

Science Center

The Science Center houses programs in biology and natural resources, chemistry, computer science, engineering science, mathematics, physics, and sustainability. The facility contains well-equipped classrooms and research labs in each program, including computer facilities, 3-D print and other maker spaces, a machine shop, tropical aviary, greenhouse, nationally recognized specimen collections, and an Ice Age mammoth display excavated from the Principia property. The building, with its skylights and native landscaping, is a leading regional example of “green” (environment-friendly) architecture. The St. Louis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects gave it the 2000 Honor Award for Sustainable Design. Our research-quality telescope (computer-controlled, sixteen-inch, one-ton Ritchey-Chretien design) is housed across campus with its own observing platform and dome.

Wanamaker Hall

This lecture hall also serves as an entertainment/performance stage and is located at the end of Old Watson (the original Science Center building) near Howard Center. It is equipped with stadium seating and a large screen audio/visual system. Wanamaker Hall is named for John F. Wanamaker, Professor Emeritus of Biology, who began teaching at Principia in 1947. Adjoining the lecture hall is an integration space (Leonard Hall) and landscaped patio popular for receptions, event catering, and quiet study.