



INTO University of East Anglia, the new £30M study centre for international students. From left to right: Exterior courtyard in the residential block; Looking up in the academic building's central atrium; Social space on a first floor balcony; Circulation in the academic building. All images credited to: Richard Osbourne – blue pearl photographic. Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988: Reproduction is permitted providing authorship is credited

News Release

23rd October 2008

for immediate release

LSI Architects Announces Completion of a £30M INTO international study centre at University of East Anglia

LSI Architects has announced that INTO University of East Anglia, a new £30M study centre for international students, based at the UEA campus in Norwich, is now completed and set to open its doors. The first of many world-class international study centres planned by INTO, this state-of-the-art centre provides new academic and teaching facilities with 415 new student residences comprising study bedrooms with ensuite facilities. The INTO University of East Anglia Centre is a joint venture between INTO and the University, providing a wide range of pathway courses for international students.

The new INTO Centre will be officially opened on Wednesday, 29th October by Professor David Eastwood, Chief Executive of The Higher Education Funding Council for England.

The 5-storey academic and residential buildings are the pathfinder development project for London based client INTO. Designed by London and

Norwich based LSI Architects, the 136,900 square feet of stylish, learning and accommodation facilities on the campus include multi-purpose lecture theatres, classrooms, IT and science laboratories and flexible teaching and self-study space – all integrated with study-bedrooms with ensuite facilities. The scheme also incorporates a centralised restaurant and student support services.

The residential accommodation has been configured in groups (of between six and twelve) to encourage social interaction around communal group kitchen/dining spaces.

Circulation space is intended to facilitate access for people with disabilities and will require the provision of level thresholds, wheelchair turning / passing areas, and suitable door and corridor widths. Wheelchair accessible rooms have been included for people with disabilities, with an increased floor area and furniture /fittings to be specified according to the needs of individuals.

David Thompson, a Principal Member of LSI Architects commented: “The plans for the new INTO Centre were drawn up following lengthy negotiations to accommodate a wide range of viewpoints and has involved widespread consultation, particularly with local residents. The layout and arrangement of the accommodation have been devised with a culturally sensitive approach to design. To achieve the ‘fast track’ construction programme, the residential accommodation utilised ‘tunnelform’ in-situ concrete construction, with the bathrooms constructed as off-site prefabricated pods.”

The INTO Centre project contributes towards LSI Architects’ masterplan for a new piazza at the east end of the campus, framed by already completed healthcare and nursery facilities and student residences, all designed by the practice. The student residences were constructed in two phases. Phase 1, Colman House, comprises 400 high standard study bedrooms with ensuite facilities within two blocks, including six fully accessible rooms for students with disabilities. Phase 2 was completed this summer. This provides 900 additional bedrooms in five blocks.

Martin Ebdell, INTO's Construction Director, commented: "The new scheme has been designed to meet INTO's exceptionally high quality standards. LSI Architects and contractor R.G. Carter have clearly demonstrated their expertise in designing and building respectively educational facilities and accommodation. The project has also met the very tight 18 month construction programme."

Mr Ebdell continued: "The INTO initiative has been created in partnership with UK universities to develop their internationalisation strategies and improve the UK's competitiveness in international student markets. This project is one of a new generation of international study centres under development at the Universities of Exeter, Glasgow Caledonian, Newcastle and Oregon State, whilst discussions are also being held with other leading universities."

The unique business model offers control to the University over academic standards at INTO Centres while bringing private-sector resources and expertise to the venture. INTO already had a temporary base at UEA with some 350 overseas students studying English academic foundation and English language programmes that prepare them for their chosen university courses.

The INTO University of East Anglia international enrolment so far for the current academic year represents an increase of 38% over the 176% increase of the previous year, reflecting the University's continued success in this field.

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Notes to the Editor

1. For high resolution images, further project information, quotations or an interview, please contact Carri Crook, Press Consultant, Carisma Communications on 01842 815910 or email carri@carismacommunications.co.uk
2. Use of images is subject to LSI Architects LLP, 'Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988'. Reproduction is permitted providing authorship is credited. Images are subject to copyright.
3. The Project Team - Client: INTO East Anglia LP; Project Managers: Gardiner & Theobald; Architects: LSI Architects; Main Contractor: RG Carter; Quantity Surveyors: Davis Langdon; Structural & Civil Engineers, Mechanical & Electrical Engineers, Acoustic Engineers and Fire Consultants: WSP.
4. LSI Architects was also responsible for the University of East Anglia SRIF Programme, involving university space reallocation, refurbishment and reconfiguration in order to modernise the science and arts teaching and research facilities within the Grade 2 listed 'Teaching Wall' of the UEA.
5. LSI Architects is amongst the most highly regarded design practices in Norfolk, the Eastern Region and increasingly across the UK. It is known generally within the industry for professionalism, design quality and sustainable design, and by its clients for quality of service and creative, cost-effective solutions. LSI Architects' main

clients are corporate and public bodies, mainly in the sectors of workplace, retail, education, health, residential and master planning. LSI Architects is a practice of 50 personnel, operating throughout the UK from its bases in Norwich and London. LSI Architects' website is www.LSIarchitects.co.uk.

6. Norwich and London based LSI Architects is an ISO 9001 and 14001 accredited practice and has secured a number of prestigious awards.
7. INTO is a global organisation committed to providing a best-in-class learning and living experience for international students, starting with counselling and recruitment in their home country, leading to the provision of high quality on-campus facilities and pathway programmes and assured progression to students' chosen undergraduate or postgraduate courses.