Building 204
Building 204 is a project which demonstrates adaptive re-use of a building, implementing sustainable design features.

Location
RMIT Bundoora west campus, Plenty Road

Usage
A recreation and amenity space for all students, which accommodates both the RMIT Union and Student Union offices.

Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) features:

Direct evaporative cooling
Direct evaporative cooling works by the passing of warm air over water, which causes the water to evaporate. The heat necessary to cause evaporation is drawn out of the passing air stream, producing cooled air. An evaporative cooler uses approximately 70% less electricity than refrigerated air conditioning.

Insulation boards
Insulation boards have been installed to the roof to improve the thermal efficiency of the building, reducing heating and cooling requirements.

Flexible spaces
The building has been designed with flexible floor spaces that can be configured for a variety of uses. The loose furniture and movable partitions can create temporary or defined areas for different student user groups. The adaptability of the building eliminates the need for additional spaces and resources, whilst future proofing the facility.

Permeable paving
Permeable external paving has been utilised on the site to enable water to reach existing tree roots. Permeable paving can be used for roads, cycle-paths, car parks and pavements to allow air and water movement through the surface. Permeable paving includes pervious concrete, porous asphalt, paving stones and bricks.

Internal wall finishes
Internal wall finishes have been made from Orientated Strand Board (OSB), which is an engineered panel that is coated with waterproof resin and made from recycled timber.