

DR CHAU CHAK WING BUILDING HOME TO UTS BUSINESS SCHOOL MEDIA TOOLKIT 2015

ABOUT THE BUILDING

Spectacular inside and outside, the Dr Chau Chak Wing Building is a key component of UTS's \$1 billion City Campus Master Plan and will provide teaching, learning, research and office space for up to around 1600 students and staff of the UTS Business School.

The first building in Australia designed by Frank Gehry – one of the world's most influential architects – is a physical manifestation of the innovative thinking that underpins the teaching, learning and research undertaken by the Business School and UTS as a whole.

MEDIA CONTACTS

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Exterior, eastern façade. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Glass 'curtain wall'. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Exterior with UTS sign. Credit: Andrew Worssam

KEY FACTS

Name

Dr Chau Chak Wing Building – the home to the UTS Business School – is named after the Australian-Chinese businessman and philanthropist who donated \$20 million to the project. Dr Chau Chak Wing, whose son Eric graduated from UTS with a Bachelor of Design in Interior and Spatial Design (BDes ISD) in 2011, also donated an additional \$5 million to the university for Australia-China scholarships.

Design architect

Gehry Partners

Executive architect

Daryl Jackson Robin Dyke

Main works contractor

Lend Lease

Additional project partners

- UTS Program Management Office (project manager)
- AECOM (ecologically sustainable design and services engineer)
- Arup (lead façade consultant, structural engineer, transportation and traffic)
- Austral Bricks (brick manufacture)
- Australian Museum Consulting (archaeological investigation and excavation)
- AW Edwards (early works contractor)
- Casey & Lowe (archaeological consultant)
- Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology (Aboriginal archaeological investigation)
- Favetti Bricklaying (bricklaying)
- Godden Mackay Logan (heritage assessment)
- Marshall Day Acoustics (acoustics consultant)
- Morris Goding Access Consulting (accessibility consultant)
- RPS (statutory planner)
- Urban Art Projects (stainless steel stair manufacture)

Location

City Campus – bounded by Mary Ann Street, The Goods Line, Ultimo Road and Omnibus Lane, Ultimo

Size

Levels – 14 (12 above-ground) storeys, consisting of 11 occupied floors, plus one basement parking level, plant level and rooftop

Gross building area – 18,413m²; total usable floor area – 15,500m²

Capacity

Up to approximately 1630 – made up of around 1300 students and 330 staff

Parking

160 bicycle and 20 car spaces in the level 1 basement

Environmental rating

KEY DESIGN FEATURES

Inspired by the idea of a treehouse, the building was designed by architect Frank Gehry as “a growing learning organism with many branches of thought, some robust and some ephemeral and delicate”. Gehry was determined to not only create a new Sydney landmark but internal spaces that inspire real and relevant research and learning outcomes, interdisciplinary collaboration and the cross-pollination of ideas.

These are just some of the design highlights:

Undulating brickwork and glass-panelled ‘curtain wall’

Achieving the fluid appearance of the brickwork proved a technical feat that involved corbelling (stepping) individual bricks to articulate the building’s organic shape. The light-coloured bricks – around 320,000 in total – were custom made for the building and reference Sydney’s sandstone heritage, while a vast glass ‘curtain wall’ reflects the building’s contemporary context.

Striking stairways

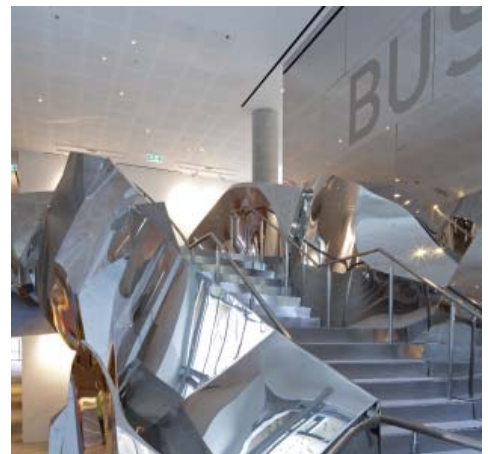
To encourage interaction, the building makes prominent use of stairways to move people around the building. The most striking of these is a polished stainless steel staircase, which lends a sculptural focal point to the main lobby and reflects the movement of both people and ideas. The stair was manufactured by Queensland-based Urban Art Projects, shipped from China to Sydney in parts and assembled on site. Another eye-catching feature is a stairway made of Victorian ash, which wraps around an oval classroom on level 3, linking it to the student lounge on the floor above.

Oval classrooms

Two oval classrooms have been constructed from around 150 large laminated timber beams, each weighing up to two tonnes and the longest measuring 12 metres. Originating in New Zealand, the glue-laminated (glulam) radiata pine beams create a sculptural form within the ground-floor atrium void. The classrooms feature the world’s longest timber-concrete composite floor construction and the first in Australia. The oval form classrooms provide an intimate environment with 360° engagement, encouraging dialogue between all.



Undulating brickwork. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Stainless steel stair. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Oval classroom. Credit: Andrew Worssam

Lighting

Lighting is a key feature throughout the Dr Chau Chak Wing Building. Acrylic cloud-shaped lights are prominent on the lower public levels of the building, notably above the level 2 café counter and in the student lounge on level 3. On the upper levels, the cloud lighting takes on a papery texture and creates a striking point of interest in the staff kitchen on level 8 and in the Dean's boardroom on level 12.

KEY FEATURES: TEACHING, LEARNING AND RESEARCH

While available to all students, the new UTS Business School focuses on postgraduate and executive education, as well as bringing researchers together.

Importantly, the new suite of custom-designed spaces provides an opportunity to shape the future of teaching and learning. Known as learning.futures, the UTS approach to teaching and learning is being imaginatively reengineered to reflect how students learn and to support a relevant and engaging experience that prepares graduates for a fast-changing global workplace. Business School students will experience high quality face-to-face teaching in technology-enabled spaces that encourage collaboration, practice-based learning and group-work. These include:

Oval classrooms (levels 2 and 3)

Designed to facilitate interaction and dialogue, the two tiered oval classrooms each seat 54 people. The high-tech classrooms incorporate six-screen projection, touch-screen audio-visuals, microphones and speakers.

Collaborative theatre (level 3)

Seating 120, the collaborative theatre is stepped two rows at a time to allow students in the front row of each step to turn and join the students in the row behind for discussion and group work. The theatre features multi-screen, high-definition projection, touch-screen audio-visuals and microphones along each workbench.

Auditorium (level 2)

Available as a general space for public lectures and other events, the auditorium is equipped with an advanced audio-visual system and video-conferencing facilities.



Cloud lighting. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Auditorium. Credit: Andrew Worssam



Collaborative theatre. Credit: Andrew Worssam

Student commons (level 5)

A large student commons on level 5 is a practical and inviting place for students to study and relax. It features two glass work pods – one semi-circular and the other oval-shaped – and curvaceous ply joinery that provides plentiful perimeter seating. This is one of several informal spaces in the lower levels of the building, all designed to support students on campus.

General teaching spaces

All teaching spaces throughout the building are light-filled and have a wonderful connection to the city. They are designed for collaboration, debate, group work and presentations.



Student commons. Credit: Andrew Worssam

KEY FEATURES: SOCIAL SPACES

Cafés

Currently being completed and due to open during Semester 1, 2015, the two cafés provide the perfect venue for relaxing, connecting and collaborating. The level 2 café offers both indoor and outdoor dining, while the level 3 café, at The Goods Line entry to the building, is next to a student lounge.

Student lounges

The building accommodates three student lounges on levels 3 and 4, one incorporating a café and another a well-equipped kitchenette.



Seminar room. Credit: Andrew Worssam

BUILDING LAYOUT

Level 1

- 160 bicycle parking spaces (students and staff)
- 20 car parking spaces (2 accessible)
- Showers, lockers and change rooms

Level 2 (ground floor)

- Ultimo Road entry
- Mary Ann Street entry
- 240-seat auditorium
- 54-seat oval classroom
- Computer lab
- Seminar rooms (2)
- Café with outdoor seating
- Concierge

Level 3

- Internship & Careers Service
- The Goods Line entry
- 120-seat collaborative theatre
- 54-seat oval classroom
- Seminar room
- Computer lab (trading room)
- Student lounge and café

Level 4

- Business Facilities Office
- Computer lab (behavioural lab)
- Seminar rooms (5)
- General access computer areas
- Student collaborative study rooms
- Student lounges and kitchen

Level 5

- Management Discipline Group
- Academic Services Unit
- Postgraduate Studies
- Teaching & Learning
- Executive Development
- ITD and Building Manager
- Staff meeting rooms
- Staff coffee hub
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Seminar rooms (3)
- Student commons and coffee hub
- General access computer area

Level 6

- Management Discipline Group
- Accounting Discipline Group
- CMOS (Centre for Management & Organisation Studies)
- Meeting rooms
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Staff coffee hub
- Small staff terrace

Level 7

- Accounting Discipline Group
- Finance Discipline Group
- Meeting rooms
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Staff coffee hub

Level 8

- Executive Education seminar and meeting rooms
- Staff seminar room
- Main staff lounge and kitchen
- Outdoor terrace areas

Level 9

- Economics Discipline Group
- Shared workstation pool
- Meeting rooms
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Staff coffee hub

Level 10

- Economics Discipline Group
- Marketing Discipline Group
- Shared workstation pool
- Meeting room
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Staff coffee hub

Level 11

- Marketing Discipline Group
- Shared workstation pool
- Meeting rooms
- Staff collaborative spaces
- Staff coffee hub

Level 12

- Dean's Unit
- Research Support Unit
- Marketing & Communications Unit
- Meeting room
- Boardroom
- Function area
- Staff collaborative space
- Staff coffee hub
- Reception

Level 13

- Plant
- 20,000-litre rainwater tank

Level 14

- Plant

SUSTAINABILITY

The Dr Chau Chak Wing Building was the first UTS building to be awarded a 5 Star Green Star Design rating certified by the Green Building Council of Australia. Sustainability has been considered throughout the building in the choice of construction materials, interior furnishings, sustainable timber and energy-efficient air-conditioning. A 20,000-litre tank on the roof harvests rainwater for use in toilets and for irrigation, reducing potable water use. Fire system test water is also collected and recycled. In the basement, 160 bicycle parking spaces, lockers, changing areas and showers are provided to encourage students and staff to cycle to class and work.

CITY LINKS

The Dr Chau Chak Wing Building is set to become a high-tech research and education centre, and an important venue for business events. Its location puts it at the heart of Sydney's growing 'digital creative hub', where a partnership known as Intersection is connecting creative and digital start-ups with cultural, media, commercial, government and educational organisations. The Dr Chau Chak Wing Building will also be a landmark along Sydney City's 'cultural ribbon', which runs from the Opera House to the southern end of the city through Darling Harbour. The building's entrance from The Goods Line, currently being redeveloped as a new urban space, will also enhance its connections with the southern CBD.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- UTS approves building design concept – June 2010
- Building design unveiled – December 2010
- Excavation begins – November 2011
- Construction underway – November 2012
- Work on façade brickwork starts – August 2013
- Structure complete – November 2013
- Main construction works complete – November 2014
- UTS Business School relocated – from December 2014
- Teaching begins – February 2015 (Semester 1)

INTERVIEWS

A number of UTS spokespeople are available for interview, in addition to representatives from Lend Lease, Arup, AECOM, Favetti Bricklaying, Urban Art Projects and other contractors.

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