

Session 3

THE EVOLUTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

James Edwards

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Scientific research requires high investment facilities. Funding is inherently uncertain and programmes change constantly requiring solutions that are able to adapt efficiently and cost effectively. Increasingly attention has focussed on the need to encourage interaction and collaboration – to create an environment conducive to serendipitous discovery. How are these requirements met? Looking back 10 to 15 years it is possible to identify trends in research and plot a likely trajectory into the near future. This talk looks at some of the key trends and influences in an increasingly competitive area and suggests some future directions.

Presenters Biography

James Edwards is a director of multi-disciplinary design firm Hames Sharley and leads the Science and Higher Education sector. He qualified as an architect in the UK and has a string of successful and award winning buildings to his credit, including the University of Western Australia Biomedical Research Facility which was the recipient of eight awards including two major state sustainability awards. James is heavily involved in some of the major infrastructure projects happening in WA and is Director in charge for two new buildings for the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research at the QEII Medical Centre and new Fiona Stanley Hospital Medical Centre. He has travelled widely and Hames Sharley's research team has developed solutions to research needs based on observation of exemplar projects around the world.