



# MCH

MCKAY CONANT HOOVER INC  
Acoustics and Media Systems Consultants



Completed in 2002, the 85,000sf Donald Bren Hall at University of California, Santa Barbara, accommodates a newly developed school and physically organizes the diverse program. The School's mission is to play a leading role in researching environmental issues, training research scientists and professionals, and identifying and solving environmental problems. Bren has earned a reputation as one of the top schools of its kind in the nation. It is among a handful of schools in the United States and the only one in the West to integrate science, management law, economics, and policy as part of an interdisciplinary approach to environmental problem-solving.

The building provides space for applied and quantitative ecology, earth systems sciences, environmental engineering, environmental microbiology and toxicology, and environmental policy and resource management. It includes faculty and administrative offices, research laboratories, conference facilities, teaching laboratories and support facilities. The colloquium room depicted here, for which MCH provided full-scope acoustical services, features distance learning technology. In normal lecture mode, it also permits everyone to clearly hear all questions and answers without amplification. The School was among the first 12 buildings to be certified by the U.S. Green Building Council for achieving LEED status and it also was one of the very first to obtain the most prestigious LEED *Platinum* certification. The total cost of the building was \$26 million. Building in a sustainable manner with sustainable materials added only 2% to the overall costs, which will easily be recovered through energy savings over time. Bren Hall is proof that cost is not a significant deterrent to green construction.

Visit: <http://www.bren.ucsb.edu>



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