Central Research Institute

The Central Research Institute began in 1956 and since then has been engaged in academic research and study in various fields in a close cooperative relationship with society at large. In April 2011 the Institute was restructured into the Research Department and the Industrial Intellectual Properties Department, between them combining the former groups handling research, collaboration between academia, government and industry, and intellectual property.

The Research Department consists of the Basic Research Institute (eight research institutes), the research promotion project, and the general scientific field research groups with a number of research teams. The Industrial Intellectual Properties Department includes the Academic, Industrial and Governmental Collaborative Project Research Institute (twelve research institutes), the Academic, Industrial and Governmental Liaison Center, and the Intellectual Property Center.

The two departments work together to promote a wide range of research activities and collaborative projects, making research results available to society and supporting projects designed to promote and extend research results.

Academic, Industrial and Governmental Liaison Center

In addition to conducting education and research, another responsibility of universities is to return intellectual resources to society. Fukuoka University is a comprehensive university consisting of nine faculties in the fields of humanities and sciences, and many of our graduates are now executive managers at companies in Kyushu. Taking advantage of this wealth of business contacts and the local features of Kyushu, the Liaison Center is working with the business community and local governments to promote collaboration among academia, industry and government. In order to build a collaborative model based on a business perspective, we offer to individuals in these three sectors opportunities to make presentations and network with one another through technology exchange, presentation meetings and seminars. The Liaison Center also scouts for research seeds; supports business and research matching; provides consultation on technologies and management; and builds networks among academia, industry and government. Our two liaison offices in Fukuoka prefecture are involved in a range of activities, in coordination with local government and other organizations.
In addition to existing roles in education and research, part of our contribution is making the intellectual resources of the university available to society. We aim at constructing a creative, knowledge-driven framework for collaborative effort by industry, academia and government, coupling university intellectual resources and research results with the knowledge and information of private industry.

The Intellectual Property Center manages rights for the valuable intellectual resources created by the many faculty members and students here, helping the university make a real social contribution to the community and industry through the creation, protection and utilization of these intellectual resources.

Central Research Organization

Research Institute for Sustainable Communities (Fukuoka and East Asia)

This Institute was established in fiscal 2011 as a basic research institute, as part of the restructuring of the Central Research Institute. Basic research and regional trials are designed to contribute to regional activation, the development of a gender-equal society, disaster prevention and response, and regional medicine networking in the Fukuoka metropolitan area from the following four key approaches:

- Planning and operation of a variety of systems utilizing regional cooperative agreements between local governments in the extended Fukuoka metropolitan region to meet diverse resident needs.
- Hosting lectures and workshops in public halls and civic centers in Jonan Ward, Fukuoka City.
- Public dissemination of research results via symposiums, newsletters and other means.
- Work to continuously improve theory and contribute to the foundation of the study of sustainable communities in the East Asian region, through the issuance of a regularly published magazine.

Research Institute for Advanced Molecular Medicine

This Institute is a basic research facility established under the Strategic Academic Research Infrastructure Formation Support initiative of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. It is involved in advanced basic research and cancer research under the theme of Clarification of Cellular- and Life-Related Programs and Research Infrastructure Formation for Development of Patient Management Methodology. It is also an active part of Fukuoka University programs to support women researchers. The Institute serves as a core for research into life sciences at Fukuoka University, providing young and women researchers with avenues for growth and development.
Research Institute for the Molecular Pathomechanisms of Epilepsy

Epilepsy is the second most common neurological disorder, following headaches, but its biological causes have not yet been fully identified at the molecular level. The Institute is engaged in research to clarify the involved molecular pathomechanisms.

Epilepsy is a general term applied to symptoms including the sudden fading of consciousness and fits, affecting approximately one percent of the Japanese population. It is not a single disease, however, and its molecular pathomechanisms, namely its related conditions, have yet to be clarified. The Institute is one of the few research institutes in the world working in this field, welcoming researchers from many nations to investigate epilepsy through advanced genetic analysis equipment and techniques, the creation of experimental animal models using abnormal genes found in human epilepsy, and the creation of induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells from patient cells. These research results are being utilized in the development of innovative new therapies with reduced side effects.

Research Institute for Physical Activity

The Institute for Physical Activity was established in 2008 under the Strategic Academic Research Infrastructure Formation Support initiative of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The goals of the Institute are to research into the health aspects of physical activity, the development of scientifically based physical activity programs to help prevent and treat lifestyle-related diseases, and the promotion of research into health science, through collaborative programs by researchers both at the Institute and elsewhere. Researchers primarily from the Faculties of Sports and Health Science, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicine and the University Hospital work collaboratively with Japanese and foreign research institutions on a wide range of themes related to health and physical activity. Key research topics include the development of physical activity programs to help prevent and treat lifestyle-related diseases, minimize the need for long-term medical care and alleviate aging-related issues, as well as developing a system to assist people in making physical activity a daily habit.

Research Institute for Endoscopy

Optical medicine consists of the diagnosis and treatment of medical issues using endoscopy. Japan was the first in the world to develop the gastroscope in the 1950s, and has remained a world leader in the field ever since. Fukuoka University has consistently been in the forefront of optical medicine development in Japan, applying new techniques in actual treatment. The unique advantages of the University make it possible to demonstrate the scientific efficacy of newly developed techniques, helping to provide high-quality optical medicine from Japan to the world.

Designed primarily for researchers in clinical and basic medicine, this multi-disciplinary organization brings together top-level experts from Japan and overseas, as well as training new, young researchers. The Laboratory is working to further enhance the foundation for future research in optical medicine, maintaining Japan’s leading position in the field.
Research Institute for Islet Biology

Pancreatic islets, located in the human pancreas, are groups of cells primarily responsible for generating insulin, the only hormone capable of lowering blood sugar. They are essential in controlling sugar metabolism, which is itself a critical part of life processes, but when these cells cease to function normally it results in diabetes. This Institute utilizes proprietary cell transplantation and molecular biological techniques in basic research into the problems, regeneration, origins, division and creation of insulin in the pancreatic islets in mice and human beings, working toward the development of a fundamental cure for diabetes.

Research Institute for Cardiovascular Medicine

The Institute opened in fiscal 2011, drawing on the experience gained through over 1200 angiographs, over 350 percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI), coronary artery bypass surgeries, valve replacements and arterial stent grafts performed safely. Advanced therapies and pharmaceuticals for the treatment of arteriosclerosis, ischemic heart disease, cardiac insufficiency and high pulmonary blood pressure are being developed here, together with clinical applications. The Institute is active in fundamental and clinical cardiovascular research, with young researchers developing new devices for difficult-to-treat cardiac insufficiency, along with new diagnostic and treatment methods for arteriosclerosis and peripheral arterial disease (PAD), and improving rehabilitation programs for use after cardiac events.

Research Institute for Regenerative Medicine

Regenerative medicine has achieved tremendous progress in recent years, and demands continuing collaboration with other fields. Most regenerative medicine implementations are achieved through cellular treatment, but a range of ethical issues remains to be resolved. In cooperation with a panel on life ethics (through the Faculty of Law) and researchers specializing in the field of cellular engineering (Faculties of Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences), the Institute is formed into four teams: stem cell selection and evaluation, nerve regeneration, vascular and lymphatic tube regeneration, and endocrine cell regeneration. Each team handles all phases of its specific theme, from basic research to clinical studies and applications for new clinical trials.
Designated in 2000 by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as one of the country’s Academic Frontier Promotion Centers, the Institute has pioneered methods of community development based on empirical research into consumer shop-around behavior. One is the consistency estimation method for shop-around patterns based on destination-based surveys, which provides a theoretical method for accurate measurement of the number of visitors to a specific locale. Consumer shop-around patterns were continuously observed in downtown areas of major cities in Kyushu including Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Oita, Miyazaki and Kagoshima, providing accurate counts of visitors and clarifying the effect of the recent opening of the Kyushu Shinkansen bullet train service. R&D now focuses on the development of a business model utilizing smartphones and ICT to leverage big data and provide real time decision-making support for visitors.

Risk is present in many industrial situations, making it critical to develop technologies to avoid or minimize it. The Institute focuses on technologies to prevent or ameliorate chemical accidents. Researchers from industry, academia and government work with medical and engineering professionals to develop new solutions to safety issues.
Research Institute of Materials Science and Technology

Materials technology is a basic technology not only involved in the design and manufacture of industrial products, but also essential in making society safer and more secure. The Institute researches a wide range of topics related to materials technology, constructing a platform for academic and international research and helping create new industries. Current projects focus on improving material strength and on interaction between the medical and engineering fields, while steadily building the organizational foundation, but in the future the Institute plans to widen its range of activity to include not only engineering but also create new academic fields in the humanities. The Institute will develop into a hub of research activity for not only Fukuoka University researchers and students, but also researchers and exchange students from around the world, helping the university become more international and nurturing graduates with an international perspective.

Research Institute for Recycling & Environmental Control Systems

The Institute was established in 1997 with the support of the Eco-Town Project of Kitakyushu City and designated as one of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology’s Academic Frontier Promotion Centers. Trial facilities have been constructed in Kitakyushu’s Eco-Town Project for rendering waste non-hazardous, reducing waste tonnage through recycling, and recovery of usable resources. Practical technologies are being created through a variety of collaborative research projects. Research results are being transferred to the private sector for use in rendering waste safer and recycling it more effectively, and new collaborative projects are under way with academia, industry and government. The Institute operates the only large-scale experimental waste facility in Japan, and handles research and consulting for local government and private enterprise as it continues to develop into a comprehensive environmental research institute.

Research Institute of Microelectronics Assembling and Packaging

Electronic equipment such as mobile phones is becoming rapidly smaller in size as performance improves, and such equipment relies on semiconductors and other electronic components mounted on substrates. This Institute was established in April 2011 to develop high-performance equipment capable of high-precision 3D assembly of electronic components. Located inside the 3D Semiconductor Research Center in Itoshima, Fukuoka Prefecture, it covers the complete process from developing the constituent technologies needed for assembling 3D semiconductors, to design, prototyping, analysis and testing. The Institute will also be working on design methodologies, reliability test methods and standardization. Collaborative research programs by academia, industry and government involve Fukuoka University researchers and graduate students, as well as personnel from other universities, private enterprise, and the Fukuoka Industry, Science & Technology Foundation.
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<th>Research Institute of Aging and Brain Sciences</th>
<th>Research Institute of Translational Medicine for Life Innovation</th>
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<td>As the average age continues to rise in modern society, there is a corresponding increase in age-related disease, including senile dementia due to Alzheimer’s. The Institute is bringing together knowledge related to preventive pharmaceuticals as part of a research program to find ways of improving personal health to resist the onset of such diseases. The molecular pathomechanisms of the diseases are also being studied in detail, and new therapies and pharmaceuticals being developed to minimize their effects. The research is being advanced in continuous collaboration with clinical medicine in the University Hospital.</td>
<td>Concretely, research focuses on identifying valuable foodstuffs and treatments, leading a new wave in medical treatment at Fukuoka University through collaborative research between academia, industry and government as one of the first facilities of its type in Japan.</td>
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<th>Research Institute for International Study on Eruptive History and Informatics</th>
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<td>The interpretation of eruptive history is a fundamental issue in volcanology, and critical in preventing and minimizing damage from volcanic eruptions. The Institute functions as a center for collecting and disseminating related information, supported by on-site surveys in Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia and elsewhere. A database is being constructed to share information efficiently, and actively promote its utilization in volcano risk assessment and outreach programs. The</td>
<td>The Institute also publishes the International Journal of Eruptive History and Informatics, and promotes international academic exchange.</td>
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<th>Research Institute for Composite Materials</th>
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<td>Established in April 2012, the Institute provides comprehensive support for the development of composite materials through the commercialization and application of composite material technologies expected to be crucial in the future. The Institute is developing significant new functional materials utilizing technologies to minimize environmental impact. The broad utility and applicability of this research make it an excellent theme for collaboration with industry, and the Institute hopes to rapidly develop manufacturing technologies with minimal environmental impact, for application and establishment as standard solutions in the field.</td>
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The University’s library system is composed of the Central Library, the Medicine Library, the Science Library, the Engineering Library, the Pharmaceutical Sciences Library, and the Sports and Health Science Library. The Central Library, in the center of campus, was completed in July 2012. With an elegant exterior well suited to its role as a central repository for knowledge and information, the interior is designed with refined black carpeting and wooden furniture to make it a comfortable place for long sessions. In addition to browsing and referencing the collection, rooms are provided for electronic information access, group study and discussion, while library assistants (postgraduate students) are available to provide assistance in self-directed study. The automated book archive on the ground floor is one of the largest in Japan, with a storage capacity of 1.72 million volumes, and can promptly service user requests.

Since its foundation, Fukuoka University has strived to improve its libraries as the center of educational research and information-related activities at the University. The collections of the libraries comprise about 1.97 million books, and a wealth of information sources covering all academic fields are easily accessible to users both inside and outside of the campus. The computer database, which can be accessed through the Internet both on and off campus, catalogs 1.97 million books, around 20,000 journals and audiovisual materials. The library’s holdings include a rare collection of authentic European common law books, Grimm’s Fairy Tales and documents related to the Kyushu region from the Edo Period. A portion of these collections may be viewed electronically from our official website by the general public.

### Research Institute for Water Cycle and Ecosystem Restoration

Conventional urban development has destroyed natural water cycles and severely damaged local ecosystems. The results have become apparent through a number of developments, many of which directly affect our lives. This Institute, established in April 2012, is working to establish technologies for restoring sound water cycles and lost ecosystems in urban regions. Collaborative projects with government and private enterprise concentrate on two major themes: developing technologies and application frameworks to restore the water cycle lost in urban environments, and technology and implementation framework development for rainwater utilization. The Institute is developing a wetlands cleaning agent to aid restoration of the Ariake Sea tidal wetlands, and is promoting collaborative R&D with a range of government agencies and corporations.

### Fukuoka Institute for Atmospheric Environment and Health

Economic development in East Asia is inducing changes in the atmospheric environment, and raising a variety of social issues. The Institute is engaged in the clarifying the state of atmospheric composition change in Fukuoka, and the effects of that change on health, along with related processes. Fukuoka University has been continuously monitoring the atmospheric environment of Fukuoka, which is experiencing a rise in cross-border manmade emissions, and researching medical issues to better understand the atmosphere of Fukuoka and of East Asia as a whole. The Institute will contribute to the preservation of a sound atmospheric environment, and to a healthy society.

### Research Institute for the Creation of Functional and Structural Materials

The natural world offers a wealth of functions that human ingenuity cannot yet match, such as how geckos can climb walls even though they lack suction cups on their feet. This feat is accomplished through structures on the microscopic level, which are difficult to duplicate artificially. The Institute is clarifying the basic mechanisms of functions such as this, and applying advanced high-molecular-weight polymerization technologies to create new functional and structural materials provided with self-aligning properties on the microscopic level. Many researchers at the Institute work in the private sector, bringing with them an understanding of social requirements and new ideas for industrial manufacturing processes.
The University’s library system is composed of the Central Library, the Medicine Library, the Science Library, the Engineering Library, the Pharmaceutical Sciences Library, and the Sports and Health Science Library. The Central Library, in the center of campus, was completed in July 2012. With an elegant exterior well suited to its role as a central repository for knowledge and information, the interior is designed with refined black carpeting and wooden furniture to make it a comfortable place for long sessions. In addition to browsing and referencing the collection, rooms are provided for electronic information access, group study and discussion, while library assistants (postgraduate students) are available to provide assistance in self-directed study. The automated book archive on the ground floor is one of the largest in Japan, with a storage capacity of 1.72 million volumes, and can promptly service user requests.

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Institute for the Development and Support of Higher Education

The Institute promotes organized, continuing improvement in educational content and teaching methods.

The Faculty Development (FD) Office within the Institute collects and analyzes information and requirements related to education at the University and externally, ensuring an accurate, shared understanding of information and issues in education improvement. It also plans and manages a variety of seminars and other events including holistic education development and faculty training, providing valuable assistance in FD implementation by individual departments and faculties.

In April 2016 the Institutional Research Office for Academic Planning (Academic IR Office) was established to analyze and utilize education-related information in a systematic manner. The work of the Institute is performed in collaboration with faculty members, but an Education Salon has also been opened to encourage students to freely engage in information sharing and discussion.

Information Technology Center

The Information Technology Center has introduced the FUTURE5 education and research support platform and handles operations and management. The FUTURE5 system includes the information processing education system, information network system, and a number of information processing systems for various services.

The information processing education system controls about 1500 thin-client PCs used for education and self-directed research, in 20 on-campus PC classrooms and eleven open terminal areas. The PC classrooms are utilized to improve student capabilities in communication and ICT (information and communication technology) application, providing an education environment that leverages ICT to enhance learning. The information network system interconnects buildings on campus with a high-speed network, providing network access in research and experimental facilities. The Center for International Programs, Seminar House and other facilities are connected via a standard-speed network, which also enables Internet access.

The Information Technology Center will continue to maintain the information infrastructure supporting Fukuoka University education, research and medicine, providing a safe and secure environment.
### Admissions Office

The Admissions Office handles admission services, as well as evaluating new admission standards and examinations, providing information on admission examinations, and offering detailed assistance to help resolve the diverse requirements of people seeking admission to the University.

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### Center for General Education

Fukuoka University aims at producing graduates who have an accurate understanding of and deep insight into modern society, intelligence and sensitivity, a sense of social responsibility and a broad perspective on life. For this reason, all of our students are required to take general education courses. The courses are divided into the fields of humanities, natural sciences, foreign languages and physical education, and credited courses taken at other universities. The Center manages the courses of humanities, natural sciences and physical education, and conducts related research.

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### Language Education and Research Center

The Language Education and Research Center is designed to provide our students with language education as a part of their general education program, and to improve their cross-cultural communication ability. The Center develops and organizes language education programs, and conducts studies and research on language education. The Center is equipped with education research facilities, such as small and large audiovisual rooms, self-study rooms and an editorial office, in addition to Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL) classrooms in Building 7 and A-Building.

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### Teaching Profession Course Education Center

The Teaching Profession Course Education Center supports students who wish to become teachers in obtaining teaching certificates at their graduation by providing them with programs intended to acquire the abilities and knowledge required of teachers. The Center also provides assistance to students who desire certification as Museum Curators and Social Education Directors.
Center for International Programs

The Center for International Programs is mainly engaged in administrative procedures for students planning to study at one of our sister universities and for overseas students planning to study at Fukuoka University. The Center also provides advice and information to students who wish to study abroad independently and offers support to overseas students so that they can make the most of their time at the University.

Career Center

The staff of the Career Center host events related to career opportunities and placement, as well as providing employment information, vocational guidance, support in applying for internships, and other services. Through a variety of services and an intensive support system centered on one-on-one consultation, the Center helps students choose future career paths tailored to their individual aptitudes and abilities.

Extension Center

The Extension Center is designed to fulfill two objectives: to provide opportunities for lifelong learning, not only for our current students but also for our alumni and other members of the community; and to make our intellectual resources available to the local community. The Center offers two programs: the Extension Course, which is mainly for our enrolled or registered students preparing for qualifying examinations or trying to improve their practical skills, and the Fukuoka University Extension College, which offers extensive opportunities for lifelong learning and is open to local citizens, including alumni.

Center for Experimental Animals

The Center for Experimental Animals is composed of about 30 breeding rooms in which ten species of animals including mice, rats and dogs are kept, an operating room, a laboratory and a tissue culture room. This fully equipped Center is used by the Faculty of Medicine and other science faculties for purposes of research and student education. Recently, many experiments are conducted using transgenic mice and rats for research on the functional analysis of genes and related research.
Health Care Center

All university students take an annual health examination at the Health Care Center, which also offers other medical examinations. Services provided at this Center include health consultation, advice for the overweight, emergency first aid, medication provision and BP measurement, greatly contributing to the prevention and early detection of disease.

The Center also serves as a clinic, offering medical services in internal medicine for students and staff. Depending on individual specifics, patients may be referred to external medical institutions.

Radioisotope Center

The Radioisotope Center provides support for academic research involving radioisotopes, and includes the Experimental Facility at the Center and the Radioisotope Facility in the Medical School. Both facilities are highly secure, and incorporate a measurement room equipped with highly advanced radioisotope instrumentation as well as laboratories and a room for animal experimentation. All people handling radioisotopes receive periodic training and health checks. The facilities are not only used for educational purposes, but also for advanced research in the field.

Environmental Protection Center

The Environmental Protection Center was established to minimize the environmental impact of educational, research and medical activities at the University, to ensure the safety of the local environment for students and university staff as well as for the people of the local community, and to contribute to the preservation of the natural environment. The staff members are dedicated to the carrying out of tasks related to environmental preservation.
Other Facilities

Humanities and Social Sciences Center Building

This high-rise building houses offices for the deans and teaching staff of the Faculties of Humanities, Law and Economics, common research rooms, reference rooms and conference rooms, as well as a restaurant on the 16th floor. On the first floor is Plaza 50, a popular place for students to gather and talk together freely. The lower building is a multipurpose facility housing the University’s Educational Affairs Section, offices of the Faculties of Humanities, Law and Economics, the Center for General Education, the Language Education and Research Center, the Admissions Office, the Information Technology Center, the Central Research Institute and the International Conference Room, which is equipped with audiovisual aids and a simultaneous interpretation system.

A-Building

A-Building was completed in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the University’s foundation. With eight stories and a basement, the building houses 56 large and small classrooms, and affords students not only an ideal place to study but also a relaxing and open atmosphere with many light-filled and airy public spaces, including a lobby and lounge.

Building 2

Constructed as part of the commemoration of the University’s 75th anniversary, the building has nine stories and one basement. It houses lecture rooms, seminar rooms, information processing classrooms, offices for the teaching staff of the Faculty of Commerce, the Faculty of Commerce offices and meeting rooms.

Medical Information Center

The Medical Information Center is a diversified facility used for continuous provision of the latest and most accurate information to medical students, alumni and those involved in medical services. This Center houses the Medicine Library, a PC room for accessing medical information, a specimen exhibition room, seminar rooms and study rooms for 6th-year students, and other facilities. Available here is a system that gives users immediate access to up-to-the-moment medical data vital for staff and students of the Faculty of Medicine, which was created to produce responsible clinicians.
60th Anniversary Memorial Hall (Helios Plaza)

Helios Plaza is a multipurpose building completed in 1996 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the University’s founding. It houses a hamburger restaurant, a bookstore, an information plaza, a lobby, a hall, music practice rooms, an exhibition gallery, the student information center (NASIC), a Japanese-style room, a tea ceremony room and a conference room. The Plaza is an oasis on the campus, providing a comfortable space where students can meet, chat and relax, as well as participate in extracurricular activities.

Track and Field Stadium

One of the best facilities of its type at any Japanese university, the Stadium includes an all-weather eight-lane track with a circumference of 400 meters; facilities for shot put, javelin, hammer-throw, discus, high jump, triple jump and pole vaulting; equipment for photo-finish judgment and night illumination; and 1,036 roofed spectator seats.

Seminar House

The Seminar House is used for various purposes such as hosting seminars and study sessions during which teachers and students lodge together, as well as for holding small-scale professional society meetings and symposiums, and for carrying out international exchange activities.

Yamanami-So

Yamanami-So is a hotel-style lodging facility owned by Fukuoka University, under outsourced management. Located in Chojabaru, in the Handa highlands of Aso Kuju National Park, this three-story reinforced concrete building can be used by students, teachers, alumni and the general public.