Grand Valley State University (GVSU)’s Holton-Hooker Learning Living Center opened in 2016 on the Allendale Campus was awarded LEED Silver Certification. The four-story, 135,000-square-foot learning and living center opened in fall 2016. It houses approximately 500 students in 240 traditional-style bedroom units, and includes three classrooms, a computer lab and three faculty offices. It also includes a game room, outdoor recreational space, study spaces and laundry facilities. This space brings a unique combination of academic space and residential right in the center of campus. Out of all the buildings on GVSU’s campus, almost 40% of them are LEED Silver certified. Holton-Hooker contributes to this.

Grand Valley has a commitment to building sustainable buildings, and Holton-Hooker is an example of that commitment. When GVSU constructs a building or structure, there is significant motivation to make it as eco-friendly and sustainable as possible. Not only that, but the designation sends a message to the community that GVSU is a leader when it comes to environmentally sustainable buildings.

There was a lot of thoughtfulness that went into the design of Holton-Hooker. The Facilities Planning team needed to take into consideration the health of the environment as well as the students who would be living in the building. They chose to use low VOC materials, lighting and temperature controls, increased ventilation and daylighting, and improved indoor environmental quality as a part of this deliberation.

As of February 2018, Grand Valley has over 1.7 million square feet of LEED-certified structures.