

Session 4

ENSURING TEACHING SPACES SUPPORT ACADEMIC DELIVERY

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As teaching spaces change one of the challenges facing University Facilities and Planning departments is how to manage the governance, assessment, roll out and maintenance of these spaces. Victoria University has responded to this challenge with a multi pronged strategy including the following elements;

- The development of a costed 5 year rolling upgrade plan providing both building fabric upgrade as well as technology update. The plan is based on room data as well as an innovative light weight room audit process known as the RUM audit,
- The continuous development of up to date technology standards for rooms incorporating new teaching technologies and approaches
- The commitment to develop 'experimental' teaching spaces in order to trial new approaches and support evolving teaching practices as well as open informal learning spaces and spaces for student staff collaboration.
- The development of set of pedagogy based classifications to be incorporated into room classification, timetabling and room utilisation reporting systems
- The establishment of a teaching spaces control group including academic representatives as well as support services including AV, IT and facilities staff to ensure that issues relating to the design, development as well as support and maintenance of teaching spaces is made with academic advice.

It is through a combination of these initiatives that VU intends to develop modern and effective teaching spaces that support excellent teaching and learning outcomes for our students.

Presenters Biography

Terry Roche is Manager, Space Management at Victoria University Melbourne. He has over twenty years experience in space planning and management for Universities in Australia, the United Kingdom and the Middle East. Since joining Victoria University he has overseen the development of an integrated space planning and timetabling function which brings together innovations in pedagogical delivery, changes to physical spaces to best support change, and to then allocating specific academic events to spaces.

David Reanney is Manager, Timetabling at Victoria University Melbourne and has considerable experience in the development and application of timetabling methodologies. He has managed the Central Timetabling Unit at Victoria University through a significant change process that saw the successful centralisation of timetabling.