

Jay Owens <rostairs@gmail.com>

# **RE: FW: Design Solutions Feature**

1 message

Brian Furnas <bri> smcinc.com> To: Jay Owens <rostairs@gmail.com> Cc: "Chris Morley (kc5jom@gmail.com)" <kc5jom@gmail.com> Tue, Aug 30, 2016 at 2:05 PM

Jay/Chris,

What's your mailing address? I'll send you a few reprints of the article.

I know you guys aren't AWI members, but we just found out last week that our work is being recognized as the AWI overall project of the year for 2016. Royal Oak's contribution on the wolf trellis played a significant role in helping us to achieve that. Thanks for all the hard work, and please let your guys know.

**Brian Furnas** 

Vice President, Operations

Stephenson Millwork Co., Inc.

Phone 252-293-4514 Cell 252-245-0153 Fax 252-237-4377

Email Brian.F@SMCInc.com Web http://StephensonMillwork.com

From: Jay Owens [mailto:rostairs@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2016 4:27 PM To: Brian Furnas < brian.f@smcinc.com>

Cc: Chris Morley (kc5jom@gmail.com) <kc5jom@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: FW: Design Solutions Feature

Nice! thanks for the heads up.

Thanks,

Jay Owens

910-443-2945 Cell

919-855-8989 Fax



Please visit our website @ www.royaloakstairs.net

Please follow us on LinkedIn @ RoyalOakStairs

On Tue, Aug 9, 2016 at 11:38 AM, Brian Furnas <a href="mailto:smcinc.com">brian.f@smcinc.com</a> wrote:

We submitted the Talley Student Union project at NCSU to the AWI Design Solutions quarterly publication, and it was selected. Royal Oak even got a shout out in the article. See attached.

#### **Brian Furnas**

Vice President, Operations

Stephenson Millwork Co., Inc.

Phone 252-293-4514 Cell 252-245-0153 Fax 252-237-4377

Email Brian.F@SMCInc.com Web http://StephensonMillwork.com

From: Russ Stephenson [mailto:rlstephenson@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 2:57 PM To: Brian Furnas <a href="mailto:smcinc.com">brian.f@smcinc.com</a>> Cc: Lee Stephenson < lee.s@smcinc.com> Subject: FW: Design Solutions Feature

Brian, congratulations on a great article. I will be ordering reprints to distribute soon.

Russ

From: Katie Allen [mailto:kallen@awinet.org] **Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2016 1:33 PM

To: rlstephenson@nc.rr.com

Subject: Design Solutions Feature

Hi Russ,

I have attached a low resolution PDF of your Design Solutions featured project for your electronic use. If you would like to order high resolution reprints, I have also attached a pricing sheet.

You will be receiving 12 complimentary copies of the magazine with a certificate as soon as the printing is complete.

Thank you for taking the time to submit your beautiful woodwork projects for our Award of Excellence Program!

Katie Allen

Marketing Project Manager

Architectural Woodwork Institute

571-323-3611

kallen@awinet.org





Russ Stephenson Stephenson Millwork Co., Inc. 210 Harper Street, PO Box 699 Wilson, NC 27894-0699

Dear Russ.

Congratulations on winning the Overall 2016 AWI Standards of Excellence Award for the Talley Student Union Center project!

It is my pleasure to invite you to join us for AWI's 64th Annual Convention at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza, in Kansas City, Missouri to celebrate.

The convention will be held on October 23-25, 2016. The award winners will be honored during the Awards Celebration Lunch on Monday, October 24th.

#The New Basics, The Foundation for Continued Success is the theme of this year's convention. Please take a few minutes and check out the convention schedule online at <a href="https://www.awinet.org">www.awinet.org</a>. I think you'll agree we have planned a great mix of education, networking opportunities and fun.

I truly hope you'll be able to join us. Please go to <a href="www.awinet.org">www.awinet.org</a> to register or contact Beth Holcomb at AWI at (571) 323 3610 with any questions. Registration closes on September 23rd.

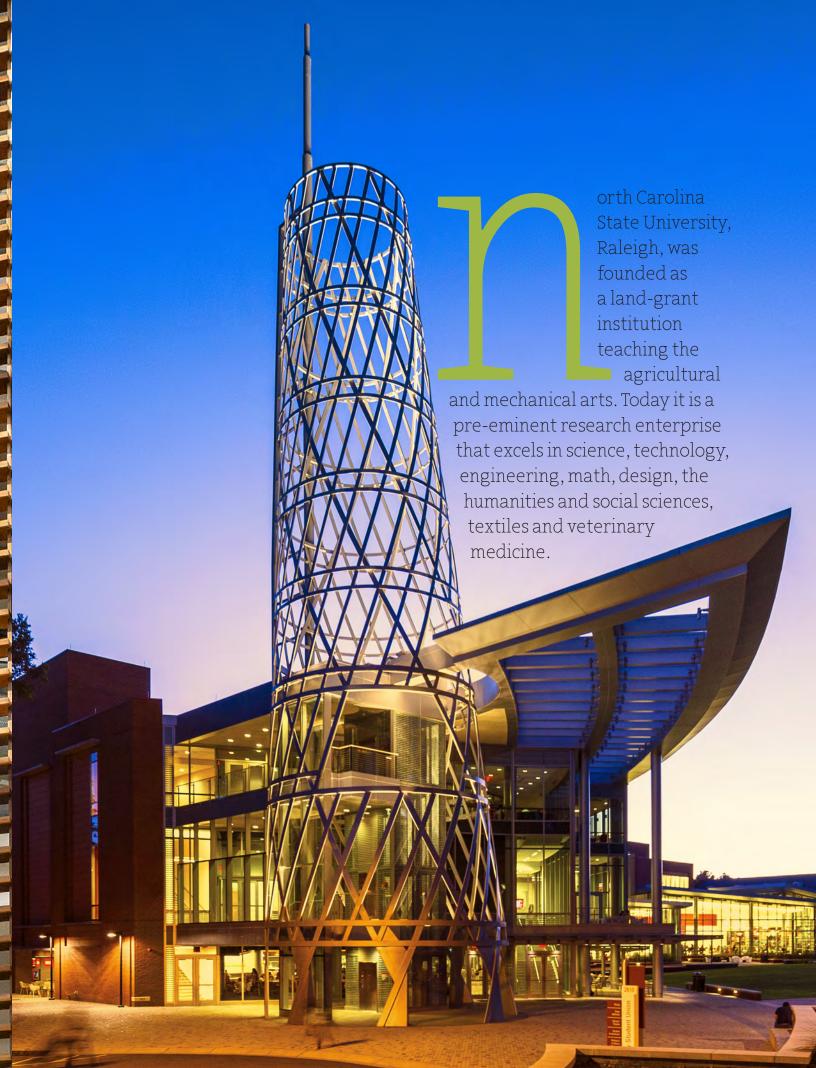
We look forward to seeing you in Kansas City!

Sincerely,

Greg Lutz AWI President







The university boasts 34,000-plus high-performing students who apply what they learn in the real world by conducting research, working in internships, and performing acts of world-changing service. Because of the experiential education received, North Carolina State consistently rates as one of the best values in higher education.

In late 2009 design was started on the 290,000 square foot, \$97 million Talley Student Union project. It was fully opened in the summer of 2015. The first phase of the quality-certified project was an addition to the existing student center while the second phase was a gut renovation of the existing structure together with a smaller addition.

# at a glance

AWI MANUFACTURING MEMBER:

Stephenson Millwork Company, Inc.

LOCATION:

Wilson, North Carolina

**ESTABLISHED:** 

1946

FACILITY:

100,000 square feet

**EMPLOYEES:** 

100

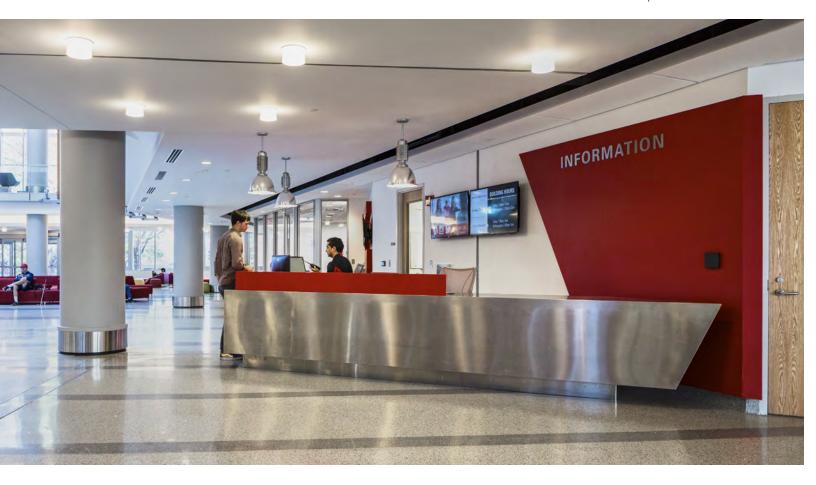
The architect for the project was Duda Paine, located in Durham, North Carolina, and the interior architectural firm was Cooper Carry, located in Atlanta, Georgia. Architectural woodwork for the project was fabricated by Stephenson Millwork Company, Inc., an AWI member firm from Wilson, North Carolina.

Design objectives, expertly executed, were to create an inclusive welcoming environment at the middle of campus that would become both a destination and "stop on the way" for involvement, socialization, relaxation and recharging.

#### The Interior

The interior is organized around a central four-story atrium that connects all major components of the project. At the urging of the university community during the design phase, there are numerous design cues in the building that celebrate symbols and lore of North Carolina State. These vary from the branding of the food venues to the patterned bamboo floor in the ballroom, to the terrazzo university seal in the atrium floor to the relief image of a howling wolf in the wood trellis that spans three floors of the west side of the atrium.

The scale and materials on the exterior were carefully chosen to fit in with the campus context, while combining with several features that announce the building as a new campus icon.



According to Brian
Furnas, project manager at
Stephenson Millwork, items
fabricated for the student
center included trellises, food
service counters, display
cases, reception desks, wall
panels, credenzas, lockers
benches and casework. One
of the signature items, he
adds, was the iconic "Wolf
Trellis" jointly fabricated with
Royal Oak Stair.

The primary wood used throughout the project is Cherry. Walnut is used in some of the food venues. Most doors are made of Red Oak which is a campus standard. "Cherry and Walnut were selected for their beauty and warmth and because they could be sourced domestically," explains Christopher Bivins of Cooper Carry.

### **Howling Wolf**

No doubt you can't miss the three-floor-high wolf trellis when you enter the student union. This item "was definitely one of a kind," recalls Furnas. "The support steel was neither straight nor plumb, so measuring it so that finished trellis sections would fit as a system when complete, proved to be extremely challenging. Prior to the wood being attached to the steel, the steel vibrated

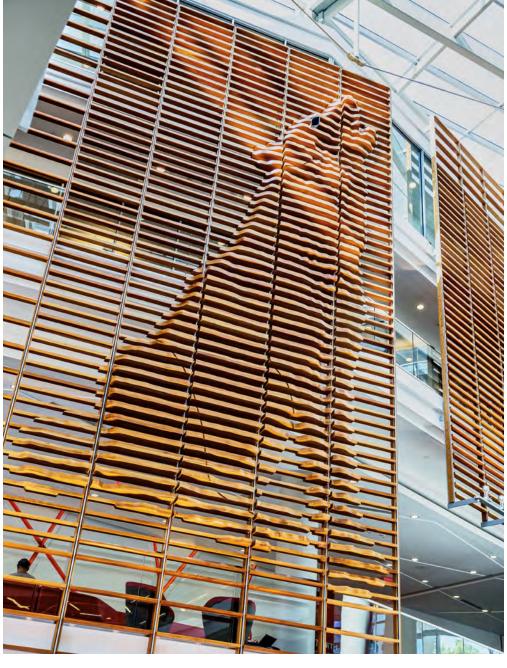
excessively, thwarting measuring efforts. So after multiple daytime attempts, we had to resort to night time measuring in an empty building"

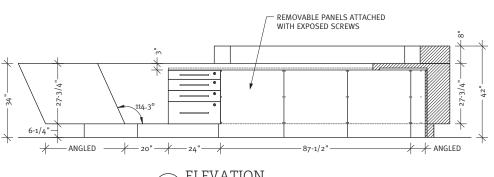
Eventually he continues, "44 separate 50-lb. fishing lines were strung the full height of the steel. Then over 200 measurements were taken to determine the final width of the trellis."

was created through a series of digital manipulations of the originating photograph, explains Turan Duda. "The original image was adjusted and sized to better express the stance and character of a howling wolf. The contour of the body was digitally mapped to create a sculptural computer model. The 3-D model was then modified into a series of cross sections that were used to create

templates to fabricate the

The wolf trellis design

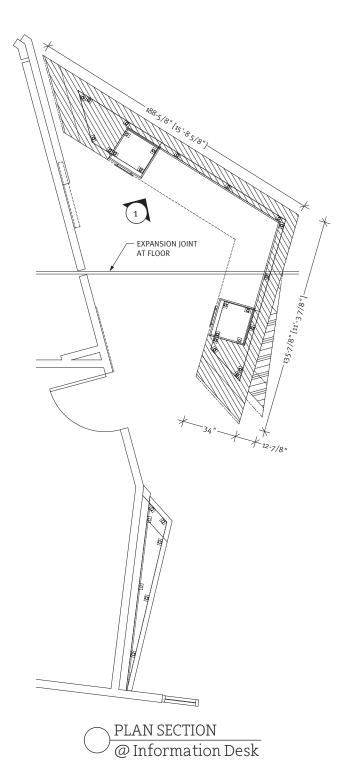




ELEVATION

@ Information Desk

actual boards"





University spokesperson Charlie Marshall explains the multi-story wooden trellis of the wolf "is a signature feature not only of the building, but also of the university. Extensive study between the architectural millwork company and the architect was required to develop and deploy this unique work of art. Product selection, finish, geometry, and fastening/ anchoring details could not have been accomplished without Stephenson Millwork's leadership and collaboration."



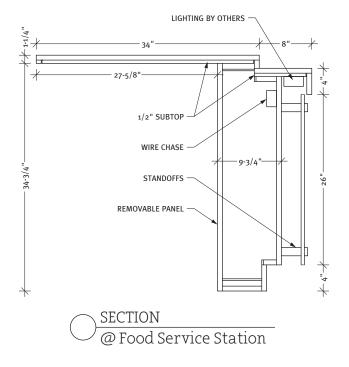
#### **Other Elements**

There were other challenges to the project along with the wolf trellis. One of the desks, which has both stone countertops and a stone front that were in the scope of the woodworker's responsibility, passes over a building expansion joint. "Because both halves of the

building move independently, the desk also has to be attached to respective sides of the building, and couldn't tie the building back together," notes Furnas. "The desk is also comprised of numerous compound angles, and all of the stone is mitered where it meets at these angles."

Bivins adds that one side of the project is dominated by a large curve that sweeps through the plan. "What straight walls there are rarely meet at right angles, and this approach continued with the millwork. The phased construction and reuse of the existing structure both added complexity, including that the atrium was carved out of the existing structure."

Irregular angles also presented a challenge for 11 different food service counters, continues Furnas. "They required several hundred additional hours of joint effort among architect, construction manager and Stephenson Millwork employees, to ensure that the end product would meet the design intent, and work with the owner's food service equipment. We were the driving force behind having these meetings, and tying all of the pieces together to make sure everything worked in the end."



66 Complex millwork applications require creative and complex solutions. Time and again, Stephenson Millwork's professional and experienced staff has been invaluable to architects, designers, and contractors in crafting these solutions. - Russ Stephenson, CEO

## **Team Spirit**

"The relationship Cooper Carry and Duda Paine had with Stephenson Millwork was excellent, and critical to realizing several of the features of the project including the information and ticket desks and the atrium trellis," says Bivins. "Through shop drawings, mockups and numerous conversations, construction details and methods were refined while maintaining the design integrity. The Stephenson team was proactive in raising concerns and helping develop solutions, and they were integral to the success of several pieces."

Furnas agrees that Cooper Carry and Duda Paine were fantastic to work with. "Once that we proved that we understood and were attempting to preserve the design team's intent, the entire design team really listened when we made suggestions. More than any other project I've been associated with, this was truly a team effort."

Stephenson was a major partner for delivering this mega-project, summarizes Marshall. "They collaborated throughout deployment and were crucial in meeting project objectives every step of the way – procurement, engineering, fabrication, logistics and installation. Stephenson's 'all-in' attitude and dedication made this project a huge success!"

As the team spirit of design and construction crew remains in the stately student center, the students themselves have a comfortable, welcoming space to nurture their own school spirit.

PROJECT **Talley Student Union Center** Raleigh, NC

PROJECT OWNER North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC

WOODWORKER: Stephenson Millwork Co. Wilson, NC

ARCHITECT. Duda Paine Architects Durham, NC

INTERIOR ARCHITECT Cooper Carry Atlanta, GA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR Rodgers/Russell/Dayeco Joint Venture Charlotte, NC

PHOTOGRAPHER Josh Meister Atlanta, GA