The 2014 Design Award Committee of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) announced additions to the Technological Institute at Northwestern University as one of the Honor Award recipients in this year's Wisconsin Design Awards competition.

The design, by Flad Architects, centers to a large degree around access to natural daylight. Each addition encompasses a three-story, glass-roofed atrium, situated against the existing building and parallel to its main corridors. Many of the previously exterior-facing windows now look out to the atrium, preserving exposure to daylight in the corridors, allowing light to reach into labs and offices. The centralized location and open, relaxed nature of these community spaces has made them popular meeting destinations for colleagues and study areas for students.

"The Technological Institute additions have successfully integrated new research laboratory space within the historic building fabric," said Bonnie Humphrey, Director Design & Construction at Northwestern. "The project's creative use of a narrow atrium space provides a much needed building amenity while creating transparency allowing for students to experience the energy of 'science on display'".

Flad Architects (www.flad.com) specializes in the planning and design of innovative facilities for healthcare, higher education, and science and technology clients. With offices across the United States, Flad is a nationally recognized leader in serving the complex needs of knowledge-based organizations.