The Cuarto Dining Commons provides a quality food experience and is located in Student Housing’s Cuarto area. The Cuarto DC reopened for fall quarter 2010 after extensive renovations, including the conversion of the Cuarto DC from a traditional cafeteria style facility to the contemporary thematic platform dining pioneered in the Segundo and Tercero dining commons.

The Cuarto Dining Commons includes five food distribution platforms: a granary and bakery, a grill for specialty hot foods, a pizza and pasta station, a soup and salad bar, and a market station for self-serve and bistro-style entrees. New finishes, signage and lighting enhance the platform identity. The facility now features an open “public market” layout with final food preparation performed within view of patrons. Architecturally, the two-story design was opened up, creating a daylight-filled, stimulating and educational dining experience.

Cuarto Dining Commons will be Student Housing’s spotlight property for showcasing sustainable food service operations. The facility will be a pilot location for new operations and procedures, which will then be implemented at other campus locations.

Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED)

The project is registered under the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED program, with the certification goal of Gold. Highlights:
- Commercial Interiors rating system
- Building materials include recycled content
- Low VOC building finishes
- Green cleaning program
- Solar thermal panels for preheating water supplied to dishwasher
- Reduced interior lighting power density
- Occupancy sensors and photocells for controlling lighting fixtures
- Educational signage throughout the facility
- FSC certified wood products
- Sensors monitor indoor air quality
- Diversion of construction waste from landfill

Features
- Five specialty food platforms
- Waste diversion and composting
- Seating capacity of 300
- Multiple seating options
- Outdoor seating on second floor balcony
- Full wireless connectivity
- Convenience store
- Sustainability & tours signage

Project Details
- Project completion: Fall 2010
- Architect: Stafford-King-Wiese
- Design/Build Team: Valley Construction and Mogavero-Notestine
- 18,430 gross square feet
- Total project cost: $7.9 million