

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Architecture to match the research excellence

The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies' new Hobart waterfront home has been shortlisted in no less than five categories of the 2014 National Architecture Awards.

The University of Tasmania building, designed by Melbourne-based John Wardle Architects in association with Hobart firm Terroir, is a contender for the Public Architecture, Interior Architecture, Sustainable Architecture, Urban Design and Steel Architecture awards.

The GASP! Stage 02 project by the alumni architects of Room II – part of the Glenorchy Art and Sculpture Park - is also in contention for the Urban Design award.

A total of 153 projects were eligible for consideration by the Australian Institute of Architects' National Jury after receiving awards at their respective chapter award ceremonies held around the country. IMAS dominated the Tasmanian Architecture Awards, taking out five categories, while the second stage of the Medical Science Precinct (MS2) received one award and a commendation.

"These iconic buildings are part of a major contribution to Tasmania's built environment by the University, which is helping to attract the best and brightest researchers to Tasmania," the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Paddy Nixon, said.

"The scientists who are housed in these buildings are undertaking world-class research. It is fitting that the excellence of the architecture is also being recognised."

Both the IMAS and MS2 buildings also featured in the recent Master Builders Tasmania 2014 Excellence Awards. The John Holland Fairbrother Joint Venture won the award for New Construction \$20 million-\$50 million and also for Best Use of Glass (IMAS), and New Construction \$50 million-\$100 million (MS2). These projects have now progressed to the National MBA Awards in Canberra on 21 November.

The IMAS building also won two categories of the Australian Property Institute (Tasmanian Division) Excellence in Property Awards, presented last Friday night. It picked up the Environmental Development Award and the Property Development Award.

The National Architecture Awards will be held at the Darwin Convention Centre on 6 November.

University of Tasmania expenditure on capital works in the heart of Hobart, Launceston and Burnie totals \$564 million.

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