

*Contact:*

*Debra Barbour  
Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership  
213.617.1901  
dbarbour@zgf.com*

**ZGF-DESIGNED BREN SCHOOL AT UC SANTA BARBARA EARNS  
CALIBRE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD FROM IIDA**

LOS ANGELES, Calif., May 14, 2003 – The Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California, Santa Barbara, designed by the Los Angeles office of Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership (ZGF), has been recognized with a 2003 Calibre Award for Environmental Leadership, sponsored by the International Interior Design Association (IIDA), Southern California Chapter. According to the IIDA Calibre Awards jury, “The Bren School exemplifies the essence of the award...green interior design through a maximizing use of interior materials developed from renewable sources. The Bren School also carries this concept further by the continuing education of the public through teaching and research.”

The Bren School was one of the first of twelve buildings in the United States to become Leadership and Energy in Environmental Design (LEED™) certified. It also achieved the highest rating by the US Green Building Council – a LEED™ Platinum rating – making it one of the two greenest buildings, and the first platinum-rated research laboratory, in the country, as well as “the greenest building in California.”

The new 84,672-square-foot facility provides research and teaching laboratories, faculty and administration offices, and conference and seminar rooms. Its design mediates between the campus and the site’s coastal setting, taking advantage of sea air and views. A four-story, rectangular laboratory wing emulates the eastern edge of the orthogonal grid of the campus, with east facing exterior terraces at the third and fourth levels. A less formal, “organic” curve was used to define the office wing in response to the ocean side of the campus.

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Through a close collaboration between ZGF and the University, the following greening attributes were realized:

- Air filters remove excess carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and VOCs from the air circulating in labs and classrooms.
- Photovoltaic solar panels are provided on the roof.
- Operable windows are provided in the office wing; the courtyard further supports the ventilation.
- Variable air volume controls were used on all fume hoods in labs.
- Lighting controls automatically decrease electrical light when there is sufficient ambient daylight.
- The site, formerly a parking lot, was restored with native, drought-tolerant landscaping covering more than 80%.
- Asphalt from the site was recycled as part of the substrate for new paving.
- New trees provide shade and reduce energy consumption.
- CO<sup>2</sup> monitoring system ensures fresh air in assembly spaces.
- Linseed oil, limestone and wood flour comprise the content of the primary flooring material, biodegradable linoleum.
- Student commons floor is made from unicork, a green, renewable and natural resource.
- Rubber flooring from 100% recycled tires is used on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. (Every 100 SF diverted 7.5 tires from landfills.)
- 14 tons of used carpet was recycled.
- To reduce heat-island effect and help cooling, special roofing material was installed.
- Water conserving fixtures are used throughout the building.
- Waterless urinals further reduce water consumption.
- Landscape irrigation and flush toilets use reclaimed water.
- Paving in courtyard, and countertops and partitions in lavatories use recycled glass.

With offices in Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and Washington, D.C., ZGF is recognized for its broad practice. In 1991, the firm was honored with The American Institute of Architects prestigious *Firm Award*, as one of the nation's top architectural practices. Among the firm's recent projects are the U.S Food and Drug Administration's Regional Laboratory in Irvine; the California Science Center in Los Angeles; and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. ZGF has also designed new buildings for the University of Southern California, the University of California, Cornell University, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and the National Institutes of Health.