

For Immediate Release
Contact: Terry Smith, 713-524-4202

Texas Southern University
Cleburne Avenue Parking Garage and Offices, Houston, Texas
Featured in Architectural Portfolio Honoring Education Design
Excellence

Houston, Texas January 1, 2008 – Smith & Company Architects announces that Texas Southern University, Cleburne Avenue Parking Garage and Offices, Houston, TX has been selected for publication in Penton Media's American School & University 2007 Architectural Portfolio. The project is featured in the November 2007 edition of the magazine and also on the web at www.schooldesigns.com. An annual competition honoring education design excellence, the Architectural Portfolio spotlights projects representing some of the most effective learning environments in America.

The Cleburne Avenue Parking Garage is located at the corner of Cleburne Avenue and Sampson Street directly across from the Jesse H. Jones School of Business. The architecture in this northeast section of TSU's campus is contemporary in nature and the Cleburne Garage was designed to continue that contemporary vision.

This new 334,054 S.F. parking garage is the second of a three phase parking improvement plan for Texas Southern University (TSU). The Cleburne Avenue Parking Garage is designed to accommodate 1,000 cars and the quadrangle that houses the garage is equipped to handle up to 1,500 cars. These additional spaces will aid in Texas Southern University's quest to prepare for an ever-increasing student population.

In addition to parking, the new garage has 1,941 S.F. of office space, which includes two offices for the TSU Police Department, three administrative offices and a public lobby area. One of the key design components of the garage is the introduction of a perforated metal paneling and framing system or "mesh". This "mesh system" was introduced into the design palette to make the new building better suited to blend into the context of the areas neighboring buildings. The design of the garage matches the same palette of materials used on the Jesse H. Jones School of Business. Along with the Mesh System, the use of brick, pre-cast concrete and metal in the design of the garage was done to create a relationship to the School of Business and to keep in tune with the contemporary movement of TSU's northeast side. Together the two buildings serve as a wonderful introduction to TSU's east campus.

A jury of American Institute of Architects (AIA) Committee on Architecture for education members and education administrators evaluated submissions from architectural firms, schools and universities across the country. Two hundred thirty-four projects were chosen for publication in AS&U, a monthly educational facilities, purchasing and business administration magazine reaching 65,000 facility planners, school and university administrators and architects with this issue. This is the 25th year the competition has been held.

Featured projects include designs that consider security and student safety, plan for technology, and incorporate aesthetics, technology and function to work together at a cost that makes sense over the life of the building. The jury used the following criteria to make its selections: innovation, sustainability/maintainability, safety/security, image/aesthetics and life-cycle costs.

Founded in 1928, American School & University is devoted exclusively to education facilities/business administration. The authority for information about the educational facilities market, AS&U delivers an insightful combination of exclusive reports, special focuses and how-to related articles each month. For more information please visit www.asumag.com and www.schooldesigns.com. American School & University is Published by Penton Media, Inc.