The design of new learning spaces is an activity that brings together architects, builders, facilities managers, information technology specialists, academics and students. An already complicated activity is made more so by the varied agendas that each group brings to the table. Further, the successful adoption of new learning spaces requires alignment of a large number of activities that extend well beyond the development of the spaces alone.

Queensland University of Technology has recently completed the development of a new $230 million Science and Engineering Centre as part of a broader strategy to encourage students to engage with key global challenges including climate change, sustainability and Australia’s emerging green workforce needs. The design of the new complex engaged the broader science, technology engineering and mathematics community across the University and beyond to develop a new home for learning and teaching, research and community engagement.

This session will provide attendees with an insight into a range of successful strategies used to address many of the key challenges experienced during the design, and construction of the new complex including:

- Designing technology rich spaces that are fit for purpose now and into a changing future
- Aligning space, technology and curriculum redesign activities
- Developing staff capabilities to fully utilize new learning, research and community spaces