GUSTAVUS ACADEMIC BUILDING
Supporting excellence in the learning and teaching experience
THE VISION FOR THE ACADEMIC BUILDING IS GUIDED BY THREE PRIMARY INFLUENCES.

THE CAMPUS
The visual character of Gustavus Adolphus College is a blend of architectural styles, from which patterns emerge: a consistent range of material palettes and colors, common architectural elements and details, and a uniform building scale. Campus malls, clearly defined by building edges, create continuity in the landscape and focused views of Christ Chapel.

THE WEST MALL
The new West Mall will express a transitional environment. Moving west from Christ Chapel, the formality and scale of the landscape of Chapel Circle will gradually give way to a less formal landscape expression, culminating with the arrival into the Linnaeus Arboretum.

THE DESIGN STATEMENT
Based upon the aspirations and needs of the College, three themes represent the expected design outcomes. The design will contribute to excellence in the learning and teaching experience, provide an attractive and beneficial asset to the campus, and promote sensitive stewardship. These themes can each be manifested both functionally and visually.
THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE ACADEMIC BUILDING IS RESPONSIVE TO THE THREE PRIMARY INFLUENCES:

THE CAMPUS
To establish an intentional, visual connection to the campus, the design reinterprets architectural elements and details familiar to other campus buildings: vertical proportions, framed openings, and clearly-expressed rhythms. The use of the timeless, buff-colored Kasota stone also reinforces a sense of belonging, and in aligning with a campus pattern of stone academic buildings, purposefully declares this a place for teaching and learning.

THE WEST MALL
With a strong presence along the north edge of the West Mall, the design creates defined space and focused views. The design further engages the West Mall, and the campus beyond, with openness, lightness, and transparency. Dynamic views into the building offer a visual invitation and showcase activities within the interior, and, in turn, views out provide a variety of glimpses of the campus landscape.

THE DESIGN STATEMENT
To encourage collaboration and community, the design is arranged in a looped circulation pattern, providing opportunities for further, informal interaction between students and faculty. The three-story atrium also enhances the educational experience, serving as a focused gathering place and offering visual, vertical connections through the building. Enriching the spaces with abundant natural light creates quality, comfort, and warmth. Sustainable design strategies offer value and efficiency and promote a commitment to stewardship.
LEED STRATEGIES

SITE
Minimize site disturbance
Maximize open space
Cool white roof
Reduced light pollution

WATER
30% water use reduction
Water efficient landscaping /
Use of native plants

ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE
Enhanced commissioning of systems
44% energy savings
Refrigerant management
Measurement/verification of systems
** Use of green power
** On-site renewable energy
** Photovoltaic panels

MATERIALS & RESOURCES
Occupant recycling
75% construction waste
** FSC certified wood
20% or more regional materials
10% recycled content materials

INDOOR ENVIRONMENT QUALITY / THERMAL COMFORT
Low-emitting materials
Occupant control of lighting
Isolate chemical sources
Occupant control of mechanical
Extensive daylighting

LEED Goal: Gold Certification

*Items being considered

Using LEED as a guideline, sustainability and energy efficient design were priorities from the project’s beginning. It has been modeled to save 44% more energy and 30% more water than typical code requires. The new Gustavus Academic Building exceeds the 2030 Challenge targets.