

September 19, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write in support the The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company for the delivery of the outstanding South Academy Residence Hall on the University of Delaware campus.

We've had the great fortune of conducting numerous residence hall constructions and several major renovations over the years. The South Academy Residence Hall project was a joy to work with and I attribute that to the terrific WT team.

I was of course impressed by the expertise of the team, the forward-thinking process of identifying and solving problems before they became problematic, and the deep level of personal ownership displayed by each member. The WT team also took steps to broaden the team feel and expand communication channels through innovative CM/Architect/Owner team building activities, including a night in an escape room.

South Academy Residence Hall was designed with a much higher level of finishes than our typical build and included new approaches to our common areas with a high-tech Idea Lab, a technologically sophisticated main commons, and a Demonstration Kitchen. Many of the systems had to be created along the way as people such as myself continued ideation well past the design stage. The WT team always found a way to come through.

This residence hall was built on an extremely tight site with little room beyond the building footprint. The build was extremely close to occupied residence halls, directly adjacent to a major street on campus, and next to a classroom facility. The work to communicate with and accommodate (often times competing) needs was outstanding. Student and staff tours were provided at all stages of construction and the community felt as though they could be a part of this new piece of UD.

My deepest appreciation is the level of care and concern for the eventual student experience demonstrated by the WT team at each stage. It was evident that the team took great pride in the project and wanted the students to have great pride in their living experience.

Sincerely,



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