

## Co-Location Project Newsletter

July 2009

### Stage Two Funding Announcement

A major funding announcement by the Federal government in the May 2009 budget towards the cost of construction of Stage Two of the Co-Location Project has been warmly welcomed by Vice Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, Professor Daryl Le Grew:

'The funding will see the Menzies play an increasingly significant contribution to the economic growth of Tasmania,' he said.

The funding of \$44.7 million, along with additional funding provided by the State Government, the University of Tasmania and the US based Atlantic Philanthropies, will see the construction of a \$90 million clinical research facility on the site.

It will house the Menzies Research Institute and the clinical research facilities of the Royal Hobart Hospital and will provide state of the art facilities and equipment for medical research previously never undertaken in Tasmania.



Commenting on the announcement, Menzies Director, Professor Simon Foote said that the development would enable the Institute to attract further high quality professionals to Tasmania and expand the research capacity of the organisation. He said that it would enable the Institute to increase its collaborative links throughout Australia and internationally and cover more disease areas.

'It will allow us to carry out more research that could lead to, for example, the development of new

diagnostics or drugs to help those suffering from specific diseases and ultimately save lives,' he said.

Once completed, it will adjoin the Stage One building currently under construction.

Over 250 construction jobs will be created by the Stage Two development as well as providing employment for approximately 20 Tasmanian professionals such as architects and engineers during the construction phase.

A project start date for Stage Two will be announced shortly.



## A new era through co-location

Although the transition process into the new building may prove to be a challenging phase, the increased efficiency created by being on one central site, instead of scattered throughout the central business district of Hobart, will far outweigh any temporary inconvenience to its new occupants.

Co-location will provide numerous benefits at both an operational and broader strategic level for both staff and students. Not only will it overcome frustrations for staff working over several locations, it will also facilitate the sharing of information and ideas at both a formal and informal level. More broadly, it may encourage Tasmanian medical students to consider a career in medical research enabling the employment of 'home-grown' researchers.

The move into the new building signifies the start of a new era for both the Menzies Research Institute and the School of Medicine with significant opportunities to take a leading role in biomedical research and medical education within Australia being facilitated through co-location.

## Update on Stage One

Construction of Stage One is being finalised, with the Practical Completion date scheduled for 23 November, 2009.

The overall building structure is now complete and internal fitting out of the building is well underway. On Levels One and Two painting of internal walls has started, doors are being hung and floor coverings are being laid whilst on Levels Three and Four partition walls are being installed. Installation of services into ceiling spaces is almost complete for Level Five and construction of internal partition walls has started.

Preparation for the installation of telecommunication and IT equipment across the building is also under way.

## The big move

Once the internal fitout is complete, the next big challenge will be to move over 400 staff from five different work sites around Hobart into the site, along with an array of specialist bio-medical equipment, files, research materials, workstations, furniture and other pieces of delicate research equipment.

The huge scale and complexity of this task means that it will take over two months to move everyone into the new building and will involve a carefully executed coordination of logistics, people and resources.

Over 500 students will also use the building and planning for their arrival at the start of the first semester in 2010 has commenced.

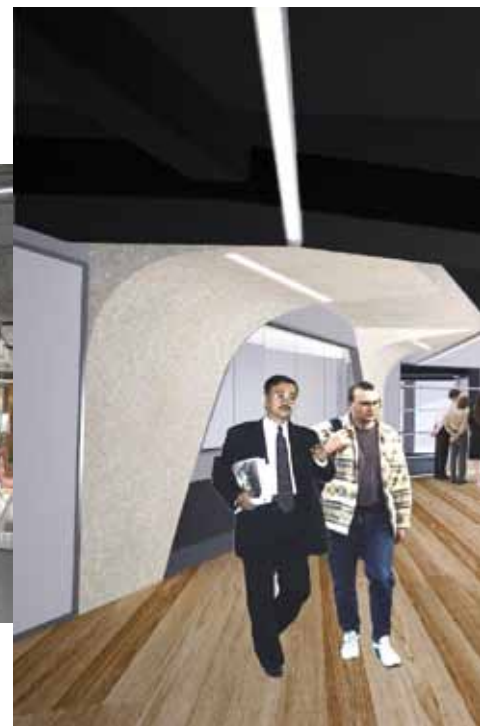
Further information on the transition into the new building will become available soon.



Top: Looking towards Campbell Street courtyard entrance from the Level One Student Hub.

Above: Feature windows in the Level Three open plan office area.

Right: Level One, School of Medicine reception area under construction, and far right, a computer-generated image of the same area.





Left: The view from Liverpool Street.

Below: Exposing the in-situ subterranean archaeological features.

## A centre for community education

The new site will not only support teaching facilities for medical students but will also become a centre for medical education and learning for the general Tasmanian population. It will play a pivotal role in fostering community awareness of advances and breakthroughs in medical science that are taking place right here in Tasmania.

The new complex will also enable high profile internationally renowned medical scientists and leading experts in particular areas of research from all over the world to come to the State to share their

knowledge and expertise not only with students, but also with the general community. It is expected that the new 170 seat lecture theatre located on the ground floor of the Stage One building will become recognised nationally and beyond, as an outstanding venue for medical scientists and leading research experts on worldwide lecture tours to share their expertise.

This is an exciting development for the Tasmanian community who have always shown a considerable interest in the research undertaken by the Menzies Research Institute.



Right: Trialling the glass floor that will fit over the archaeological apertures.



## A step back in time

The archaeological interpretative displays at the front entrance will also be of considerable interest to members of the community interested in taking a step back in time to an earlier era in Hobart's history.

The displays include artefacts uncovered during the building construction, historical information about the site as well as apertures through the ground floor concrete slab to enable viewing of the original foundations of premises built on the site dating from early European settlement of Hobart.

Members of the public will be able to view these displays once the building has been completed.





## Positive feedback on a landmark building for Tasmania

The new building is fast becoming recognised as a significant landmark in the Hobart CBD with many positive comments about its appearance at the entrance to Hobart's central business district being received from the local business community in Hobart and further afield.

It has also drawn significant interest from building professionals, architects and those interested in energy efficient building design through its innovative use of energy efficient building materials and advances in 'green' building technology.

Above:  
The Liverpool Street  
facade.

Front cover (top):  
Building entry  
foyer and reception  
counter.

Front cover (below):  
The new building as  
seen from the end  
of the crane boom.

## Further information

For more information please contact  
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[http://www.healthsci.utas.edu.au/  
colocation/index.html](http://www.healthsci.utas.edu.au/colocation/index.html)



University of Tasmania  
• School of Medicine  
• Menzies Research Institute

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