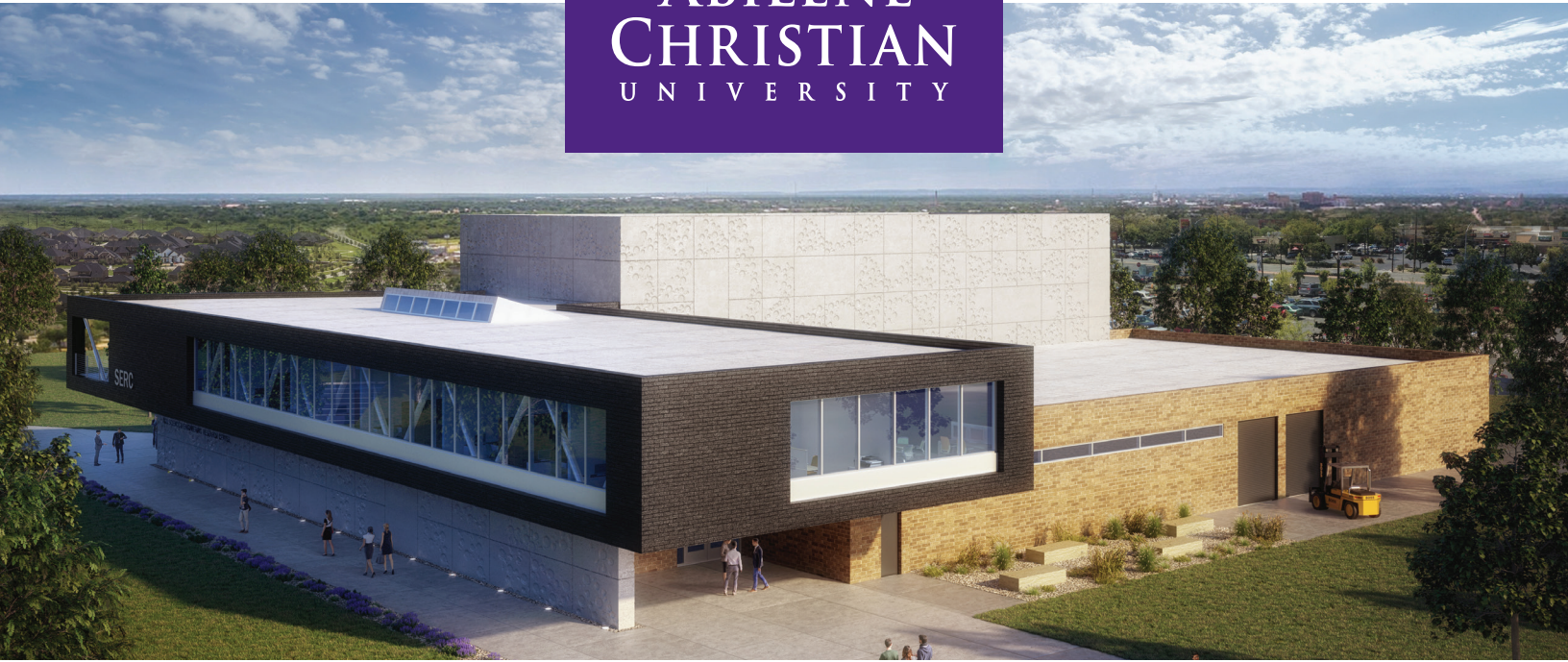




ABILENE
CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY



SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER (SERC)

PSC

The SERC will enable ACU-sponsored research to reach new heights

Located on the south border of the main Abilene Campus, the 28,000-square-foot center at Abilene Christian University will include dedicated spaces to support research in chemistry, physics and many different disciplines of engineering. At the heart of the facility is a 6,000-square-foot research bay with the following features:

- A shielded trench 25 feet deep and 80 feet long
- A 40-ton crane
- Specialized ventilation and enhanced electrical power to support a variety of research and development needs

Next to the research bay is a machine shop, dedicated control room and a series of specialized labs for purposes that include radiochemistry, molten salt systems, and instrumentation. The SERC also includes a public foyer designed to highlight the research within the facility, a training control room, conference room, and office spaces.

With the addition of the SERC to ACU's Abilene campus, the Nuclear Energy eXperimental Testing Laboratory (NEXT Lab) will have the facilities necessary to complete work funded by the \$30.5 million Sponsored Research Agreement from Natura Resources. This collaboration with



The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, and the Georgia Institute of



Technology is already bringing researchers to Abilene and enhancing ACU's reputation and reach. It will also position Abilene Christian for a future request to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to build a research reactor in this facility.

In July 2021, the City of Abilene, through the Development Corporation of Abilene, awarded \$2.93 million toward this capital project, recognizing its potential to bring high-tech jobs to the area and put ACU and Abilene on the map as a research hub.

