

# 2012 Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

## Learning Environments Spatial Lab

University of Melbourne, Australia  
Lee J Brockway Award - Renovation  
Institution of Higher Education  
Architectus + Peter Jamieson

# Learning Environments Spatial Lab



# Learning Environments Spatial Lab

## Community Environment:

*LESL is home-base of the Learning Environments Applied Research Network (LEaRN) which brings together Australian and international educational bodies, designers, government agencies and professional groups to foster research into the relationship between pedagogy and space. It is used for the professional development of UoM academics; is a primary location for formal Masters courses in Education to train next generation school teachers; and the site for a combined Masters Architecture-Education program in learning environment design. It has been used by the Catholic Education Office to inspire its own projects and is regularly the location for project-specific design workshops to create improved learning environments.*





## Learning Environments Spatial Lab

### Learning Environment:

*LESL encourages users to explore its setting physically and pedagogically. It is an environment for active, collaborative, investigative learning to support the widespread push towards student-centred, problem-based learning in all educational sectors. Critically, through its design and underlying educational ideas, LESL presents learning as a socially-oriented, physically-located and sensory-rich process which is a radical perspective in the higher education sector.*

*It is a highly adaptable and enabling setting which is stimulating and comfortable.*



# Learning Environments Spatial Lab

## Physical Environment:

*LESL is a former gymnasium in the 1930's Frank Tate building where student teachers were taught how to instruct physical education.*

*Heritage features such as the internal face brickwork and the alcove were celebrated in the refurbishment.*

*The high ceilings and good levels of natural light from high level windows were augmented by acoustic panels and a low energy up-lighting strategy. The room has good thermal mass being at the centre of the old building, new underfloor hydronic heating was installed using residual capacity of the building's hot water supply. During construction it was discovered that the sub-floor had been flooded by corroded pipes of the original 1930's plumbing. The piping was replaced (cost borne by the project) thereby extending the life of the building.*





# Learning Environments Spatial Lab

## Planning Process:

*An intensive design and planning process was undertaken jointly by Architectus and Associate Professor Peter Jamieson, whose role is to lead the design of new generation learning spaces at Melbourne University. The project was driven by the idea of LESL as a 'garage', a 'circus' and a 'theatre set'. These metaphors informed the concept of LESL.*

*The University's AV team was involved from the inception of the project and made valuable input.*

*Physical models were made; critical elements such as the wall units were prototyped at full size.*

*An ergonomist was engaged to verify compliance of the manoeuvrable items with OHS and Works Safe guidelines. As the project was funded through the EIF, all timeline milestones had to be met.*



# Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture Project Data

Submitting Firm :	Architectus Group Pty Ltd
Project Role	Architect
Project Contact	Ruth Wilson
Title	Director
Address	Level 7 250 Victoria Pde
City, State or Province, Country	East Melbourne, Victoria. Australia
Phone	61 3 9429 5733

Joint Partner Firm:	University of Melbourne
Project Role	Learning Environment Designer
Project Contact	Peter Jamieson
Title	Associate Professor, Strategic Advisor Learning Environment Design, Office of the Provost
Address	Parkville Campus of the University of Melbourne
City, State or Province, Country	Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
Phone	61 3 8344 0947
Other Firm:	
Project Role	
Project Contact	
Title	
Address	
City, State or Province, Country	
Phone	

Construction Firm:	Core Properties
Project Role	Contractor / Builder
Project Contact	Pat Scrimizzi
Title	Director
Address	Suite 7 1632 High Street
City, State or Province, Country	Glen Iris, Victoria, 3146, Australia
Phone	61 3 9809 9600

# Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture Project Details

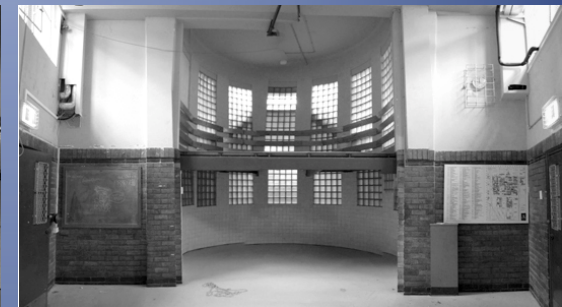
<b>Project Name</b>	Learning Environments Spatial Lab
<b>City</b>	Melbourne
<b>State</b>	Victoria
<b>District Name</b>	-
<b>Supt/President</b>	Associate Professor Peter Jamieson, Strategic Advisor Learning Environment Design, Office of the Provost.
<b>Occupancy Date</b>	July 2012
<b>Grades Housed</b>	Graduate and Post Graduate
<b>Capacity(Students)</b>	42
<b>Site Size (acres)</b>	N/A
<b>Gross Area (sq. ft.)</b>	220sqm
<b>Per Occupant(pupil)</b>	
<b>gross/net please indicate</b>	
<b>Design and Build?</b>	Yes, full architectural services
<b>If yes, Total Cost:</b>	AUD \$1,200,000
<b>Includes:</b>	Interior Fitout, Furniture, Equipment, AV and IT
<b>If no,</b>	
<b>Site Development:</b>	
<b>Building Construction:</b>	
<b>Fixed Equipment:</b>	
<b>Other:</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	AUD\$1,200,000



# Learning Environments Spatial Lab



Before



After



# Learning Environments Spatial Lab



# Learning Environments Spatial Lab

