The key proposition of this seminar will be of some processes of designing build knowledge. As such these kinds of designing are a form of research, one that is not well understood within higher education institutions. The absence of robust methods and knowledge for design research poses certain obstacles for design disciplines within the higher education sector and also within design professions such as architecture. This seminar will look at ways in which RMIT University have attempted over a twenty year period to find ways to address these shortcomings and to create strong links between venturous practice and the academy.

Richard Blythe is Professor in Architecture and Head of School, Architecture and Design, RMIT University. His academic passion is in exploring research through the medium of design. He is a founding director of the architecture practice Terroir. Prior to taking up his position at RMIT in mid 2007, Richard had lectured at the University of Tasmania for 14 years where he served as Deputy Head of the School of Architecture. Richard served one term as President of the Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand. He is Chair of the National Education Committee of the Australian Institute of Architects.