• Distinguished guests,

• Ladies and gentlemen

• Welcome to the grand opening of the Jeffrey Smart Building

• It’s a student space but we’ve taken it over for the evening on the proviso that any trace of adult is to be gone by midnight.

• One of the many commitments we made in our Strategic Action Plan, *Crossing The Horizon*, was to be a university that is an inspiring place to work and study.

• This building is a big part of that and as you become more familiar with it tonight, and in future visits, you’ll see not only how it supports new models of learning but that its spaces stimulate and foster creativity and innovation.
• Although, if we were to start again, we’d put a couple more floors on top to give us free access to sporting events at the new Adelaide Oval as well.

• For those of who don’t already know, it was named to honour the life and contribution of the great Australian artist Jeffrey Smart,

• not just an alumnus of ours

• but a man whose unending quest for inspiration encapsulates our own enterprising spirit.

• And, as he has left an unprecedented legacy in Australian art, we hope to begin our own legacy of inspired learning with the building that remembers him.

• We hope he would be proud of the building we have named after him – that in a different time it might even have even featured in his work.
• Although he probably would have added a small visual of me peering out of one of the top rooms so I’m grateful that that didn’t happen.

• What we are grateful for is the federal government funding we have received to build for 21st century learning.

• We already have high tech and inspiring infrastructure for our researchers.

• This time it’s about students.

• We used $30 million of federal funding to build the Jeffrey Smart building which is all about students and the spaces they’ll use to work individually and in small groups to collaborate and enhance their own learning.

• Another of our commitments in Crossing The Horizon was to deliver enhanced educational offerings and an outstanding student experience.
• We’re pursuing a blended approach to online and face-to-face learning, and buildings like this are the foundation for that approach.

• The ‘flipped classroom’ is tailor-made for today’s student body.

• Flipped classrooms, for those of us who learned the old-fashioned way, are a blend of online preparation and tutor-mediated learning.

• So students arrive in class armed with the information they need from online materials developed by UniSA academics,

• ready to discuss it, dissect it and argue it with their classmates and their tutors.

• We promised an outstanding student experience and we think this is the kind of environment where they’ll do their best work.
• The success of this building’s learning facilitates is already evident.

• We began construction in January 2012, and opened to staff, students and the local community in April this year.

• It was an immediate hit with students.

• In the first week of its opening we hit nearly 21,000 user hours,

• that means the building was full of students using the building’s Wi-Fi and computers in its first week.

• That’s an outstanding response.

• The building includes around $8million of innovative technology which includes:

  o 600 student computers;
- 16 projectors;
- 11 interactive whiteboards;
- 61 desktop document cameras; and
- 122 wireless access points.

- All up we spent around $85 million on the building and I’d like to tell you all where that money went.

- To get this building up we used:
  - 3,984 square metres of precast concrete,
  - 99.6 tonnes of structural steel,
  - 3,480 square metres of glass,

- There is around 6790 square metres of carpet

- that’s almost 19,000 individual carpet tiles;

- We also used approximately 1,050 square metres of sheet rubber;

- Around 2,190 square metres of Linoleum
• And about 800 metres of stair nosings

• in case you have to look it up later, that’s the name for those step edges that stop you from tripping up or down the stairs.

• The Jeffrey Smart Building is now home to a number of teaching and learning services.

• Campus Central has moved in; the library is here; the Learning and Teaching Unit has taken up residence and FM Assist, Security and Accommodation Services for students are also neighbors.

• All of this wrapped up into one building which provides students and staff with a truly unique and engaging learning environment.

• So thank you to the team who brought this project to the finish line:
• To Susan Phillips, Director, Phillips Pilkington Architecture;

• To John Wardle, Principal, John Wardle Pty Ltd;

• and Jan Goetze, Construction Manager and Matthew Whitem, Project Manager at Hindmarsh.

• Your teams did an amazing job, as did ours:

• Phil Clatworthy

• Rob Lustri,

• Kate Jeffery and Rebecca Lawson-Cooke

• plus the team at Facilities Management who have to turn around and start all over again with our Great Hall next door, and our Health Innovation Building across the road in North Terrace.

• We don’t give ourselves much rest between triumphs.
• So tonight, I hope you all enjoy the celebrations and I urge you to take a look around

• because this is a benchmark for how 21st century learning institutions will be built.

• Thank you.