Take a tour of UC's 'Signature Architect' buildings: PHOTOS

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With the University of Cincinnati planning to spend $17 million on renovating the Vontz Center for Molecular Studies, the Business Courier decided to take a look back at the buildings that are part of its “Signature Architect” program.

The program helped reshape UC’s campus and raise design awareness in the city.

To view a slideshow of the buildings with information about each building’s designer, click on the images above.

In total, more than $1.2 billion was spent on reshaping UC’s campus. A number of national publications praised UC’s signature architecture and greener campus, including Places Magazine, the Chicago Tribune and the Washington Post.

The New York Times even wrote about UC’s use of “starchitects” to turn the campus into a “desirable, glamorous place to spend four years living and studying.”

At the time, university administrators wanted the architecturally rich campus to improve the learning environment, boost enrollment and attract top-tier faculty. UC has been smashing enrollment records. In 2000, UC’s total enrollment stood at 33,180. The university’s enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year is 44,338, an increase of more than 33 percent.

In addition, UC has climbed up the rankings of the nation’s top universities. Last year, U.S. News & World Report ranked UC No. 135 on the publication’s 2017 list. That’s up from No. 156 when it first entered the list in 2011.

The university continues to look to known architects to work on buildings. The new, $120 million Carl H. Lindner College of Business that will be built on campus was designed by internationally renowned Henning Larsen Architects with Cincinnati-based KZF Design as the architect of record.

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