30 June 2016

Lynda Dorrington
Executive Director
FORM
357 Murray Street
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Lynda

PUBLIC2016 PUBLIC CAMPUS

The Australian Institute of Architects advocates on behalf of the architecture profession and the community to improve the quality and amenity of the built environment. We take this opportunity to comment on FORM’S Public2016 Public Campus program.

At the outset our members are strong supporters of the arts and of the Public2016 program. A good number of them, however, were surprised that some architecturally important buildings were included in the program this year and that some of the applied work would cause permanent damage. Most remarks back to me were centred around the work completed at Curtin University, which many of our members hold dear and which, in due course, is likely to be included in the State Register of Heritage Places.

I think this is an issue that needs managing before it results in opposition to the program, something we would not want to see. There are some niceties to be observed that might not be so readily apparent to programmers, so perhaps we might take a collaborative approach on site selection to avoid tension bubbling into something more serious. I am certainly happy to offer my time to assist, and I am sure that in my absence, other colleagues would be prepared to step in and provide some guidance.

Apart from possible impacts on fabric, there is also the issue of moral rights. Building custodians may not be aware of the issues that the program may cause.

I would be happy to have a discussion about this further.

Yours sincerely

PHILIP GRIFFITHS FRAIA RIBA M.I.COMOS
STATE PRESIDENT WESTERN AUSTRALIA