

For Immediate Release
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Texas Southern University
Ennis Street Parking Garage and Retail Space, 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.

At four students per parking space, Texas Southern University was significantly below the national average for urban colleges in terms of parking availability for students and staff. In addition, the university anticipates student enrollment growth of over 75% over the next five years. Preliminary projections call for the need for 2,430 additional parking spaces by the year 2020.

In a project combining participation from the university and private enterprise, this 1,000-car parking garage was built on an existing surface lot on the southwest portion of the campus at, arguably, it's most significant and visible intersection. This Phase I garage, the first of three planned over the next ten years, houses over 10,000 SF of retail space on the ground level. This retail space will house student support entities such as a bookstore and print shop. Adjacent to the campus basketball arena, the masonry and pre-cast garage provides additional parking for special events.

The design of the garage matches the same palette of materials recently used on new campus structures such as St. Joe brick and limestone colored cast stone.

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 it's 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.