

Manchester University wins the AUDE University Impact Initiative of the Year Award

The Consultants and Estates project team led by Neil Stubbs, at Manchester University have won AUDE's 2016 University Impact Initiative of the Year Award. This award recognises a specific initiative having a significant positive impact on the institution, the sector and/or the profession.

The 2016 Higher Education Estates and Facilities Awards took place at the Gala dinner on the final night of the annual AUDE conference held at Exeter University. Each year the awards celebrate and highlight the achievements of universities and best practice in the industry, including those who lead the way in estate and facilities management.

The team at Manchester University impressed the judges with their innovative way of engaging with the community to deliver the impressive project of a 76,000m² new build. When completed in 2019 it will provide a new campus for 8,000 staff & students in four schools and it is this extensive work on a large scale project that won them the award. The Consultants and Estates project team undertook extensive work over a nine month period to understand the detailed operations of each school.

One challenge the team faced was earning the trust of both academics and students to ensure that they had enough understanding of the technical and operational issues.

The team created Elements Presenter, an innovative tool which links all the various strands of briefing information together in one place within the style of a Periodic Table of Elements. This device enabled the project team to play back information to University staff and students, allowing everyone to provide feedback and actively contribute to shaping the future of MECD.

Neil Stubbs, Manchester Engineering Campus Development Project Director, said: "Winning this award is a fantastic achievement and testament to the efforts of everyone in the Consultants and Estates project team at Manchester University. We are really proud of our entire team and delighted that our efforts have been recognised by AUDE at a national level."

The judges were on the lookout for teams, projects and individuals who have made a significant contribution to enhancing excellence and ensuring university estates provide best value to support the institutional mission and promote efficiency and effectiveness.

AUDE Chair and head judge, Trevor Humphreys, Director of Estates and Facilities at the University of Surrey commented, "The team at Manchester produced a novel and hugely inclusive way of engaging with the community to deliver estate management. The estates team showed innovation within the project and new ways to deliver the benefits. The scale of the project should not be underestimated and the success is very impressive.

"The University sector has faced monumental changes over the past year, so it's encouraging to see that the standards across all our institutions remains extremely high to help deliver the best student experience possible."

The AUDE Conference and Awards in 2017 will be held at the University of Manchester from 10th to 12th April. This event is for members of AUDE and invited guests and will be accompanied by an exhibition and sponsorship opportunities.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.aude.ac.uk/home/>

Ends.

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Notes to editors:

2016 Awards

Award judges: Sue Holmes, AUDE Chair and Director of Estates Oxford Brookes University, Trevor Humphreys, AUDE Chair and Director of Estates and Facilities University of Surrey, Jerry Barnes – Sponsor Hoare Lea; Nolan Smith – HEFCE and Quintin McKellar, Vice Chancellor Hertfordshire University

About AUDE

AUDE promotes excellence in the strategic planning, management, operation and development of Higher Education estates and facilities. AUDE offers membership to publically funded UK bodies whose primary remit is higher education teaching and/or research. There are no membership categories for commercial bodies.

AUDE is a not-for-profit organisation. Any funds generated through the activities of the Association are used to fulfil its objectives and mission.

AUDE's members are generally represented by the most senior member of staff responsible for managing, planning, constructing and maintaining all types of accommodation for Higher Education Institutions. Though arrangements vary, most Directors of Estates are also involved in managing a wider range of capital projects and services including cleaning, security, grounds maintenance, space planning and management, car parking and traffic and, in some institutions, additional services such as catering, conference and sports facilities, insurance, furniture and equipment and printing.