



*With the
passionate efforts
of students, deans, staff,
alumni, architects, planners, and contractors,
a ten-year vision of a new law school was realized in August 2006.*

*The building's wise use of resources,
its greenness and its use of local, western stones,
timber, metals reminds us of our past,
as well as our commitment to a
sustainable future,
wisely using what nature provides.*

Building on an Environmental Tradition

Green to Gold



In keeping with an outstanding national reputation for environmental law, the Wolf Law Building was constructed to the exacting standards of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building certification, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

Colorado Law is the first publicly supported law school in the country to obtain a LEED Gold rating. Environmentally friendly features of the building include:

- 91% of construction waste recycled
- 26% recycled construction materials
- 59% of materials were manufactured regionally
- 23% of materials were harvested regionally
- 50% reduction of potable water consumption for irrigation
- 40% reduction of water use through waterless or low-flow fixtures
- 88% renewable energy and electricity
- 40% cumulative energy savings compared to current building standards
- CO₂ monitoring to allow varying levels of fresh air based on occupancy
- Energy-efficient lighting with occupancy and lighting sensors
- Energy-efficient HVAC system
- Reduced roof heat buildup through increased reflectivity of custom blend of tile colors
- Easy access to public transportation and bicycle accommodations

And to achieve Gold Certification, construction costs were only 1% more than the campus standard.



The Facts

Size: 184,000 sq.ft. in 5 floors
Library: 59,000 sq.ft. in 3 floors
Cost: \$46,350,000
Architects: Centerbrook Architects and Davis Partnership Architects
Contractor: Saunders Construction Inc.

- 10 classrooms to accommodate 50-100 students
- 6 seminar rooms to accommodate 18-20 students
- 10 interview rooms for clinical program clients and employer recruiting
- 90-seat café
- Main courtroom for 240 people
- Teaching courtroom for 40 people
- 20 spaces for student organizations, offices, journals, and centers
- 49 faculty offices



▲ Homer Clark Faculty Colloquium Room

The Funding

Students agreed to tax themselves to build a new law school at the University of Colorado. The Law School's aging and overcrowded facilities were sorely in need of replacing, yet the state was financially and politically unable to follow through on promised funding. Law students enacted a \$1,000 per year tuition increase dedicated to the building. Then the CU student government voted to approve a \$400 per year capital construction fee to be paid by all CU-Boulder students to help construct the law school and three other buildings.

Students will pay 61% of the \$46.3 million cost of this Wolf Law Building. No major academic building at any other university has been built with this level of student support. The Law School received nearly \$13 million in private gifts from 900 donors, after the lead donation from the Wolf family.

Design

The building's exterior architecture is faithful to the traditional style of the original CU-Boulder buildings designed by Charles Z. Klauder in the 1920s and 1930s. In that tradition, it features horizontal local sandstone, sloping red-tile roofs, limestone trim, dove-cote chimneys, and long, narrow windows for maximum natural light.



The interior design is unique, with subtle themes of the old West, including wooden beams and iron light fixtures. Etched subtly in the limestone lintels throughout the interior are words that represent values the School wants to reinforce – justice, truth, liberty, equality, expansiveness, wisdom, compassion.



▲ Brownstein, Hyatt and Farber Classroom



▲ Wittemyer Courtroom



▲ Carrigan Teaching Courtroom



▲ William A. Wise Law Library



Amenities

The interior design strives to be student friendly. A sense of community among scholars and students is encouraged by the public spaces, from the central granite stairway, to the student commons with a fireplace and comfortable seating and coffee shop, to the entry courtyard with a large permanent grill.

The Wolf Law Building is one of the most technologically advanced law schools in the country. Classrooms include wireless networking, video conferencing capabilities for distance-learning, complete audio-visual equipment with LCD projectors and built-in touch-screen control systems, and electrical outlets for each student. Also available are Internet-based video recording stations and interview rooms, and digital information kiosks throughout the building.

The Wittemyer Courtroom, with leading-edge videotaping and distance-learning capabilities, is a venue for moot court proceedings, symposia, class meetings, conferences, ceremonial events, and other large gatherings. The Law School hosts actual sessions of state, federal, and tribal appellate courts. The Carrigan Teaching Courtroom is used for classes, trial competitions, and litigation training.

The William A. Wise Law Library is the most comprehensive (more than 683,000 volumes and equivalents) and the most technologically sophisticated (computer labs and learning areas) law library in the 12-state Rocky Mountain region and one of the largest in the country. Class composite photographs, restored and reframed using the Class of '42 Library Fund, hang on the walls.

The building has ample space to allow Colorado Law to grow, recruit top faculty, hold University and community events, and promote its nationally recognized law centers, clinics, and journals.

*"When all of us are gone,
this building will stand.
In the end, our greatness is not our building
but what we do here."
– Dean David Getches at the September 2006 Dedication Ceremony*

