

case study#3 a sustainable site & Building Portland Community College Newberg Center

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PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER **BUILDING DESCRIPTION**

Portland Community College (PCC), Oregon's largest insitiution of higher learning, serves residents in five countries. As part of a bond measure to expand classroom space, PCC purchased a 15-acre site in Newberg, a small town in the Willamette Valley, to develop a new educational facility. The 13,500 sq/ft PCC Newberg Center is the initial building in the master plan.







Project Owner: Portland Community College

Location: 135 Werth Blvd. Newberg Oregon 97132. United States

Submitting Architect: Hennebery Eddy Architects, Inc.

Project Completion Date: August, 2011

Project Site Context/Setting: Rural, previously undeveloped land



Project Type: Education – College/University (campus-level)

Building or Project Gross Floor Area: 13,500 square feet

Hours of Operation: 8:30am to 8:30pm M-F, 8:30am to 2pm Saturday

Total project cost at time of completion, land excluded: \$7,200,000.00

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER

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PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER

SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

Designed to be the first net-zero-energy higher education building in Orgen (and the second in the US), the Newberg Center supports PCC's sustainable mission to reduce greenhouse gas emission 80% by 2050.

As the first project of a constriction bond, the building serves as a living laboratory for PCC to study energy use and strategies for its reduction. The designed focused on four approaches to minimizing energy use to achieve net-zero: creating a highly effcient envelope; maximizing passive strategies; utilizing efficient systems; engaging the user.



SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES: Bioclimatic Design

" Located roughly 60 mile inland of the Oregon coast, the city of Newberg enjoys the mild weather of the Pacific Northwest, characterized by wet winters and dry, breezy summers."



01 The majority of classroom and office spaces are located on the north side of the building, allowing spaces to be daylit with diffuse north light.

02 A deep overhang on the south side of the building protects openings from glare while providing outdoor spaces that can be used even during the wet winter.



 $03\,$ Taking advantage of the Pacific Northwest's climate, the building incorporates natural ventilation and passive cooling articulated by the ventilation stacks that organize the circulation spine. Spinning ventilation turbines on each stack draw fresh air through louvers along the building's perimeter and release hot air through their tops.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES: Light & Air

Daylighting at levels that allow lights to be off during daylight hours: 98% Views to the Outdoors: 98% Within 15 feet of an operable window: 70%

- 01 The Center's reliance on passive systems means the light in the building changes throughout the day as the sun makes its path across the sky. As the seasons shift from summer to winter, so will the indoor temperature subtly shift from warmer to cooler, and the introduction of fresh air brings a sense of the outside environment and climate.
- 02 Large panes of frosted glass, between the classrooms and the commons, light the classroom from two sides while minimizing distraction.



03 In the commons, the curtainwall pattern reflects a window-to-wall ratio that balances daylighting with overall building R-value, while north-facing clerestory slot windows evenly light the space.



04 The cost-effective daylighting design combines common skylights and acoustical ceiling tiles in a unique sloped ceiling system to wash the classrooms and open offices with even, diffused daylight - eliminating the need for electric lights during rhe day.





SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES: Energy Future

" To drive down the building's peak energy load, passive strategies included maximizing north and south building exposures, deep overhangs, daylight, natural ventilation, concrete floors for thermal mass and a super-insulated envelope using structural insulated panels."

- 01 When outside temperatures are below 55° F, heat-recovery ventilators provide energy-efficient fresh air. The building's concrete slab heats users directly, not the air around them, by circulating 90° water through the closedloop radiant system.
- O2 The ceiling fans provides a 3° dropin ambient temperature through air movement while using a fraction of the energy of air-conditioning units.



03 Lighting controls dim lights when daylight is sufficient, and vacancy sensors (which turn lights off when a room is empty but do not automatically turn lights on when someone enters) prevent lights being left on in unoccupied rooms.

ECM #	Description	Incremental Cost \$	kWh Savings	Energy Cost Savings \$	Simple Payback (yrs) 25.6	
1	Structural Insulated Wall/Roof Panels	\$18,240	10322	\$713		
2	Reduced Lighting Power Density	\$5,150	13299	\$889	5.8	
3	High Performance Glazing	\$8,300		1		
4	Daylighting	\$12,213				
3&4	Combined ECM	\$20,513	10455	\$770	26.	
5	Reduced Exterior LPD	\$8,000	6040	\$328	24.4	
6	Heat Recovery Ventilation	(\$7,325)				
8	ASHP serving Radiant floor Htg/backup Clg system	\$100,000				
6&8	Combined ECM	\$92,675	51627 5450 6784	\$6,726 \$107 \$465	13.8 859.8 4.3	
7	Natural Ventilation	\$92,000				
9	Laptop Comp. vs Desktops	\$2,000				
10	Heat Pump DHW	\$200	139	\$27	7.4	
	NZE Model (Proposed) (includes all ECM)	\$238,778	122090	\$11,807	20.2	
	Interactive (Proposed) select ECM	\$146,778	119997	\$11,693	12.6	

The project saving **51%** of the energy compared to baseline. A total of **122,090 kWh/year** electrical energy savings is projected.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES: Material & Construcation



- 01 SIPS (structural insulated panels) used for the roofs and walls provide a high R-value and greatly reduce heat loss from thermal bridging and air infiltration.
- 02 Double-dampers behind the natural ventilation louvers provide a tight seal when closed to prevent drafts.
- 03 Close attention and coordination with the contractor during construction, including mock-ups and air leakage tests of the louver assembly and installation, provided confirmation of a tight, well-sealed envelope.
- O4 The project also focused on minimizing material use, such as using the structural concrete slab and concrete shear walls as final finishes and strategically placing FSC-certified white oak where it would have the greatest impact, at classroom entries and the reception desk.
- 05 the building included 29% local materials, including brick, gypsum board, and gravel used for the roadway extension, and 25% materials with recycled content; and 85% of construction waste was diverted from local landfills.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES: Longevity



"The Newberg Center was designed not only to provide classroom spaces and function as the campus front door but also would one day be transformed into the student union. The design used a lot of material that provide flexibility for the transition. "

01 Use structural steel frame to allow all interior walls to be easily removed or reconfigured.

> The 30'x 30' structural bay with steel columns in the corner, allow multiple areas to be combined to create larger spaces for use.

02 frosted glass partitions throughout the building share light between spaces and function as additional "white board" space for classroom.



- 03 wood-clad cable tray, located in the circulation spine and doubling as an entry soffit at classroom, make maintenance possible without disrupting classes and allow for easily changing out technology.
- 04 large sliding glass walls between the multi-purpose room and the commons, and between the commons and the outdoor plaza, allow the building to be opened up, creating a dynamic flow of spaces for large events.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER RENGENERATION-BASED CHECKLIST

Regeneration-Based Checklist for Design and Construction © SBSE @ Tadoussac 1999 Project: regeneration degenera pollutes air cleans ai pollutes wat wastes rainwate stores rainwate consumes food produces food destroys rich so creates rich soi dumps wastes unuse consumes waste provides wildlife habitat destroys wildlife habita imports energy exports energy requires fuel-powered transportation requires human-powered transportation nsifies local weather noderates local weather excludes daylight uses daylight uses mechanical heatin uses passive heating uses mechanical cooling uses passive cooling needs cleaning and repa maintains itself produces human discomfor provides human comfor uses human-powered circ es fuel-powered circulatio pollutes indoor air creates pure indoor air uilt of virgin materials is built of recycled ma can be recycled serves as an icon for reger cannot be recycled an icon for the apocalypse is a bad neighbor is a good neighbor ve so 200 possib -75 1000 925

THE SITE

Air= 0

plants, trees, no specific stratus for cleaning the air on the site

Water=75

native plants in bio-swale, the landscape design improving water quality

Rainwater=0

While the rainwater catchment system was eliminated for budgetary reasons

Food Production =-50

No food production on the site

Soil=25

reuse all the native topsoil on site and minimize importing soil amendments

Wildlife Habitat= 75

large masses of shrubs and groundcover provide substantial shelter for birds and insects, while large street trees provide convenient perching for local hawk species.

Energy= -25

Only 51% renewable energy, 49% imports energy form city.

Transportation= 0

estimated percent of occupants using public transit, cycling or walking is only 3%, but the site still provides bike and pedestrian paths.

RENGENERATION-BASED CHECKLIST

Regeneration-Based Checklist for Design and Construction © SBSE @ Tadoussac 1999 Project neration dege ege 75 1 20 pollutes air cleans air pollutes water cleans water stores rainwat wastes rainwater consumes food produces food creates rich soil destroys rich soi dumps wastes unused destroys wildlife habita consumes wastes provides wildlife habita imports energy exports energy requires fuel-powered transportation requires human-powered transportation sifies local weather moderates local weather excludes daylight uses mechanical heating uses daylight uses passive heating uses mechanical coolin uses passive cooling needs cleaning and repair maintains itself • produces human discomfort provides human comfor uses fuel-powered circulation uses human-powered circulation pollutes indoor air creates pure indoor air is built of virgin materials cannot be recycled serves as an icon for the apocalypse is built of recycled materials can be recycled serves as an icon for regeneration is a good neighbor is a bad neighbor is ugly is beautiful live so 2200 possib 200 possib -75 1000 925

THE BUILDING

Daylight=100

98% daylighting at levels that allow lights to be off during daylight hours.

Heating=75

concrete floor for thermal mass and super-insulated envelope using structural insulated panels.

Cooling=75

ventilator provides energy-efficient fresh air, ceiling fans provide a 30 drop in ambient temperature through air movement

Maintenance= 50

vacancy sensor and natural ventilation.

Human feeling=75

the north daylight was provides on the majority of classroom and office spaces, a deep overhang on south side of the building protects openings form glare. On the site, there are green space and trees that provides shading area. Natural ventilation that allow fresh air in the building.

Circulation= 50

there is no preference for elevator and the stair is on the next door, which has large space for that.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER RENGENERATION-BASED CHECKLIST

Regeneration-Based Checklist for Design and Construction



THE BUILDING

Indoor air= 75

natural ventilation, the building's air quality is monitored by CO2 sensors and the green housekeeping policy prevents the use of toxic chemicals in or around the building. Good passive system introduce the fresh air into the building and brings a sense of the outside environment and climate.

Materials= 25

25% materials with recycled content

Recyclability=75

25% materials with recycled content, 85% of construction waste was diverted from local landfills.

lcon= 75

Designed to be the first net-zero energy higher education building in Oregon and the second in the United Stated.

Neighbor= 75

it is sustainable building, which is good for neighbor and provides habitat area in exterior of site.

Aesthetics= 50

creating a highly efficient envelope is a one of design goal.

LEED CHECKLIST



SCORE: 93/110

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER BUILDING REDESIGN PROPOSAL

Overall, the Newberg Center is very well designed that is was actually challenging to create a redesign. We chose to implement systems that scored low on the check lists. In a general sense, we are design the building to get better scores on both checklists.

We chose to focus on 3 areas:

- Create Food Production:
 Erect raised beds on site
- Redesign The Transportation:
 Add bicycle racks
 Add carpool parking spots closer to the building to encourage better transportation practices.
- 3) Make the Building More Energy Efficient:- Install composting toilets that use no energy

We were going to install more pvs, or possibly thermal pvs, but came to the conclusion that instead of making more energy, it would be better to lessen the amount of energy the building uses.

BUILDING REDESIGN



No food production on the site

- Using raised bed gardens
- it can produce food.
- the plants in the garden can help absorbing the dust, make the exterior air fresh.



Rainwater catchment system was eliminated for budgetary reasons

Adding a cistern

- catch rain water and reuse it in the building & garden.



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Adding a gutter on the roof



PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER

BUILDING REDESIGN



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49% imports energy form city

Lessen the amount of energy used by composting waste and using composting toilet.



Estimated percent of occupants using public transit, cycling or walking is only 3%



Adding bike racks



Carpool spots





BUILDING REDESIGN REGENERATION-BASED CHECKLIST

Regeneration-Based Checklist for Design and Construction



PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWBERG CENTER BUILDING REDESIGN LEED CHECKLIST

Projec	ct Checklist	and major Renov	acions				,	Di
Sustai	inable Sites	Possible Points:	26			Materia	als and Resources, Continued	
7 N Prereg 1	Construction Activity Pollution Prevention			2	I N	Credit 4	Recycled Content	1 to 7
Credit 1	Site Selection		1	2	-	Credit 5	Regional Materials	1 to 2
Credit 2	Development Density and Community Con	nectivity	5	1		Credit 6	Rapidly Renewable Materials	1
Credit 3	Brownfield Redevelopment		1	1		Credit 7	Certified Wood	1
Credit 4.1	Alternative Transportation-Public Transp	ortation Access	6		_	1		
Credit 4.2	Alternative Transportation-Bicycle Storad	e and Changing Rooms	1	10	1	Indoor	Environmental Quality Possible Points	. 15
Credit 4.3	Alternative Transportation-Low-Emitting	and Fuel-Efficient Vehicles	13	141	-			
Credit 4.4	Alternative Transportation-Parking Capac	ity	2	Y		Prereg 1	Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance	
Credit 5.1	Site Development-Protect or Restore Hab	itat	1	Y		Prereg 2	Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Control	
Credit 5.2	Site Development-Maximize Open Space		1	1		Credit 1	Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring	1
N Credit 6.1	Stormwater Design-Quantity Control		1	1	-	Credit 2	Increased Ventilation	1
Credit 6.2	Stormwater Design-Quality Control		1		7	Credit 3.1	Construction IAQ Management Plan-During Construction	1
Credit 7.1	Heat Island Effect-Non-roof		1		?	Credit 3.2	Construction IAQ Management Plan-Before Occupancy	1
Credit 7.2	Heat Island Effect-Roof		1		7	Credit 4.1	Low-Emitting Materials-Adhesives and Sealants	1
Credit 8	Light Pollution Reduction		1		7	Credit 4.2	Low-Emitting Materials-Paints and Coatings	1
and and a second se			-	1	1.80	Credit 4.3	Low-Emitting Materials-Flooring Systems	1
Water	Efficiency	Possible Points:	10		N	Credit 4.4	Low-Emitting Materials-Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products	1
				1		Credit 5	Indoor Chemical and Pollutant Source Control	1
Prereg 1	Water Use Reduction-20% Reduction			1		Credit 6.1	Controllability of Systems-Lighting	1
Credit 1	Water Efficient Landscapine		2 to 4	1	133	Credit 6.2	Controllability of Systems-Thermal Comfort	1
Credit 2	Innovative Wastewater Technologies		2	1	-	Credit 7.1	Thermal Comfort-Design	1
Credit 3	Water Use Reduction		2 to 4	1		Credit 7.2	Thermal Comfort-Verification	1
			12100010	1		Credit 8.1	Daylight and Views-Daylight	1
Energ	y and Atmosphere	Possible Points:	35	1	1.5	Credit 8.2	Daylight and Views-Views	1
Prereg 1	Fundamental Commissioning of Building E	nergy Systems	1	6		Innova	tion and Design Process Possible Point:	5: 6
Prereq 2	Minimum Energy Performance			-				
Prereq 3	Fundamental Refrigerant Management		10	1	10	Credit 1.1	Innovation in Design: Specific Title	1
Credit 1	Optimize Energy Performance		1 to 19	1	1	Credit 1.2	Innovation in Design: Specific Title	1
Credit 2	On-Site Renewable Energy		1 to 7	1	151	Credit 1,J	Innovation in Design: Specific Title	1
? Credit 3	Enhanced Commissioning		2	1		Credit 1.4	Innovation in Design: Specific Title	1
Credit 4	Enhanced Refrigerant Management		2	1		Credit 1.5	Innovation in Design: Specific Title	1
Credit 5	Measurement and Verification		3	1		Credit 2	LEED Accredited Professional	1
Credit 6	Green Power		2		_	-		
Mater	rials and Resources	Possible Points	14	4	-	Region	al Priority Credits Possible Point	s: 4
		resolute rollits.		1	112	Credit 1.1	Regional Priority: Specific Credit	1
Prereg 1	Storage and Collection of Recyclables			1	-	Credit 1.2	Regional Priority: Specific Credit	1
and a second sec	Building Reuse-Maintain Existing Walls, F	oors, and Roof	1 to 3	1		Credit 1.3	Regional Priority: Specific Credit	1
N Credit 1.1	a contract of the second		1.07.0	-	-			
N Credit 1.1 N Credit 1.2	Building Reuse-Maintain 50% of Interior N	on-Structural Elements	1	1		Credit 1.4	Regional Priority: Specific Credit	
N Credit 1.1 N Credit 1.2 Credit 2	Building Reuse-Maintain 50% of Interior N Construction Waste Management	on-Structural Elements	1 1 to 2	1		Credit 1.4	Regional Priority: Specific Credit	- 1

CONCLUSION

For conclusion, the Newberg Center is a well-designed building that used many good sustainable strategies; so we focused on small but doable changes to get better scores on both checklists, and instead of making more energy, it would be better to lessen the amount of energy the building use. We proposed an investment in raised garden, rainwater catchment system, lessen the amount of imports energy from city, adding bike rack, carpool spots.

Sometimes little things can make big impact...

As a result of our intervention, the project **gained 275 points** on the regeneration-based checklist than before, and added LEED platinum **from 93 points to 96 points**.