

**Northeastern University Redesign of Student Center Dining Boosts Revenues by 20%**  
*Design by Prellwitz Chilinski Associates includes new dining experience with over 700 seats*

BOSTON, MA — November 26, 2012 — Northeastern University's Curry Student Center Dining, designed by Prellwitz Chilinski Associates (PCA) opened in August and is seeing a 20% increase in revenue compared to the same period last year. The 30,000 square foot Dining Center redesign features a new glassy mezzanine floating within an existing two-story glass space bringing the seating capacity to over 700.

The Curry Student Center - located at the epicenter of student life on campus - operates as a venue for special events, student services, dining and student activities. The University sought to revitalize the Center, which was last renovated in 1992, to become a renewed hub of activity and a showcase for students, faculty and visitors.

PCA's design program includes the complete renovation of the 514-seat, ground floor dining area and the addition of a new 3,000 SF suspended glass mezzanine with 168 dining seats and 28 lounge seats. The mezzanine – accessed by a new glass stair - links dining and student center functions, creating vibrant flow-through circulation and gathering places for both commuter and resident students.

Northeastern brand identity is artfully displayed utilizing university-themed design elements throughout the space, celebrating school spirit and providing a cohesive identity for this active space. Dining selections include Northeastern's own branded food concepts, popular local operators, and national vendors. The new design with varying ceiling heights and choice of seating experiences from counters to lounge chairs takes student socializing to a whole new level and has become *the* place to meet on campus.

“Curry Dining is a win-win for both the students - who now have a place to love with those big red columns, and for the university’s improved dining revenue. By creatively hanging a new glassy mezzanine to fill the existing two story space, we added almost 200 seat.” says Wendy Prellwitz, Principal at PCA. “Fresh, local food options and the variety of gathering places create a welcoming home for students.”

With expansion of Curry Dining complete, PCA has now worked with Northeastern University on all of their dining hall facilities. This long-term collaboration has garnered multiple industry awards and exceeded occupancy/revenue expectations campus-wide.

### **Project Facts**

**Client:** Northeastern University

**Architect:** Prellwitz Chilinski Associates Inc. (PCA)

**Location:** Boston, Massachusetts

**Size:** 26,900 square feet – renovation/3,000 square foot mezzanine - addition

**Completion Date:** September 2012

**Construction Cost:** \$7,200,000

**Design Team:**

- Suffolk Construction – Contractor
- Cowen Associates – Structural Engineers
- R.W. Sullivan Engineering – Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Fire Protection Engineers
- Trimark United East – Kitchen Equipment Consultant
- Colburn & Guyette – Kitchen Equipment Spec Writer
- Vanguard Lighting – Lighting Designer
- Communications Design Associates – Audio/Visual Consultant
- Kalin Associates – Specifications
- Totora Consulting – Cost Estimating
- Anton Grassl/Esto - Photography

### **About PCA**

Prellwitz Chilinski Associates (PCA, Inc.) is a Cambridge-based, full-service architectural firm of 40 people who enjoy putting design into action on behalf of clients. Whether transforming a dated student dining facility into a campus-wide destination or integrating student’s 24-7 study patterns

with non-traditional dining options, our progressive, practical approach to student life facilities has enriched campus communities since 1982. Visit [www.prellwitzchilinski.com](http://www.prellwitzchilinski.com).

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