

Mary Idema Pew Library (Grand Valley State University)
 1 N Campus Dr, Allendale, MI 49401
PROJECT PROFILE

LEED NC v2.2
LEED PLATINUM
 September, 2014

[Grand Valley State University](#) (GVSU)'s 154,000 square feet [Mary Idema Pew Library](#), located on their Allendale campus, achieved LEED Platinum certification in fall of 2014. Opening May 2013, it was the 18th LEED certified building and the first to be awarded LEED Platinum for GVSU. It is also the first LEED Platinum library in the state of Michigan. Platinum is the highest of the four possible levels of LEED certification.



The library is a symbol of the University's commitment to remain a leader of sustainable building practices. The building is a testament to the possible accomplishments when basic building practices are applied with a great deal of care and sensitivity. This environment is based on deep research conducted in partnership with library staff, furniture manufacturer [Steelcase](#), and [Stantec](#), the firm that led the design.

The library aims to expose students to the environments they will face after graduation, while fostering academic success. Taking inspiration from shopping malls and European train stations, this project transformed the physical space, service models, and organizational culture of the library during planning, construction, and use. Post-occupancy studies prove that the building, resources, and services are being used as intended, resulting in a youthful yet studious environment where learning is visible.

Using intelligent construction methods, the library incorporates a multitude of energy management and green practices beyond a typical library facility. GVSU had LEED certification in their sights when the building was being designed and constructed, however, their first priority was to design a building that would operate within very strict energy parameters. Since the cost of energy is ever changing, GVSU sought to reduce the overall energy signature of the building to the point that it consumed 50% less energy than required based on the ASHRAE standard in effect at the start of the design effort. Energy efficient features of the building include under floor air distribution, energy efficient envelope, a heat recovery system, low-flow water fixtures, a rainwater fed irrigation system, and use of local building materials. Other intelligent design features include CO2 sensors throughout the building that detect the presence of people and adjust ventilation accordingly, and occupancy sensors that manage light fixtures and electrical outlets. Attaining the highest standard of LEED certification is no easy task and demonstrates a commitment to sustainability and leadership within the University's own industry as well as that of green building.

LEED Facts

Mary Idema Pew Library

Location.....Grand Rapids, MI
 Rating System.....LEED-NC v2.2
 Certification Achieved.....Platinum
 Points Achieved.....52/69

Sustainable Sites.....13/14
 Water Efficiency.....3/5
 Energy and Atmosphere.....12/17
 Materials and Resources.....7/13
 Indoor Environmental Quality.....12/15
 Innovation and Design.....5/5

PROJECT METRICS

- 90%** total building content manufactured using recycled materials
- 38%** total local building materials utilized within 500 miles of the site
- 36.5%** energy cost savings
- 33.5%** Green Power purchased
- 86%** on-site generated construction waste diverted from landfill
- 30%** above the minimum rates for increased breathing zone outdoor ventilation rates to all occupied spaces