

## UNIVERSITY HOUSE ACHIEVES LEED GOLD CERTIFICATION

September 9, 2013

The University House, a 14,000 square foot facility located on the west side of the University of Maryland's College Park Campus, recently achieved LEED Gold status, as determined by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The facility, completed in August 2012, replaced the old President's Residence which was built in 1955 and had a significant number of issues, including ineffective heating and cooling systems, poor programmatic functionality and a lack of accessibility for persons with disabilities.



The design, construction and furnishing of the new University House was funded entirely with private donations through the UMCP Foundation, on behalf of the University of Maryland.

The University's Department of Capital Projects managed the design-build team of Barnes-Vanze Architects and Forrester Construction in bringing this project to life. Project leads for UMD included Larry Marcu, Project Manager and Kendall Fitrell, On-Site Construction Representative.

The University House serves two primary purposes. The first is its role as an on-campus residence for the University's President, and the second is as an Events Center for programs that align with the mission of the University and the Office of the President. The Events Center, which comprises a majority of the 14,000 square feet, has a dedicated catering kitchen and can support formal sit-down dinner events for 120 guests or less formal gatherings of up to 300.

In its first academic year of operation University House hosted on average two to three events per week, providing a welcoming environment for guests ranging from students of the most recent graduating class to world renowned dignitaries such as the Dalai Lama.

The facility employs a number of sustainable features to assure its compliance with UMD and the State's recent Green Building initiatives. These features include a geothermal heating and cooling system, solar water heating, low energy lighting systems, an energy smart machine room-less elevator, and the use of a significant amount of recycled material.

University House will continue to serve its role as a significant resource and venue in the University's advancement as a world-class institution for many years to come.