

EDUCATIONAL: CYPRESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



BUILDING OWNER: Cypress Community College
CONTACT: Scott Gaudineer - Architect (323) 543-8300
BUILDING TYPE: Student Union Center and Bookstore
SIZE: Small
DATE COMPLETED: 2006
COST OF CONSTRUCTION: \$19M

This new student center was the first part of a comprehensive building program on this local community college campus and comprised the renovation of an existing concrete and glass building from the late 1960's and 1970's and a new adjacent modern glass building that centers around the quatrafoil, a large concrete bell tower that forms the core of the campus. Around this bell tower, a generous concrete plaza is intended to double as an amphitheater for large student gatherings like graduation.

Another component of building program was the removal of an elaborate series of concrete bridges that tied the second floors of all the existing buildings. Over time, the steel infrastructure corroded and the bridges started falling apart and dropping chunks of concrete without warning. The removal of these bridges cleared out the visual clutter within the campus thus creating an open and light feeling.

Subsequent design work included the preparation of plans for the expanded renovation of irrigation and landscape in all adjacent campus areas around the Student Center.