La Trobe University is the largest provider of higher education in regional Victoria. Bendigo is home to La Trobe’s second largest campus. By 2017 La Trobe University plans to expand the student population in Bendigo from around 5000 students in 2013 up to about 7000 students. The La Trobe Rural Health School Building, along with other major building works, will help La Trobe University to achieve this objective.

It was built at a cost of 17.6 million dollars and in keeping with La Trobe University’s commitment to sustainability it will achieve a five start Green Star Design Rating.

The building was designed to meet the preclinical needs of students and so will become the focus of the foundation year of La Trobe Rural Health School courses, inter-professional practice and broader public health offerings. It contains facilities geared towards learning, teaching and research.

The Paramedic SimSpace is fitted with recording equipment so that students can review their simulations. It can also be viewed live through a feed to the Simulated Residence. As well as the Paramedic SimSpace the building also features the Paramedic Courtyard, where we have two vehicles set up to simulate a crash situation and allow students to practice treating road casualties.

Here we are in the Simulated Residence, which features a bedroom, bathroom, lounge area and kitchenette. It’s designed for in-home scenarios and is used by occupational therapy students, as well as paramedic students and other disciplines. The Simulated Residence is designed so that class exercises can be recorded and beamed live into the Paramedic SimSpace.

The La Trobe Rural Health School Building is equipped with other labs, such as the MultiSim Lab, which contains full video conferencing capabilities for demonstrating scenarios with other La Trobe University campuses. It can be used by physio, podiatry, human biosciences and exercise physiology students. It also has smaller problem based learning rooms as well as a hybrid use lecture theatre.

La Trobe University believes La Trobe University has potential to be a truly great university city. The La Trobe Rural Health School Building will help to achieve this objective.