

# PIERCE COLLEGE

## Center for the Sciences

**Architect:** HOK Architects

**Construction Administration:** CWA AIA, Inc.

**General Contractor:** Sinanian Development, Inc.

**Construction Manager:** Swinerton Management & Consulting

**Program Manager:** BuildLACCD

**PROJECT SIZE:** 109,000 square feet

**COST:** \$57 million

**PROJECT  
DETAILS:**

The new complex is made up of two buildings. A two-story structure has a large courtyard and houses the departments of life sciences, chemistry, physics, planetary science and nursing, as well as animal and veterinary science. An adjacent single-story building is home to the college's veterinary technology program.

The complex has a planetarium, as well as 22 labs and six lecture rooms. It will be used by approximately 3,000 to 4,000 students each year.

Some state-of-the-art features include:

***Physics and Planetary Science***

Through the use of photography, animation and computer-generated digital images, students will be able to take a visual journey to space and the outer planets. The planetarium can receive materials from such sources as NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Telescopes can be used on a large deck outside the planetarium.

***Chemistry department***

Spacious laboratories have the most current safety and air handling technology. Faculty can provide students with practical experience working with modern chemical instruments, including: an NMR, gas chromatographs and a variety of spectrometers. A large studio gives instructors a variety of teaching options and serves as a student computer facility.

***Life Sciences***

Features a room specifically built for the human cadaver program. Other laboratory rooms allow students to gain hands-on experience using current technologies in topics such as biotechnology, microbiology and physiology.

***Animal/Veterinary Sciences***

Also features a room for large animal dissection. This will allow pre-vet students to study the horses, goats, sheep, poultry and cows from the campus farm after they have died, providing them with experience in large-animal anatomy.

### ***Nursing***

The Nursing Department has two state-of-the art classrooms for theory instruction. Several hi-fidelity simulators, including adult, obstetrical, infant and cardiac, are used to present real-life clinical care scenarios. Two rooms mimic acute care hospital settings and are solely dedicated to patient care simulation. The department has a 14 carrel computer lab as well as an audio visual viewing library.

### ***Veterinary clinic***

This is a small veterinary hospital where students will learn common medical procedures including spays, neuters, vaccinations and diagnostics practiced in companion animal clinics.

### **GREEN FEATURES:**

The new complex was designed to meet LEED silver standards. Construction included several sustainable features:

- Water-efficient irrigation and landscaping that uses native and drought-resistant plants
- Building energy performance that exceeds state requirements by more than 30 percent
- Nearly 30 percent of the building materials were manufactured locally
- Water-efficient plumbing fixtures that save 22 percent water over conventional fixtures
- Low-emission interior materials that contain more than 20 percent recycled content
- Carbon dioxide sensors to monitor and maximize indoor air quality
- Variable speed air conditioning and heating that automatically adjusts based on conditions
- Daylighting throughout work stations
- More than 95 percent of construction debris was diverted from local landfills

***For more information on the LACCD's sustainable construction program, visit [www.laccdbuildsgreen.org](http://www.laccdbuildsgreen.org).***

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