Edith Cowan University

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COMMUNITY INTERACTION
Pines Picture Garden

Joondalup Campus
Located next to the Joondalup Campus lake and surrounded by pine trees is ECU's Pines Picture Garden. The outdoor theatre has become a major focal point for community interaction with the University.

In a bold move, ECU in 1999 commissioned screenings of movies as part of the Perth International Arts Festival in the Pines Picture Garden - the first time Festival films had been shown in the city's north.

The film season is now a fixture in Joondalup, attracting capacity crowds who picnic under the stars by the lake prior to screenings, sharing the lawns with kangaroos. It has given local community members ownership of the campus, making them feel at home in its environs.

With a "circus comes to town" atmosphere, the outdoor theatre is a temporary 600-seat venue operating for around four months annually.

Its perimeter is defined by Andrew Leslie's artwork Intrusions - multi-coloured poles which support canvas dividing wall panels to enclose the theatre for the film season.

When "the circus leaves town", the theatre disappears and only Intrusions remains - becoming part of the campus's Sculpture Park and linking the gently sloping site to the Science and Health Building which sits atop it.

Officially opened: December 1999
Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts
(WAAPA@ECU) Mount Lawley
The construction of world-class new theatrical facilities for ECU’s Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA@ECU) - a major hothouse for producing top Australian talent in all fields of the arts - has given our students a leading edge in preparing for their professions.

The Academy Stagehouse, an extension of the existing Academy buildings, consists of two major areas - a Studio Wing and a Theatre Wing. Three floors of rehearsal and teaching space are contained in the brick and glass-clad building which features extensive sun shading.

The Theatre Wing is a three-level, court-style theatre housing rehearsal, production and design facilities and featuring an outdoor “Art Court” for functions and informal performances. Dressing and control rooms occupy the middle level, a stage, backstage and delivery area the lower level and technical facilities the upper area.

Showpiece of the complex is the New Theatre - a “theatre in the round” - where the audience is seated 270 degrees around the stage, creating an intimate atmosphere of close contact between actor and audience. Two-tiers of seating provide for 160 people with space for 30 standing.

Carpet and brick colours in warm reds enhance the intimacy of the design and specially-fitted halogen down-lighting adds to the ambience and highlights the textured walls. The external appearance reflects the earth tones of WA's landscape and the earthy nature of intimate live theatre performance.

Officially opened: 2 April 2004
"The juxtaposition of the rounded form of the New Theatre with the rectangular new wing of WAAPA studios works very well. The new paving and landscaping softens the impact of the brickwork and creates interesting surface effects."

PROFESSOR ROBYN QUIN, EXECUTIVE DEAN
FACULTY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
AND PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR, TEACHING AND LEARNING
"One studio in particular has become a hub for the Department - in it we can do all sorts of choreographic showings of students’ repertoires for parents or Friends of WAAPA. We didn’t have this facility before. And, now we’re ‘wired’ to link to international dance schools with exciting prospects for interchange of ideas and concepts."

NANETTE HASSALL, HEAD OF DANCE DEPARTMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS
Mount Lawley Campus Refurbishment
Through colour, streetscape, landscape, lighting, artworks and the creation of social hubs, the *Mount Lawley Campus* in inner Perth has taken on a new look and character to reflect the University's image as a young, progressive and vibrant tertiary education institution.

Always a campus with a "buzz" - largely through its proximity to sophisticated shopping and restaurant districts and because of its strong "arty" student population - the campus has been revitalised with an all-over facelift, indoors and out, to engender a more contemporary feel.

Three social hubs have been created around the campus, covered with soaring shade sails and sporting ECU's striking and strong signature colours. Permanent barbecues have been installed in the campus's gazebo, the existing café has had a makeover, more outdoor furniture has been installed to create meeting places and lighting has been improved along with security and signage.

Landscaping not only brightens and softens outdoor spaces, but has been grouped to create green "streets" through the campus.

Lecture theatres have taken on new life with internal painting and the addition of wall features.

The Education Building has been paid special attention. It has been upgraded with a new colourful entrance that reflects its role as home to various arts programs and new areas have been created for teacher education in art, music, drama, technology and enterprise.
"Over my three years of study at ECU Mount Lawley I have watched the visual and structural transformation of the campus. This redevelopment, coupled with the creation of colourful recreational and relaxation areas for students and staff alike has given us so many different places to hang out in."

NICHOLAS CHRISTO
3RD YEAR WAAPA MUSIC THEATRE STUDENT
MOUNT LAWLEY CAMPUS
Public Art

Joondalup Campus
ECU wears its art on its sleeve. When the Joondalup Campus became home to WA’s first designated Sculpture Park in 2002, it was part of the University’s commitment to making artwork accessible to the community.

Works commissioned for the Sculpture Park are required to reflect the natural environment and the effects of the elements, with artists responding to themes such as the power of wind and sun regeneration, ecologically sustainable concepts and the plant forms and geology of the area.

Future works will be interactive - easily touched, sat on, leaned against, walked through - offering experiences different to simply looking.

For hundreds of staff and students, the Sculpture Park is an artwork-in-progress, visibly evolving as they go about their everyday campus life.

The Sculpture Park pieces are all part of the ECU Art Collection. Committed to integrating art into the everyday experiences of students, staff and the wider community, ECU’s art collection is open, spread over all campuses.

Valued at around $7million, it comprises three collections - Visual, Aboriginal and Performing Arts - and boasts works by artists of the stature of Sidney Nolan, Brett Whitley and Guy Grey-Smith. Its principal focus is on collecting Western Australian art. The University has become a significant patron of visual arts.
Andrew Leslie's colourful poles, entitled *Intrusions* are a beautiful series of abstract, minimalist works with both indoor and outdoor elements. Internally they are a structural component integrated into and indivisible from the Science and Health Building. Outdoors, they link the nearby pine forest with the interior of the building and form the perimeter of the Joondalup Pines Picture Garden during Perth International Arts Festival movie screenings. Post-festival they are a striking stand-alone artwork. They explore the relationship between surface and depth, between appearance and reality.

Sitting like silver trophies in the Joondalup Sports and Recreation Centre is *Gargoyles*, a commissioned work by Adrian Jones. The set of six gargoyles represents the balancing of body and brain required to achieve the co-ordinated physical effort of sport. Made from cast sheet aluminium, each piece has an individual character and the faces, both human and mythological, register a variety of expressions.

*The Sentinels*, by artist Brian McKay and architect Ahmad Abas, glimmer and glisten in the ceremonial forecourt. The 10m monoliths have a copper cladding, striated in different directions, to create a grain which catches and reflects light, changing with the viewing direction. The purity of their forms is intended to represent the unquestionable stature and nobility of academic pursuit and the sharing of knowledge.
INNOVATION & CONSOLIDATION
Library and Technology Centre
Joondalup Campus
ECU's new library represents the ultimate in innovation. When it is completed, it will be the most up-to-date and distinctive university library in the nation.

It is a statement building exemplifying the university’s commitment to innovation and its vibrant and contemporary approach to education.

Born out of research by ECU staff into the latest international developments in these facilities, this building revolutionises traditional thinking on what constitutes an optimally functioning university library.

The essence of its people-focused design was for a 24/7 building which, while it has its quiet areas, becomes the campus hub, attracting students to work singly or in groups in its communal spaces, with the once-prohibited coffee to hand. Housed within will be general library services, a law library, internet café, bookshop, meeting rooms, postgraduate research space and an IT centre, including student megalabs.

It will be a cutting-edge melding of paper, digitised and online resource materials. Its “feel” will be more of a marketplace of study and resources than the silent libraries of the past.

The four-storey building occupies a central position on the Joondalup campus, reflecting the central position knowledge management and dissemination has as the core of university learning and research.

A concrete structure with glazed walls, it has a sun shading system which creates a tri-coloured wrap-around “visual veil” - woven fins calculated to the last millimetre to determine their distance from the building for maximum sun protection.

The building will initially cater for 6,500 students and 100 staff and is designed to cater for 12,000 students with continued campus growth.

Completion due early 2007.
“The development of the Health and Wellness Building is a crucial element in the campus consolidation program, allowing for the relocation of nursing and public health programs to Joondalup. This Centre and our other new and modified buildings have completely changed the University’s physical appearance. They reinforce the message that ECU is a vibrant and contemporary university.”

ANDREW BRANSTON
DIRECTOR, FACILITIES AND SERVICES
Health and Wellness Building
Joondalup Campus
To be a distinctive presence on the Joondalup Campus, the **Health and Wellness Building** will house the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine and ECU’s new multi-disciplinary health research body - the cutting-edge Vario Health Institute.

It will consolidate all of ECU’s health and biomedical science programs on the one campus, side-by-side, through its physical links with the Science and Health Building.

The building as shown in the model above will communicate a vision of ECU as a technologically cutting-edge institution and demonstrate its commitment to undertaking activities and research which have a strong, positive community impact.

With a six-metre drop over the site, the structure will range between one and five storeys and contain demonstration nursing wards, pathology laboratories, virtual wards, specialised laboratory areas and computer laboratories in addition to teaching, lecturing and tutorial spaces.

The Vario Health Institute’s specific requirements for a public interface and for ease of communication between the campus’s health research professionals were a paramount design consideration.

The building will have multiple ground level access points and open concourses. The offices, contained in two wings, overlook a central atrium which will have multiple public uses. A key feature will be the creation of a public open space and a therapeutic garden between the two linked buildings.

*Planned completion date mid-2007.*
AWARDS

CHANCELLERY BUILDING, JOONDALUP
- Master Builders’ Association (WA) - Public Building over $20 Million Award 2005
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA Chapter) - Civic Design Category Commendation 2005
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA Chapter) - Public and Institutional Building Category Short-listed 2004
- Illuminating Engineering Society of Australia and New Zealand (WA Division) - Main Entry Colonnade Award of Excellence 2004

EDUCATION BUILDING, JOONDALUP
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA Chapter) - Public and Institutional Building Category Short-listed 2004

SCIENCE AND HEALTH BUILDING, JOONDALUP
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA Chapter) - Public and Institutional Building Category Architecture Award 2001
- Illuminating Engineering Society of Australia and New Zealand (WA Division) - Meritorious Lighting Award 2001
- Blueprint World Architecture Awards - Best New Public Building (1 of 5 finalists 2001)

JOONDALUP CALL CENTRE
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA Chapter) - Commercial Category Commendation 2001
ECU ARCHITECTS/PROJECT MANAGERS:
ECU's Facilities and Services Centre plays a pivotal role in managing the University's built environment. The Centre's involvement includes identifying the need for the project, determining the site within the University's campus master plan, preparing the Architect's brief and undertaking program and project management from conception to completion of each project. The success of these projects reflects the professionalism and commitment of the Facilities and Services staff and in particular Mike Donald, who, in his role as University Architect made a significant contribution to all of the projects included in this book.

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