

Southern Methodist University creates a world-class academic environment



Keeps students connected to the environment without excess heat or glare

Showcase for attracting top students and faculty

Unobstructed 360 degree views through the multi-faceted facade

Southern Methodist University

Anita and Truman Arnold Dining Commons

Architect: KSQ Architecture

General contractor: The Beck Group

Glazier: Alliance Glazing Technologies

MEP firm: Purdy McGuire

The Anita and Truman Arnold Dining Commons, SMU, Dallas, TX

A major campaign to enrich the overall educational experience is under way at Southern Methodist University (SMU). As part of its goal to provide facilities that are second to none, SMU re-envisioned students' residential housing experience with View Dynamic Glass.

Objectives As SMU enters its second century, it has a grand vision to enhance academic excellence, attract high-quality students and faculty, and heighten the overall university experience. It built a \$146 million residential commons complex, the largest capital project in its history, as part of the broader effort to remake the student living and learning experience. The 9-acre complex includes five residence halls and a dining commons with seating for 500, which is a hub for student community and interaction.

To draw students to the dining commons, designers envisioned an iconic, two-story rotunda enclosed by a large, glass facade that would give the interior space a modern, airy feel. They needed a glazing solution that would keep the dining area cool and free of glare while providing unobstructed 360-degree views of the surrounding area.

Solution SMU installed over 3,300 square feet of View Dynamic Glass with Predictive Intelligence™, making it the largest installation of electrochromic glass in the Southwest to date. Intelligent control automatically tracks the sun and adjusts window tint for optimal daylighting, comfort and energy efficiency.

Team

Architect:
KSQ Architecture

General contractor:
The Beck Group

Glazier:
Alliance Glazing Technologies

MEP firm:
Purdy McGuire

Glazing system

Project type:
New installation

System type:
Curtain Wall

Make and model:
EFCO 5600 Curtain Wall System

IGU makeup

Overall thickness:
1"

Outboard lite:
6mm tempered clear with EC on surface #2

Spacer:
½" black warm edge spacer

Inboard lite:
6mm tempered clear



Outcome The Anita and Truman Arnold Dining Commons opened its doors in May 2014 to the entire SMU community. View Dynamic Glass promotes use of the dining commons by blocking heat gain, minimizing glare and maintaining a connection to the outdoors without the need for obtrusive blinds.

It also promotes the university's goal of attracting top students and faculty who are interested in progressive, energy-efficient institutions that demonstrate environmental leadership by reducing carbon footprint, meeting sustainability objectives and setting an example for the broader community.

Payoffs

- Enhances occupant comfort and the student experience
- Reduces glare without the need for blinds
- Provides industry-leading technology to attract top students and faculty