

# Realizing the Future with Inspired Spaces for Learning

As part of UM-Flint's vision to reposition itself as a best-in-class institution, FUNchitecture was contracted to help the University realize a home for its new College of Innovation and Technology. The University's chancellor believes that technology and innovation hold the keys to the future and that UM-Flint students should be educated in the best facilities in the world, right here in Flint. From the moment students set foot on campus, they should be inspired by the infrastructure, architecture and innovation and FUNchitecture has brought that vision to "virtual reality."

The new College of Innovation and Technology will be housed in a 17,000 sq. ft. building located on the northwest side of campus, and will be completed in early 2023. It will house interdisciplinary initiatives that promote innovation and technology-infused entrepreneurial activities across all colleges and schools. More importantly, this new space will help to build up the regional talent pipeline by providing upskilling and reskilling programs for industry and community partners in high-demand fields such as cybersecurity, AI, mobility, sustainability and other emerging technology areas. The new facility will help grow UM-Flint training and research expertise,



expand the problem-solving capacity of graduates, and validate market-ready innovation.

This new facility will demonstrate innovation in every aspect with fully sustainable design and infrastructure and a net carbon neutral footprint. Powered by solar technology over the roof and via dynamic sculptures on the lawn, heated and cooled by geothermal systems, highly efficient glazing solutions, functional insulative properties, recycled content in the building materials, FUNchitecture has realized a new home for the chancellor's vision for the University's future.

UM-Flint secured a large grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA), with additional funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, so that no student tuition would be used in this development.