

# COLLEGE

## Planning & Management

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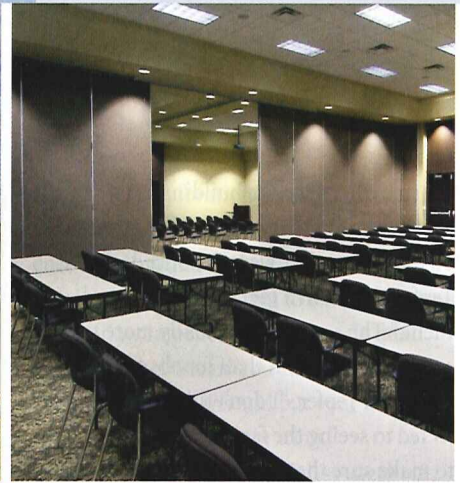
A Peter Li Education Group Publication

# Keeping Up with Gen Y

**Curtain Walls**

**Mail Center  
Management**

**ADA for Historical  
Architecture**



Photos courtesy of The Facility Group



# DeKalb Technical College

## Conference Center

The new DeKalb Technical College Conference Center, completed in fall 2007 in DeKalb County, GA, represents a key component of the institution's newly expanded campus. Designed and constructed by The Facility Group, the 23,000-sq.-ft. Conference Center provides ample meeting space for business, industry, and community partners in addition to use by DeKalb Technical College faculty and students.

To promote dynamic usability, The Facility Group designed the Conference Center with a 7,200-sq.-ft. exhibition hall serving as an ideal location for large lectures, trade shows, business and community group meetings, and special events. "This world-class Conference Center

provides DeKalb Tech with a viable link to the community," stated DeKalb Technical College President Dr. Robin Hoffman.

The design of the Conference Center incorporates the use of operable partitions that allow the main space to seat more than 500 in full-open configuration, or be subdivided into five smaller spaces. The ceiling-mounted projectors, automatic screens, and wireless capabilities offer an energetic and high-tech atmosphere. Additionally, to maximize on-campus parking, the main floor of the Conference Center is elevated, with parking provided underneath.

Shortly before construction began, Hurricane Katrina struck, and the resulting increases in fuel and material costs threatened to drive the project over its estimated budget. But because of The Facility Group's

ONESource approach to program delivery, offering a truly integrated and collaborative process for planning, design, and construction, The Facility Group team identified value engineering and scope provisions to keep costs within budget without significantly impacting the original program.

Through continual communication and collaboration with The Facility Group's design and construction team, DeKalb Technical College achieved its goals for a new Conference Center facility that promotes academic achievement in a campus-like environment. The unique building design creates a strong, visually appealing architectural style with a high-tech feel that improves the 1960s campus aesthetics and enhances the overall architectural image of the College.