

## UTS Case Study: 2014

University of Technology, Sydney and Highgate Management work together to deliver the UTS \$1 billion City Campus Master Plan



**Highgate has since early 2010 been managing the delivery of all projects in the University of Technology, Sydney's \$1 billion City Campus Master Plan.**

The Master Plan was prepared in 2009 to deliver a connected and vibrant city campus for the University. Once complete, it will deliver UTS one of the most cutting-edge campuses in Australia.

Key projects under the Master Plan include the UTS Business School, designed by one of the world's most acclaimed architects, Frank Gehry; the iconic new Broadway Building, and the new Thomas Street Building.

### Overview:

- Complete overhaul of the UTS city campus and southern gateway to Sydney
- Three new buildings including Australia's first building designed by Frank Gehry
- Major upgrades and refurbishments to existing buildings and facilities
- One major new facility delivered each year, every year, during the Master Plan

### Challenges:

- Major construction work within the confined space of the University's city campus
- Construction undertaken with University needing 'business as usual' environment
- Management of overall construction program under the Master Plan
- Involvement of one of the world's most renowned architects, Frank Gehry, and his team operating from USA





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## Dr Chau Chak Wing Building



Australia's first building designed by world-acclaimed architect, Frank Gehry.

One of the key projects under the Master Plan, due to be completed in October 2014, for the UTS Business School. The site is currently in construction phase with Lend Lease appointed builder. Such a high profile project brings many challenges, including working with teams based in Australia and USA.

## Broadway Building



One of the largest projects under the Master Plan, an iconic new building, designed by Denton Corker Marshall for the Faculty of Engineering & IT for 2014. The building will create an impressive new southern gateway to Sydney and the UTS city campus. Construction commenced in February 2012 on the building which will achieve a 5 star green star rating, due to finish at the end of May 2014. Pedestrian bridges will provide links to the adjacent building.

## Thomas Street Building



Another key project under the Master Plan for the Faculty of Science, due to be completed in October 2014, designed by Durbach Block Jagers and BVN Architecture. Bulk excavation finished in was challenging due to the close proximity of surrounding campus buildings which must remain in use throughout construction. A Library Retrieval System, an underground storage facility for the UTS library collection is also being constructed with this project.



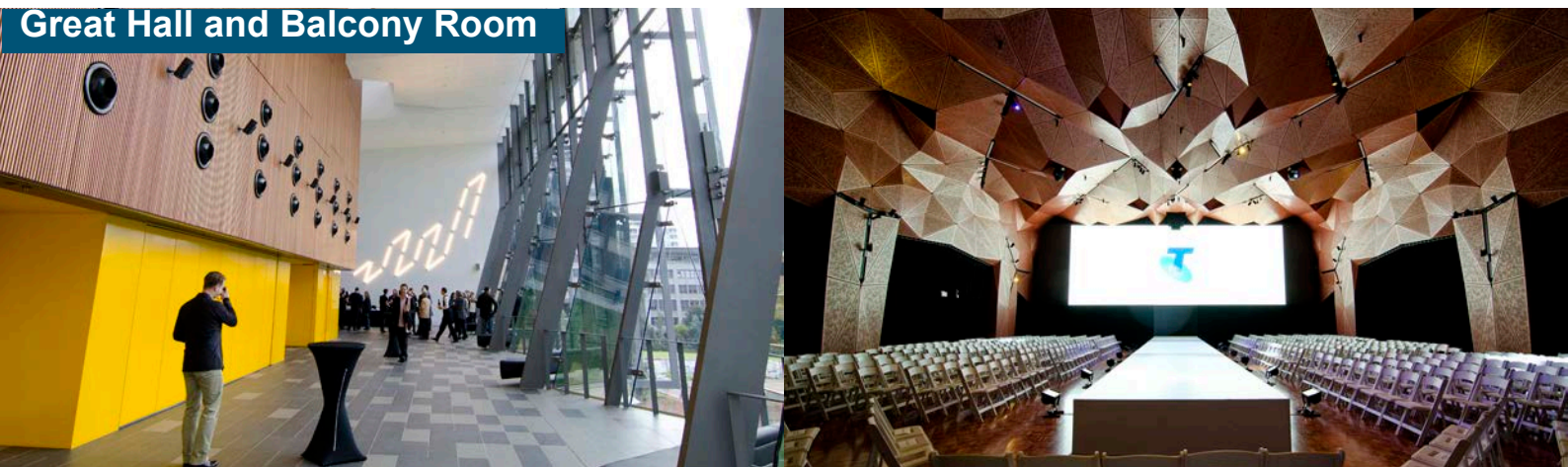
## Multi-Purpose Sports Hall



The first new facility under the Master Plan opened in 2010 - an underground sports hub with indoor court, dance studios, change rooms and meeting rooms.

Many challenges were faced by the project team due to the tight footprint of the site itself plus adjacent campus buildings in use throughout excavation and construction and the need to have an Alumni Green available immediately after completion, above the sports hall.

## Great Hall and Balcony Room



The need to upgrade of an out of date ceremonial space saw the creation of the new Great Hall and Balcony Room - a complete reinvention of the University's most important ceremonial venue opened in December 2011.

Sydney architects DRAW added the Balcony Room to utilise an existing outdoor terrace and the result gives UTS a drawcard for functions and events offering multiple set ups and functionality.



One of the biggest challenges in this project was the inclusion of an upgrade to the main Tower building car park ramp. This upgrade was necessary to widen the ramp before excavation began on the Thomas Street Building, when the second car park ramp would be taken out permanently. A tower crane was installed on site in order to work on the Great Hall during the ramp upgrade works.





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## Short Courses Facility



As part of the relocations and refurbishments in Building 10, a new short courses facility was created from a former clinical teaching and learning space in 2012, designed by Burtenshaw Scoufis. UTS now offers an extensive program for use by both UTS and external providers. The University's first 'green wall' was added as a sustainability feature and to improve indoor air quality.

## Refurbishment - heritage



The refurbishment and upgrade of the top level of Building 10 had to be completed retaining the many heritage features from the building's former occupiers, Fairfax executives. The art deco architecture and original wood panelling was used as a design feature and the finished refit is a perfect example of an upgrade that utilises the space more effectively for its use within UTS while remaining sympathetic to its heritage.

## Nursing Area and Clinical Labs



As part of the many refurbishments and upgrades to Building 10, the clinical health labs were moved from one floor to another, creating a state-of-the-art clinical facility for the Nursing, Midwifery & Health Faculty. Staff and students now have teaching, learning and social spaces that can operate as anything from classrooms, to simulating an emergency room or maternity unit in a hospital.



## Residential Tower



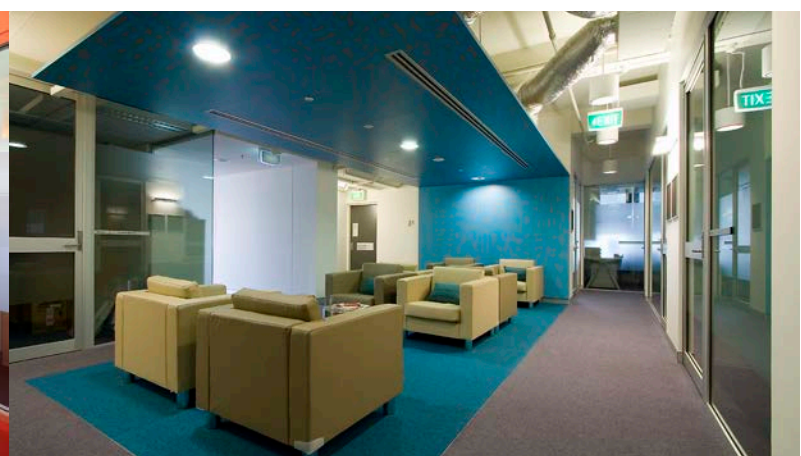
New, affordable, on-campus student accommodation was needed by UTS but with little available space. The result was a residential tower of 21 levels, providing 720 beds, constructed on top of an existing campus building, occupied throughout the entire construction phase. The new building, designed by Nettleton Tribe, was delivered 6 months ahead of schedule in July 2011, with significant savings for the University.

## Podium Extension - 5 levels



Over 5,000sq m additional teaching and learning space was completed in March 2012 as an extension to an existing campus building. Challenges were faced in the form of carrying out works alongside a working Faculty, and completing a full BCA upgrade of the entire existing building while construction work was underway, shutting down the core of the building during the upgrade. Designed by Gardner Wetherill & Associates, the new space includes new lecture theaters, staff offices, design studios and exhibition areas and has been hailed as the future of teaching and learning at UTS.

## Refurbishments & Upgrades



A number of refurbishments, relocations and upgrades were necessary in Building 10 to accommodate the overall Master Plan program. The Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences received new offices, breakout areas and research facilities.



## What's next for Highgate Management and the UTS City Campus Master Plan?



**Highgate Management is currently working on Master Plan projects in the planning phase for the Building 2 podium (above) and the learning commons or library of the future (left).**

Lacoste Stevenson with Daryl Jackson Robin Dyke won the design competition for the Building 2 podium and the learning commons design competition will be forthcoming.

Both projects, as with all Master Plan projects, will change the face of education at UTS.

**Image credits:** Gehry Partners LLP, Denton Corker Marshall, Durbach Block Jaggars and BVN Architecture, Andrew Worssam, Claire Sargent, Lacoste Stevenson, Daryl Jackson Robin Dyke