



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

Increasingly mandated by governments worldwide, successful building information modelling – the design, construction and management of buildings through the use of digital models – requires changes in processes that present significant challenges to the global construction sector.

As one of the UK's leading practices in building information modelling, Ryder Architecture is praised for its innovative partnership with Northumbria University to create the BIM Academy.

The joint venture provides knowledge and expertise on the application of digital 3D design, construction planning and asset management, and is a centre of excellence for BIM research, consultancy, training and education.

BIM Academy has helped to shape international uptake, conducting activities in the UK, Australia and Hong Kong as well as training schemes in mainland China. Successful projects led by the academy include work on the Sydney Opera House and Durham Cathedral. Featured as one of three case studies submitted to the research excellence framework in 2014, it received a 4* outstanding score and continues to grow.

In 2015-16, BIM Academy generated £534,000 in direct consultancy income, £110,000 in training revenue and about £400,000 from research projects. The strength and quality of the partnership also supports many of Northumbria's undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Judges praised the partnership for bringing “vital competitive advantage to the UK construction industry”.