# NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

From left to right: Interior of the new-look, refurbished Scroope Terrace (© Peter Cook); Exterior of the new eco-architecture studio (© David Butler); The bridge link to the Lecture Room (© David Butler); Interior of the new studio (© Peter Cook). Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988. Reproduction is permitted providing authorship is credited.

## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY'S NEW ECO-ARCHITECTURE STUDIO IS SHORTLISTED FOR RIBA EAST SPIRIT OF INGENUITY AWARD 2008

## UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY OF ART

Freeland Rees Roberts Architects and Mole Architects have announced that the new eco-architecture studio at Scroope Terrace, Cambridge University's Faculty of Architecture and History of Art, has been shortlisted for a Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) East Spirit of Ingenuity Award 2008 in two of eight award categories - Education & Healthcare Award and Sustainability Award. The Regional Awards highlight the design contributions made by talented architects working within the East of England and are open to RIBA architects and practices based in the East of England for projects within the region.

The annual Regional Awards initiative was launched in April, calling upon architects as well as their domestic, commercial and public sector clients to enter buildings for the awards. The shortlisted scheme will be visited by an awards jury during this month. Winners in each category will be announced one week before the official RIBA East Regional Awards Ceremony and Dinner which is being held on the evening of 26th September at Queens' College, Cambridge.

The studio was also shortlisted for a prestigious Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Award 2008 in April.

The £3M refurbishment and expansion scheme recently completed at Scroope Terrace comprises the new eco-architecture studio and a major refurbishment of the Georgian Scroope Terrace building for the Department. The scheme was masterminded by Head of Department, Professor Marcial Echenique, and designed by Freeland Rees Roberts Architects with Mole Architects. The scheme is designed to unite and strengthen the Department's teaching and research functions.

Scroope Terrace consists of a terrace of grade II listed houses, built in the late 1830s and became home to Cambridge University's Department of Architecture in the 1920s. As part of the restructuring and strengthening of the department, Scroope Terrace has been extensively and carefully refurbished to provide office space for the department's research wing, the Martin Centre, which previously operated from a large Edwardian villa on Chaucer Road. New space was therefore needed to house the undergraduate design studio which led Professor Marcial Echenique to formulate a strategy to move these facilities into a new eco-architecture studio to be built over an existing car park.

The new studio building uses natural materials and efficient energy and construction systems which minimise the environmental impact of the building. The form of the newly completed building is determined by its function and a desire to build a naturally cooled, timber framed building. It has been conceived as a contemporary version of a Victorian warehouse building and exists as a column free, open-plan teaching space entirely constructed from timber, and cooled using innovative ceiling panels with a system that exchanges heat with the ground. The large space is defined by an overhanging saw-tooth roof, supported by 15-metre timber trusses, providing excellent natural light without solar gain and forming part of a strategy to allow low-energy cooling. This utilises high-level windows for good cross-ventilation and an innovative water-based cooling system designed by mechanical and electrical engineering consultants, Max Fordham.

Other servicing has been designed to be as sustainable as possible, with radiant heating and cooling provided via a borehole and heat pump system whereby water is circulated from the borehole through the ceiling to absorb heat before being rejected to the ground. A heat pump is

used to increase heat transfer and reduce the required borehole depth whilst also reducing the amount of energy needed for heating.

The studio has attracted significant public attention as it has been specifically designed for the Department of Architecture and its students - our architects of the future. The design of the studio will act as an inspiring learning environment and its sustainable construction should aid the students' experience of designing low energy, ecological buildings in the future.

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| Clients: | University of Cambridge EMBS |
| Architects: | Freeland Rees Roberts Architects/ Mole Architects |
| Main Contractor | ISG Ltd |
| Structural Engineer: | Scott Wilson |
| Quantity Surveyor: | Gardiner & Theobold |
| Mechanical & Electrical Engineer: | Max Fordham |
| Project Manager: | Hannah Reed |
| Planning Supervisor | WS Atkins |

**-Ends-**

**Notes to the Editor**

1. For further information relating to the refurbishment and expansion scheme, high resolution images, an interview, photo or film opportunity, please contact Carri Crook, Carisma Communications, on 01842 815910 or email carri@carismacommunications.co.uk.
2. For further information on the University of Cambridge, please contact Tim Holt or Tom Kirk, Office of Communications, University of Cambridge on 01223 766205.
3. Editors are kindly requested to acknowledge Freeland Rees Roberts Architects and Mole Architects as the architects of the refurbishment and extension scheme at The Faculty of Architecture and History of Art, University of Cambridge.
4. The new-look Faculty of Architecture and History of Art forms part of Cambridge University's major development programme consisting of more than £600m of construction projects. Estate Management and Building Service, the client of the £3 million refurbishment and expansion scheme, has responsibility for maintaining the University's buildings and gardens, planning and managing its property and facilities as well as procuring its new buildings.
5. The eight award categories are:
   - Community Architecture Award – supported by Inspire East
   - Education & Healthcare Award – supported by WSP Group plc
   - Heritage Award – supported by English Heritage
   - Home Award – schemes under £250k – supported by VELUX Company Ltd
   - Home Award – schemes over £250k – supported by Rooflight Company
   - Sustainability Award – supported by the Environment Agency
   - Public Realm Award – supported by SIKKENS
   - Architecture for Business Award – supported by Cyril Sweett