

# The 2020 SEFA Lab of the Year™

*Stavros Niarchos Foundation—David Rockefeller River Campus at The Rockefeller University*



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*Our vision was to provide large, flexible laboratory spaces, extend campus gardens, maximize existing vistas, connect with existing research buildings, and centralize community amenities on a platform that sits 20 feet over one of Manhattan's major arterial highways.*

*The result is a campus extension that is invisible from the University's main entrance and historic campus walks and extends the historic gardens via two monumental stairways flanking Founder's Hall ascending from the main campus walk up to rooftop gardens and a promenade overlooking the East River.*

*The building is a platform for pedestrian-oriented vegetation, a dining commons, a new conference center, and centralized offices for the University's senior leadership, each with an individual identity expressed as pavilions within a garden.*

*When seen from the east, the building's 1,000-foot-long continuous horizontal band of steel and glass gently underscores and unifies the beautiful, but disparate campus buildings that had grown organically over the last 120 years.*

*Between the building and the East River, the project provides a fully rebuilt linear park that is open to the community and maintained by the University.*

*A campus that five years ago had no recognizable identity from the east now has a singular presence that is clear yet understated and has two new acres of gardens, 160,000 square feet of new research space interconnecting ten existing buildings on campus, and shared common spaces.*