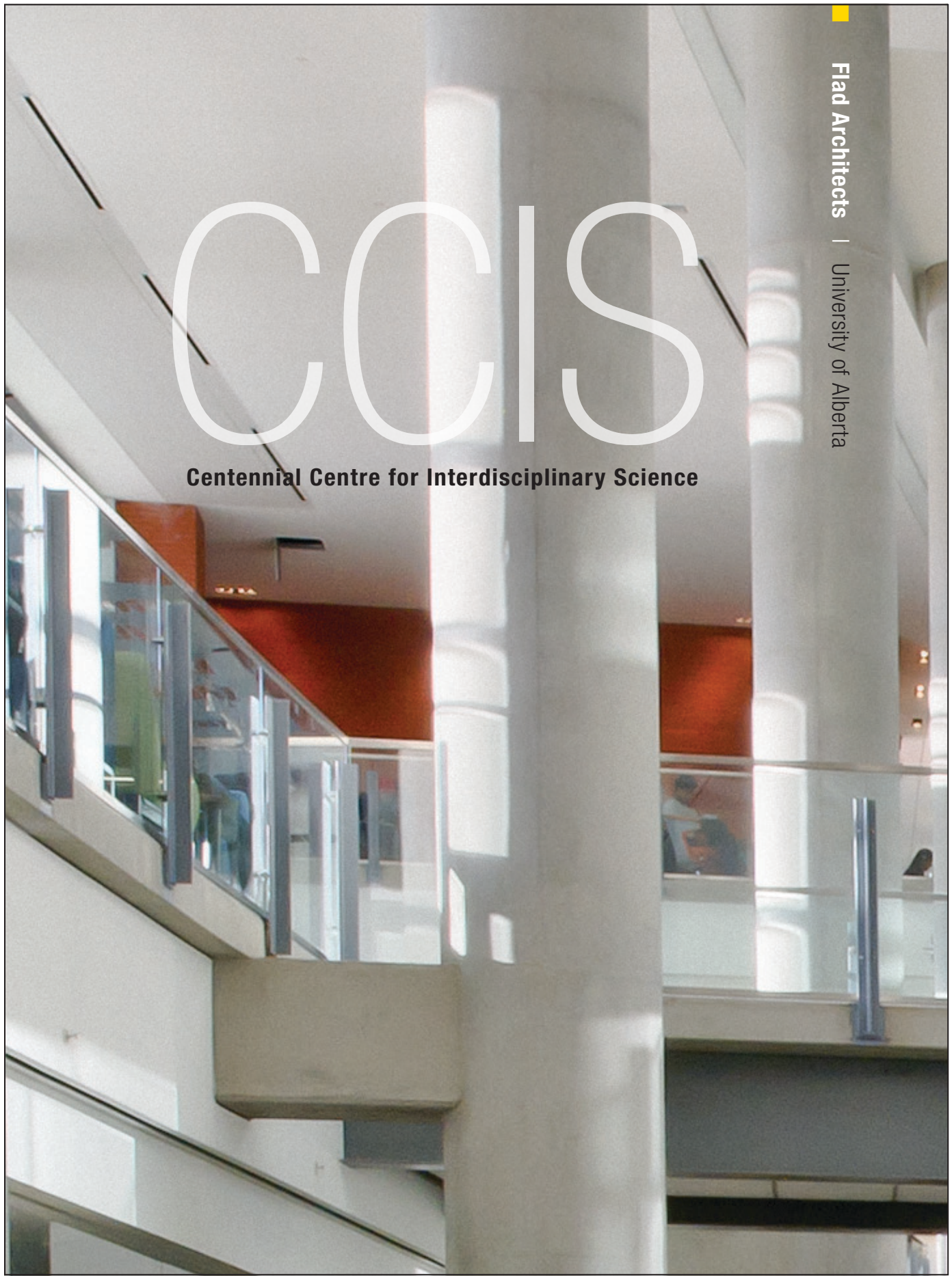


Flad Architects | University of Alberta

CCIS

Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science



Innovation

The faculty at the University of Alberta envisioned adding a world-class, interdisciplinary science center to their campus, an educational home for the scientific, business, and community leaders of tomorrow. To design this landmark center, the university selected Flad Architects, in conjunction with ONPA. Together the firms created a new instructional and research facility – the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS).

“We are building the most advanced centre for interdisciplinary science research in Canada. The CCIS will be a key factor to driving innovation and remaining globally competitive. With world-class researchers and the facility to support their work, our strengths will elevate the University of Alberta and our province to a new level of ground breaking discoveries and recognition.”

Indira Samarasekera
President, University of Alberta

Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science — Details

Category	Type	Size	Population	Sustainability Rating
New building	Public	580,056 gross square feet; 301,500 assignable square feet	37,600 students; 8,400 faculty and staff; 6,500 supporting employees	Canada Green Building Council, LEED Canada Silver certification pending review

Integration

“The result of this project has re-established the original plan and size of the Quad, provided a handsome elevation on its north end, and produced a complex, yet beautifully integrated building solution. I think it’s brilliant.”

Leonard Oliver Rodrigues, UA Campus Architect, 2003-2008





Vision

The CCIS is a new center for science exploration and education; a crossroads and a hub of the campus.

“This building is about breaking down all the barriers, connecting with each other, and finding new ways of seeking answers to the questions and problems that we share across disciplinary and international borders.”

Dr. Indira Samarasekera, President, University of Alberta



Collaboration

“The great universities of the world aren't just about buildings – they're about people and the innovation that happens when people come together and work with and learn from each other.”

Ed Stelmach
Premier of Alberta

A thoughtful series of interaction spaces provide opportunities for connection and collaboration.

Observation



“Transparency defines both the philosophical underpinnings and architectural design of this building. When you are in this building, what strikes you is how much you can see. You see how research is conducted, you see students learning, you see how things are made, and if you visit the observatory on the top floor, you can see the expansiveness of the universe.”

Dr. Indira Samarasekera
President, University of Alberta



Established scientists will interact with a new generation of world-class researchers and outstanding students, sharing sophisticated tools and state-of-the-art facilities.

“The interaction areas adjacent to our offices are my single favorite thing about our new space. I sit there and eat lunch, have a coffee, or just talk to colleagues every single day. With the light, the furniture, these are great places to meet and talk to people.”

Dr. John Beamish, Professor of Physics



Illumination

Capturing and placing sunlight deep inside the structure enhances interior spaces.

“Edmonton winters are dark and long. I feel instantly rejuvenated in the CCIS building during the day thanks to the brilliant use of light – it is a bright, relaxing place that makes me happy to enter in the morning.”

Dr. Jillian Buriak, Professor of Chemistry

Exploration



“Typically, the research done by each discipline was undertaken by the associated lab members and then combined. Now, in CCIS, members of each discipline come together frequently, and have begun learning techniques used by the other labs – my geneticists are doing reductive amination reactions – and chemists are cloning DNA!”

Dr. Christine Szymanski,
Associate Professor, Biological
Sciences, and Medical
Microbiology and Immunology

From innovative teaching to cutting edge research, the CCIS sets the stage for unique collaborations by five research groups within the faculty, across campus, and around the world.



The openness and transparency of the CCIS reflects an attitude about learning and research within the Faculty of Science. The Centre can accommodate up to 18,000 graduate and undergraduate students on a daily basis.

“That’s what is truly remarkable about this building – it’s about the collaboration, the cross-fertilization of ideas that will happen here with some of the brightest scientific minds in the country and in the world, working together under one roof.”

Ed Stelmach, Premier of Alberta



"The CCIS building is beautiful! This fact alone makes me feel proud every morning when I come in to work...proud of my own accomplishments and proud of my university."

Dr. Tracy Raivio, Associate Professor, Biological Sciences



The Integration of space and architecture, through the design of the CCIS and the restoration of the Quadrangle, has restored a vision for the university and created a context for another century of opportunity and achievement.

“We have a modern science building that supports state-of-the-art research in all respects and at the same time, makes an architectural statement that lives up to its location on the Quadrangle and complements such a historic location.”

Dr. Gregory Taylor
Dean of Science

Next

Generation



Reinvention

More than another campus building.

More than an extraordinary academic resource.

More than a place to house labs and classrooms and equipment.

The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science reinvents the heart of the university.

It allows the University of Alberta to realize several institutional goals: provide state-of-the-art instructional facilities; accommodate additional science faculty; create an interdisciplinary environment for students and researchers; promote inter-faculty collaboration; and create a highly productive, collegial environment that will aid in recruitment and retention of faculty.



“We have had an enormous response from the community. We have already noticed that the space, both in the observatory, and in the building successfully engages our visitors’ imaginations.

Sharon Morsink, Associate Professor in Physics, Director of the Observatory

About Flad Architects

Flad Architects specializes in the planning and design of innovative facilities for healthcare, higher education, and science and technology clients. With offices across the United States, Flad is a nationally recognized leader in serving the complex needs of knowledge-based organizations.

Flad Architects

