

# INTERIOR DESIGN

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## applied science

**The Lab Gastropub** on the University of Southern California campus represents big news for two Los Angeles institutions. One is USC itself, which is moving away from cafeteria-style dining halls, toward venues that look like they belong in the private sector. The other is AC Martin, a 103-year-old architecture firm with a nascent interiors division that's now completed three food-service commissions from the university.

Attracting students, professors, and downtown residents alike, the "laboratory" theme was conceived by Christopher King, director of interior architecture, with Joanne Camacho, senior graphic designer, and it informs every bit of the 2,200-square-foot interior. Remember blackboards from Biology 101? Here, slate tops the five communal tables. How about the chemistry formulas memorized during midnight cram sessions? The one for caffeine has a special place, inside the rims of coffee cups. King hit local shops for test tubes, beakers, and science books, used as accessories. And a black-and-white image of an old-fashioned microscope, enlarged to 10 feet high, is printed on wall covering. Take a closer look. —*Edie Cohen* ➤



1. AC Martin's director of interior architecture, Christopher King.
2. Senior graphic designer Joanne Camacho.
3. Slate-topped teak communal tables and teak benches, all custom by Lily Jack. 310-965-1993; lilyjack.com.
4. An iStockphoto image that Imagic custom-printed on vinyl wall covering. 818-333-1670; imagicla.com.
5. The check presenter by Typecraft Wood & Jones. 626-795-8093; typecraft.com.
6. A matchbook by Lasting Impression Promotional Products. 310-234-3404; promoparadise.com.
7. Zada Graphics's business cards. 323-321-8940; zadagraphics.com.