

DOWN TO A SCIENCE

The University of Melbourne (UoM) Western Edge Bioscience Project includes the construction of a new facility of 10,575m² GFA to a 6 Star Green Star rating, the design and construction of wet laboratories, the refurbishment of Building 142 South, protection and enhancement of the System Garden including trees and existing buildings, and the landscaping of Tin Alley.

The University of Melbourne (UoM) is now preparing the next generation of bioscientists, vets and doctors in an innovative new bioscience precinct at their Parkville campus in Melbourne. The new world-class facility is one of the University's first multi-faculty 6 Star Green Star STEM buildings.

Kane Constructions was appointed to deliver the Western Edge Bioscience project (WEBS) project in August 2017. "Early works began in August 2017 with the demolition of the existing Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences building which has been replaced with a new building designed by HASSELL, for the WEBS zone," said Kane Project Manager, Paul Christian. "The main works was completed in December 2018, and is located on an increased site area housing the university's Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Science, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science all in the same building."

The world class facility includes both wet and dry teaching labs, a sizeable object based learning space and many other formal and

informal, flexible learning areas – all joined together in one cohesive precinct for the first time in university history.

"This multi-disciplinary, flexible learning building is unique and was initially a challenge for us. Through early stakeholder engagement and with a significant number of key stakeholders, strong communications was key. In implementing a range of innovative approaches, we were successful in winning the 2018 Master Builders Association of Victoria Excellence in Health and Safety Award for this project," said Paul.

"Responsible team leaders included Kane's Design Manager, Jack Cahir, Senior Engineering Manager, Jason Malmur, Senior Site Manager, Grant Watson and WH&S Coordinator, Emeile Dawkins."

The new WEBS building was originally designed to achieve a minimum 5 Star Green Star rating, but through Kane's exceptional team initiatives, is now a 6 Star Green Star building, and one of the first of its kind.

"The WH&S initiatives introduced on WEBS were embraced by the University, and are now standard on all of our university projects. These include a traffic escort matrix to move vehicles and materials in and out of the area, monthly safety awards, and an online health and safety management software system for administration and training," said Paul.

The team created a 3D model of the building allowing a virtual walkthrough before construction. Various university managers, such as the Plant Manager were able to walk through their areas, allowing for any necessary design changes to be made well in advance.

"A great initiative consisted of the 3D printed model of the internal stair area. The model allowed us to work out how to scaffold the area and bring in the materials safely, saving time and avoid any potential risks for injuries. We conducted wind tunnel testing on the façade for internal acoustics, and real time human class and performance testing on the multi-disciplinary laboratories. The laboratory areas allow for three different lecturers to interact with up to 140 students at the same time, managed through acoustics, speaker technology and spatial arrangements."

Kane has a strong working relationship with the University, and has delivered over 34 projects since 1991. Kane's portfolio of award winning projects include the \$66 million UoM Arts West Redevelopment which won Kane the 2017 Master Builders Association of Victoria Master Builder of the Year Award.

The privately owned, multi-award winning commercial construction company has an annual turnover in excess of \$1 billion. With over 500 full time employees, Kane operate throughout the east coast of Australia and overseas from offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra.

Additional projects such as the \$45 million Geelong Library and Heritage Centre won Kane the 2016 Master Builders Australia National Commercial Master Builder of the Year Award, and the GMHBA Stadium Stage 4 Brownlow Stand Redevelopment, won Kane the 2018 Australian Institute of Building, National Professional Excellence Commercial Construction \$25M - \$100M Award.

Heading into 2019, the team are currently delivering several notable projects including the \$102 million Ballarat GovHub, \$75 million Cabrini Health Gandel Wing, \$55 million Cato Square project and the \$45 million Shepparton Art Museum (SAM).

For more information contact Kane Constructions, 658 Church Street, Richmond VIC 3121, phone 03 8420 1200, email viccontact@kane.com.au, website www.kane.com.au

CLIENT : The University of Melbourne
HEAD CONTRACTOR : Kane Constructions
ARCHITECT : Hassell
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : Irwinconsult
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$65 million

