

Concurrent Session A
Monday 31 August
10.50am – 11.40am

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30 Aug – 2 Sep 2015
Novotel North Beach Wollongong



Session 4

View From the Top End - The New Menzies School of Health Research

James Edwards

Hames Sharley

James Edwards BA (Hons) B Arch (Hons)

Hames Sharley - Director and Portfolio Leader of Tertiary Education Science and Research

After graduating from Liverpool University and working as an architect in London for 13 years, James located to Perth in 1995. James joined Hames Sharley in 2000 and as leader of the firm's Tertiary Education Science and Research Portfolio he has worked with universities and research institutions throughout Australia. He has been directly responsible for a number of award winning projects, and has recently completed two highly acclaimed new buildings for the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research in Perth, and two new buildings for the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin. James was among the first group of Green Building Council Accredited Professionals in Western Australia, and is a past member of the WA Property Council's Sustainability Committee, and past Board Member of the UDIA EnviroDevelopment Management Board.

Two new buildings for the Menzies School of Health Research designed by Hames Sharley illustrate particular issues relevant to the Northern Territory, and how contemporary teaching and research in Darwin has been integrated into the Charles Darwin University campus and Royal Darwin Hospital. The buildings have been designed for the tropical climate and include some unique features such as extensive use of ceiling fans, high floor to ceiling heights, and deeply shaded facades. They have also been designed with respect to their cultural context with an approach focussed on encouraging access and engagement with the indigenous community.

Building in Darwin has particular challenges and constraints – dealing with intense heat and humidity and periods of heavy rainfall. There is also the need to consider the availability of skilled labour and appropriate materials and products.

This talk will look at:

- Designing for the tropics
- Designing for indigenous engagement
- Effective sustainable solutions for the Top End
- Tying new and old
- Adaptability and flexibility