EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership
Category B: Building/Technology Systems

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership is a state-of-the-art educational facility, located on the southern edge of the Wilkes University campus in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

The completion of this $3 million facility renovation is the second part of a three-phase project to create a South Main Street Gateway to the Wilkes Community.

The newly renovated facility houses a business school, collaborative workspaces, and administrative offices. It shares space with a café and a recreation center, and includes seven (7) smart classrooms, expandable and multi-use spaces, a tiered case-styled lecture hall, and a financial market trading room, which simulates a New York Stock Exchange trading floor.

With a focus on adaptive reuse of space, high-end aesthetics, and affordability, Borton-Lawson was chosen to renovate existing facilities, and accommodate the new business school. Formerly, the business school was located across three (3) separate facilities on campus. With Borton-Lawson’s adaptive design, Wilkes was able to centralize the business school on a prominent corner in the downtown business district, and provide students with a high-tech learning environment.

The facility was completed on an aggressive timeline, and opened to the public within eight months. Designed for $55/SF, the facility met the need for affordability.

Borton-Lawson’s innovative use of Building Information Modeling (BIM) contributed to the successful fulfillment of the client’s needs, schedule, and cost, and was leveraged to help stakeholders make informed decisions. This truly shows the value of BIM in engineering design.