OFFICE 52 Architecture

Contemporary Terra Cotta and Integrated Sensibility for new Tykeson Hall

Where the Arts, Science and Innovation Intermingle

Press Release

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OFFICE 52 Architecture Designs Unique Academic Center Now Under Construction

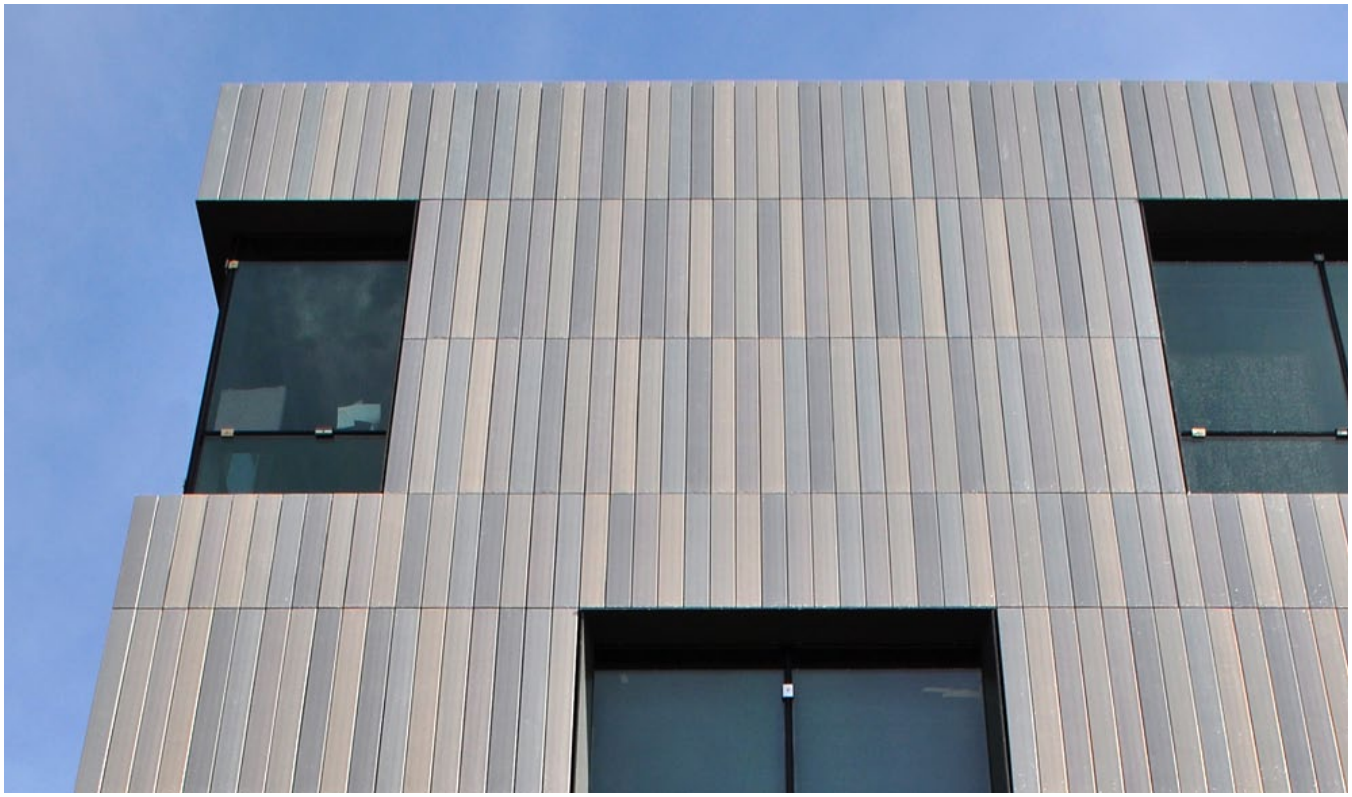
Newly Designed Tykeson Hall Embodies the College's Environmentally Progressive Values and Innovative Academic Philosophy that Invites Students to Engage

PORTLAND AND EUGENE, OR – May 2019 – The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) at the University of Oregon has partnered with the award-winning design firm OFFICE 52 Architecture to create a first-of-its-kind integrated academic center that brings people together and invites students to engage with each other, faculty, visiting scholars, and the alumni community to maximize student success. The building's design upholds the college's academic tenets with sustainable strategies and a modern interpretation of traditional building materials on campus – terra cotta, brick, and glass – to make something unique with commonly found materials and bring natural light and an open and welcoming environment to a collaborative liberal arts college devoted to excellence in higher education and beyond.

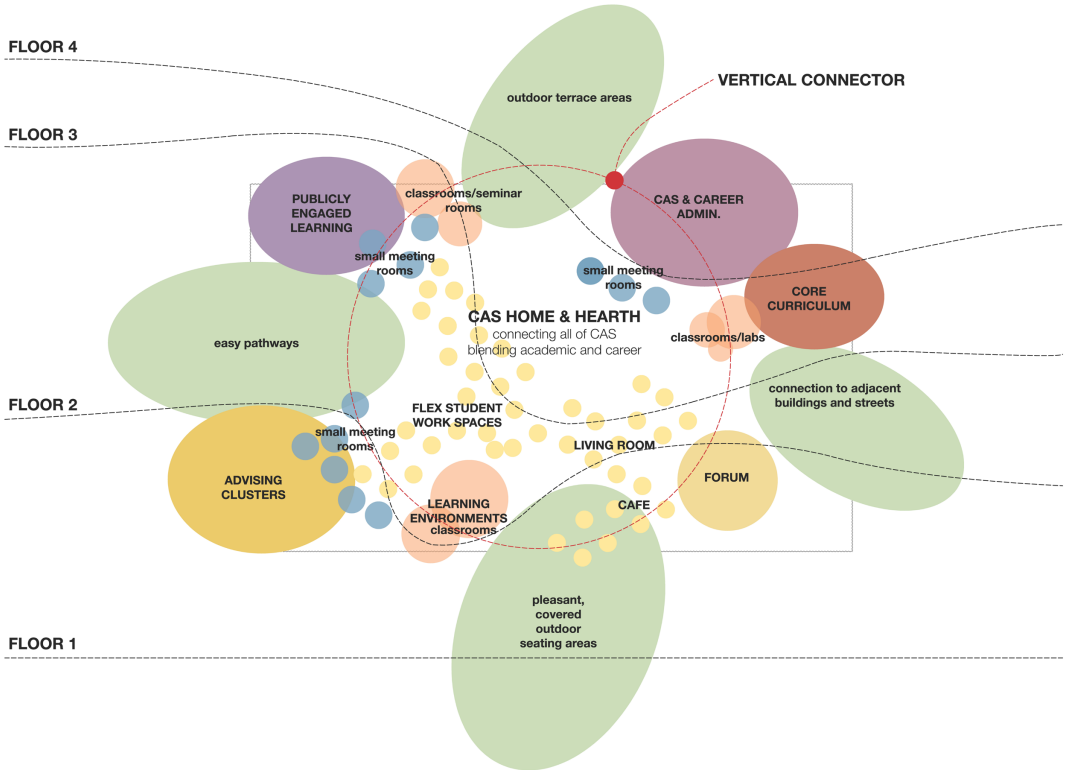
The building's design embodies the college's core values with a programmatic vision and original spatial concepts that support restructured first and second year academic programs and reorganized student services to create what many see as a new building typology for higher education. The new building integrates currently disparate resources on campus in a design for academic advising, career counselling, and tutoring - that allow one-on-one or small group gatherings - with flexible state-of-the-art learning environments and classrooms, shared meeting rooms, student-focused spaces, event spaces and communal venues, as well as administrative leadership offices. OFFICE 52 Architecture is excited to lead this project with a design that upholds CAS's dedication to environmentally progressive values and innovative spatial concepts that illuminate CAS's unique academic philosophy.

"Tykeson Hall is a place where each student will be able to chart a personal path through the liberal arts that enriches their intellectual lives and leads to careers. Simply put, it is a building designed for student success," states W. Andrew Marcus, former Tykeson Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and who spearheaded the project. "Oregon is the first to underscore its dedication to linking personal, academic and career success through the development of a structure designed entirely for those outcomes."

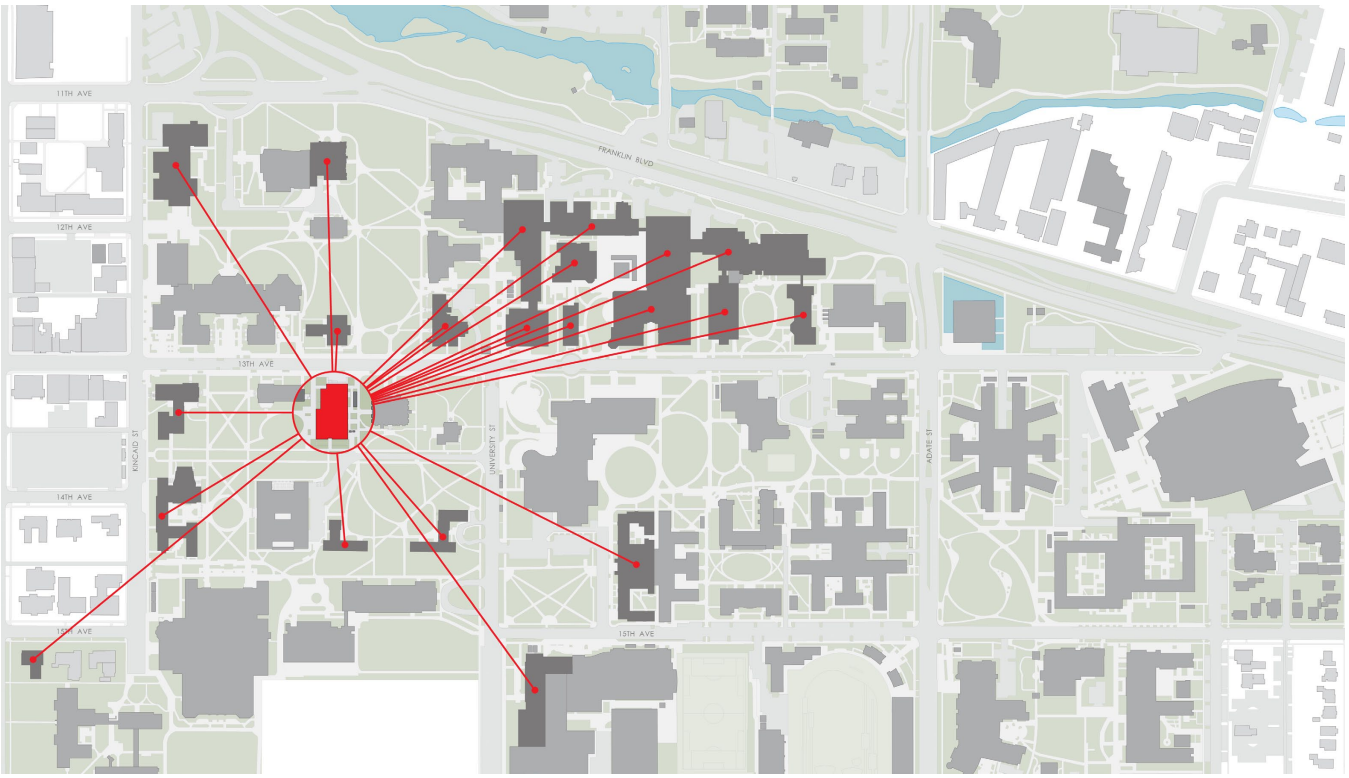
As such Tykeson Hall is a landmark building for higher education due to the philosophical vision underlying the project. Publications like *The Wall Street Journal* and *Forbes* affirm that an increasing chorus of voices from science, business and the high tech world are embracing the value of a broad-based interdisciplinary education in the liberal arts. The building is organized around the belief that such an education in conjunction with academic advising and career guidance under one roof better prepares students for life-long learning and success by giving them open access to these resources while empowering them with foundational skills in critical thinking, creative problem solving, and communication abilities to build a solid foundation for leadership.



Oil painting vignette (top), part of series of studies by M. LaFoe of Oregon landscape colors for the custom exterior terra cotta cladding glazes and interior palette for Tykeson Hall. Construction photo (bottom) by OFFICE 52 Architecture, 2019.



The new building integrates programs for academic advising and excellence, career services, and tutoring with a reorganized curriculum and an open, flowing architectural concept to create for the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) a first-of-its-kind academic center that invites students to engage in multiple ways to maximize student success. Diagram by OFFICE 52 Architecture and RMA Studio.



CAS is the largest academic unit on campus representing approximately 65% of the university. The new building's design reinforces the college's core values with innovative spatial concepts and a unique programmatic vision that brings together resources formerly dispersed across campus. Diagram by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

The new building is located in the heart of the University of Oregon campus on East 13th Avenue between historic Johnson and Chapman Halls - a central location befitting a building that values physical as well as digital connectivity. CAS is the largest academic unit on campus representing roughly 65% of the university with 42 departments and over 800 faculty dispersed across campus. Tykeson Hall thus includes multiple types of spaces that support CAS's inclusive culture as a place for students, faculty, mentors, alumni, the broader community and partner organizations to come together, interact, connect and learn. It is a community-oriented place based on the concept of flexibility, integrated functions, forward-thinking technology-based applications and visibly accessible resources for students.

The centrally located campus site provided an opportunity to creatively arrange Tykeson Hall's massing and materials so they do not overpower the characteristics of surrounding buildings and landscape. Tykeson Hall is conceptually organized into three interlocking forms with proportions in section and plan generally defined by a universal ratio of mathematics ideal to science and the arts. Each of the three forms composing the building has its own tectonic expression related to its program and spatial character: brick with a custom-designed pattern for flexible state-of-the-art classroom spaces, contemporary terra cotta wrapping innovative program features, and high performance glazing for the transparent event space and social hub called The Commons, a communal venue for student events and activities that is topped by a roof terrace with native plantings. On the ground floor the Commons opens onto a new outdoor courtyard and green space designed as part of Tykeson Hall to seamlessly integrate into the open space campus framework, connect to existing pedestrian pathways, and compositionally unite Tykeson Hall with its neighbor Chapman Hall for a vibrant public gathering space.

The building's exterior is a thoughtfully choreographed design of materials in which brick, terra cotta and glass accentuate one another, a mixture of traditional campus materials infused with modern technology and a regional palette to create a rich experience with attention to craftsmanship and detail. For a modern architectural language, the terra cotta is used beyond simple embellishment and as a primary exterior wall cladding material, and a custom-designed Norman Cross Bond brick pattern was created specifically for this project. This is the first building to use terra cotta on campus in eighty years, melding contemporary geometry with a subtle color field of five custom glazes based on a palette of natural regional landscape colors.

"We created numerous mock-ups for the custom terra cotta glazes to find the right tones to complement the brick and natural colors around the building," said Michelle R. LaFoe, Principal, OFFICE 52 Architecture. "The appearance of the façade alters depending on the lighting and weather conditions, with fields of subtle color attracting the light in their own way and lending the architecture a corresponding dynamic – no doubt a symbol for the changing array of possibilities one encounters on the pathway towards academic and professional fulfillment."

To realize its focus on energy efficiency, conservation and sustainable materials, Tykeson Hall is on course to achieve LEED V4 Gold certification, one of the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) highest levels. The new building is designed to use 34% less energy than if it had been built to the Oregon Energy Code minimum and incorporates natural and local resources that support the sustainable and ecological

values of the college while enhancing the user experience with materials that connect the new building to its regional campus context.

This includes sourcing locally fabricated brick and the use of Pin Oak and Port Orford cedar trees salvaged from the site for the ceilings, wall panels and some of the custom furniture in the building's public spaces. Additional sustainable features include a highly efficient hydronic radiant heating and cooling systems in a post-tensioned concrete structure, exposed thermal mass, and extensive daylight harvesting on all building levels to create a comfortable, healthy and invigorating interior environment.

For Tykeson Hall, OFFICE 52 Architecture joined forces with a collective of strong industry expertise that will reinforce the project's success and embrace a philosophically progressive design concept and sustainable stewardship. In addition to the University of Oregon's College of Arts and Sciences and OFFICE 52 Architecture, the team includes RMA Studio, Brightworks Sustainability, PLACE Landscape Architecture, Rowell Brokaw as the local Architect-of-Record, and Fortis Construction as the CM | GC.

"We are excited to be part of a project that embodies CAS' commitment to academic excellence and student success through innovative spatial concepts and a thoughtfully contemporary use of materials," said Isaac Campbell, Principal, OFFICE 52 Architecture. "The new building represents what CAS truly stands for and better enables them to bring dedicated people together in a meaningful way to enrich the student experience as they face contemporary challenges."

OFFICE 52 Architecture is the design firm for the award-winning Scott Hall, the new 109,000 square foot Nano-Bio-Energy Technologies Building for the College of Engineering and Wilton E. Scott Institute for Energy Innovation at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Construction began on Tykeson Hall in the summer of 2017 and is expected to be complete by July 2019.

Tykeson Hall Design and Sustainability Highlights

- A new 64,000 square foot academic building in the historic core of the university campus.
- Open plan layout that supports the College of Arts and Sciences' inclusive and collaborative culture and brings abundant daylight to all work spaces with locally made and assembled high-performance glazing, maximizing daylight exposure and minimizing need for artificial lighting.
- Building designed to use 34% less energy than if it had been built to the Oregon Energy Code minimum and is on track to achieve LEED V4 Gold Certification with a predicted EUI of 29.
- The first building in the Pacific Northwest to integrate post-tensioned concrete slab construction with a high efficiency hydronic system, which includes hydronic radiant floor and wall heating/cooling systems with active chilled beams in a post-tensioned concrete structure and exposed thermal mass.
- For academic programs and students services combined: flexible state-of-the-art learning environments, classrooms and student-focused spaces that includes one 100-seat, two 70-seat, one 40-seat, two 30-seat classrooms; one 24-seat seminar; and two 24-seat tutoring spaces; as well as

open offices, shared meeting rooms, and academic advising, career counseling, and event spaces and communal/public venues.

- First building on the University of Oregon campus to use terra cotta in eighty years.
- New extruded terra cotta rain screen façade system with 3,100 Shildan Longoton custom terra cotta tiles of varying lengths; this system has heat resistant properties and prevents rain and condensation from entering the building while allowing water vapor out and enhancing insulation.
- Terra cotta color palette of five subtle custom glaze colors based on a regional Oregon landscape palette that complements the brick and natural colors around the building.
- Custom blend of 78,000 locally fabricated brick made from Oregon and Washington clay and shale and installed using a custom Norman Cross Bond pattern designed for this project.
- The wood slat ceiling material and wood wall panels in the building's primary public spaces are made from Pin Oak and some of the custom furniture from Port Orford Cedar trees salvaged from the building site and milled/kiln-dried by Urban Lumber in Springfield, Oregon with the Pin Oak for the ceilings finished by 9 Wood in Springfield, Oregon. Both are supporters of sustainable, environmentally friendly wood products with FSC certification.
- Additional furniture and fabric items throughout the building are custom fabricated and utilize FSC-certified materials.
- Tailoring of the program and building for no more than needed with a more compact building footprint between existing structures to preserve more of the open green space between for both an extension of the existing and new buildings and as an element that spatially unites them beyond a commonality of exterior materials.
- For public gatherings the Commons is topped by an outdoor roof terrace with native planting, and on the ground floor the Commons opens onto a new outdoor public courtyard and green space that helps reduce storm-water runoff, reflects the ecology of the region with native planting, and integrates the building into the campus open space framework and landscape.
- Expanding upon the responsibility we all have to the land: rain water from the roof of the building will be collected in storm-water rain gardens which will return to the majority of the water to the aquifer below grade.

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The building design embodies the College of Arts and Sciences academic tenets with sustainable strategies and a modern reinterpretation of traditional campus materials for an innovative interdisciplinary academic home and center with a welcoming environment. Image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

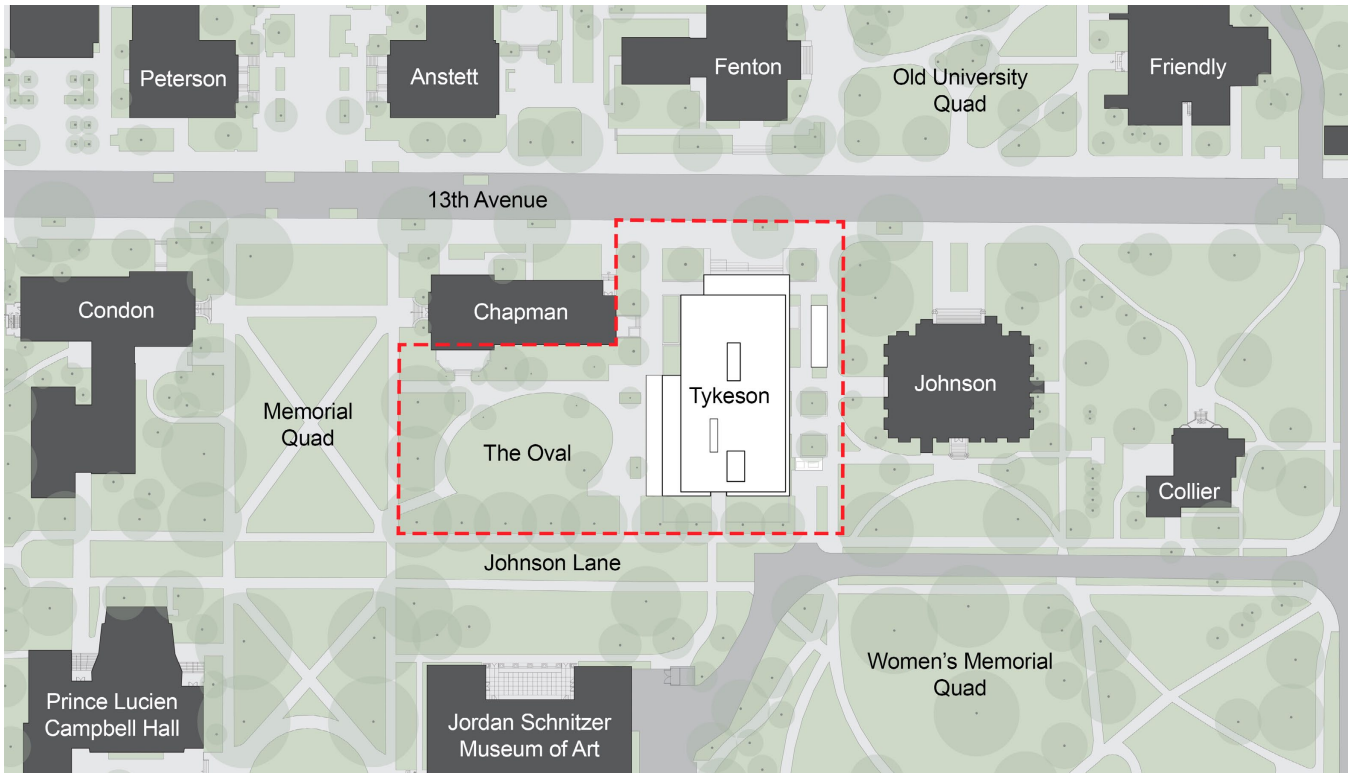
Tykeson Hall was designed primarily in section and model with attention to natural light, interior and exterior site lines and views, and a variety of spaces that accommodate a new organization of unique programmatic elements for this landmark project. Image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

The Commons, a communal venue for student events and activities, is topped by a roof terrace with native plantings and on the ground floor opens onto a new courtyard and green space for public gatherings. Image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

An important part of the project has been the design of flexible, interactive learning environments that allow one-on-one or small group advising. Image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

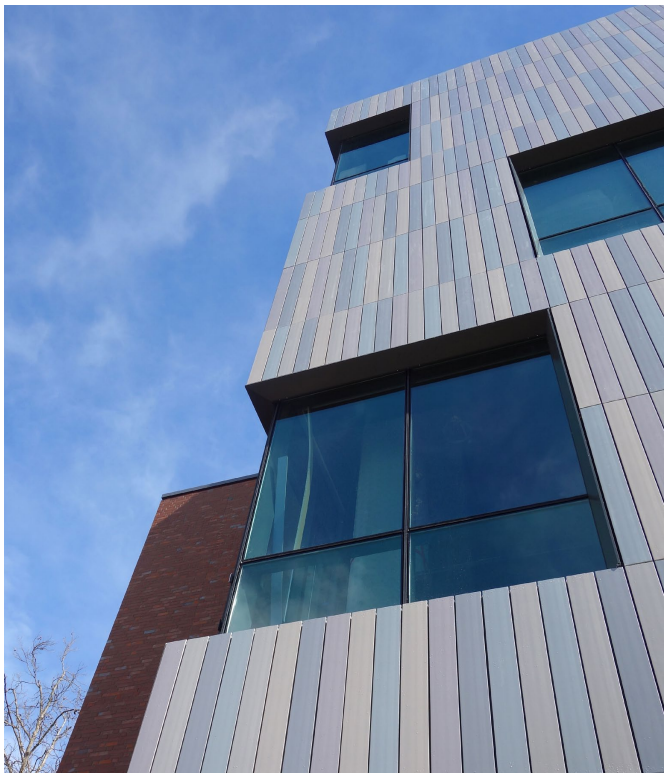
The Commons opens onto a new outdoor courtyard and green space designed as part of Tykeson Hall to integrate into the open space campus framework and establish a strong connection with major pedestrian pathways and circulation routes while also uniting Tykeson Hall compositionally with its neighbor, Chapman Hall, for a vibrant public gathering space. Drawing image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

Tykeson Hall is the first building on the University of Oregon campus to utilize terra cotta in eighty years and the first building in the Pacific Northwest to integrate post-tensioned concrete slab construction with highly efficient hydronic radiant heating and cooling systems. Drawing image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

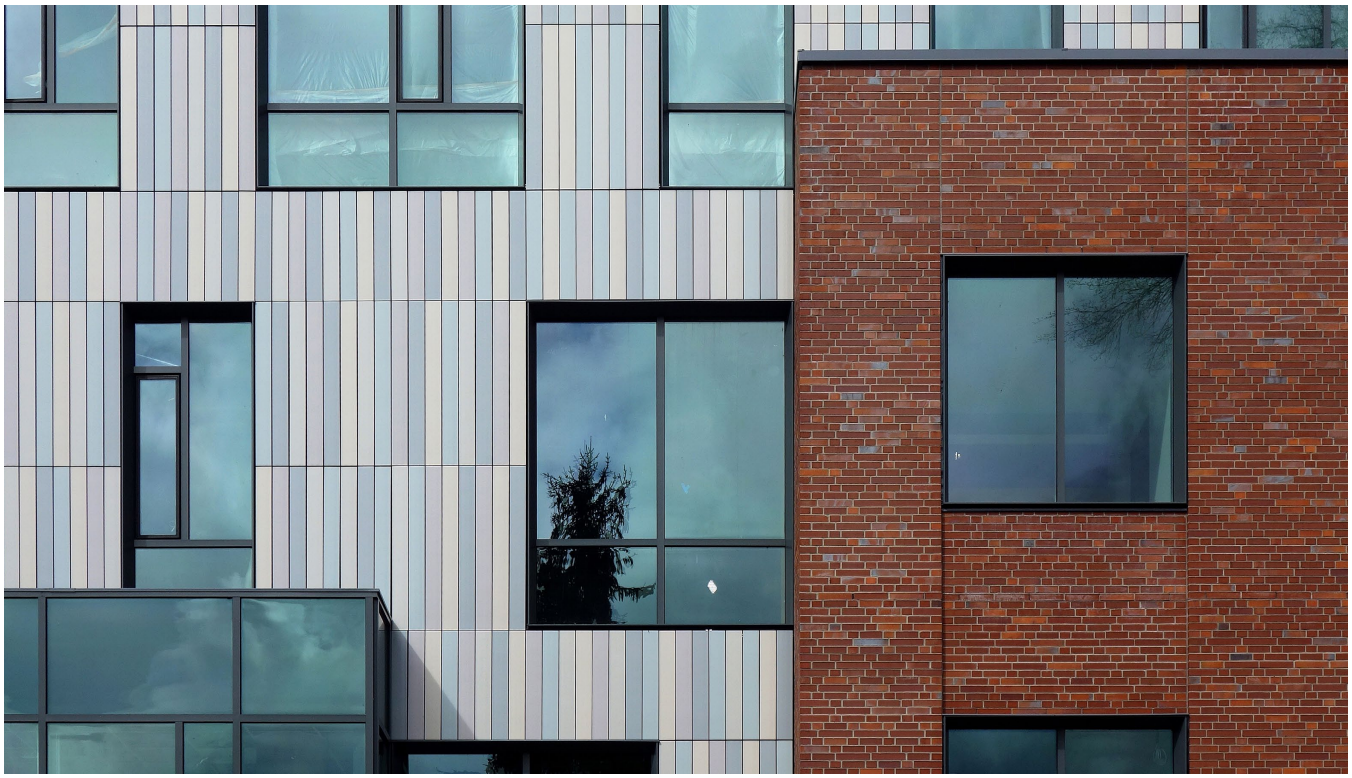


Tykeson Hall is located in the heart of the University of Oregon campus on East 13th Avenue between historic Johnson and Chapman Halls, a central location befitting a building that values physical as well as digital connectivity. Drawing image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.

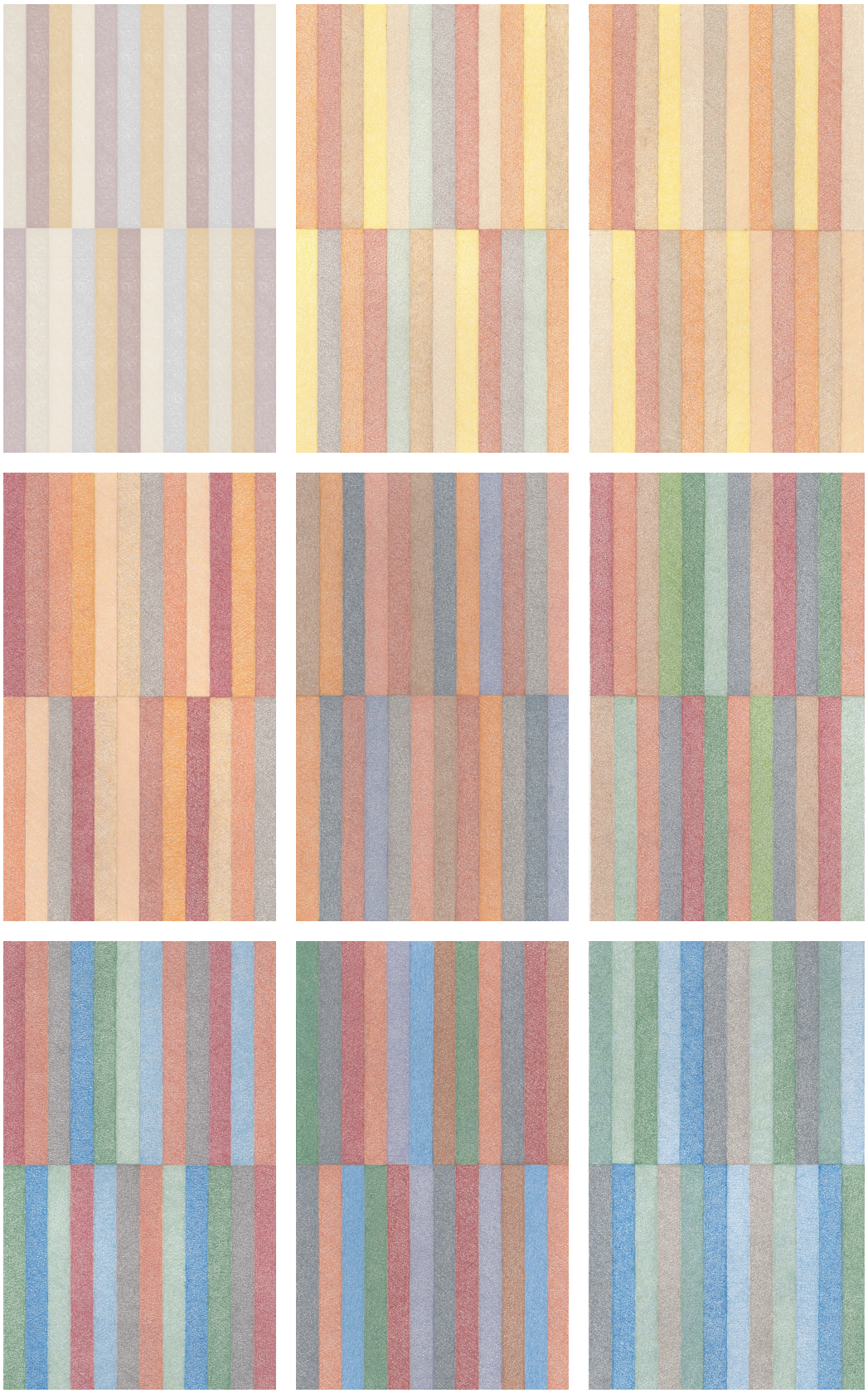
As part of the university's campus initiative to support energy use at net zero, the new building is designed to be 34% more efficient than the current Oregon Energy Codes and to meet LEED V4 Gold certification. The design incorporates natural and local resources such as Pin Oak trees salvaged from the building site for use as ceiling and wall panels in the public spaces. Model by OFFICE 52 Architecture.



The building's exterior is a mixture of traditional campus materials infused with a modern aesthetic and regional palette with attention to craftsmanship and detail. For a contemporary architectural language, we used terra cotta as a primary wall cladding material and designed a custom Norman Cross Bond brick pattern for the project. Construction images by OFFICE 52 Architecture.



Each of the three forms composing the building has its own tectonic expression related to its program and spatial character: custom brick design for state-of-the-art classroom spaces, terra cotta wrapping innovative program features, and high performance glazing for the transparent event space and social hub called The Commons. Construction image by OFFICE 52 Architecture, 2019.



Prismacolor pencil drawings by M. LaFoe, part of a study of Oregon landscape colors for the interior building palette and terra cotta glaze materials research for Tykeson Hall. Image by OFFICE 52 Architecture.