FACTS: Instructional Centre

Opened: August 31, 2011

What it is
A teaching and research hub that is an anchor on the north campus. The four-storey facility increased academic space at UTSC by 25 per cent when it opened.

What’s in it
The 165,000 square-foot (15,300 square-metres) building includes research, teaching and study spaces, student areas and faculty offices, and state-of-the-art lecture halls and classrooms with digital capabilities. Canada’s largest undergraduate finance lab resembles a high tech trading floor complete with dual monitor workstations and an LCD stock ticker.

The soaring, four-storey sky lit atrium features balconies and houses the largest art commission by UTSC. Interregnum: Corner Displacement for John Andrews 2011 is a contemporary sculpture based on an interior fragment of Andrews’ Neo-Futurist Science and Humanities Wings by Daniel Young and Christian Giroux, winners of the 2011 Sobey Art Award. Depending on the weather and time of day, the powder-coated framework appears to expand or compress in volume, interacting with the geometric abstraction in the building and generating strikingly different compositions depending on the angle of the view and the location and intensity of sunlight entering through the building’s skylight.

A rooftop garden, courtyard and two-storey glass bridge bring natural light and landscaped courts deep inside the building. There is a restaurant and street level café, and UTSC’s Co-op Program offices are conveniently located on the ground floor. A pedestrian plaza provides an outdoor forum with a 50-foot (15-metre-high) wall for projections and events.

Primary User Groups
Upper year undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff or the Management department, the Computer and Mathematical Sciences department and U of T’s formal Co-op programs in the arts, sciences and management. The Hub Ideation + Experiential Learning Centre brings together students and faculty to develop new and creative ideas, from innovative social media sites to new technologies and social innovations.
**Academic Focus**

Research and teaching in economics, management and business that focus on increased globalization and smaller entrepreneurial businesses and the elite Management & International Business program. Computer and mathematical sciences including statistical machine learning and data mining play fundamental roles in science, engineering and other areas of academic inquiry and technological innovation. Leaders in Co-op education for more than 40 years, UTSC’s programs enable students to gain up to five semesters in full-time, salaried work terms gaining experience with top employers in Toronto, Canada and around the world.

**Cost:** $78 million

**Our Funding Partners:** Government of Ontario; Government of Canada Knowledge Infrastructure Program

**Consultants:** Diamond Schmitt Architects, Janet Rosenberg + Associates Landscape Architecture/Urban Design

**Environmental Features**

Sustainable features include 23,700 square feet (2,200 square metres) of rooftop solar panels as well as a green roof covering the auditorium. Exterior sunshades minimize glare and solar heat gain, high thermal performance double-glazed insulated fritted glass, a unitized curtain wall system and operable awning windows. Views are maximized to the scenic ravine setting of the campus.

**Awards:** Developed to LEED Silver standards; Honourable Mention Best Commercial/Institutional Building 2012 PUG Awards