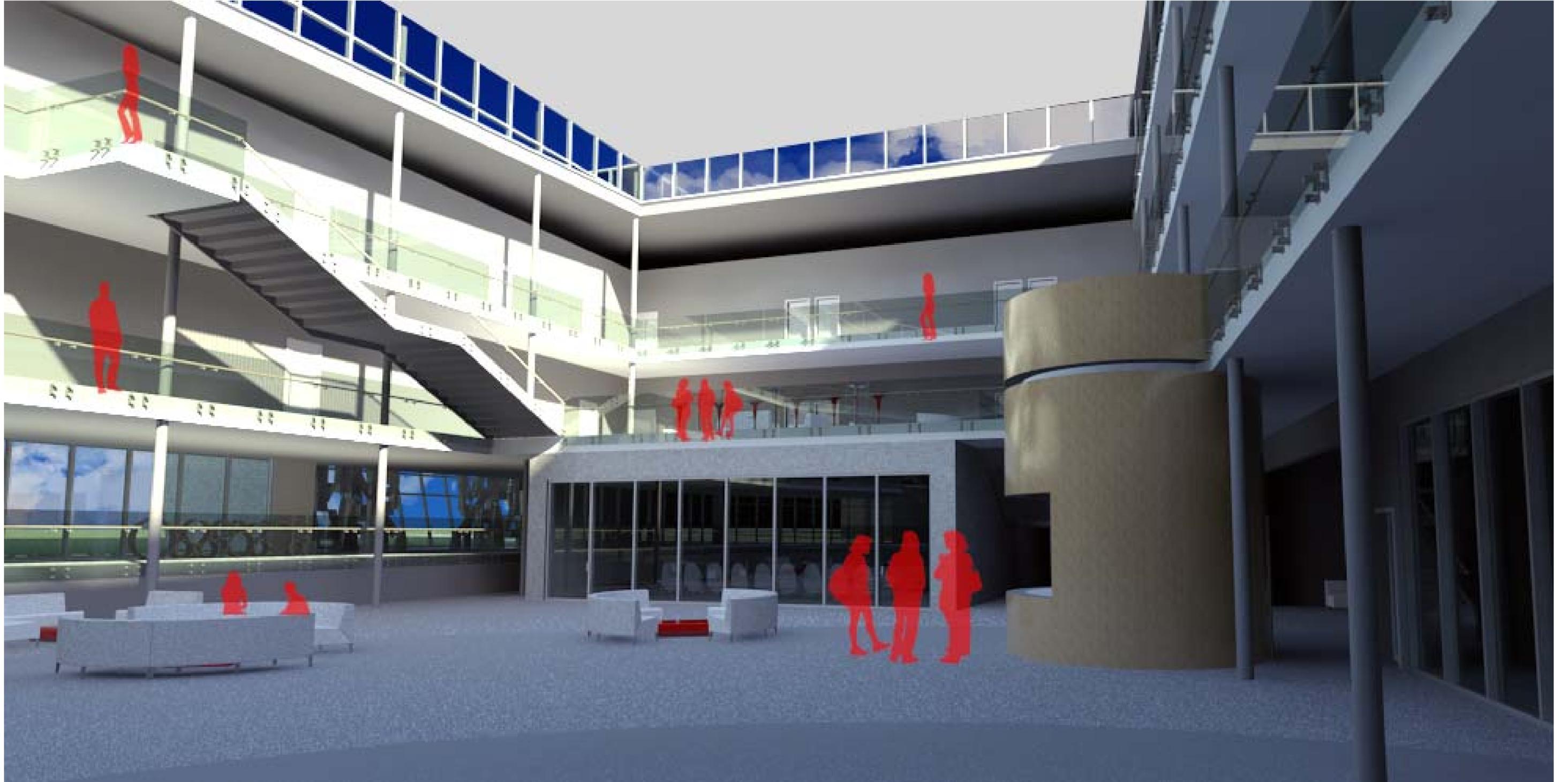
**NORTH ELEVATION**



**EAST ELEVATION**



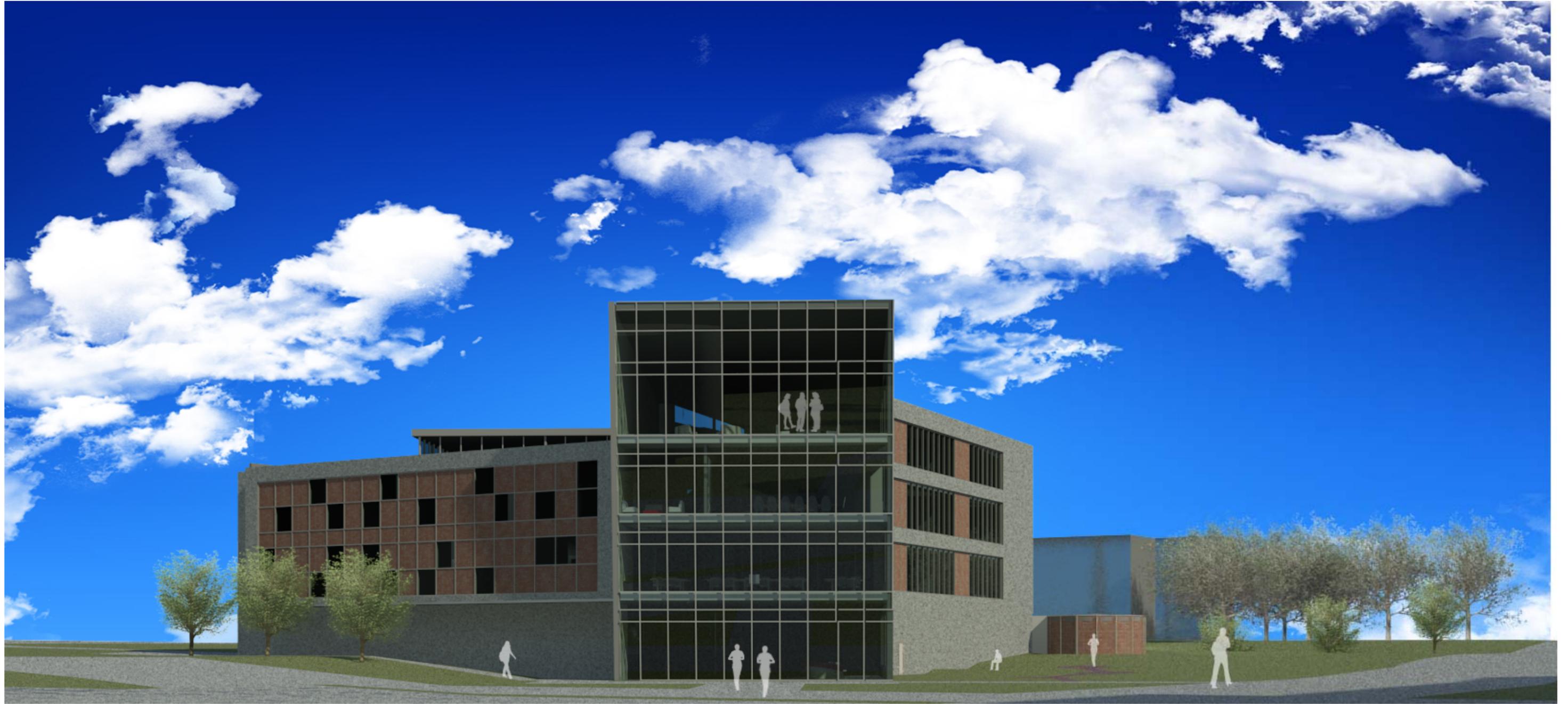
**SOUTH ELEVATION**



ENTERING THE BUILDING



SOCIALIZING - 2ND FLOOR LOUNGE



STUDENT VIEW - APPROACHING MAIN ENTRANCE