RELLIS
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

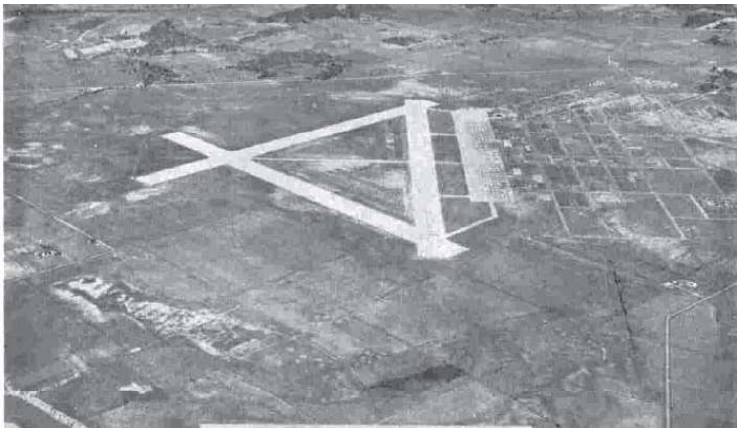
INNOVATION. EDUCATION. TRANSFORMATION.

Grand Opening of The Texas A&M University System Academic Complex Building 1

The RELLIS Academic Alliance
The Texas A&M University System

THE RELLIS STORY

The RELLIS story begins in 1943 when a training base for Army Air Corp pilots was established in Bryan, Texas, including the relatively new "blind flying," flight by instruments. From its earliest roots, RELLIS was a center for education and innovation. The buildings were utilitarian and quickly assembled. Most were constructed of temporary or semi-permanent materials, wooden frames clad in little more than plywood and tar paper.



1943 ARMY AIR FORCE PHOTO OF BRYAN FIELD

Following World War II, with enrollments at Texas A&M soaring, about estimated 5,500 men were housed and attended classes on the base between 1946 and 1950. The base was reactivated as the Bryan Air Force Base during the Korean Conflict under the Air Training Command. The connection with education continued.

The base was deactivated in 1961 and the land and buildings were deeded to Texas A&M University in 1962, which used it as a research and test center for many years. In 2016 the facility was transferred to The Texas A&M University System with the intention of transforming it into a premier location for research, education, service and industry engagement.

Today, the RELLIS Campus is rapidly becoming a "living laboratory" for development and refinement of new and emerging technologies. It is supported on three pillars: innovation, education and transformation The transformation supports the evolution of ideas as part of the education and research collaboration that forms the foundation of the RELLIS Campus experience.

THE RELLIS ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

The RELLIS Academic Alliance is becoming a model for the future of higher-education collaboration by providing a transparent ecosystem for participation in workforce development programs, both academic degree programs and skills training programs. It was established so students have a cost effective means to obtain a bachelors degree in select high-demand areas and avail themselves of opportunities that may not exist on their home campuses. Within the scope of the RELLIS Academic Alliance are programs leading to the award of a certificate demonstrating completion of a skills development program in multiple fields and programs for continuing professional development.

> "*I like RELLIS because it is new and small; it is a good place to earn a degree because the professors are great.*" Dylan P.

> "*I love how the students here actually interact and care about class.*" Brittany B.

The Academic Alliance presents a unique opportunity for students. A student begins study with Blinn College and works toward a degree offered by one of the universities in the Texas A&M System. Simultaneously, the student can earn a minor from another A&M System school and a certificate in a supporting field. Additionally, students can select electives from any of the courses at RELLIS regardless of the institution. As such, each student can develop a program of study best suited to his or her interests and career objective. These opportunities can place the students ahead of their peers when seeking employment after graduation.

THE RELLIS ACADEMIC COMPLEX

The RELLIS Academic Complex is a central part of the multi-institutional education facilities provided on the RELLIS Campus. Universities no longer thrive in isolation. Rather, teaching and research collaboration across institutional boundaries, and collaboration with the private sector, is the new norm and will set progressive institutions apart from their peers. The classrooms and laboratories within the complex enable campuses from across the Texas A&M University System to offer training and degree programs in a collaborative shared environment, as well as collaborate on applied research.

THE MAIN ENTRANCE AND FRONT TERRACE

Academic Complex Building 1 contains approximately 68,000 gross square feet of space and includes 10 classrooms, biology laboratories, instructional and simulation laboratories for allied health teaching and research, over 60 faculty offices and support spaces for student advising and mentoring.

The guiding principle for the Academic Complex was inviting and functional space catering to the learning styles of students today. This was achieved through use of glass, large open spaces and multiple areas for students to collaborate and relax. The large central plaza and interior and exterior balconies support this design philosophy.

Incorporated into the design are the elements of the RELLIS architectural palette. The use of brick with deep overhangs, stone accents, generous windows and patina green metal hip roofs immediately strengthens the architectural fabric of the RELLIS Campus. The classrooms, labs and teaching spaces are multi-use, flexible and support new digital technologies. The academic and faculty spaces are supported by break out, team study and debriefing rooms that help define the convergent learning style of today's students. The adjacent pedestrian walkway serves as a backdrop for student pop-up events and functions. It knits together other pieces of the RELLIS Campus to the west, including the Blinn College Schwartz academic building.


THE RELLIS CAMPUS VIEWED FROM THE THIRD FLOOR BALCONY

THE GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 10:00 am
Lobby of Academic Complex Building 1
Dr. James Hallmark, Emcee
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Beginning at 9:30 am refreshments will be served in the lobby of Academic Complex Building 1. At the conclusion of today's ceremony, you are invited to walk through the building and see the marvelous facilities. Students and faculty will be available on each floor to tell you about the different areas and how they will be used. Music is being provided by the Blinn Chorale.

10:00 AM Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Remarks by Dr. James Hallmark
- Recognition of Special Guests
- Recognition of Regents and Trustees
- Recognition of Legislators and Civic Leaders
- Recognition of the Design and Construction Team

10:10 AM Comments from Invited Speakers

- Chancellor John Sharp, The Texas A&M University System
- Chancellor Mary Hensley, The Blinn College District
- Mr. Hunter Goodwin, Chair of the RELLIS External Academic Advisory Council

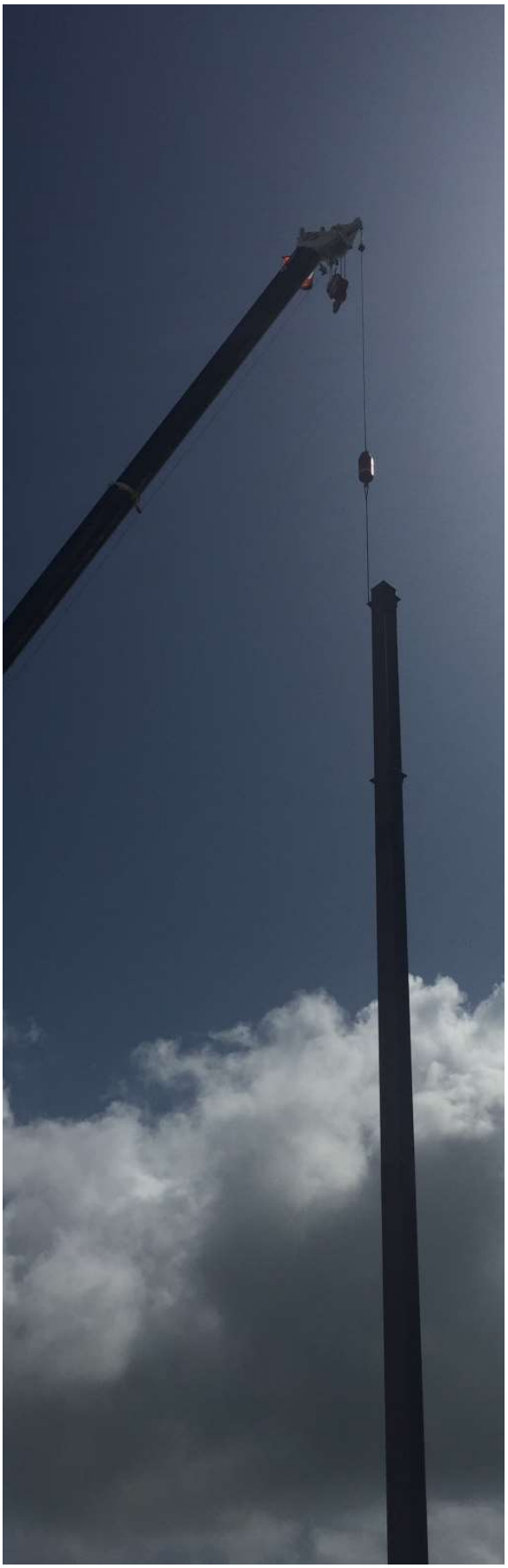
10:40 AM Ribbon Cutting

- Chancellor Sharp and Chairman Mendoza
- Assisting the Chancellor and Chairman are students who will be studying in the building

10:45 AM Closing Remarks

10:50 AM Grand Opening Concludes

- Identify the student ambassadors for tours
- Press interviews with members of the stage party



STEEL MOVES INTO PLACE FOR BUILDING 1

SOME FUN BUILDING FACTS

Building Design and Construction

- Academic Complex Building 1 was a design-build project. Hensel Phelps was the general contractor and Page was the architect.
- Design of the building began in August 2017 and was completed in May 2018.
- Ground breaking occurred on March 1, 2018 and the first steel was placed on July 9. The building was completed 16 months later, a very aggressive construction schedule.
- During construction, more than 1,000 people worked 220,000 hours on the site without a lost-time accident.

THE BUILDING BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE AND THE SITE IS PREPARED

AN AERIAL VIEW DURING CONSTRUCTION

Local Trades Involvement

- Electrical systems,
- Mechanical systems,
- Concrete and masonry
- Earthwork,
- Underground utilities, and
- Landscaping

Amount of Materials Used

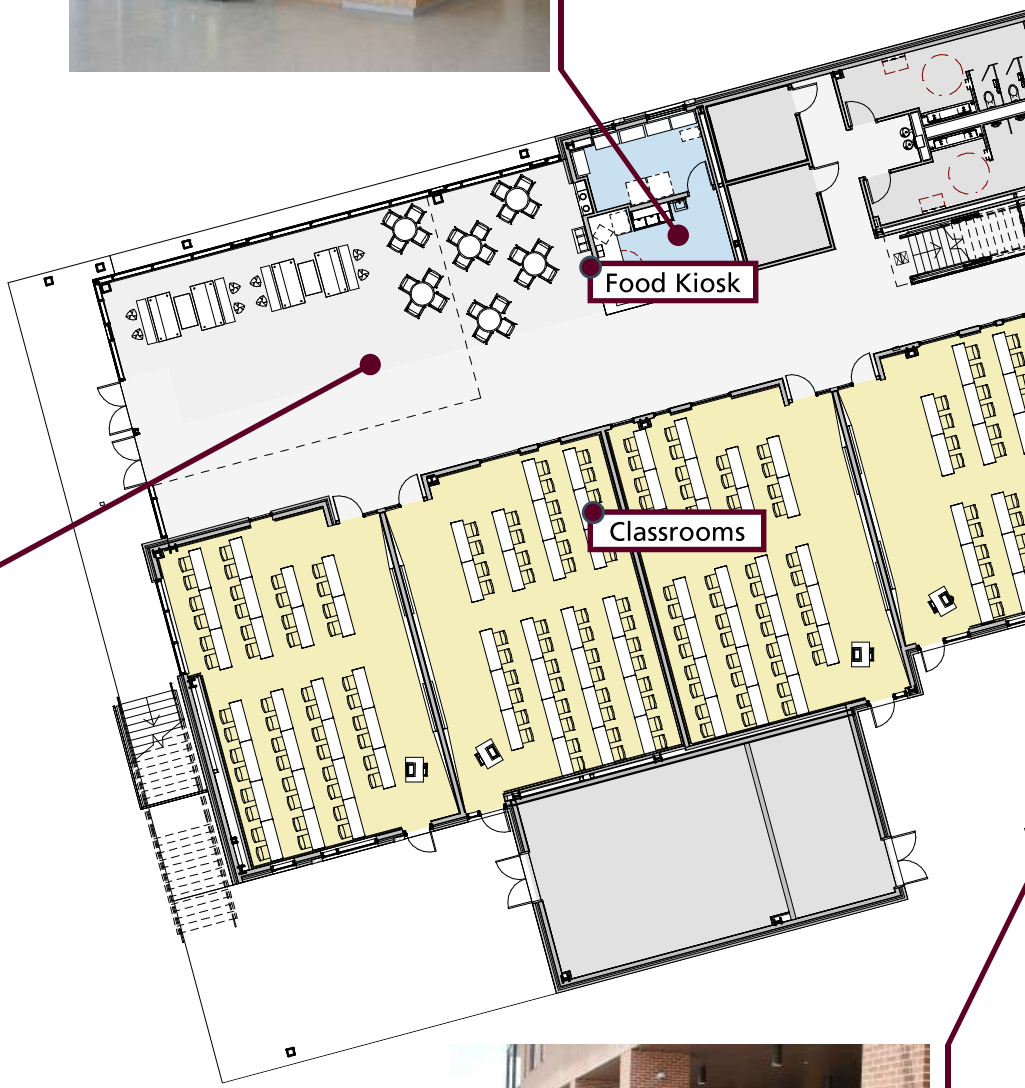
- Construction required excavation of 40,000 cubic yards of dirt.
- The foundation supporting the building has 242 auger cast piles.
- Concrete masons placed 2,500 cubic yards of concrete.
- The building contains 500 tons of structural steel.
- Brick masons placed about 200,000 bricks weighing nearly 1,000,000 pounds.
- Painters applied 2,100 gallons of paint to nearly 245,000 square feet of sheet rock.
- Glazers installed about 1,575 pieces of glass.
- Electricians installed over 100 miles of electrical, network, and security cable.

IRON WORKERS PLACE THE FIRST STRUCTURAL STEEL

THE FIRST FLOOR

Most of the first floor is devoted to classroom and advising spaces. It contains the administrative offices, seven classrooms, and offices for student-related services. Some faculty offices are also located on the first floor.

A FOOD AND COFFEE KIOSK is included in the complex so students and faculty are able to purchase a light meal and beverages.



The MAIN ENTRANCE AND LOBBY feature abundant natural daylight and comfortable seating for students to relax and study between classes.

A unique feature on the ground floor is the OUTDOOR LEARNING PATIO. Five classrooms open directly onto this patio. It can be used for class discussions or relaxing between classes when the weather is nice.

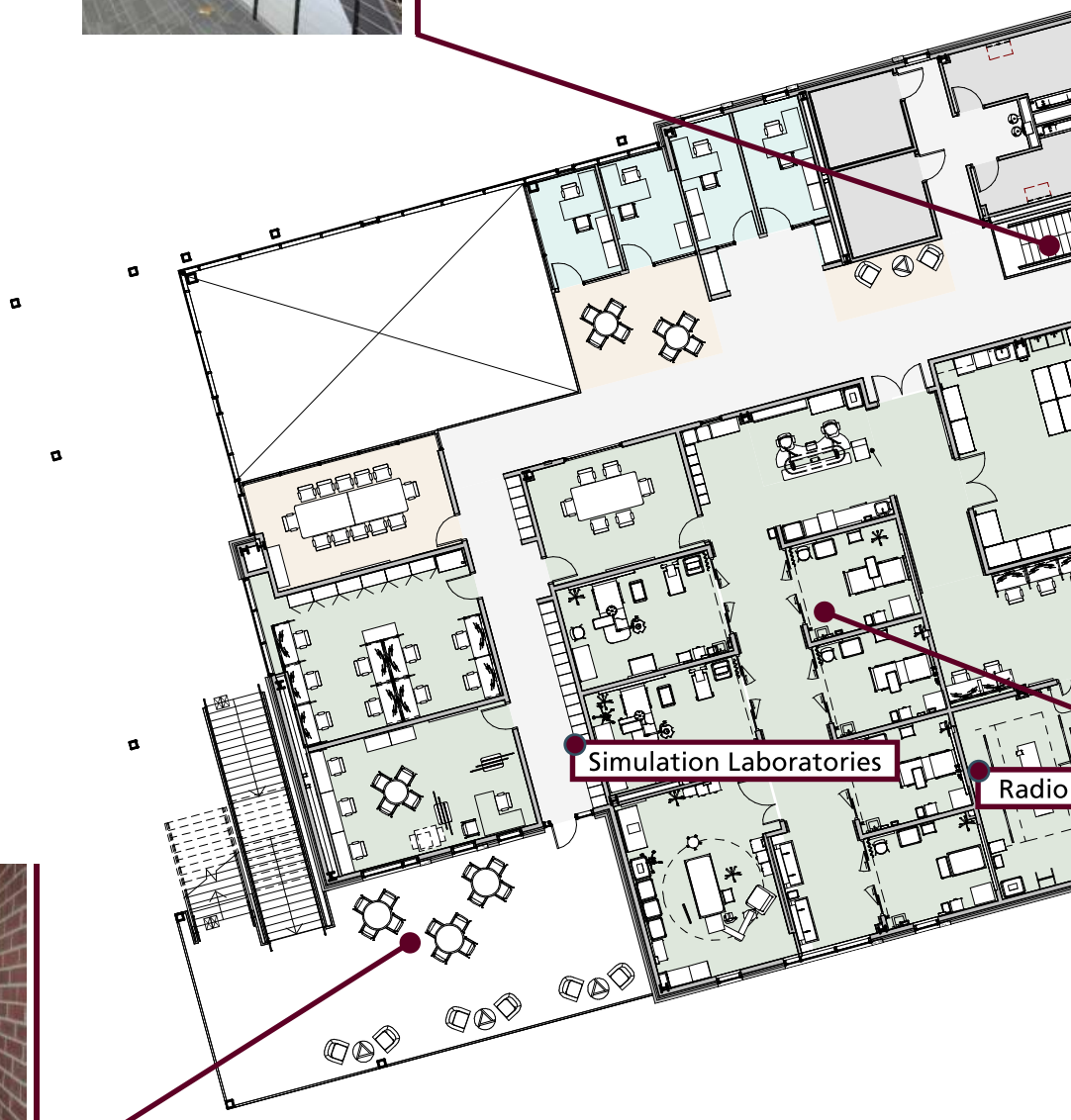
STUDENT ADVISING AND STUDENT SERVICES has a large open area with comfortable seating in the reception area and private offices.

The CLASSROOMS are equipped with modern learning technology including large flat panel LED displays. The furniture is movable to promote team learning and projects when appropriate.

THE SECOND FLOOR

The second floor of the building contains the allied health teaching and research areas. These areas include high and low fidelity simulation suites, a physical therapy laboratory, and a radiology suite.

The MONUMENTAL STAIR organizes a three-level grand concourse that provides immediate access to student lounges and study spaces on every level and facilities for collaborative learning.



The second and third floors feature an OUTDOOR BALCONY where students can relax and visit with their colleagues.

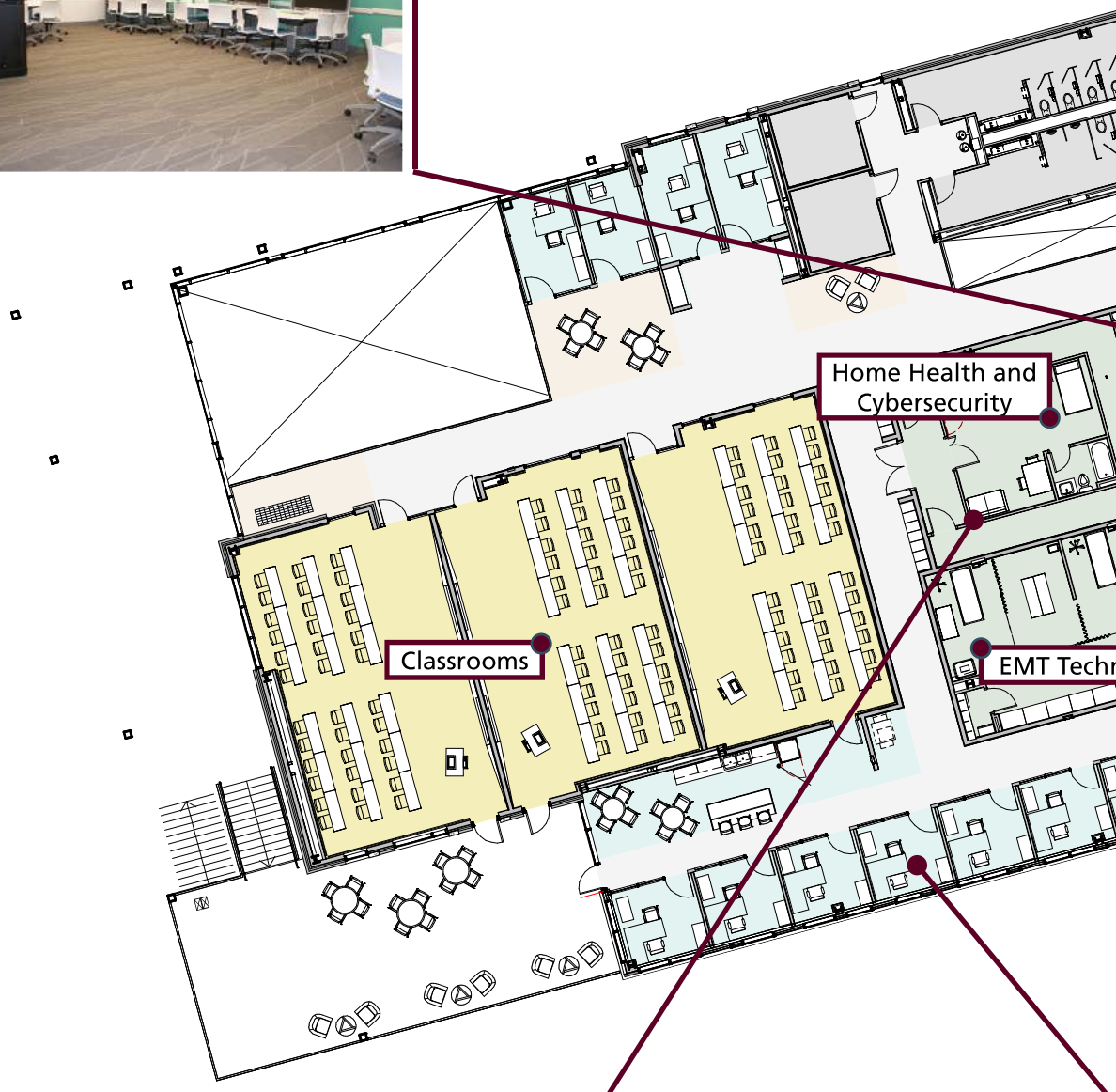
Throughout the complex are many areas for students to engage in small GROUP STUDY AND PROJECTS. These rooms are equipped with LED screens to promote group learning.

The SIMULATION LABORATORIES are where students begin to learn fundamental skills and hone those skills. It is also where initial development of new medical devices can begin.

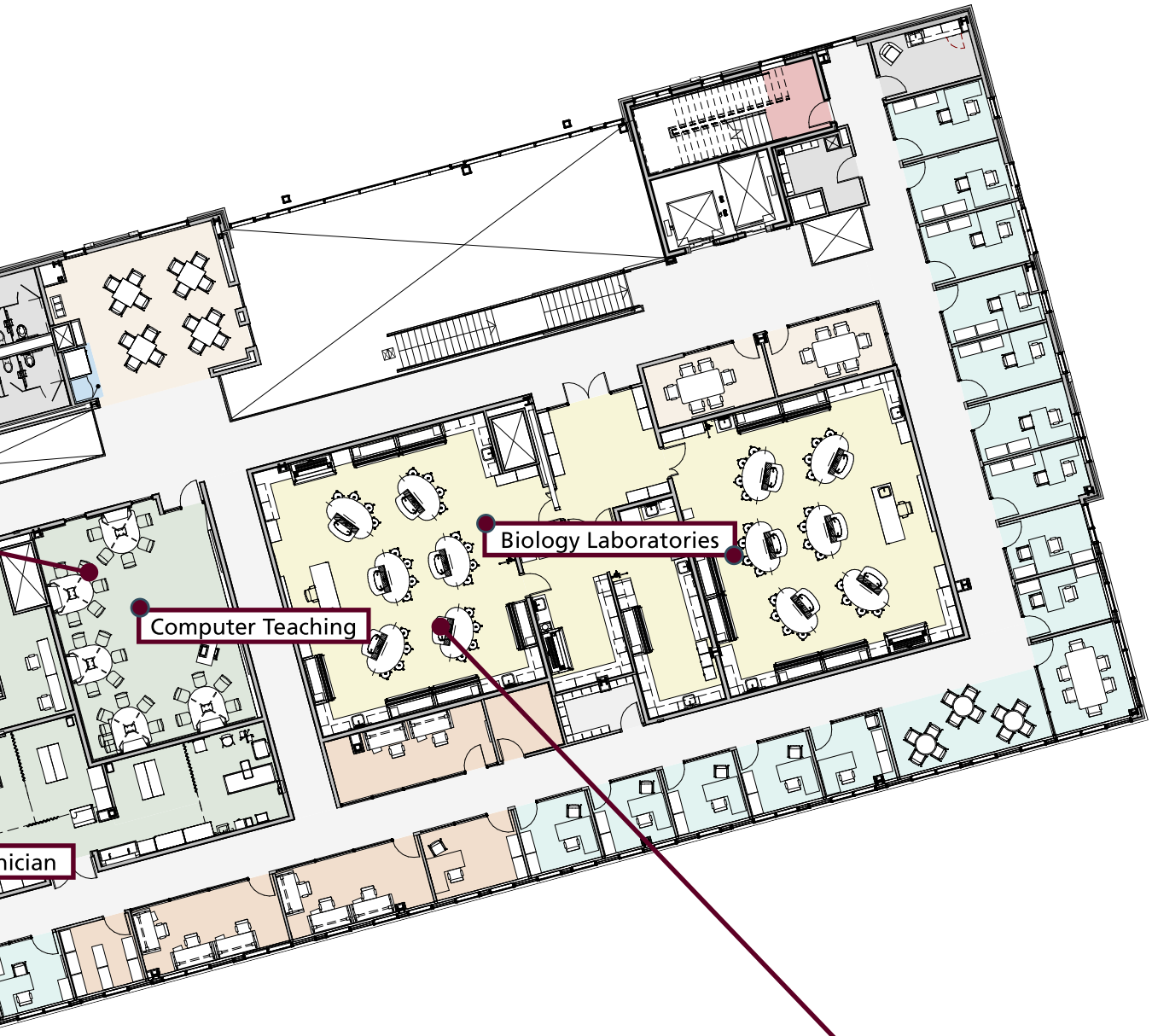
THE THIRD FLOOR

On the third floor are more classrooms, laboratories and offices as well as collaborative spaces for group learning.

A COLLABORATIVE COMPUTER TEACHING LABORATORY is included on the third floor.



A unique facility is the HOME HEALTHCARE LABORATORY for student teaching. It is also unique CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH SPACE for the Internet of Things and remote medicine.



Building 1 has a BSL-1 and a BSL-2 BIOLOGY LABORATORY. These are modern state-of-the-art teaching laboratories where students can also conduct research with the faculty.

Throughout building the FACULTY AND STAFF OFFICES feature abundant natural daylight and have large windows that provide views of the surrounding campus as well as visual connection to student activity within the building.

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