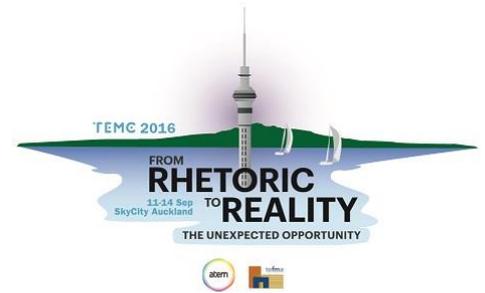


**Concurrent Session C**  
**Monday 12 September 2016**  
**1:30pm – 2:20pm**



**Session 3**  
**Sustainability: Where We Went Wrong, & The New Brief**  
**Digby Hall**  
*Umow Lai*

*Digby has over 20 years' experience in the property industry, having designed buildings and precincts in Australia, China and India across a range of asset types including education facilities. Starting his career as an architect and then focusing on specialist sustainable design, Digby now leads Umow Lai's sustainability team in Sydney. Digby specialises in sustainability strategy and resilience planning and brings rigorous forward thinking to his clients' projects, facilitating an integrative design process that brings all disciplines together to deliver future-aware facilities. Digby places particular emphasis on practical and buildable sustainability that adds continuous value without continuous maintenance.*

*Digby is also a Green Building Council of Australia Certified Assessor and Faculty member, a One Planet Communities Assessor and a volunteer teacher in the NSW Primary Ethics program.*

Our approach to sustainability in the property industry has become introverted, lethargic, unimaginative and unambitious. We celebrate buildings as 'green' when they're nothing more than energy efficient, whilst we continue to invest in planet-harming businesses and practices.

With the world's most advanced technologies and thinkers at our ready disposal, why do we continue to create new buildings that are merely 'less bad', buildings that still contribute to climate change, social harm and the steady decline of biodiversity?

This oral presentation is designed to provoke thought, bust some sustainability myths, raise some eyebrows and even make some incumbents a little uncomfortable. Not quite whistle-blowing but something akin.

We have lost our way not through one or two random acts of mal-intent, but through multiple acts of carelessness and conflicted interest over the past 15 years. Meanwhile the planet continues to warm unabated, and we continue to celebrate a 10% improvement on minimum energy performance.

This presentation is going to be awkward for some. But it is also designed to redefine 'sustainability' in a language that all can understand, to share sustainability strategies and targets developed over more than 20 years of consulting, and ultimately to share a campus sustainability brief that can be deployed on any project.

We will explore a series of key sustainability themes and show where these should fit into a campus master plan, ranging from energy and carbon, sustainable water and transport through to food security, social return on investment and climate change resilience and adaptation.

Informed by current and emerging trends, futures and futurism, technology and policy developments, we will walk away with a practical, ambitious, achievable and non-partisan sustainability brief for your next project.

We have now entered a time of climate urgency, a time for decisive action, a time for strong risk management, human engagement and creativity, hope and ambition. Armed with this new language for sustainability we can be better equipped to recalibrate how we perceive, conceive and deliver 'green buildings'.