a university for the real world

EXPLORE THE CUBE
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The Cube is one of the world’s largest digital interactive learning and display systems and has fast become a Brisbane CBD landmark at QUT’s $320 million Science and Engineering Centre on the Gardens Point campus.

Its spectacular walls of interactive displays soar two storeys high and showcase research-inspired projects across science, engineering, maths and technology (STEM).

QUT developers spent more than two years building The Cube, and their world-leading technical accomplishment now offers unprecedented learning and research opportunities.
Located in a central atrium inside the Science and Engineering Centre, The Cube is made up of 190 square metres of high-definition screens, including 48 touch panels, which integrate with 14 high-definition projectors to reach a massive 115-megapixel resolution.

MORE THAN 6000 SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE VISITED THE CUBE, WITH MANY ALSO EXPLORING THE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CENTRE'S LEGO EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRE

These amazing screens have already immersed audiences in a Virtual Reef created hands-on simulations in a Physics Playroom, challenged visitors to experiment with virtual fireworks, rockets and water through Chem World, and taken people on a maths-infused trip down memory lane with the 1980s-style games of The Arcade.

The Cube opened to the public in 2013 and has attracted around 40,000 visitors to the Gardens Precinct at QUT, which also includes Old Government House, Gardens Theatre and the QUT Art Museum.
In addition to providing new ways of interacting with STEM, The Cube has also become a digital platform for the arts. The Cube Production Residency Program is one such project and launched in 2013 with a digital writing residency titled Robot University.

QUT Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Coaldrake said The Cube and the Science and Engineering Centre had transformed QUT’s Gardens Point campus, as well as the way people think about science.

‘The capacity of The Cube will help researchers analyse and visualise complex systems and other data, driving collaboration among researchers and with the real world,’ he said.

‘The entire Science and Engineering Centre is built around an ethos of collaboration.’

‘THE BENCHMARK DESIGN OF THE CENTRE’S OPEN, STIMULATING SPACES WITH FLEXIBLE TECHNOLOGY AND INVITING LOUNGE AREAS WAS INFORMED BY A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF HOW PEOPLE LEARN.’

The centre is also the headquarters of QUT’s Institute for Future Environments (IFE), which tackles international problems ranging from global food security to managing scarce natural resources.

With a focus on collaborative research, IFE brings together more than 300 scholars from the fields of science, engineering, business, law, education and the creative industries.

Their tools include some of Australia’s most advanced electron microscopes in the $17 million Central Analytical Research Facility.

A certified 5 Star Green Star-rated building, the Science and Engineering Centre is a sustainability showpiece – so green that it is even powered by “solar trees” with giant panels programmed to follow the sun.

LIKE QUT’S RESEARCH, THE CUBE IS GAINING INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

During the global G20 summit in Brisbane, its screens showcased Queensland through The Cube Globe and attracted high-profile visitors including Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, Governor Zhu Xiaodan of China’s Guangdong province and OECD secretary-general Angel Gurr. In 2014 it also won the digital signage world’s education ‘Oscar’ – the Gold Apex Award for Education and Healthcare at the 5th annual Global Apex Awards in Las Vegas.

The Science and Engineering Centre was jointly funded by the Commonwealth Government ($7 million), the Queensland Government ($35 million), Atlantic Philanthropies ($23 million) and QUT ($95 million).