



**BILL & MELINDA GATES CENTER FOR
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

LMN



LMN ARCHITECTS COMPLETES THE NEW BILL & MELINDA GATES CENTER FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING AT UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT

*Bill & Melinda Gates Center for
Computer Science & Engineering*

LOCATION

*University of Washington
3800 E. Stevens Way NE
Seattle, Washington 98105*

CLIENT

University of Washington

DESIGN YEARS

2015–2017

CONSTRUCTION YEARS

2017–2018

MAJOR BUILDING MATERIALS

*Terra cotta, glass, composite aluminum panel,
concrete, cherry wood, and steel*

PROGRAM

*Computer Science building for undergraduate and
graduate students with 3 Classrooms,
4 Seminar Rooms, 1 Lecture Hall,
Undergraduate Commons, Advising Suite,
Capstone Workrooms, Graduate Workrooms,
Robotics Laboratory, Faculty Offices, Café and
Event Center*

SITE AREA

96,520 SFT

FLOOR AREA

138,760 SFT

BUILDING HEIGHT

64 FT

NUMBER OF FLOORS

6 (including lower basement level)

Seattle, Washington – March 26th, 2019 – LMN Architects is pleased to announce the completion and opening of the new Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering at University of Washington in Seattle. The academic building establishes a new standard for the study of computer science in creating a connected, warm and welcoming building designed to attract a broad and diverse student population, enhancing connections to the campus and community.

Computer Science is the most in-demand college degree for Washington State employers and as the most popular major at the University of Washington, the academic department is expanding to accommodate significant growth. The program has risen dramatically in stature in the period since 2003, when the existing 165,000 square foot Paul G. Allen Center for Computer Science & Engineering, also designed by LMN Architects, was completed. Building on this success, the University returned to LMN to design the new Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering, which complements the Allen Center while representing the future of computer science at the university and across the United States.

Hank Levy, Director of the Paul G. Allen School, comments: “The Gates Center isn’t just a building, it’s a statement about our vision of the future and how this building enables that vision. We have created a world-class Computer Science & Engineering program here, in part because of our focus on technology that helps to solve the world’s biggest challenges. This building enables us to grow those efforts and to tackle even bigger challenges.”

Mark Reddington, Design Partner, comments: “We have worked with the Allen School at the University of Washington for nearly two decades to craft this complex of learning, research, and community spaces to enrich the culture of the school and engage the broader campus community. The creative and collaborative spirit of the school’s leadership, students and faculty has inspired the design of this facility to be focused on a vibrant social environment.”

In a dense campus precinct surrounded by engineering buildings, the expansion site interacts with the existing facility across Stevens Way—a major campus corridor shared by cars, buses, pedestrians, and bicycles—requiring a holistic approach to integrating campus circulation into the two-building program. A pedestrian circulation path through the steeply sloped, forested site crosses Stevens Way as well as two service roads as it approaches the Burke-Gilman Trail, forming a critical axial connection between Drumheller Fountain at the center of campus and the athletic facilities on the East Campus.

ARCHITECT

LMN Architects
801 Second Avenue, Suite 501
Seattle, Washington 98104

PROJECT TEAM

Julie Adams, Associate AIA
Andrew Carr
Michael Day
Melissa Eby
Eun Jun, AIA
John Lim, AIA
Evan McQuillen, Associate AIA
Mark Reddington, FAIA
George Shaw, FAIA
Mary Anne Smith, AIA
Stephen Van Dyck, AIA

CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Magnusson Klemencic Associates

CONTRACTOR & CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Mortenson Construction

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Olin Partnership

LIGHTING DESIGN

Horton Lees Brogden Lighting Design

MEP ENGINEER

Affiliated Engineers, Inc.

Stephen Van Dyck, Design Partner, comments: “The new Bill & Melinda Gates Center has been designed to further the mission of the Allen School in enhancing the inclusivity of the department and attracting a diversity of students to the program. We conceived of the building as a strategic integration of topography, campus networks, and departmental aspirations to create a new central campus hub. Throughout the building, every space has been designed to promote serendipitous interaction and reinforce the importance of community.”

Within the Gates Center, a variety of program elements including classrooms, offices, and workroom spaces are intermingled across 5 floors to foster community and collaboration. A roof-level event center takes advantage of sweeping views of Lake Washington and the Cascade Mountains to provide a signature experience for a wide range of educational needs, industry collaborations, and outreach functions.

Departing from the minimal, bare spaces typically associated with the technology sector, the UW Computer Science and Engineering buildings offer a warm, welcoming, and accessible environment for students, researchers, and faculty. The expansion building features a two-sided curving form that responds to the unique topography and flow of campus circulation. A richly detailed building façade system of terra-cotta panels in 4 texture types juxtaposes against crisp, modern black glass and metal, providing sun shading while framing the intermixed nature of the program within.

The building is designed to enhance its surrounding district and foster a broad community. A cafe activates the primary entry at Stevens Way, transitioning between the exterior landscape to a sky lit central atrium with visual and circulation connections to all floors and program functions. The shared plaza continues through a series of stepped elevations offering building entries at multiple locations along the north side of the building, remaining porous with the open circulation of the atrium while fully remaking the existing pedestrian path with natural edges defined by boulders and lush vegetation.

LMN Architects has designed and built many additional higher education buildings including PACCAR and Dempsey Halls at the University of Washington Foster School of Business in Seattle, Washington; Voxman Music Building at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa; the Anteater Learning Pavilion at the University of California in Irvine, California, and the Huntsman School of Business Addition at Utah State University in Logan, Utah.

About LMN Architects

Since its founding in 1979, LMN Architects has dedicated its practice to the health and vitality of communities of all scales. Internationally recognized for the planning and design of environments that elevate the social experience, the firm works across a diversity of project typologies, including higher education facilities, science and technology, civic and cultural projects, conference and convention centers, urban mixed-use and transportation.

LMN has successfully completed over 700 projects across North America, including the Voxman Music Building at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa; Tobin Center for the Performing Arts in San Antonio, Texas; Vancouver Convention Centre West in Vancouver, Canada; Sound Transit University of Washington Station in Seattle, Washington; and the new Hyatt Regency in Downtown Seattle.

Based in Seattle, Washington, LMN Architects is led by partners John Chau, Sam Miller, Walt Niehoff, Wendy Pautz, Mark Reddington, George Shaw, Stephen Van Dyck, and Rafael Viñoly-Menendez. The firm employs 150 talented professionals practicing architecture, interior design, and urban design, and the quality of the work has been recognized with nearly 300 national and international design awards, including the prestigious 2016 National Architecture Firm Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

For more information on the work of LMN Architects, please visit lmnarchitects.com

Press contact

Edgar Almaguer
Communications & Media Strategist
LMN Architects
ealmaguer@lmnarchitects.com
+1 (206) 788-4321