



**Dr. Kenn Fisher**

**Director,  
Learning Futures,  
Rubida Research  
Pty Ltd**

*Doctor of  
Philosophy,  
Flinders University*

*Doctor of Science,  
Deakin University*

*Master of Project  
Management,  
University of  
Technology,  
Sydney*

*Post Graduate  
Diploma in  
Education,  
University of  
Canberra*

*Bachelor of  
Technology,  
University of  
Adelaide*

*Research Fellow,  
Faculty of  
Education,  
University of South  
Australia*

## Background

Kenn is recognised as one of the leading learning environment specialist planners practising internationally. As a consultant to the OECD (where he held the post of Head of the Program on Educational Building in Paris in 1997/8) and UNESCO he has practised in Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. He is multi-skilled in a range of disciplines having practiced in all education sectors as a teacher and academic, a strategic facility and campus planner and as a project, facility and design manager and engineer.

Through his specialist practice in masterplanning and strategic facility consulting and architectural briefing, Kenn acts as the prime interface between designers, researchers and teachers to co-create learning environments for new and emerging teaching, learning and research paradigms. He has been engaged by more than 30 universities in Australia and overseas, over a dozen vocational training and community college clients, a number of State and National Government Ministries of Education, many school organisations and Government and corporate entities.

In recognition of his work one of his doctoral examiners wrote that 'the dissertation has helped to shape the direction of critical pedagogy for the next decade. I am highly impressed with this dissertation and believe it has made a unique contribution to the field of critical education. It will surely become a book, and a highly influential one. I hope this work serves to influence not only education, but art, architecture and design as well'. Kenn was recently awarded a Doctor of Science (honoris causa) from Deakin University as further recognition of his work in this specialised field.

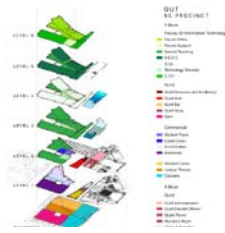
## Professional and Specialist Competencies

- Personal and commissioned research into latest trends in education, research, information technology & communications and the learning environment
- Interpreting learning and research space needs and translating these into architectural specifications to guide designers
- Masterplanning, strategic facility planning and learning environment placemaking
- Collaborative and consultative processes, including facilitating workshops, design charettes and public meetings
- Creating customised professional development programs to assist academics and teachers to understand how space (and its interaction with ICT) can enhance learning
- Leading multi-disciplinary teams on complex educational projects covering all sectors of learning in primary & secondary schools, vocational & community colleges, university and research institutes, and learning in the workplace
- Researching and writing complex reports and publications
- Understanding the culture of learning organisations and developing customised collaborative strategies to deliver projects
- Specialist in library planning and design
- Current holder of current general builders licence
- Grape grower and winemaker

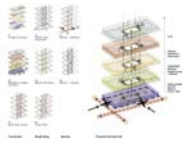
## Relevant Project Experience

Kenn has directed a wide range of consulting and master planning, strategic briefing and learning environment planning and design studies internationally. A selection includes:

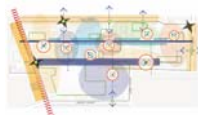
- Deakin University Burwood & Waterfront Campus Masterplans
- Stamford University College, Campus Masterplan & Facility Plan, Malaysia
- University of New South Wales Masterplan, Educational Overlay
- University of Melbourne Library, ten year Strategic Plan
- University Tunku Abdul Rahman Campus Masterplan, Strategic Facility Plan



QUT Gardens Point  
Campus Hub



Interactive Learning  
Hub, University of  
Melbourne



UNSW 2020  
Masterplan Hubs  
Strategy

- and Architectural Brief, Malaysia
- Australian Catholic University, Melbourne campus, Masterplan & Architectural Brief
- Monash University, Berwick campus, Masterplan & Architectural Brief
- QUT Gardens Point, SE Precinct redevelopment study for Faculties of Engineering and ICT
- Australian Science & Mathematics School, Flinders University (A\$18m)
- Doha College of Technology, Qatar (A\$180m)
- United Arab Emirates University, Campus Masterplan, Al Ain (A\$700m)
- Singapore Republic Polytechnic, Campus Master & Facility Plan (A\$380m)
- Bank Negara Malaysia, Corporate University Campus, Kuala Lumpur, Specialist Educational Planning Advisor (A\$300m)
- ANU, Griffith, Flinders, Monash & Victoria Universities, collaborative flexible learning research project
- University of Adelaide, strategic facility planning for collocation & reorganisation of Science Faculty
- Bank Negara Malaysia, new office design: relocation, briefing, planning and design review, Kuala Lumpur

### Additional Related Experience

- University of Adelaide, Deputy Buildings and Estates Officer responsible for the university's capital works program. Projects included the full range of eleven Faculty disciplines over 12 years
- University of Adelaide, project director for the \$65m redevelopment of the Waite Campus including the collocation of the University's Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, the CSIRO, the State Department of Agriculture and Australian Wine Research Institute
- Appointed Head of the Program on Educational Building at the OECD in Paris, 1997/8. Controlled a program of educational building research and development involving 26 national Ministries of Education, convened six international conferences, executive editor of four books and five issues of the PEB Exchange journal and co-authored a number of other publications.
- Appointed Research Fellow, Faculty of Education, University of South Australia, 2003
- To keep up to date with trends in teaching and learning, Kenn continues to practise whenever possible.
- The University of South Australia Faculty of Education - Research Fellow
- University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide - Visiting lecturer in the Architecture Departments
- University of Adelaide - Lectured in project management in the MBA program

### Juries

Kenn has been invited as a member of several juries to determine winners of design competitions including:

- Dubai University College new campus design competition July 2006
- Bank Negara Malaysia corporate training centre, Kuala Lumpur, June 2004
- Deakin University bridge connection competition, Burwood Campus, June 2005

### Affiliations

Kenn is a member of the following associations:

- The Australian College of Education (M.A.C.E.)
- The Society of College and University Planners (S.C.U.P., U.S.A.)
- The Australasian Association for Research in Education (A.A.R.E.)
- The Tertiary Education Facility Manager's Association (T.E.F.M.A.)



Australian Science &  
Maths School,  
Flinders University



Deakin University,  
Burwood Campus  
Masterplan

Kenn has published extensively; a selection includes:

- Fisher, K. (2006). Learning Environments in the 21stC, 21<sup>st</sup> C Schools Journal, London
- Fisher, K. (2005). Linking Pedagogy and Space. Department of Education and Training, Victoria
- Fisher, K. (2005). Editor, TEFMA Learning Environments Seminars Edited Proceedings, Brisbane and Christchurch, in print
- Fisher, K. (2004). Revoicing Classrooms: a Spatial Manifesto. Forum Vol 46, No. 1., Sept
- Fisher, K. (2003). 'Clicks, Bricks and Spondulicks'. PEB Seminar Proceedings Summary. Program on Educational Building, OECD, Paris
- Fisher, K. (2003). Designs for Learning in the Knowledge Age. Architecture SA Journal, Adelaide
- Fisher, K. (2002). Innovations in Pedagogy, Curriculum and Facilities: The Australian Science and Maths School. PEB Exchange, OECD Paris.
- Fisher, K. (2002). Schools as prisons of learning, or, as a pedagogy of architectural encounters. Unpublished Doctoral dissertation, Flinders University, Adelaide
- Fisher, K., T. Gilding, et al. (2000). Place, space and the design of new learning environments. Higher Education Research and Development 19(2):221-236.
- Fisher, K. (Executive Editor) (1998a) Libraries and Learning Resource Centres. OECD-PEB, Paris.
- Fisher, K.; de Vries, CA. (1998b) Financing Capital Expenditure. Journal of Higher Education Management, Vol. 9 No. 2, OECD-IMHE, Paris.
- Fisher, K; Kelly, B; Deshon, J; Jones, R (1996) Disability Discrimination Act 1992: Providing Equity in Access to Tertiary Institutions, Self Published, ISBN 086776668.

### Conferences and Presentations

- Aligning Learning and Learning Environments, Global Learning Summit, British Council for Learning Environments, London, June 2006
- "Hybrid Learning Environments for the 21<sup>st</sup>C, TEFMA (Tertiary Educational Facility Managers Association Australasia) Conferences Keynote, Brisbane March 2005, Christchurch July 2005 [www.tefma.com](http://www.tefma.com)
- "Measuring the Quality of Learning Environments", OECD Programme on Educational Building, Experts Meeting, Lisbon, July 2005  
[http://www.oecd.org/document/18/0,2340,en\\_2649\\_34527\\_35470674\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/18/0,2340,en_2649_34527_35470674_1_1_1_1,00.html)
- "Hybrid Learning Environments", Keynote Presentation, Teaching and Learning Colloquium, University of Sydney, November, 2005  
[http://www.itev.usyd.edu.au/Symposium05/Symp05\\_Bios.html](http://www.itev.usyd.edu.au/Symposium05/Symp05_Bios.html)
- "Learning Hubs", METTLE (Multimedia in Teaching and Learning)  
<http://mettleweb.unimelb.edu.au/mettle/>
- "Sustainable Learning Environments for the 21<sup>st</sup>C", Australian Catholic Education Office Annual Conference, Perth, 2003
- "The Classroom is Dead: Long Live the Classroom". Council for Educational Facility Planners International Conference. Flinders University, Adelaide, 2003
- "Back to the Future: Designing Learning Spaces for the 21<sup>st</sup> C", Education Foundation, Victoria, October, 2002
- "A Comprehensive Planning Strategy for the new Australian Science and Mathematics School: a Case Study" – SCUP (The Society for College and University Planning), Sydney, March 2002.
- "The Design of Learning Environments" - The Australasian Association for Research in Education, Fremantle, December, 2001.
- "Managing Users in Space and Place: Tools and Techniques for Inclusive Space Planning and Management" – The Australian University Facility Managers Association (AAPPA) Annual Conference, Canberra, October, 2001.
- "Using Consultants Effectively" – The Australian University Facility Managers

Association (AAPPA) National Two-Day Seminar/Workshops session on Strategic Asset Management, AGSM, Little Bay, Sydney, June 2000.

- "Designing Technology Enhanced Learning Environments: Integrating Space, Technology & Human Infrastructure", paper presented to the National Conference of The Australian University Facility Managers Association (AAPPA), Wellington, October, 1999.
- "Schools Masterplanning: International Trends" – Keynote presentation to the Victorian Department of Education Seminar Series for Architectural Consultants, November, 1999.
- "Schools as Social Capital" – European Union/European Investment Bank/OECD Meeting of Experts, Luxembourg, Nov. 1998.
- "Joint Use Libraries as Social Capital" – ALIA Conference, Adelaide, October 1998.
- "The Design of Learning Environments for the New Technologies" – Australian Educational Facility Manager's Conference, Darwin, October, 1998.
- "Campus Planning for IT" – OECD Program in Educational Building Conf., Crete, 1995.
- "A User Perspective of Campus Design" - ATEM Conference, Adelaide, 1994.
- "The Electronic Classroom" - Learning Environment Technology Conf., Adelaide 1994.
- "Quality in Facility Planning and Management" - Australian Association of Institutional Research Conference, Brisbane 1993.
- "Strategic Estates Master Planning" - Australian Association of Institutional Research Conference, Auckland, 1992.

#### Selected Referees

- Professor Mark Wainwright, University of New South Wales ([vc@unsw.edu.au](mailto:vc@unsw.edu.au))
- Professor Sally Walker, Vice Chancellor, Deakin University ([vc@deakin.edu.au](mailto:vc@deakin.edu.au))
- Professor Peter Coaldrake, Vice Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology ([vc@qut.edu.au](mailto:vc@qut.edu.au))
- Professor Ian Davey, Pro Vice Chancellor, Research, University of South Australia ([ian.davey@unisa.edu.au](mailto:ian.davey@unisa.edu.au))
- Ms Linda O'Brien, Principal, Information Division, University of Melbourne ([linda.o'brien@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:linda.o'brien@unimelb.edu.au))
- Professor John Smyth, Associate Dean of Research, Flinders University ([john.smyth@flinders.edu.au](mailto:john.smyth@flinders.edu.au))
- Governor Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Bank Negara Malaysia (Federal Reserve Bank), (c/- [ain@bnm.gov.my](mailto:ain@bnm.gov.my))
- Dr Aini Ibrahim, Director of Strategy, Bank Negara Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur ([ain@bnm.gov.my](mailto:ain@bnm.gov.my))
- Dr Ahmed Al-Mutawa, Deputy Vice Chancellor, United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE ([DVCP@uaeu.ac.ae](mailto:DVCP@uaeu.ac.ae))



Deakin University,  
Waterfront Campus  
Masterplan

## **Chronological History of Employment**

### **2003-present: Director, Learning Futures, Rubida Research Pty Ltd**

Kenn now focuses on campus masterplanning and strategic architectural briefing particularly on innovative projects. He also carries out commissioned research on various aspects of the impact of information technology on educational buildings, and the relationship between the built learning environment and learning.

*[November, 2005 awarded honorary Doctorate of Science, Deakin University]*

### **1992-2003: Managing Partner, International, Woods Bagot Architects, Australia, Asia, Middle East and Europe**

Partner specialising in education and responsible for strategic facility planning; strategic briefing studies; post-occupancy appraisal; life-cycle costing; Commission of Audit into school facilities planning, capital works and maintenance management; campus master planning of over twenty institutions in all sectors; architectural projects in all educational sectors; project management; and maintenance management strategies. Consulting for UNESCO in Laos for the Ministry of Education. Other projects in Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Europe.

*[December, 2002 awarded Doctor of Philosophy, Flinders University]*

### **1997-98: Head, OECD Program on Educational Building, Paris**

This fifteen-month secondment involved overseeing a program of twelve activities related to educational building planning, design and management for twenty-five countries in all sectors of education. These projects included 'Schooling for tomorrow'; 'New designs for the early years of tertiary education'; 'The design of libraries and resource centres for tertiary institutions'; 'New technologies and new ways of learning'; and the 'Ecologisation of schools'.

### **1993-94: Specialist Educational Facilities Adviser, AusAID, Indonesia**

Responsible for advising the Indonesian Government on new and upgraded vocational educational colleges for the Indonesian Government. Conducted four-day training workshops in seven locations in East Indonesia. Preparation, piloting and implementation of a computer-based maintenance management system. Located in various regions of Indonesia for a total period of eight months.

### **1981-92: Deputy Buildings and Estates Officer, The University of Adelaide, South Australia**

Responsible for an annual A\$20m capital works and maintenance budget for a 12,000-student multi-campus university. Tasks included a wide range of architectural projects, strategic planning, life-cycle costing, occupational health, safety and welfare and disabilities access, environmental design and campus planning. Completed Master of Project Management, UTS, NSW, in 1991. Project Director for the \$65m Waite Campus Collocation Project.

*[May, 1992 awarded Master of Project Management, University of Technology, Sydney]*

### **1978-80: Various teaching posts in vocational colleges and secondary schools in Australia**

Taught in primary and secondary schools and vocational training colleges in the ACT, Victoria and South Australia.

### **1976-77: Principal Education Officer, The Department of Vocational Education and Training, South Australia**

Responsible for the development of project proposals and the appraisal of project bids for new colleges, including master planning and strategic planning. Co-developed the strategy for a network of community colleges throughout the State, a plan that is now largely implemented twenty years later.

*[May, 1976 awarded Graduate Diploma in Education, University of Canberra]*

### **1972-75: Project Manager/Coordinator, Australian Universities Commission and the Schools Development Division, National Capital Development Commission, Canberra**

The evaluation of bids for capital works projects for all Australian Universities. The development of a space-planning model for Australian tertiary institutions. Project management of schools and senior secondary colleges. Completed Post-Graduate Diploma in Education at University of Canberra, ACT, 1976.

*[May, 1972 awarded Bachelor of Technology, University of Adelaide]*