

ID: TH207  
Title: A Tower, A Bridge, A Landmark: Three New York Laboratories  
Date: Thursday, June 21, 2018  
Time: 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM  
LU: 1.50

#### Program Summary

Have you ever stopped to consider how life sciences and clinical care facilities contribute to the social, economic, and intellectual health of cities? The contribution of such facilities is further magnified when they incorporate public spaces for community engagement.

This session serves as its own space for engagement as you join your peers for an invaluable look at the phenomenon through New York City's centers of biomedical research and clinical care.

Don't miss the chance to hear directly from architect panelists as they share the innovative urban design strategies employed to integrate three biomedical facilities into the dense urban fabric of the city.

#### Learning Objectives

- A. Discover how building configuration and massing strategies—horizontal, vertical, or adaptive re-use—influence research facility design and see how to work within the constraints of each.
- B. Learn how zoning prerequisites impact research facility design and how early negotiations and consensus building—within an institution and with external agencies and authorities—can put goals within reach.
- C. Gain an understanding of how integrated planning of final designs and construction phasing benefits the process as well as the final occupied building.
- D. Begin identifying the options large urban institutions have before, during, and after design to facilitate resilient, sustainable structures that support research.

#### Speakers:

- Robert Easton, Moderator
  
- Todd Schliemann FAIA  
Design Partner, Ennead Architects
  
- Paul Broches FAIA  
Partner, Mitchell Giurgola Architects
  
- Jay Bargmann FAIA  
Vice President, Rafael Viñoly Architects

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# A Tower, A Bridge, A Landmark: Three New York Laboratories

Course Number TH207  
Thursday, June 21, 2018, 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM  
Learning Units 1.50

**A18** AIA Conference on Architecture 2018  
June 21-23, New York City

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**PRESENTATION AGENDA**

**Overview of Biomedical Research in New York City**

**Robert Easton, Moderator**  
Co-Chairman, Bionest Partners, New York, New York

**The Tower: Weill Cornell Medicine, Belfer Research Building**

**Todd Schliemann FAIA**  
Design Partner, Ennead Architects

**The Landmark: The Rockefeller University, Collaborative Research Center**

**Paul Broches FAIA**  
Partner, Mitchell Giurgola Architects

**The Bridge: The Rockefeller University, The Rockefeller University**

**Jay Bargmann FAIA**  
Vice President, Rafael Viñoly Architects

**Panel Questions & Discussion with Audience**  
**Moderator & Panel**

**A18** AIA Conference on Architecture 2018  
June 21-23, New York City

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**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

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**A18** AIA Conference on Architecture 2018  
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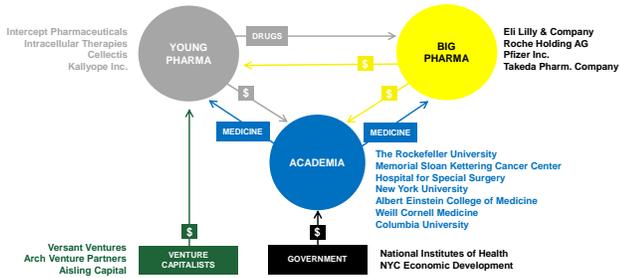
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**MAJOR PLAYERS OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN NEW YORK CITY** 7




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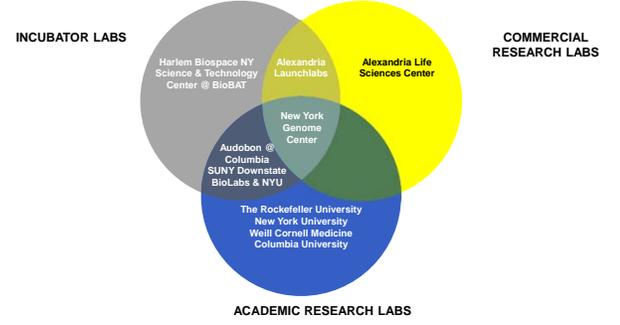
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**MAJOR SITES OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN NEW YORK CITY** 8




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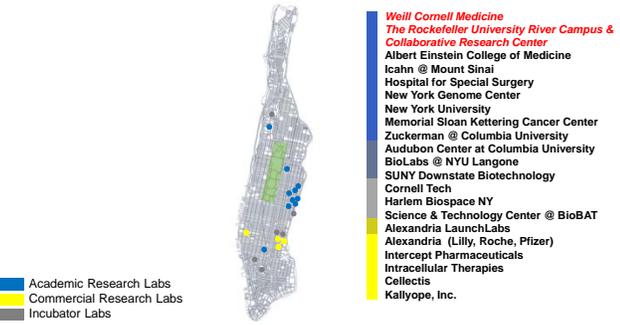
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**MAJOR SITES OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN MANHATTAN** 9




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MAJOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH LABS IN THE UPPER EAST SIDE 10




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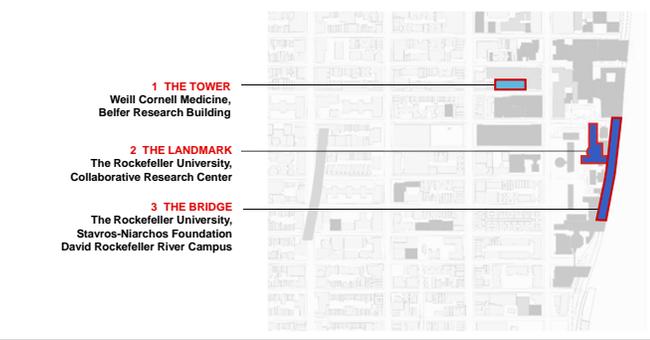
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A TOWER, A BRIDGE, A LANDMARK: THREE NEW YORK LABORATORIES 11




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**WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE BELFER RESEARCH BUILDING Project Overview** 13



**Completed**  
2014

**Area**  
476,000 square feet

Master planning for a new Weill Cornell Campus

Zoning approval process with variances to achieve research programmatic need

Programming, planning, and design for collaboration

Sustainability initiatives to achieve LEED Gold

Construction challenges on a dense urban site

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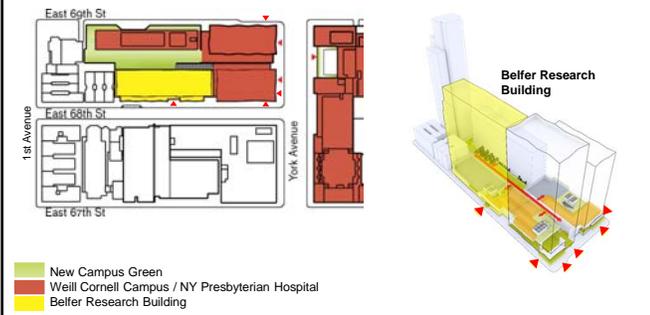
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**WEILL CORNELL CAMPUS SITE PLAN & BUILDING CONNECTIONS DIAGRAM** 14




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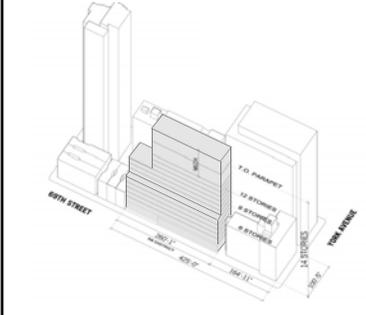
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**ZONING APPROVAL PROCESS & REQUIRED VARIANCES** 15



**Complying Building**  
14 Stories, including 2 mechanical  
9 Laboratory Floors

**Metrics**

FAR	6.5
GSF	318,050
ZSF	169,754
ASF	144,835
ASF, Lab	89,700
PI, Total	76-100

**Laboratory Floor Plate Size**

Floors 3-6	17,030 GSF (~8 researchers)
Floors 7-9	13,130 GSF (~6 researchers)
Floors 10-12	10,100 GSF (~3-4 researchers)

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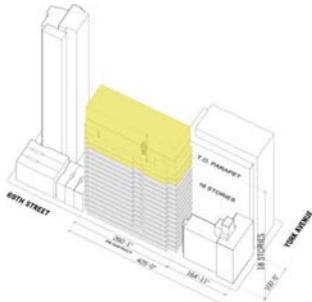
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ZONING & VARIANCE APPROVAL PROCESS

16



**Approved Building**  
 18 Stories, including 2 mechanical  
 13 Laboratory Floors

**Metrics**

FAR	12.41
GSF	476,069
ZSF	324,153
ASF	270,519
ASF, Lab	199,462
PI, Total	104-140

**Laboratory Floor Plate Size**  
 Typical Floor 21,187 GSF (~10 researchers)

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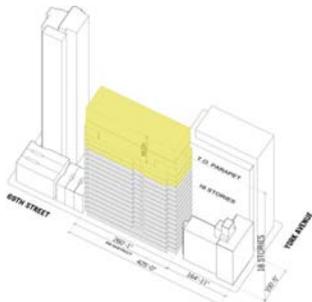
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ZONING & VARIANCE APPROVAL PROCESS

17



**NYC Board of Standards & Appeals**  
 Variances Granted

<b>Floor Area</b>	Permitted – 169,754 SF Approved – 331,945 SF
<b>Lot Coverage</b>	Permitted – 65% Maximum Approved – 92%
<b>Front Height</b>	Required – 20'-0" @ 85" Approved – No Front Setback
<b>Side Yard</b>	Required – 8' Wide Approved – 5' Wide
<b>Rear Yard</b>	Required – 30'-0" Above 23' Approved – 15'-0" Above 23'

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ZONING & VARIANCE APPROVAL PROCESS

18

**Complying Building – Floors 4-6**  
 NYC Zoning restricts floor size / requires setbacks



- ~144,000 ASF total research program
- ~17,030 GSF per typical lab floor
- Accommodates ~8 researchers per floor
- Divides researchers into two small groups remotely located
- Distance limits research collaboration and restricts scientific discovery

**Approved Building – Floors 3-16**  
 Labs require large, deep, repetitive floors



- ~200,000 ASF total research program
- ~22,000 GSF per typical lab floor
- Accommodates ~10 researchers per floor
- Large open lab for flexibility in research assignment
- Research offices located along a common corridor

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FIRST FLOOR Building Entrance, Welcome Lounge, Loading Dock, Mechanical Space 22



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FIRST FLOOR Building Entrance & Welcome Lounge 23



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SECOND FLOOR Conference Center, Skylight Lounge & Campus Green 24



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SECOND FLOOR View of Double Height Lobby

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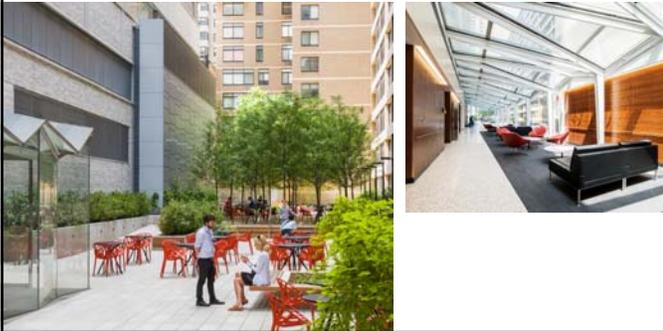
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SECOND FLOOR Skylight Lounge & Campus Green

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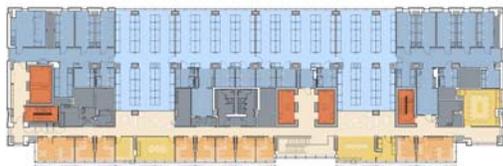
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LABORATORY PLANNING Modified Laminated Plan Provides Building Transparency

27



- Building Systems 21,200 GSF / Floor
- Vertical Circulation 15,400 NSF
- Office 73% Efficiency
- Conference ~10 PI Groups / Floor
- Lab 1 Group = PI + 8 Researchers
- Lab Support

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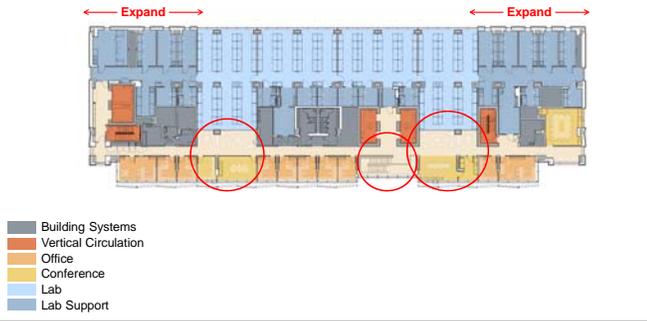
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LABORATORY PLANNING Connecting Stair, Collaborative Lounges, and Flexibility to Expand 28



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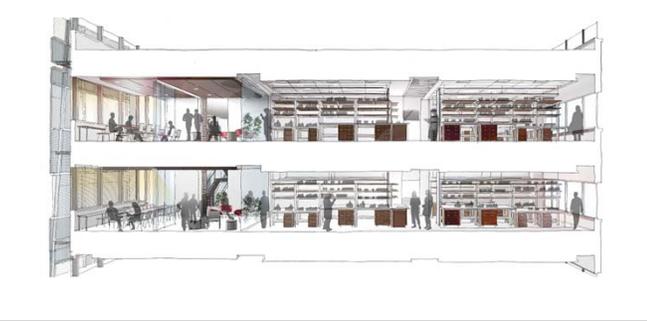
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LABORATORY PLANNING Building Transparency & Connecting Floors 29



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TYPICAL LABORATORY FLOOR Wet-bench Lab, Office Corridor & Collaborative Lounge 30



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TYPICAL LABORATORY FLOOR Wet-bench Open Lab with Workstations in the Lab 31



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TYPICAL LABORATORY FLOOR Wet-bench Lab with View to Offices & Lab Support Space 32



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TYPICAL LABORATORY FLOOR Interconnecting Stairs & Lab Entry Lounge 33



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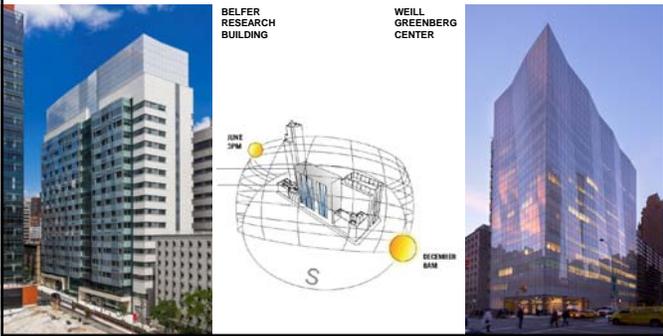
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**HIGH PERFORMANCE FAÇADE** Double-skinned Curtain Wall on South Facade 34



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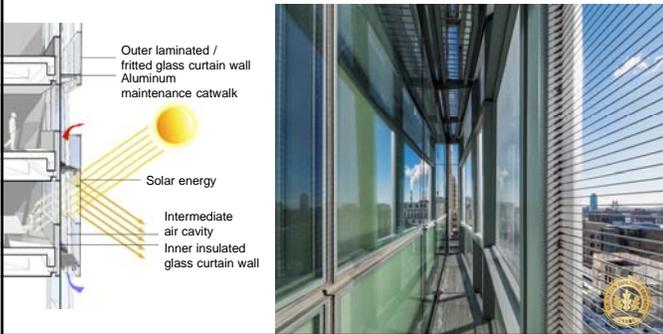
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**HIGH PERFORMANCE FAÇADE** Double-skinned Curtain Wall, Segmented for Passive Ventilation 35



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**SITE LOGISTICS & VERTICAL CONSTRUCTION** 36



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WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE BELFER RESEARCH BUILDING

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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTER Project Overview 39



- Brief History of The Rockefeller University Campus Development 1901 – 2012
- Comparative Analysis of new construction vs. adaptive re-use
- Laboratory concept and collaboration strategy
- Construction challenges with phased implementation and adaptive reuse
- The CRC lab environment and collaborative culture

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1901, THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS FOUNDED 40



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1906, FOUNDER'S HALL First Building on The Rockefeller University Campus 41



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1917, FLEXNER HALL AND HOSPITAL Flank Founder's Hall 42



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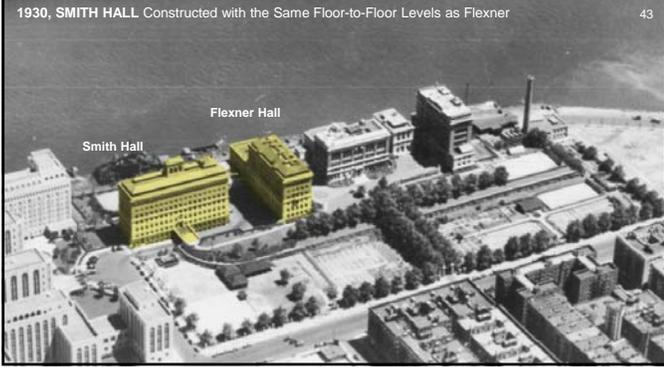
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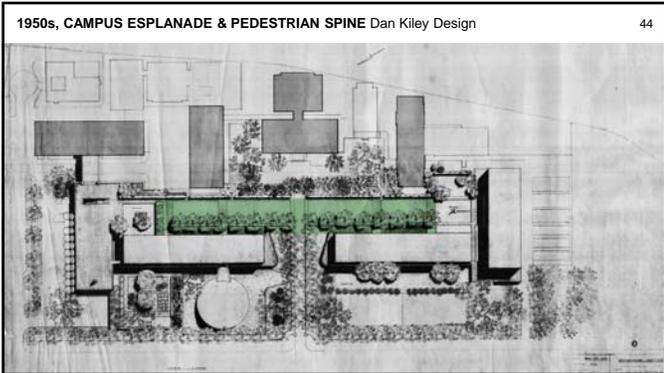
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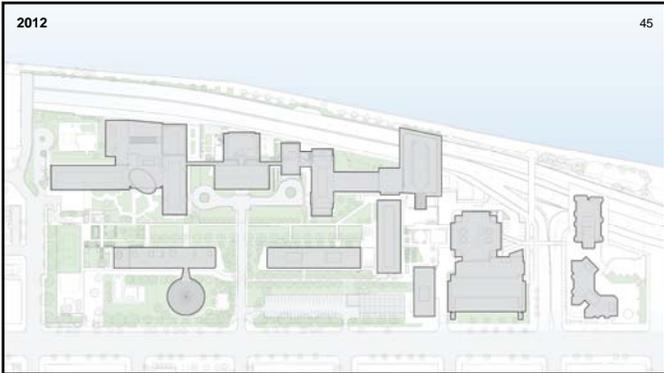
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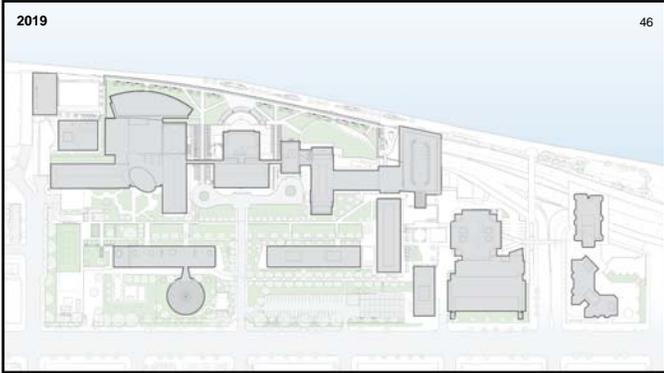
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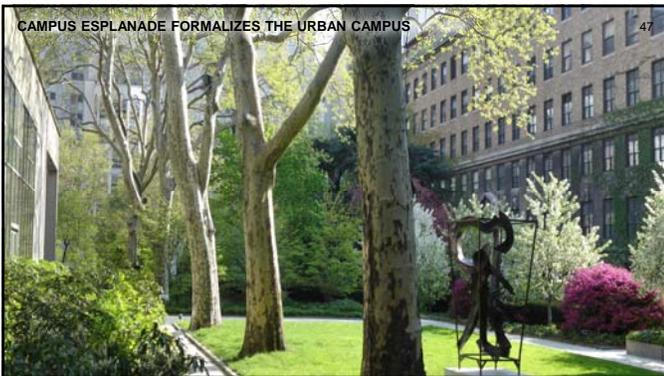
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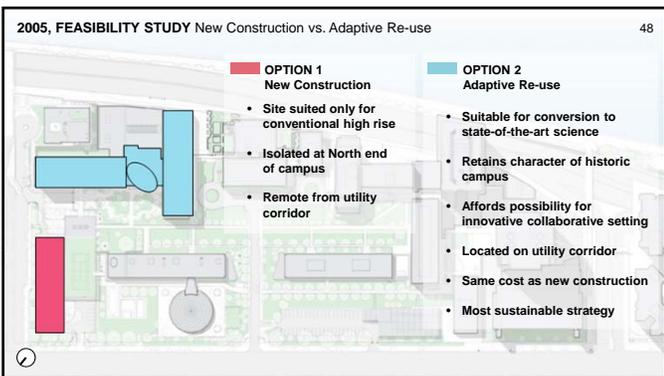
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**BUILDING CONCEPT** Fill the Gap & Join Buildings with Meeting Spaces, Amenities 49



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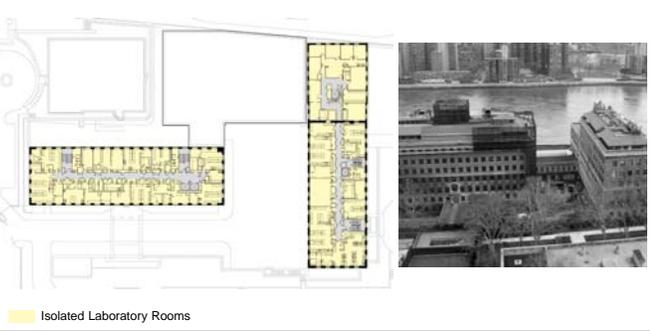
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**LABORATORY PLANS BEFORE RENOVATION** Central Corridor and Random Lab Configurations 50



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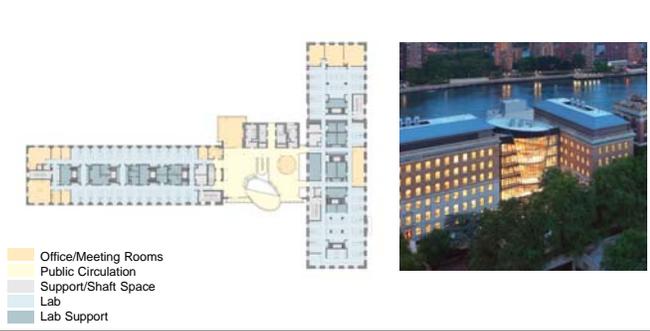
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**LABORATORY PLANS AFTER RENOVATION** Open Labs and Shared Support Spaces 51



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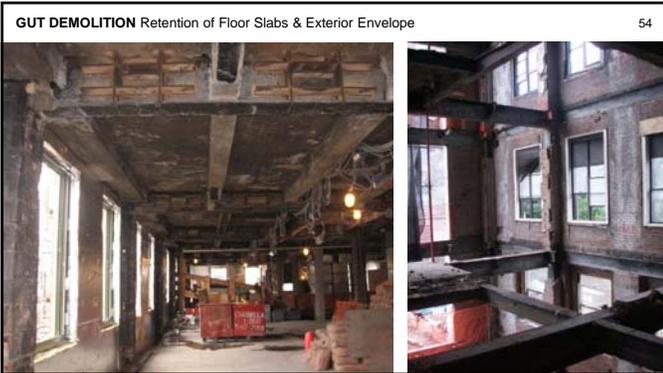
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CONSTRUCTION Connector Building

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CONSTRUCTION New Mechanical Penthouse

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Rooftop and exterior envelope subject to New York State historic preservation review

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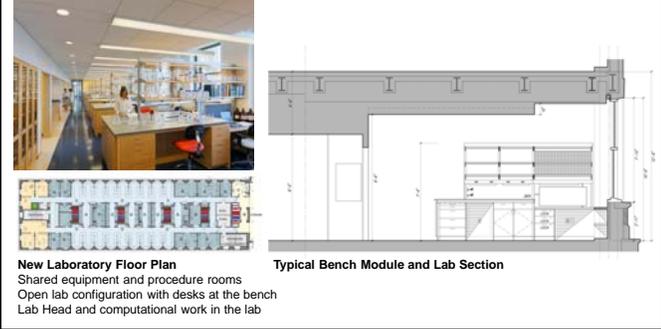
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TRANSFORMATION TO OPEN LAB CONCEPT

57



**New Laboratory Floor Plan**  
 Shared equipment and procedure rooms  
 Open lab configuration with desks at the bench  
 Lab Head and computational work in the lab

Typical Bench Module and Lab Section

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FLEXIBLE LAB BENCH MODULES

58



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SHARED EQUIPMENT & PROCEDURE ROOM CROSSOVERS

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FLEXIBLE, SHARED EQUIPMENT CORE

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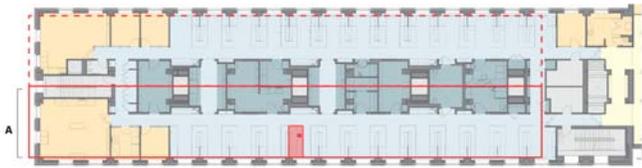
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LABORATORY METRICS

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	CRC Building Area	<b>260,000</b>	<b>GSF</b>
	Typical Lab Type A	<b>6,200</b>	<b>NSF</b>
	Average per Lab Tech	<b>246</b>	<b>SF</b>
	Typical Lab Population	<b>25</b>	
	Length of Bench and Desk	<b>7.5</b>	<b>LF</b>
	Desk	<b>4</b>	<b>LF</b>
	Principal Investigators	<b>29</b>	

- Office/Meeting Rooms
- Public Circulation
- Support/Shaft Space
- Lab
- Lab Support

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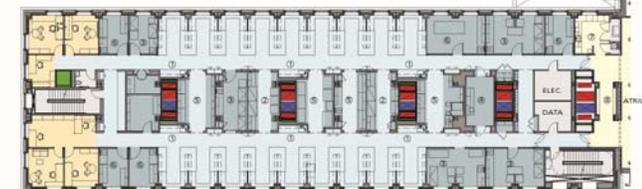
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LABORATORY METRICS

62



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	Principal Investigators	<b>29</b>	

- Office/Meeting Rooms
- Public Circulation
- Support/Shaft Space
- Lab
- Lab Support

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MAIN ENTRANCE TO SMITH, FLEXNER & FUTURE RIVER CAMPUS

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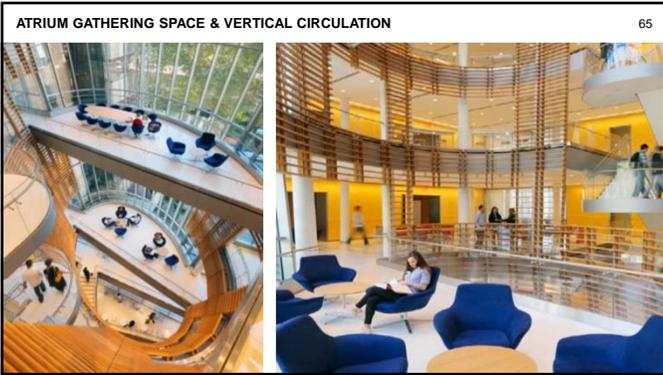
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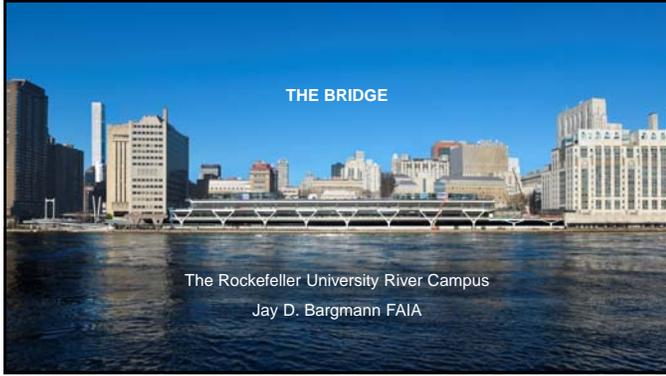
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**THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY RIVER CAMPUS Master Plan Objectives** 68



- Accommodate researchers from existing buildings of The Rockefeller University
- Provide large floor plates that maximize flexibility and collaboration and alternative laboratory environments
- Maintain views to and from the historic buildings
- Preserve and enhance the garden landscape

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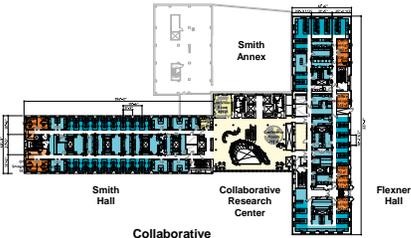
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**DEVELOP PROGRAM Campus-wide Space Utilization Survey** 69



<b>Collaborative Research Center</b> Floor Plate Depth: 60'-0" to 61'-6" Laboratory Bench Module: 9'-9" to 10'-7 1/2"	<b>Smith Hall</b> 36 Benches 4 Offices 9 Benches / Office	<b>Flexner Hall</b> 38 Benches 6 Offices 6 Benches / Office
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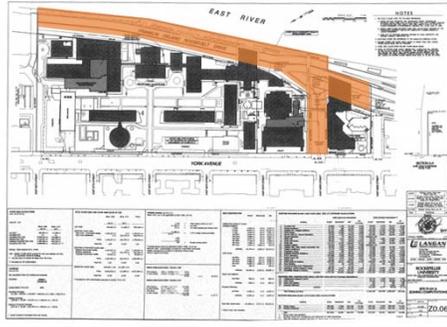
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AIR RIGHTS Granted to Three Institutions by New York City in 1973

73



Hospital for Special Surgery

New York Hospital  
(now The New York  
Presbyterian Hospital-Weill  
Cornell Medical Center)

The Rockefeller University

675,000 Square Feet  
Allowable Area for  
Construction

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MASTER PLANNING Alternative Sites

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MASTER PLANNING Highway Conditions

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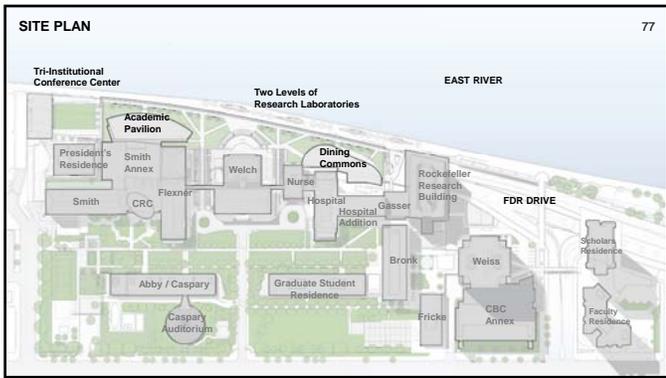
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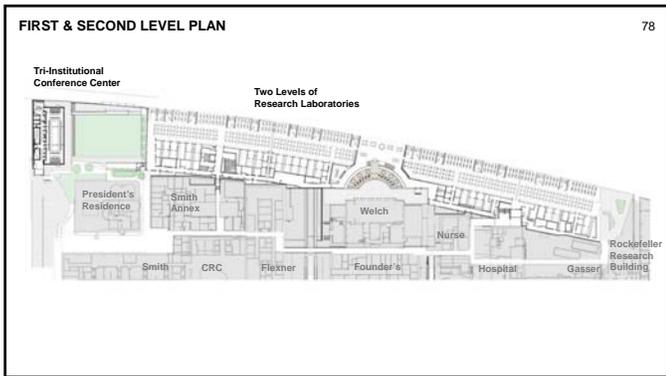
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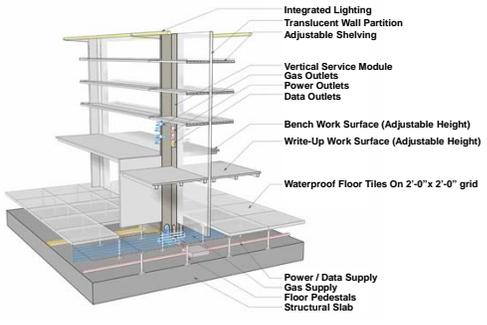
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CASEWORK SYSTEM Flexible, Integrated Research Environment 79



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CASEWORK SYSTEM Flexible, Integrated Research Environment 80



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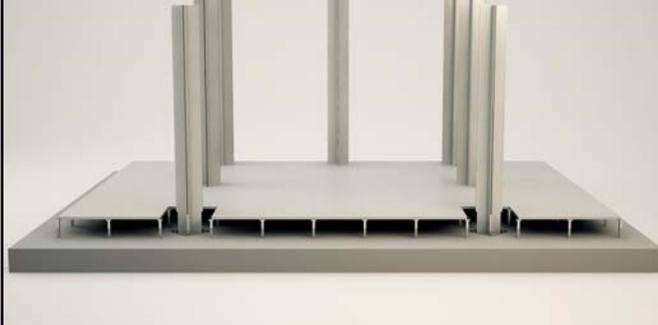
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CASEWORK SYSTEM Flexible, Integrated Research Environment 81



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**IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES**

88

Construction atop Franklin D. Roosevelt East River Drive – unique circumstances / solution

Engaged with traffic consultants and negotiated up to 24 full overnight road closures

Offsite fabrication, add value, and "bench check" in a controlled environment the methodology, connections, computerized crane systems



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**IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES** Construction Atop Franklin D. Roosevelt East River Drive

89



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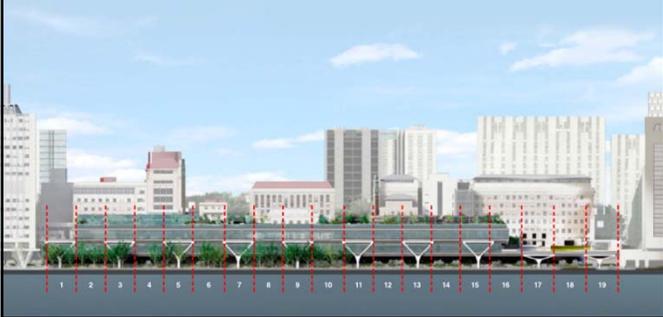
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**IMPLEMENTATION** Organization of Building Structure in 19 Modules

90



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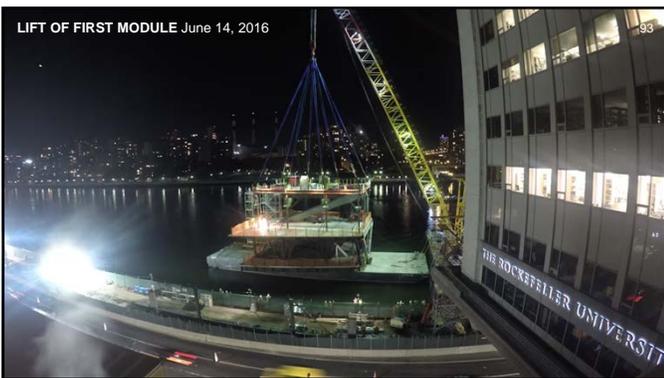
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PANEL DISCUSSION 98

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?

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PANEL DISCUSSION 99

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** 100

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?
- How is the expansion and contraction of laboratories accommodated?

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** 101

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?
- How is the expansion and contraction of laboratories accommodated?
- How does a building's floor plan impact the research activities in the building?

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** 102

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?
- How is the expansion and contraction of laboratories accommodated?
- How does a building's floor plan impact the research activities in the building?
- What are the planning and construction challenges of restricted urban sites?

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** 103

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?
- How is the expansion and contraction of laboratories accommodated?
- How does a building's floor plan impact the research activities in the building?
- What are the planning and construction challenges of restricted urban sites?
- Is it justifiable to pay high cost per square foot to build laboratories in dense urban settings?

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**PANEL DISCUSSION** 104

- How frequently should an institution prepare a master plan?
- When and how should users be involved in the programming and planning process?
- How is the expansion and contraction of laboratories accommodated?
- How does a building's floor plan impact the research activities in the building?
- What are the planning and construction challenges of restricted urban sites?
- Is it justifiable to pay high cost per square foot to build laboratories in dense urban settings?

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** 105

**Weill Cornell Medicine**

<b>Laurie H. Glimcher</b> Dean (2012-2012)	<b>William H. Cunningham</b> Campus Architect
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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**The Rockefeller University**

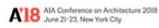
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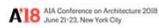
107

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**THANK YOU.**



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