University of California at San Diego

Social Sciences Building and Super Computer Office Building La Jolla, California



This 75,000-square-foot facility is located at the top of a ridge, affording panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean to the west and the mountains to the east. It parallels Ridgewalk, the major north-south pedestrian axis of the campus.

Conference rooms, laboratories, a media room, and demonstration classroom on the ground floor are adjacent to a series of open courtyards that provide space for informal public gatherings.

The second through fourth floors contain the administration and faculty offices for six departments within the Social Sciences division: Latin American studies, sociology, urban studies, political science, anthropology and ethnic studies.

The exterior is clad in a combination of white and black ceramic tile and light grey stucco, with accent walls and columns in powdercoated aluminum panels. Railings and miscellaneous metal trim are brushed stainless steel.

The operable window system combines jalousies with integral louvers, frosted glass clerestories, and reflective glass view windows, forming a composite environmental wall system. Ceiling fans and operable transoms over the doors reinforce cross-ventilation.

- 1 View from west of super computer office addition with demonstration room at left
- 2 View from courtyard
- 3 Detail of west facade



Detail of exterior stair



Computer Center office addition from northwest

University of California at San Diego

Social Sciences Building and Super Computer Office Building



View from east



Ground level arcade and circulation balconies



Faculty office

University of California at San Diego

Social Sciences Building and Super Computer Office Building

Key Project Information

• conference rooms, laboratories, a media room, and demonstration classroom on the ground floor, adjacent to a series of open courtyards that provide space for informal public gatherings

• administration and faculty offices for six departments within the Social Sciences division: Latin American studies, sociology, urban studies, political science, anthropology and ethnic studies.

•	completion	1995
	oomprotion	1000

• gsf

75,000



Second level



Ground level