

## **Shop Talk: High-Profile Projects at Berkeley and Penn, and a High-Profile Kickoff in Little Rock** **February 12, 2008**

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**Choices, choices:** SmithGroup will design a new Neural and Behavioral Sciences building for the University of Pennsylvania, according to The Daily Pennsylvanian. The building, which will be designed with an emphasis on sustainability, will have research and teaching facilities, as well as an auditorium. It is due to open in 2011. The newspaper also reports that the university is in the process of choosing an architect for another big project, an \$80-million nanotechnology center at 32nd and Walnut that will serve as gatepost for people coming to the campus from downtown. The university architect, David Hollenberg, told the newspaper that Penn's "overriding design guideline" was to bring the university "the best contemporary architecture we can."

**And more choices:** On the other coast, the University of California at Berkeley is also hiring architects for two high-profile projects. One, according to The Berkeley Daily Planet, is a 50,000-square-foot structure that will be constructed, mostly underground, in the courtyard of the School of Law (or, as the Daily Planet refers to it, the School Formerly Known as Boalt Hall). The second is a renovation of Moore Ruble Yudell's delightful Haas School of Business (right), which opened in 1995. The architect for that project will be expected to "prepare a space program that corrects existing deficiencies" in the 234,000-square-foot complex.

**Not a groundbreaking, exactly:** When the University of Arkansas at Little Rock kicked off construction of a \$30-million engineering-and-information-technology addition Monday, it wasn't with shovels. Instead, according to Arkansas Business, construction workers were lifted onto an existing building to begin a skywalk that will connect it to the new facility. Cromwell Architects Engineers will design the 120,000-square-foot addition.

