

Union Graduate College

Schenectady, NY, Schenectady County

Background

In Fall of 2009, Union Graduate College completed construction of its new \$8.5 million, 24,000-square-foot campus at 80 Nott Terrace in downtown Schenectady, NY to house its growing programs in management, engineering, education and bioethics. In the first year after completion, enrollment was up 5.5%.

The three-story, 24,000-square-foot LEED Certified building is a model of sustainability, with features designed to reduce its energy use and carbon footprint. The building provides students with “one-stop” shopping for student services such as admissions, registration, and financial aid, and also includes classrooms, computer labs, conference facilities, kitchen, and faculty offices. It was designed to include a variety of meeting spaces, many offering spectacular views of downtown Schenectady and the greater Mohawk Valley.

NYSERDA provided technical and financial assistance under the New York Energy Smart New Construction Program. EYP/L&S Energy provided NYSERDA Technical Assistance services; Sacco & McKinney provided architectural and LEED consulting services; BVH did the mechanical design; and Genesys was the Commissioning agent.

Recommendations

L&S Energy identified cost-effective improvements to the building and its systems that will reduce its energy consumption and environmental footprint while increasing occupant comfort.

Energy efficiency measures implemented at Union Graduate College included:

- High Performance Glazing
- Improved Roof and Wall Insulation
- Light Colored Roof
- Lighting Controls
- Heat Recovery
- High Efficiency Geothermal Heat Pumps
- Variable Speed Pumping



“The NYSERDA process to utilize Technical Assistance Providers resulted in a positive Union Graduate College relationship with SAIC, timely completion of the project, and achievement of the original building incentives.”

*- Robert Kozik
Dean, School of Engineering & Computer Science*

Incentives and Results

NYSERDA's incentive of \$83,292 helped Union Graduate College defray a portion of the implementation cost to install the efficiency improvements. In total, Union's investment could result in:

- Annual Energy savings of more than 172,093 kWh
- Peak demand savings of 53 kW in the summer
- Annual Energy Cost savings of \$17,928

The new Union Graduate College building is 29% above the ASHRAE 90.1-2004 code baseline.



To find out how you can reduce your energy consumption and costs, visit NYSERDA.NY.GOV.