

---

# A Tale of Two Planning Projects: The Frontiers of Science and Robotics

---

SCUP 2022 Annual Conference

July 26, 2022

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University



BRIGHTSPOT  
A BURO HAPPOLD COMPANY



The Society for College  
and University Planning

---

# Introductions, Agenda, and Objectives

---

# Introductions



**Bob Reppe**

*Senior Director of  
Planning & Design  
Carnegie Mellon*



**Matt Plecity**

*Principal  
GBBN*



**Elliot Felix**

*Founder  
brightspot strategy  
A Buro Happold Company*



**Amanda Wirth-Lorenzo**

*Principal  
brightspot strategy  
A Buro Happold Company*

# Agenda & Outcomes

## Today's Agenda

- |        |                            |
|--------|----------------------------|
| 5 min  | Introductions & Objectives |
| 10 min | CMU's Challenges & Goals   |
| 5 min  | Poll and Discussion        |
| 10 min | Visioning and Programming  |
| 10 min | Site Strategy and Design   |
| 10 min | Lessons Learned & Q&A      |

## Learning Outcomes

1. Free up space on your main campus by exploring planning on the frontiers of your campus
2. Evaluate issues in interdisciplinary planning at your institution
3. Create a flexible programming model to forecast needs for the future
4. Effectively engage faculty in your planning effort

---

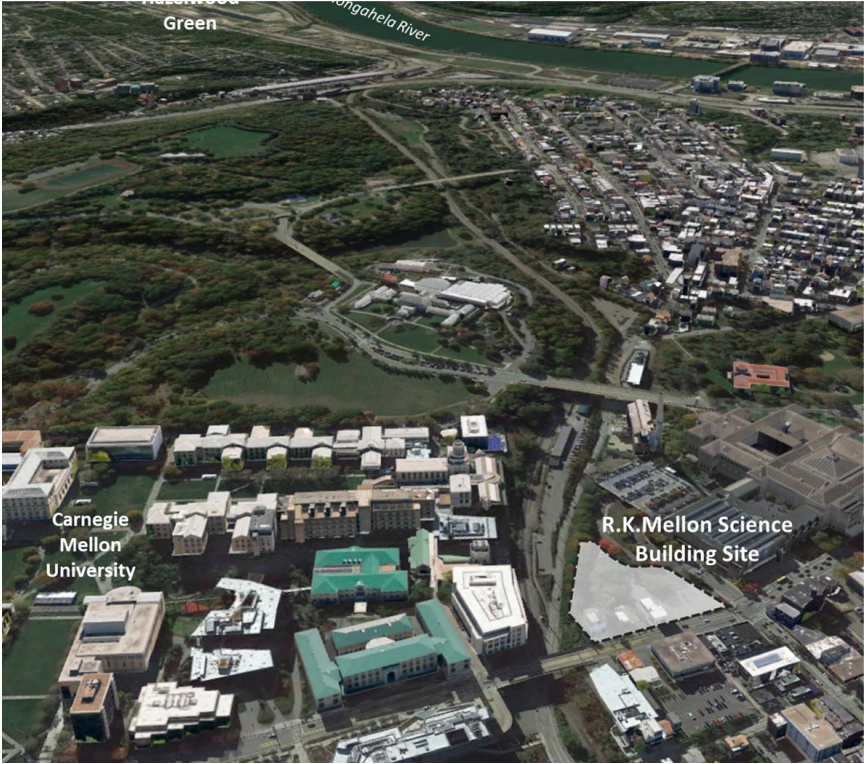
# CMU's Challenges and Goals

---

# Pittsburgh of the Past



# A Tale of Two Projects



# A Tale of Two Projects

## Interdisciplinary Science Center

340,000 GSF Complex at edge of campus adjacent to Museum and public library creating research hubs and housing contemporary art institute/gallery.

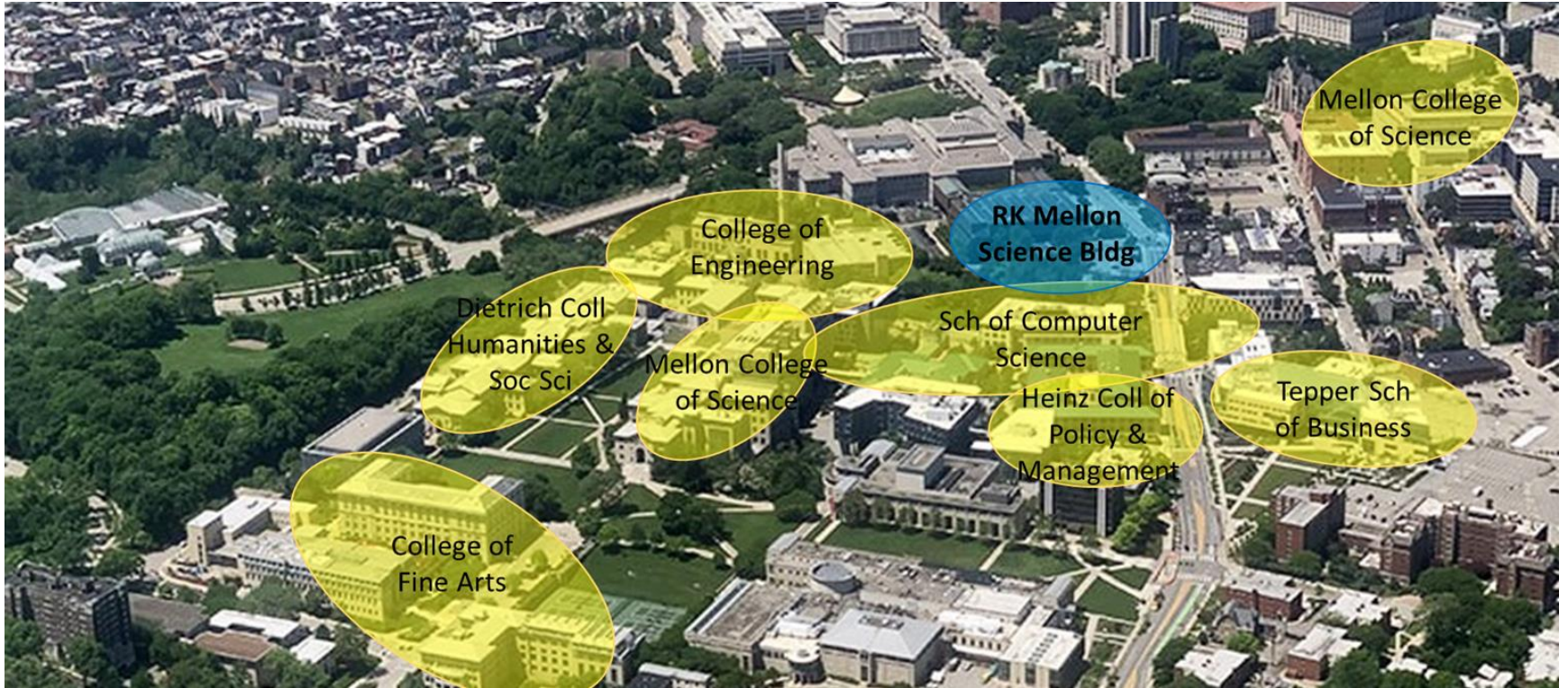
(w/ RFD Lab Planners)

## Robotics Innovation Center

150,000 GSF Off-campus center for robotics bringing together CMU's School of Computer Science, College of Engineering, and Corporate/Government partners.

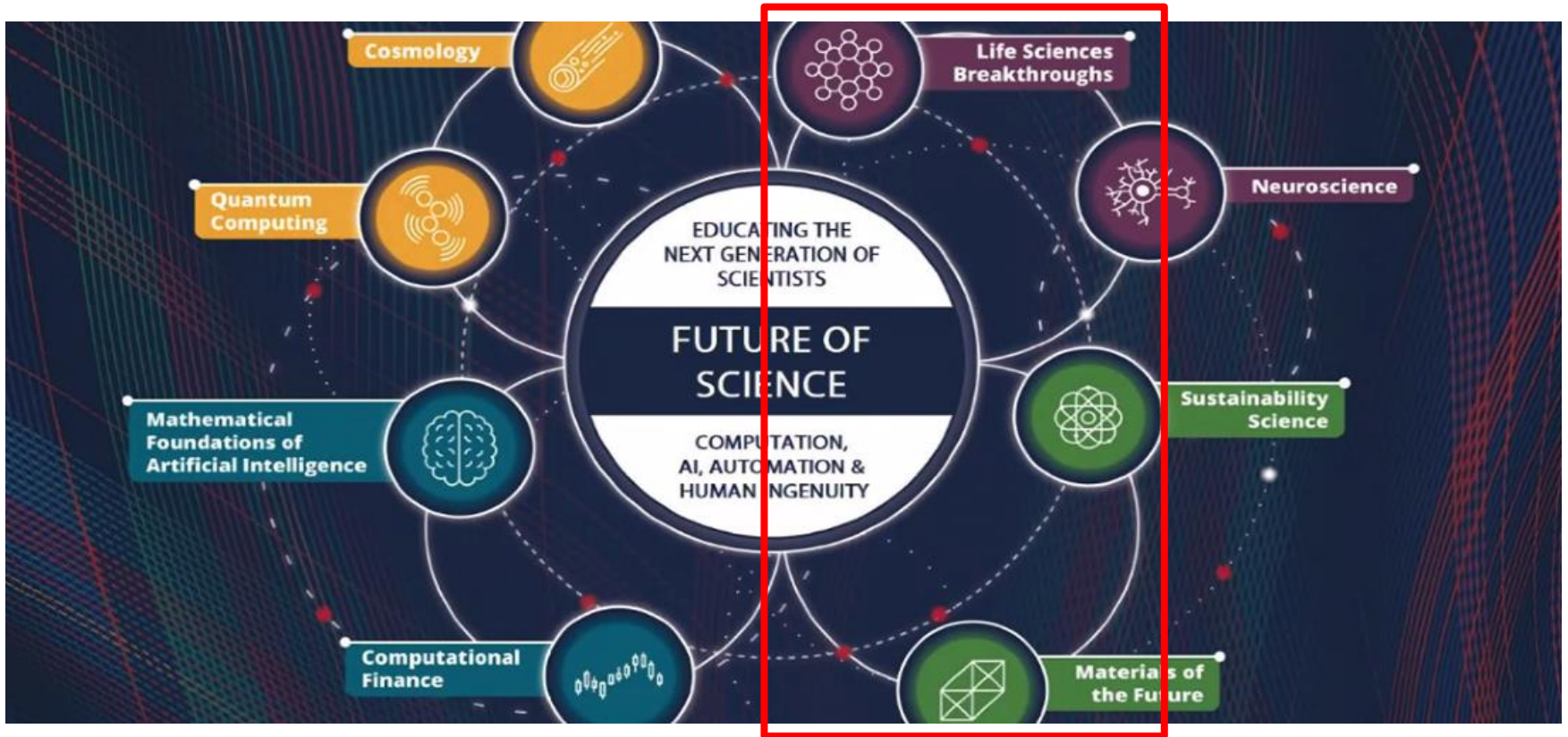


# Interdisciplinary Science Need




# Interdisciplinary Science Need

Project Focus



# Interdisciplinary Science Vision



**The Science Futures Building will be a radically flexible home for Science @ CMU that redefines how science is done.**

**It will welcome and connect a global community of students, faculty, staff, visitors, and researchers to innovate new pathways for scientific inquiry and discovery.**

**Powered by the robotics and AI of automated science, the Science Futures Building will foster breakthroughs in life sciences, sustainability, materials, and neuroscience in an inclusive and collaborative environment.**

# Interdisciplinary Science Principles

Embrace Hubs  
Across Disciplines

Reduce  
Dependence on  
Mellon Institute  
Building

Expand  
Collaboration  
Space

Adopt a Core  
Facilities Sharing  
Model

Plan to  
Contemporary Lab  
Standards

Promote the Off-  
site Cloud Lab  
Facility

Support  
Teaching and  
Learning

Avoid  
Office Duplication

# Interdisciplinary Science Goals

## Mellon College of Science Goals

Optimize for collaboration,  
discovery, and creativity

Invite informal connections and  
community building

Enable hubs to co-locate and  
evolve

Share core labs and support  
facilities

Leverage the off-site cloud lab  
facility

## School of Computer Science Goals

Focus on research spaces,  
fostering collaboration within  
and beyond SCS

Improve the student experience  
by expanding

shared study space and  
classroom spaces

Free up space in other SCS  
facilities for expansion

## College of Fine Arts Goals

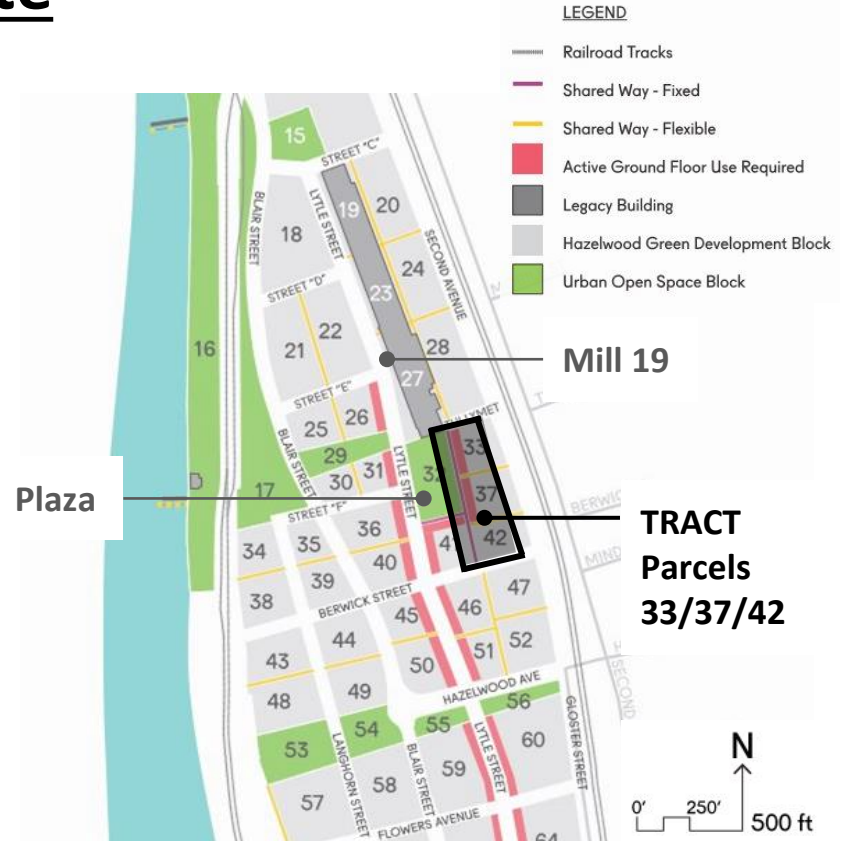
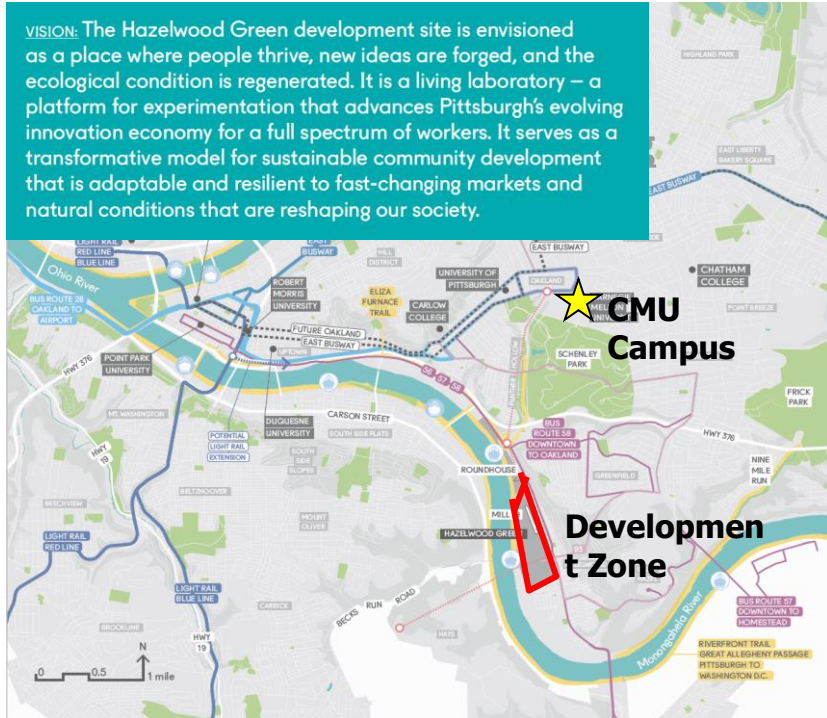
Raise the profile of the arts at  
CMU

Welcoming the public with a  
prominent ground floor location  
adjacent to the Carnegie  
Museums


Support expanded gallery  
operations with ample staff  
space, workshop space and art  
handling space

# Robotics Innovation Center Site

**VISION:** The Hazelwood Green development site is envisioned as a place where people thrive, new ideas are forged, and the ecological condition is regenerated. It is a living laboratory – a platform for experimentation that advances Pittsburgh’s evolving innovation economy for a full spectrum of workers. It serves as a transformative model for sustainable community development that is adaptable and resilient to fast-changing markets and natural conditions that are reshaping our society.



# Robotics Innovation Center Vision



The RIC brings together fundamental and applied robotics research in a dynamic and adaptive environment working across traditional disciplinary boundaries to tackle grand challenges of the future.



# Robotics Innovation Center Goals

## Integrated

Enable researchers to conduct fluid, integrated, translational research and seamlessly field test robots and autonomous systems across indoor, outdoor and virtual environments

## Destination

Create a world-class destination for robotics and autonomous systems to attract talent, inspire future generations, build & strengthen partnerships and showcase innovation

## Incubator

Provide incubator space and support to pre-seed startups to strengthen and accommodate partnerships in the industry of robotics and autonomous systems

## Community

Engage and enhance the local community and create a placemaking destination at Hazelwood Green

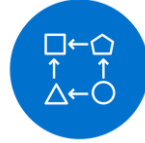


# Robotics Innovation Center Principles



## Flexibility

Design spaces to flex for multiple uses throughout the day or for rotating project teams



## Adaptability

Install robust infrastructure to enable long-term changes to spaces



## Visibility

Share our research process and outcomes by curating visibility for the public and partners



## Community

Create opportunities for meaningful connection with the robotics community, local neighbors, and industry partners



## Placemaking

Get people to come here, and help build an identity for Hazelwood Green



## Accessibility

Welcome and accommodate users of all levels of ability and experience to engage and contribute

# Common Themes: Context, Vision, and Goals

Building upon past studies and internal work

Creating consensus and shared vision

Translating donor agreements into reality

Complementing, not duplicating existing facilities

Enabling expansion in existing facilities

Planning for Uncertainty

---

# Poll and Discussion

---

# What are your 3 biggest challenges planning next gen science and engineering facilities?

Changing to more efficient workspace standards

Moving to a more distributed model (I.e., depts divided)

Shifting to more shared equipment and space

Providing shell space for expansion

Welcoming corporate and government partners

Building consensus across disciplines and departments

Aligning vision, site, program, and budget

Keeping institutional memory across phases of work

Aligning donor and institutional priorities

Planning despite uncertainty from Covid



---

# Visioning and Programming

---

# Programming Approach



Core Users  
Mix of users  
(researchers/  
staff/students)

**X**



Populations  
Team size by  
user type

**X**



Space Allocation  
Area needed by  
user and team  
(workspace  
/support)

**+**



Shared  
Facilities  
(computing  
support,  
storage)

**+**



Public Space  
(lobby, study,  
retail)

**=**



Space  
Program  
(57,000 NASF)

# Interdisciplinary Science Groups

Biological Sciences  
Department

Chemistry  
Department

Neuroscience  
Institute

Computational  
Biology  
Department

Language  
Technology  
Institute

Machine Learning  
Department

Contemporary  
Art  
Institute

Science  
Dean's  
Office

# Interdisciplinary Science Populations

	Science	SCS*	Gallery	Total
Faculty Researchers	44	61	-	105
Teaching Faculty	7	7	-	14
Research Team Members**	232	311	-	543
Undergrad Researchers	41	-	-	41
Visiting Researchers	10	12	-	22
Students (non-research)	288	302	30	620
Est. Daily Gallery Visitors	-	-	165	165
Total Staff	42	53	10	105
Total Occupants	<b>664</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1,615</b>

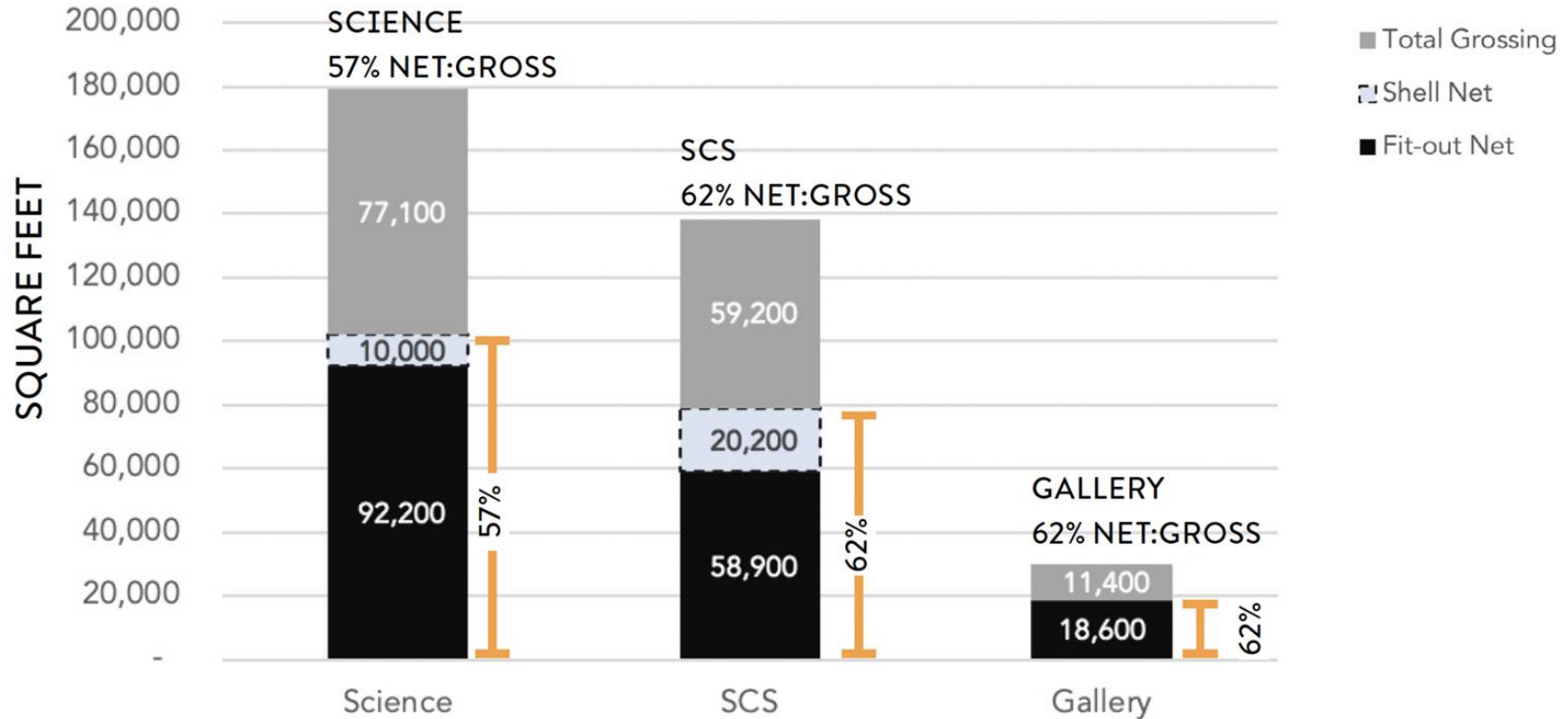
\*\* Includes PhD, Post Docs, Research Techs, and Research Masters Students



# Interdisciplinary Science Program

	Science	SCS*	Gallery	Total
Study Space	2,900	5,700	900	<b>9,500</b>
Classrooms	2,900	3,300	-	<b>6,200</b>
Laboratories	44,300	2,500	-	<b>46,800</b>
Workspace	30,300	43,600	900	<b>74,800</b>
General Use	6,900	1,800	16,500	<b>25,200</b>
Building Support	5,000	1,800	600	<b>7,400</b>
<b>TOTAL FIT-OUT NASF</b>	<b>92,300</b>	<b>58,700</b>	<b>18,900</b>	<b>169,900</b>
Shell Space	10,000	21,700	-	31,700
<b>TOTAL LONG-TERM NASF</b>	<b>102,300</b>	<b>80,400</b>	<b>18,900</b>	<b>201,600</b>

# Interdisciplinary Science Program



# Interdisciplinary Science Public/Learning Spaces



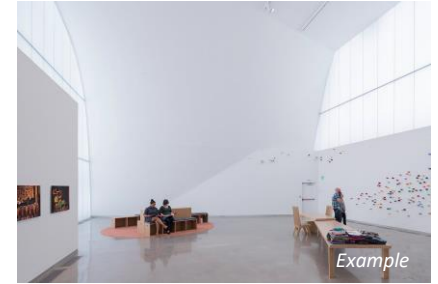
**Lobby and Cafe**



**Bio Teaching Labs**



**Classrooms**



**Galleries**



**Wet Research Labs**



**Computational Labs**



**Core Labs**



**Offices**

# Robotics Populations



## **CMU Research Teams**

*85 total researchers*

Faculty and their teams of PhDs, post docs, and other full-time research specialists.

### Use Case:

Conducting fundamental to applied research across disciplines and with partners



## **CMU students**

*75 total students*

Masters and undergraduate students who are involved in robotics or research.

### Use Case:

Contributing to CMU research teams and studying for courses



## **CMU Staff**

*12 total staff*

School support staff, specialist staff, and building managers.

### Use Case:

Managing the facilities and supporting day to day research and programming



## **Incubator Teams**

*12 total entrepreneurs*

CMU students and faculty and staff building start-ups and spin-offs

### Use Case:

Developing early-phase start ups into functioning enterprises while leveraging CMU labs and expertise



## **Government and industry partners**

*transient/varies*

Policy makers and industry partners supporting and advancing CMU research

### Use Case:

Visiting the facility to see outcomes of funding and explore next steps



## **General Public and Neighbors**

*transient/varies*


Neighbors and visitors curious about robotics


### Use Case:

Visiting exhibits and attending events and trainings


# Robotics Program

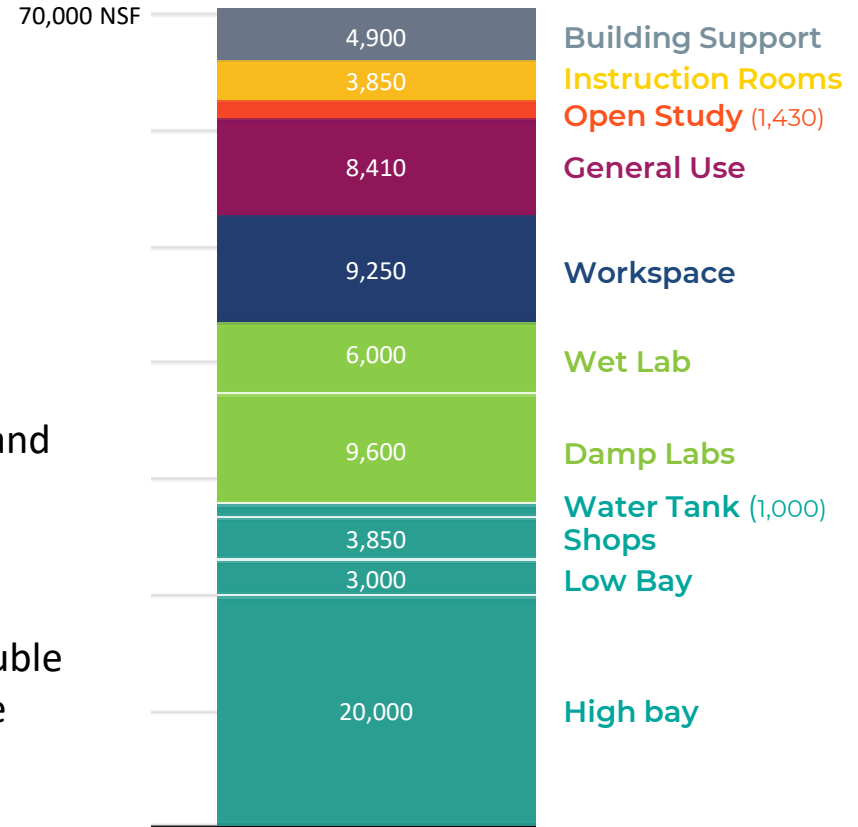
The new facility provides ~70,000 NSF of space for research, experimentation, working, and public engagement (not incl. 50,000 GSF shell space)

 17% of the facility for lobby, café, visitor center, childcare, and instruction rooms

 62% of the facility for high and low bays, shops, and wet and damp labs

 15% of the facility for workspace and open study

 7% of the facility for building support spaces; double the standard allocation for a building of this scale



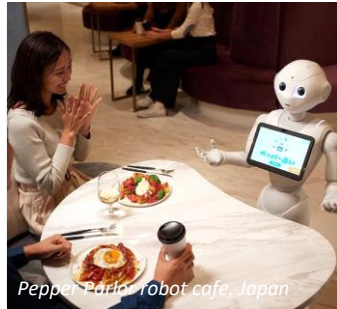
# Robotics Instruction, Work, and Study Spaces



Town Hall, Boston Dynamics



Imperial College London



Pepper Parlo robot cafe, Japan



Penovation Center



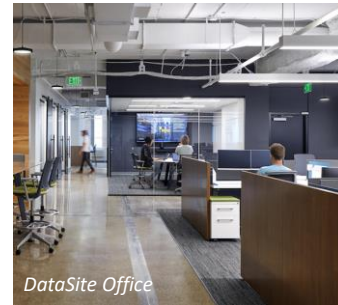
The Exploratorium Museum



GRASP Lab, UPenn



Home Depot childcare center



DataSite Office



Analytics Classroom, Temple



EPIC Space, Boston University

# Common Themes: Space Programming & Planning

Shifts to smaller, more shared space standards

Planning for change in science and engineering

Effective digital stakeholder engagement

Moving target for area, net-to-gross, and shell space

Providing just enough detail to make decisions

Delightful to interview faculty on their work and how it's changing

---

# Site Strategy and Design

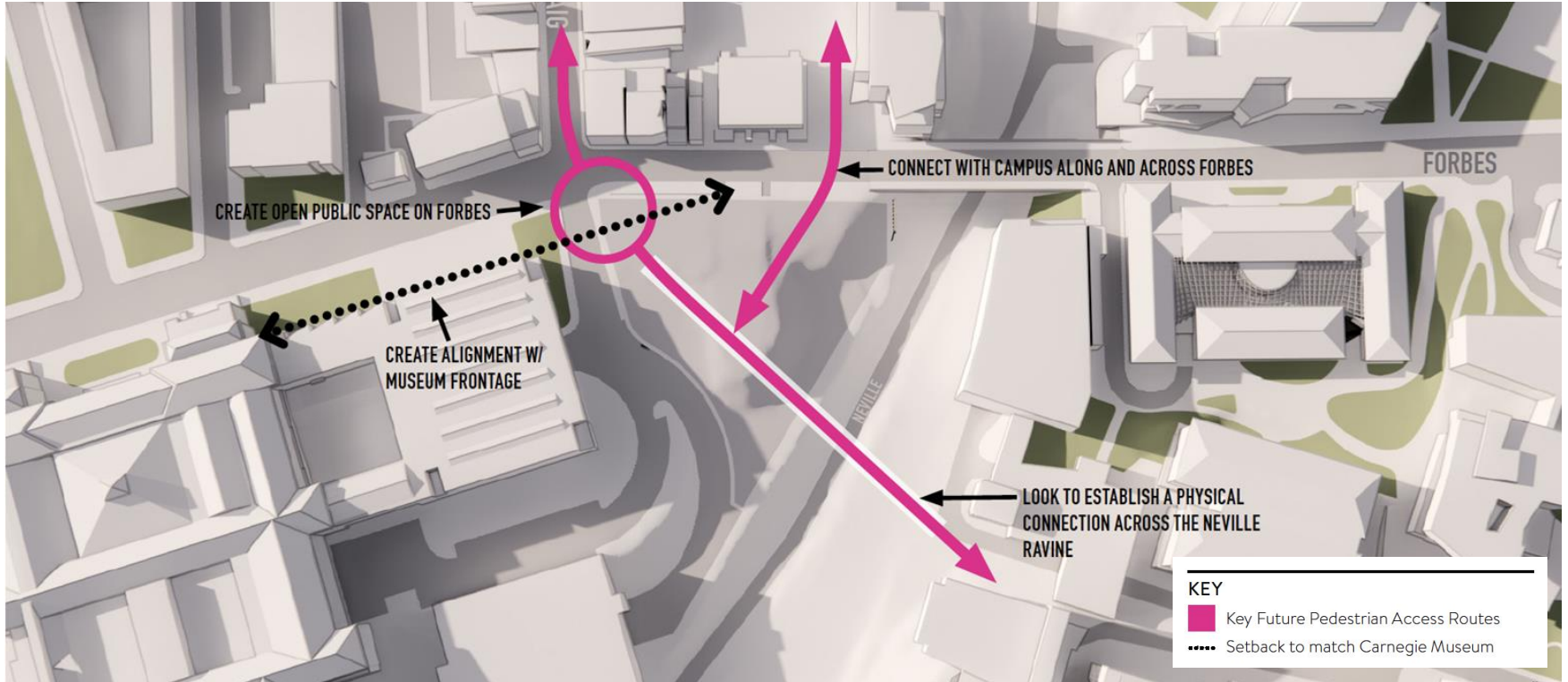
---



# Interdisciplinary Science Context and Views

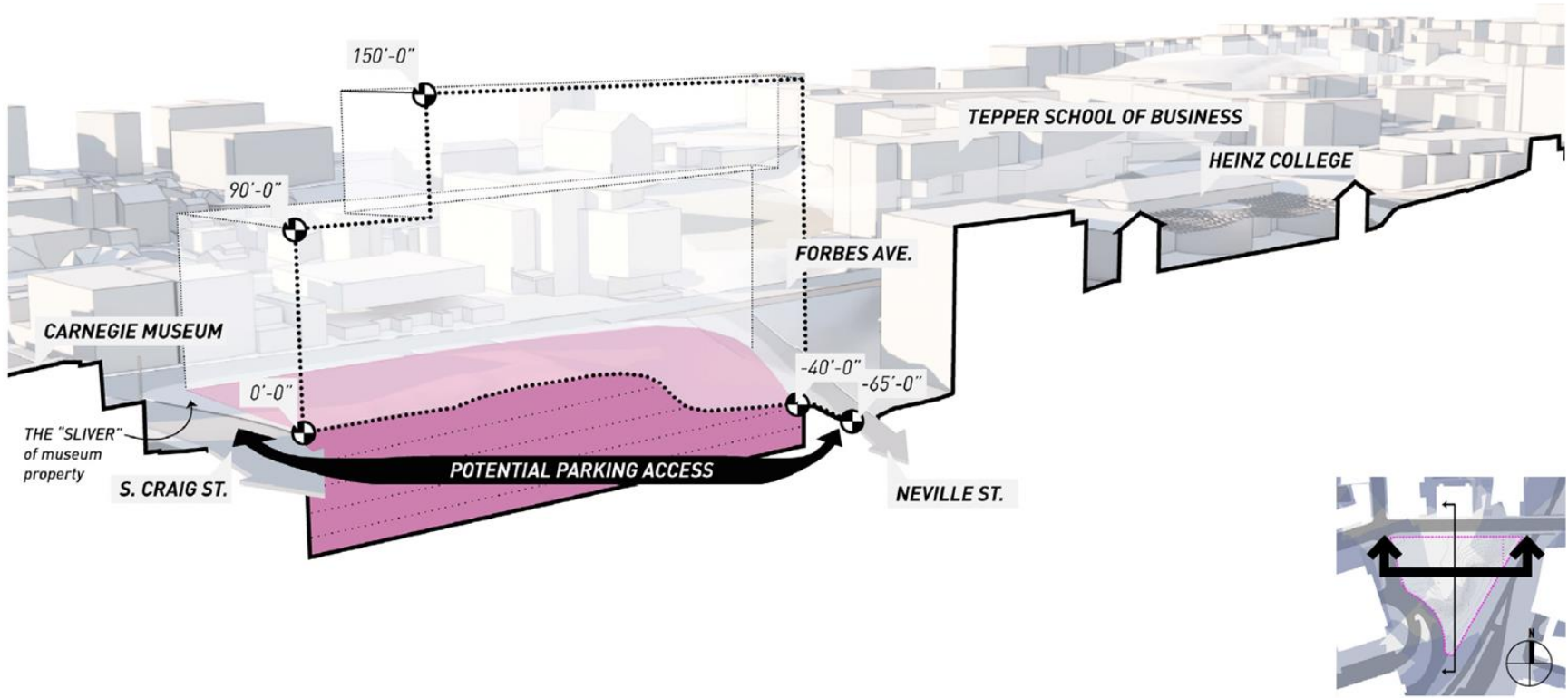


# Interdisciplinary Science Masterplan Site Guidelines

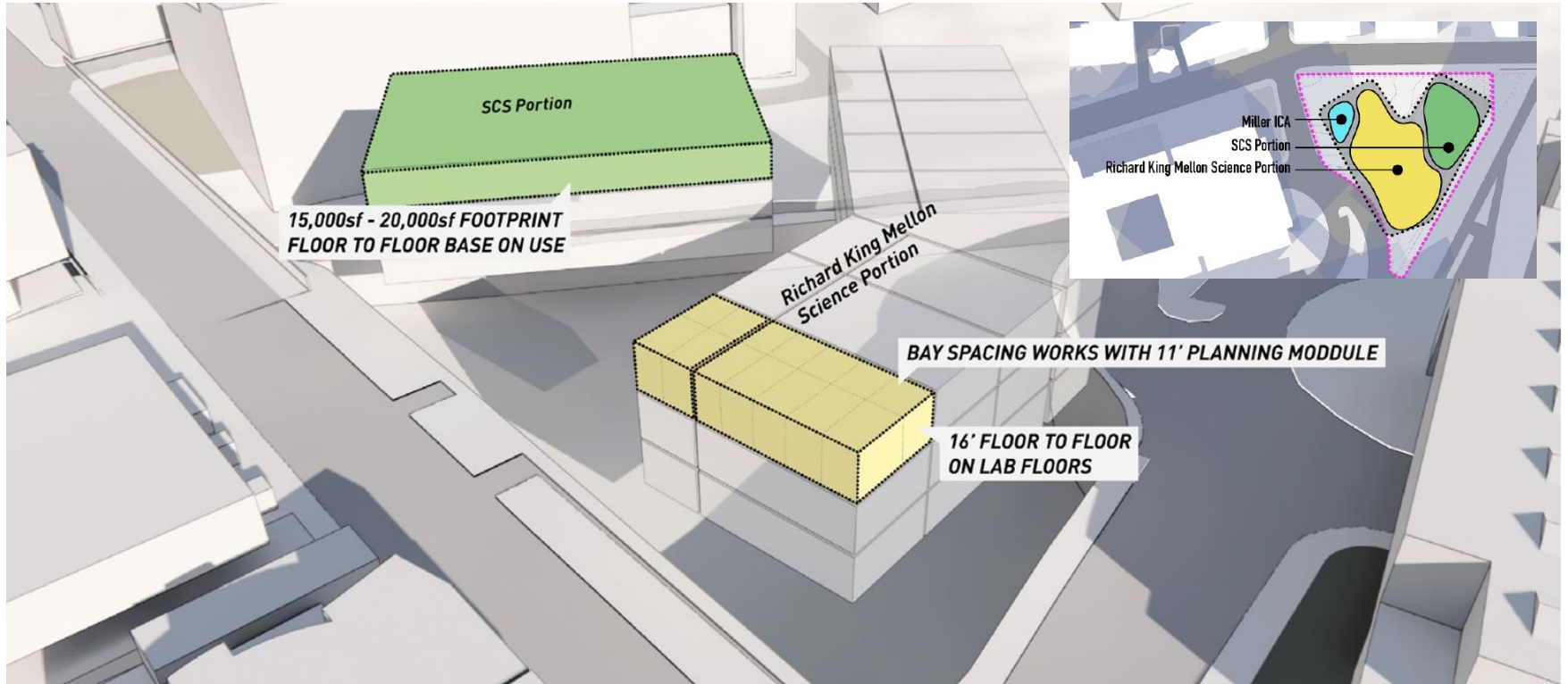




# Interdisciplinary Science Site Section



# Interdisciplinary Site Strategy

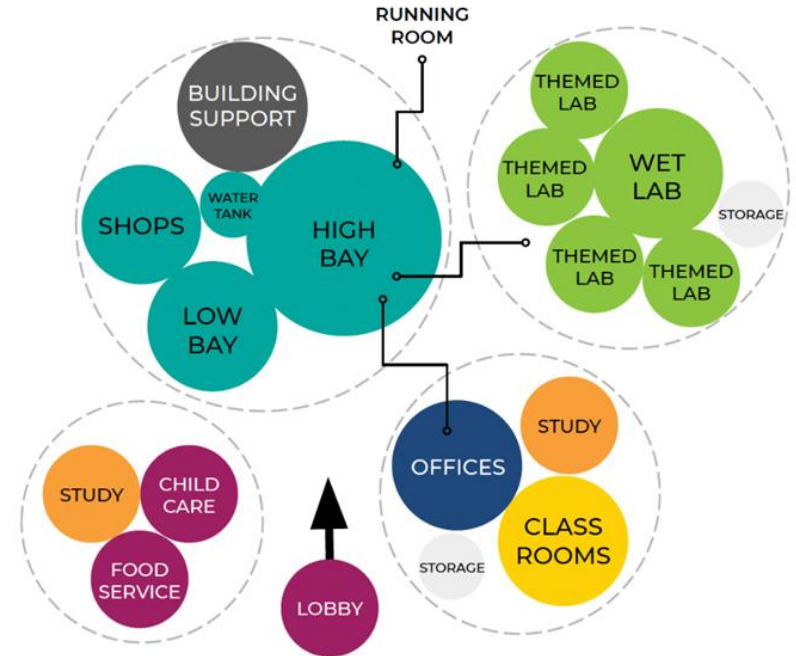




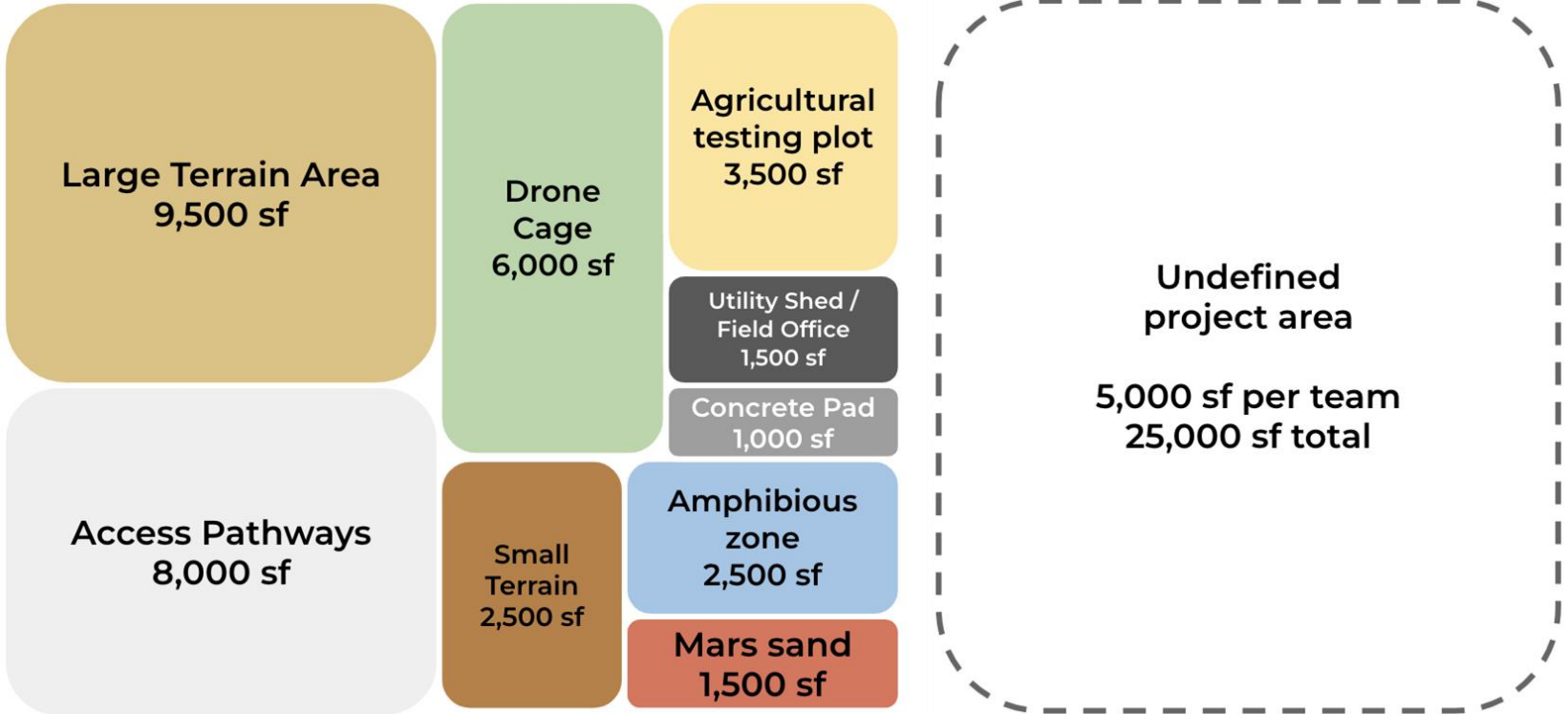
# Robotics Adjacencies

## Principles

- Facilitate visibility and access to community spaces from the entry and to each other (classrooms, eatery, lobby, etc.)
- Showcase research activities safely for visitors with windows from meeting rooms into the high bay
- Locate shops and makerspaces near classrooms to support K-12 and workforce education programs, if possible.
- Distribute study space for flexibility and seating variety
- Locate restrooms, kitchenettes, and wellness rooms near the research work areas
- Create direct access from high bay to the running room
- Locate low bay adjacent to high bay, with direct access the running room if possible
- Create easy access from shops to the labs and bay spaces
- Locate storage/staging areas near bays and project teams
- Position themed labs adjacent to each other and the bays, and split across vertical levels if ramps / freight elevators can transport large robots

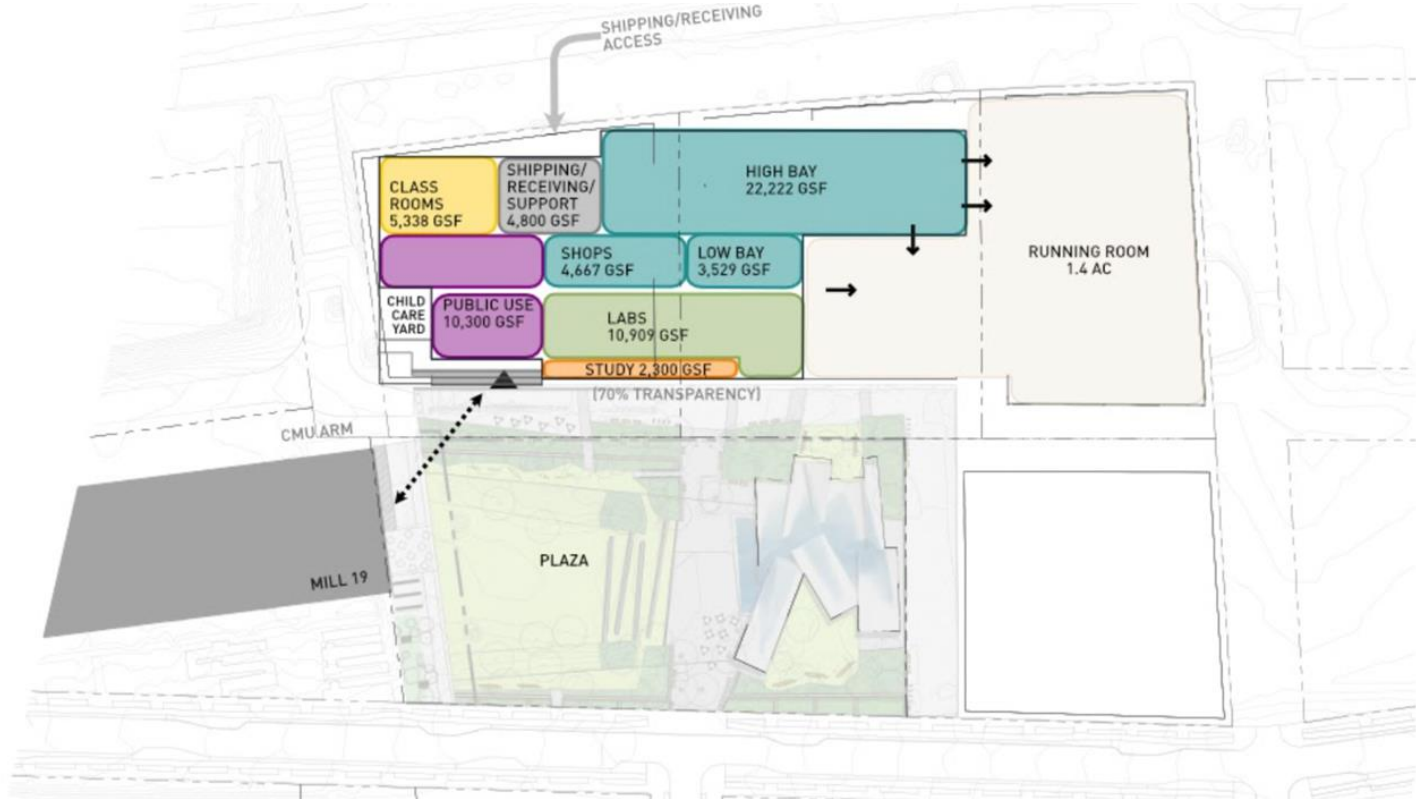


# Robotics Outdoor Space

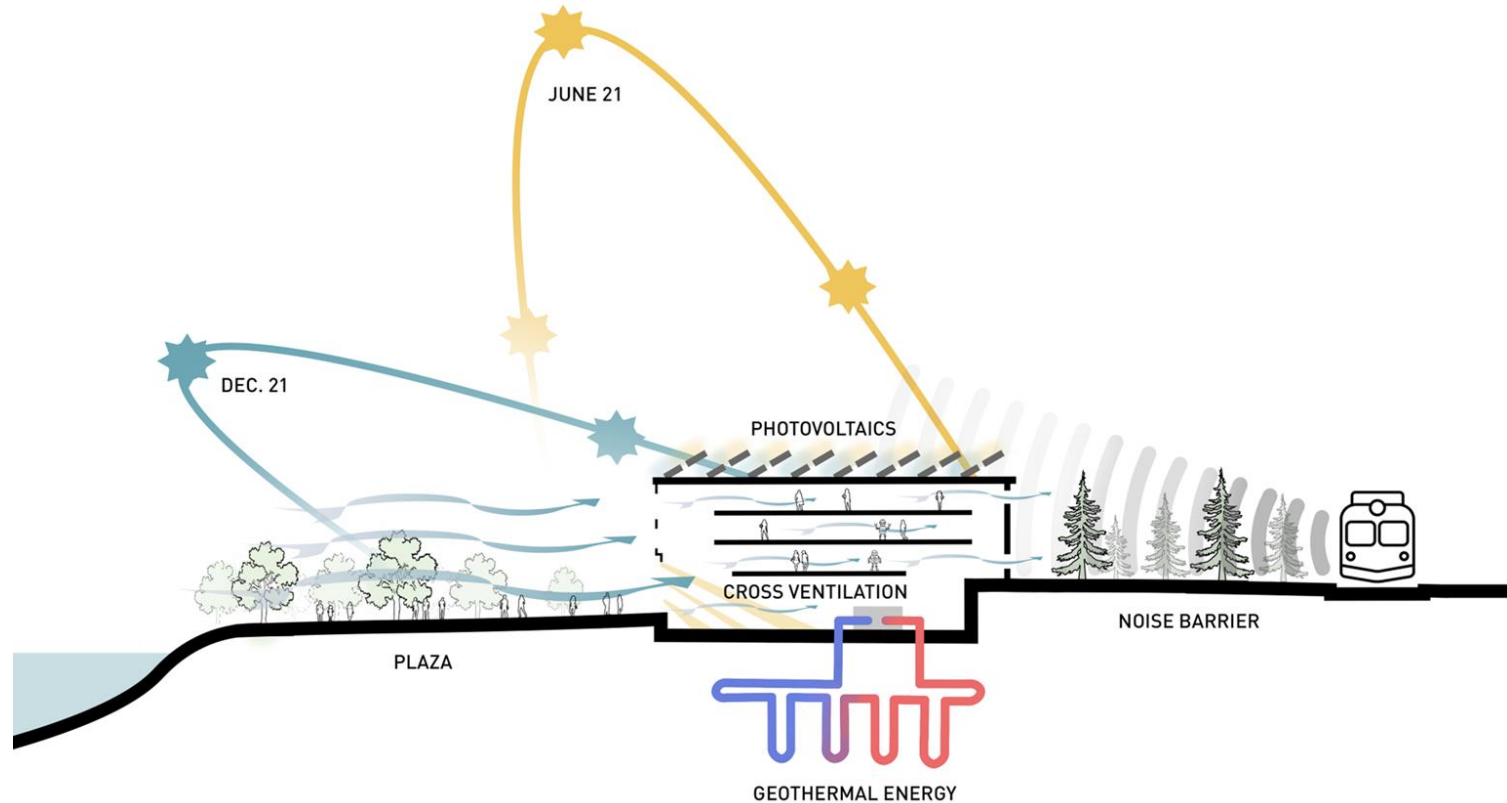




# Robotics Blocking and Stacking



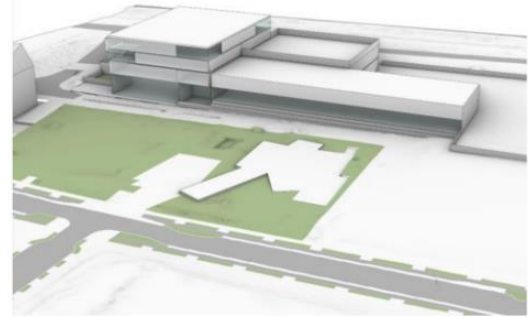
# Robotics Environmental Opportunities



# Robotics: Exploring Options

- Prominent public location adjacent to Plaza and visible to community of Hazelwood for public access
- Adjacent to ARM and CMU at Mill 19
- Two stories for immediate buildout; opportunity to expand into third floor
- Parcel 41 available for future development or growth of RIC
- Running room of about 1.4 acres
- Will require 70% transparency requirement along plaza frontage and vacating two shared ways

High Bay on Plaza



High Bay on Second Ave



# Common Themes: Site Strategy and Design

Maximizing buildable  
area within site  
constraints

Access to daylight and  
views

Identify locations for  
functional operations:  
loading, parking, etc.

Creating intuitive  
locations for high  
priority functions

Providing just enough  
detail to make decisions

Capitalize on  
connections to adjacent  
buildings and the  
greater campus

---

# Lessons Learned and Q&A

---

# Lessons Learned and Q&A

Virtual engagement enables more participation and more equitable process

Encourage interdisciplinarity through shared labs and “no names on doors”

It takes patience, finesse, and the right info to align views

Address conflicting views as they arise; don't table it for later when stakes are higher

Need to educate leadership on the value of spending time and money pre-planning

Need a nimble process at the fuzzy front-end, lots of scenarios and options!

Thank you!

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University



BRIGHTSPOT  
A BURO HAPPOLD COMPANY

---

# Planning at the Frontiers of Science and Robotics

---

SCUP 2022 Annual Conference

July 26, 2022

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University



---

BRIGHTSPOT

---

A BURO HAPPOLD COMPANY