LIMS official launch – video transcript 18/2/13

Narrator:

Vice-Chancellor Professor John Dewar and Parliamentary Secretary for Higher Education and Skills Sharon Bird today officially launched the La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science, a centre that will continue to grow the University’s world-class research in molecular science, biotechnology and nanotechnology. The $100 million complex includes the iconic LIMS building, a stunning six-storey molecular sciences research hub with 34 research and support laboratories nestled in the heart of the Melbourne campus. The project is the outcome of generous support from the Commonwealth Government, and La Trobe University funds.

The Hon Sharon Bird MP:

This is a tremendous project, its part of the great story at La Trobe about the work that’s being done both in research and in teaching, and under the Education Investment Fund we’ve been spending billions of dollars around the nation giving researchers and students the facilities that will really prepare them for the future.

Professor John Dewar:

What we’re trying to do in Future Ready is to identify those areas in which La Trobe can really make a big difference to some of the most pressing issues facing the world and the areas that LIMS will be working in fits beautifully with that and its also and area that we can quite realistically claim to be one of the best.

Narrator:

LIMS already has an international reputation for its research into the basis of human, plant and animal disease, and in driving technological approaches to combating disease. The LIMS complex, with its capacity for multi-disciplinary research, is crucial to our ability to meet future research challenges, as well as attracting the best students to study with us.

Professor Brian McGaw:

It’s an enormous investment in an infrastructure that will enable us to do cutting edge research for the next 20-50 years. It’s a really strong expression of confidence I think in the university and particularly the School of Molecular Sciences that we can deliver on what are going to be very challenging targets to address some of the major questions in world science of tomorrow.

Narrator:

The new LIMS complex will allow academics and researchers from chemistry,

biochemistry and genetics to work together to achieve results that would not be possible in traditional academic settings.

Professor Nick Hoogenraad:

People from the very beginning were involved in designing the interior of the building, the layout of the labs and how it would all work, and so there is a very strong sense of ownership by all the people that actually work in this place.

Narrator:

The building has been innovatively designed by Lyons Architects. The eye-catching exterior is matched by creative teaching and workspaces that are designed to promote collaboration, interaction, and efficient use of space.

Professor Nick Hoogenraad:

So we actually finished up building the building way beyond our dreams if you like, so it’s a great triumph, it’s wonderful.

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