

Special Award

Raritan Valley Community College West Building

Building Profile

Architect

SSP Architectural Group, Inc.
Somerville

Builder

Ingrassia Construction Co., Inc.
Middlesex

Construction Manager

Gilbane Building Company
Piscataway

Finance Entities

Somerset & Hunterdon
counties, and the State of New
Jersey

Nominator

Thomas D. Sharpe,
President & CEO
Somerset County Business
Partnership,
Somerville



As the key project arising from a 25-year master plan, the \$10-5 million Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) West Building in North Branch was built to attract and retain a greater share of Somerset and Hunterdon county students.

The 44,500-square-foot building, with multiple entries, serves as a centralized hub for all students on the RVCC campus. Designed by SSP Architectural Group, Inc. and constructed by Gilbane Building Company, the structure has eight general-purpose classrooms and seven computer labs. It also has three specialized computer labs outfitted for use as a multi-media studio with video editing capabilities, a graphics lab and an open computer lab. Additional amenities include a managed information services help desk, student lounge, conference room and an office suite with nine offices, reception area and workroom.

Larger-than-typical classrooms serve up to 40 students with a design that deviates from traditional lecture-style educational facilities. Oversized desks provide a more business-like conference setting. SSP Architectural Group implemented its Schematic Design and Development Process for the project. This allowed the facility to be completed on time and within budget. Total employment at the facility is 675 (375 full-time and 300 part-time).