CEO’S MESSAGE

This latest issue of our Go8 Newsletter features John Black, former journalist, former Federal politician, man of some wit. He now runs his own demographic profiling company “Australian Development Strategies” and wow can he crunch the data and write it up in ways that so totally hit home. For us he looks at where the sector sits in the voter/political care pecking order. Who knew!!!!!!!!!!!! Talk about hitting right between the eyes!!

It’s a great read. One that this month ably combines “From the Outside Looking In” and “Food for Thought”. Also in this issue are some of our popular short views into what is happening on campus, and our VCs give us their views on international students, a cohort so important to us, and to the economy.

It is something I have been speaking much about in Canberra - that critical nexus between excellence in research which delivers us our world rankings, and those world rankings which in turn are what “sell” our universities to international students. Lose our world rankings, lose our international students.

Federal Parliament of course has just risen for its winter break, leaving our Universities no closer to a funding resolution. For the higher education sector the corridors of power this year have, as you know, more closely resembled a Groundhog Day film set than the home of constructive outcomes-focussed debate.

That being the case, it would be all too easy to become totally consumed and despondent at how the political system is working for us (not), especially when so few of that disparate group of Senate cross benchers are on our legislative side.

But rather than become mired in such a frame of mind, the Go8 headed to Parliament House to meet three of those supposedly recalcitrant cross benchers with whom we hadn’t yet crossed paths.

That hadn’t been for the want of trying of course. By the time the funding debate was at its height in early May, I had already long discovered that all Senate cross benchers attract never-ending queues of ever eager lobbying suitors, some booked in many months in advance, and that meetings were prone to sudden cancellation.

Come late May and early June diaries finally connected, and it was time to find out exactly just what Senators Jacqui Lambie, Glen Lazarus and Ricky Muir thought of the Go8 and our quest for deregulated funding.

First, stating the obvious, they weren’t going to change their minds. That was very clear, and had been for some months. They were absolutely not for turning.

But that solid negative position as it related to fee deregulation didn’t mean they weren’t interested in our issues and, importantly, they were willing to listen. What I found was a group of politicians keen to engage and to discover, and politicians who were open and frank about their own priorities on behalf of the electorate.

Now, you can either spend all of the allotted meeting time debating why their position re the fee deregulation legislation is skewed (in our eyes) or, you can have a sensible conversation on ‘okay, understand you won’t change your position but we are in real trouble here, so what now, and how can we work together to try to find a solution, and while we are at it, do you know about the problems re research funding and maintaining world rankings?’

In taking that latter path, the Go8 found many more areas of common ground than expected. Those Senators totally get that universities are underfunded. And they don’t approve. They certainly don’t have their heads in the sand. They also totally get why us being underfunded is bad, not just for students, but for Australia and its economy and our world rankings as they relate to research funding.

“For the higher education sector the corridors of power this year have, as you know, more closely resembled a Groundhog Day film set than the home of constructive outcomes-focussed debate.”
It’s how to resolve the problem that is the quandary going forward for them and for us. But we will continue talking. They want to do that.

We did also find Senator Lambie passionate and committed about assisting our Defence forces into employment when they return from active service, and that means, for many, offering the opportunity of an education to “reskill and upskill”. She sees universities playing a role in this, and her arguments were compelling.

She is not someone who thinks every school leaver can advance only if they get into a university, but she knows our value. She is also passionate about mature age students being able to afford study. She is someone who uses her own tough life experiences as her guide to prosecuting what she believes needs to change and what needs fixed.

Senator Lazarus was passionate about the value of research and commercialisation and open to conversations about the need to fund research properly ie not having universities forced to cross subsidise it from student fees. He too was refreshing to meet. For those of us who spend so much time driven in our pursuit of the results we need from politicians, it was interesting to discuss and dissect our issues with Senators who could not be lobbied further to change their minds, yet thirsty for information and already clued in on far more than could reasonably be expected given their lack of any major Party research support.

And no, I didn’t expect champion former rugby league player Senator Lazarus to be so keen to ensure research capabilities in our universities were protected and advanced. But he was, and we need that support. Senator Muir too was just as passionate about finding solutions, and he was well read on medical research funding. He also saw the value in us spreading the word that “you don’t have to go to a university to benefit from university education” which is one of the Go8’s main themes. I have to admit he had to sit through some of my numerous examples ie the paramedic who you need in an emergency is a product of a university etc.

In total I found three crossbenchers keen to contribute. We will hold them to that, and value their input, even if we can’t change their minds about fee deregulation because we must find a solution or every Australian will suffer, not just our students.
LASTING LEGACY IN MUSIC

Applications are now open for the $30,000 Peter Sculthorpe Music Fellowship which is to be offered every second year by the NSW Government and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney.

The fellowship is in honour of the enormous contribution to Australia’s musical heritage by Peter Sculthorpe AO OBE, who died in 2014 aged 85 and who is widely acknowledged as one of the nation’s most significant composers.

The fellowship will honour his contribution by supporting the professional development of an emerging NSW-based composer or performer dedicated to producing new Australian music.

Sculthorpe’s catalogue consists of more than 350 works. While his best known works include the orchestral pieces Mangrove [1979] and Kakadu [1988], he wrote in many genres from solos to opera. His 18 string quartets are especially frequently performed and the Kronos Quartet toured the world playing No.8.

In Australia he became a major public figure, audiences cheering his work as it seemed to say something necessary in the life of a country finding a new voice after the dissolution of the British Empire.

The University of Sydney’s Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Michael Spence, said: “Peter Sculthorpe shaped Australia’s musical identity during the last century. His enormous influence not only lies in the incredible body of work he composed, but the generations of students and teachers alike that he mentored.

“It is fitting that the new Music Fellowship in his name will carry on the great work that Peter Sculthorpe did for more than 40 years at the University of Sydney, and will continue to nurture generations of musicians to come.”

Professor Anne Boyd, one of the Peter Sculthorpe Fellowship Trustees, said: “Peter encouraged an individual musical voice by connecting to a sense of place. Always a passionate Australian, he was convinced we lived in the most exciting and extraordinary continent on earth whose mysterious spirit was transforming us, challenging our European heritage and ways of thinking: a message he took through his music to the world at large. His trustees are thrilled that this message will be perpetuated in this special Fellowship.”

A committee will be established comprising representatives from the Sculthorpe Trustees, the NSW Government and the University of Sydney to administer the Fellowship.

Applications for the 2015 NSW Peter Sculthorpe Music Fellowship close on 16 July. For more information including details on to apply, visit http://music.sydney.edu.au or www.arts.nsw
Dealing with the stress of exams, the importance of Indigenous people’s culture and education, the radicalisation of young people, global overpopulation challenges and the difficulties associated with ageing were just a few of the topics covered by the Dalai Lama when he spoke at The University of Western Australia recently.

In a special invitation-only event arranged by UWA’s Student Guild, some 600 students and staff at the University as well as high school students from as far away as Albany had the opportunity to hear His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama speak on “The Importance of Education”.

Those unable to attend were able to listen via an online stream of the event, also available to the public. Students asked questions, seeking insights and advice into the challenges facing the education of the human race, today and in the future.

Overpopulation was a recurring topic, with the Dalai Lama pointing out early in his address that seven billion people worldwide was a problem.

“The serious problem is the gap between the rich and the poor,” the Dalai Lama said. He spoke strongly in favour of solar power and desalination technology and also advocated the use of Australia’s inland areas for growing crops.

Instead of spending money on making weapons, governments would be better to spend more money on new technologies to improve food and water production, he said.

The Dalai Lama said teachers should take a strong interest in helping students grow and develop.

“Teachers (must) show compassion and involve students to be effective,” he said. “This makes for a large (and positive) impact on a student’s learning.”
THE MAGICAL CIRCUS OF SCIENCE

For the past 30 years, ANU students have brought science to life as part of the Shell Questacon Science Circus.

When Jesse Jorgensen-Price was at primary school in rural Victoria, the circus came to town. It was an experience that changed her life.

“We drove 50-kilometres to see the Science Circus. It was great fun and I loved it. From that day on, I wanted to be a scientist.”

The public exhibition of the Science Circus in Horsham that day brought lively presentations and experiments into the town with the aim of educating about the wonders of science. The memories of that day came rushing back when she saw a Facebook advertisement for participants for the 2014 Science Circus tour around Australia during her Honours year at ANU.

“As soon as I saw it, there was a rush of memories. Because I was so young, all I remember was the liquid nitrogen being used. Seeing that ad brought it all back, so I applied.”

And so began the “most full on” year of Jesse’s life as she was a part of the largest and longest running touring exhibition of its kind in the world.

Each year, the huge Science Circus truck – staffed with ANU postgraduate students – tours regional towns and centres across Australia, bringing science into schools and communities.

For 30 years, the Shell Questacon Science Circus has enthused and educated many thousands of people. Its reach has extended to some of the furthest parts of the country, including 90 remote Indigenous communities.

“Over the year, I went to Albury, northern NSW, Darwin and back home to rural Victoria,” Jorgensen-Price says.

“Going back to Horsham as part of the Science Circus was an amazing feeling. I’d come full circle and I felt inspired by the kids I met there.”

Each year, successful applicants are selected through a rigorous process to form the Science Circus and complete a Master of Science Communication Outreach at ANU.

Coursework covers training in print and electronic communications, science theatre, web design and cross-cultural communication focusing on Australian Indigenous culture.

Touring with the Science Circus forms the practical component of the course.

But it wasn’t always this way. The Science Circus was formed out of humble beginnings in July 1985, when 10 energetic Questacon volunteers hired a removalist truck to take 25 portable interactive science exhibits to Goulburn.

The following year, with Shell as the major sponsor and a new team of ANU students, the newly titled Shell Questacon Science Circus departed Canberra for its first extensive tour from Mount Gambier, South Australia, to Townsville, Queensland. Travelling more than 8,000 kilometres in 33 days, this initial tour established the foundations for what is now the University’s flagship national outreach program.

Since then, many Science Circus graduates have gone...
on to high profile and successful roles in media, science communication and other fields.

Self-styled ‘surfing scientist’ Ruben Meerman has fronted TV shows and built a successful science communication business along the east coast of Australia, which involves bringing science into schools.

“I’ve been doing the school visits since the Science Circus. I find it a fascinating way to show what science can do,” Meerman says.

“It’s real. It’s the law of nature. When the kids say ‘wow’, it’s a fantastic feeling.”

It’s that ‘wow’ moment that sticks with many Science Circus alumni and was the reason behind the Science Circus from the very beginning.

Adjunct Professor Mike Gore AO founded Questacon and taught physics for 25 years at ANU. He wanted to bring students into science at a younger age.

He says the key to its success has been the ANU students’ ability to communicate with younger children.

“We look for passion and enthusiasm in Science Circus workers,” Gore says.

“They have got to have a good science background but, like a theatre show or a play, they have got to audition. Passion is most important.

“They go out for a year and work extremely hard. The Science Circus is like the laboratory, the practical component of the Masters. It’s not just writing and talking, it’s doing things as well, just like a normal science degree.”

Gore has taken a hands-on approach to the Science Circus since the early days and when his wife ran the Science Circus shop at Dubbo in 1985, it became a family affair.

But he’s also got a bright vision for the future, one where many other students run away to join to circus.

“In 20 years’ time, I’d like to see it still running around Australia,” he says.

“I think it does a great job. It takes science to the people. It has got a reputation. If you go out to Marble Bar at the top end of WA, for instance, they know it. Let’s keep the Circus going.”

Download the free ANU Reporter app to watch a video about the Shell Questacon Science Circus and to see behind-the-scenes photos from its tours across Australia.

“We drove 50-kilometres to see the Science Circus. It was great fun and I loved it. From that day on, I wanted to be a scientist.”
FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

Who Knew!!!!!

John Black

To set the scene, you’re a female education researcher visiting Australia interested in the impact political decisions have made on the local tertiary education sector and you’re asking the questions. There’s a range of answers illustrating the views of four different political players, starting with a Government political hack working the factional system to get pre-selected and hopelessly out of his depth with a marginal seat campaign. The players and dialogue are invented, but the numbers contained herein are depressingly accurate.

You start with the easy questions first. To get things rolling...

What about the 74 seats? Answer: They don’t count.

How many votes do you need to win 76 plus seats? Answer: a majority of votes in a majority of seats. A bit over a quarter. In March this year that amounted to 3,786,783 votes out of 15,144,827.

So you’re governing for less than four million voters out of 15 million? Answer: Well it’s a lot less than four million actually as most of them vote for us every election anyway. So we target about a million voters with our campaign software. It’s much more efficient that way. It’s public funding after all, so there’s an onus on us to be responsible.

What about the 3,786,631 voters in your own 76 plus seats who didn’t vote for you? Answer: They certainly don’t count. They didn’t vote for us. Aren’t you listening?

How about the 7,472,435 voters in the 74 seats you didn’t win? Answer: We try to wedge the Opposition leader so they vote for us next time. Sometimes we get to wedge the PM’s opponents in his own party too and that’s just a bonus.

So you can win Government with 3,786,783 votes – most of which you take for granted – and the remaining 11,360,044 votes have no say at all? Answer: Correct. You’re finally listening.

Do you think this is very democratic? Answer: Well, I don’t know about democratic, but it’s very efficient.

How do you define efficiency? Answer: Seats won per dollar spent.

What are your views on the University sector? Answer: Well, the Uni students move around a bit and a quarter of them can’t even be bothered getting on...


"The players and dialogue are invented, but the numbers contained herein are depressingly accurate."

Since the 1980s female professionals have been transformed from a solid source of votes for Liberal candidates to a group which splits their support 50/50 between Labor and Liberal candidates.

This voting change has been accompanied by a slow down in the decline of public sector union membership, which is now steady at about 42 percent (RHS). This recovery in union membership is due to the increased employment of women in health and education, where a majority are members of unions. Female professionals now make up almost one quarter of the combined male and female union membership in Australia.
the roll. Those that do vote Green. Quite a few female students go on to get jobs in education, but by then they call themselves professionals and most of them vote for us... so, efficiency wise, not really a priority.

No, I didn’t mean the sector’s political significance; I meant your views in terms of policy? Answer: Students should pay more for their degrees until they start voting for us and the more we charge them the more of these there’ll be. Meanwhile, the rest of ‘em can keep knocking off Labor Party MPs for the Greens. It’s a win-win really.

Do you have any advice for me here? Answer: Go speak to the other mob. You’re a teacher and we’ve got your vote.

So our curious researcher goes to speak to the adviser to the ALP marginal seats campaign.

Hello, I’m here to talk about University sector funding? Answer: Are you from the Greens?

No, I’m from the University sector itself. Answer: Same thing. What do you want, mate?

Well we want to know your views on University funding? Answer: Sorry mate, you got too much of it from us in Government. It sent us broke and you never voted for us anyway. Pretty compelling case really. You’re stuffed.

I’m sorry, What do you mean? Answer: The only seat we could have won last time with Uni students was Melbourne and they put in a Green. When you rank the seats for Uni students there’s not a single seat in the top 20 we stand a chance of winning from the other mob. Case closed.

So your advice to us would be what? Answer: Tell all your students to stop voting Green. The bastards.

Is that all? Answer: Go speak to the Greens. See how much money they can give you. Mate.

Ok, so our researcher goes to see the Greens’ marginal seats coordinator. The coordinator is a former architect, who just happens to be the only female Greens staffer without a creative arts degree who can also work Excel and SPSS software. The education of our education lobbyist continues...

Hello, I’ve been talking to the ALP about University funding and they suggested we talk to you about it. Answer: Well, they would, wouldn’t they? They can’t do anything without us. They won 55 seats last time. You know how many of these they won on the primary vote without needing preferences?

No, I don’t, but I’m not sure what that has to do with it... Answer: Everything. The ALP won seven seats out of their current 55 seats on the primary vote. Seven seats! They won all of the rest on preferences from the Greens and Independent candidates. In the top eight seats for the Greens on primary votes the ALP failed to get a primary vote majority.

But what has this got to do with policy? Answer: We’ve consolidated Melbourne in 2013 and next election we can win at least Batman, Grayndler, Wills, Melbourne Ports and Richmond and maybe Sydney and Gelibrand – especially with Bill Shorten leading the ALP. The punters aren’t listening to him anymore.

I’m sorry but I don’t mean marginal seat campaign policy, what about policy for any future Government on education? Answer: Don’t worry about the Government, we’ve got them covered too. After we’ve knocked over some of the safest Labor seats, we’re starting on them. Winning Prahran from the Liberals in the Victorian election was just the beginning. Next we start on Higgins, Kooyong and Goldstein in Victoria then the big three in Sydney – Warringah, North Sydney and Wentworth.

If we can get Tony Abbott out there campaigning we’re in with a chance. One of them is his own seat, so he has to start talking to his own voters sometime.

You think you can beat the Prime Minister in his own seat? Answer: Depends on the swing, but you could always ask John Howard. The Liberals are so obsessed with marginal seat strategies, we just come along behind, hoovering up what they think are their rusted on voters, especially the older retired ones in their safest seats... there’s more than just Malcolm Fraser out there who were/are concerned about the Government’s views on the environment and marriage equality. And of course their superannuation. We think we’ve just covered that. With both major parties led by unpopular leaders we’re heading for another 2010 cliff-hanger result, except this time we’ll be ones deciding who forms a Government, not the Independents and we’ll be able to deliver the Senate too.

Yes but what about education policy? Answer: Oh that. Well you’d better talk to the ACTU. They’re taking care of that part of our education campaign. And so, on it goes, to the ACTU professional development and organisational expert in charge of micro-campaigning, phone banking, data segmentation and spatial disintermediation of campaign strategies.

Hello, I’d like to talk to you about tertiary education policy. Answer: Do you mean like quotas?

Sorry, quotas? Answer: You know, quotas for University lecturers, like we have in schools. You know, with “x” number of kids, our policy is for a set proportion of teachers and a known number of members. Works really well.

It works well? Answer: Yeah. It’s the same as workers in child care or nurses in hospital, carers in aged care, social workers for the NDSS. Cradle to the grave. We take care of the professional side of things. To make them, you know, more professional.

But what have quotas of members for the ACTU go to do with quality of outcomes? Answer: That’s a pretty silly question if you don’t mind me saying so. If you have quotas we get a quality outcome in terms of members.

So the more members you get in, say, a hospital per patient, the better the outcome, even if it cost so much money you couldn’t afford to treat many patients? Answer: Absolutely. You’d just need to build more hospitals. It’s a positive strategy for growth.
But how does this have anything to do with policy? Answer: Are you paying attention here? Look the ACTU can’t sell union tickets anymore in the private sector, even after all the money we got Labor Governments to spend subsidising cars and submarines. We’re down to 12 percent coverage of private sector jobs after all this effort. Then, we got lucky when Labor kept running the stimulus during the mining boom and we got some idea of how many extra members we could pick up in the public sector and it’s become a permanent part of our longer term policy.

Has it worked? Answer: A resounding success. Jobs in public admin, health and education now account for 52 percent of all union members. We’d be stuffed without them. Not that it did the ALP much good.

So, it’s all about spending, not outcomes? Answer: Look, I think that’s pretty one dimensional response, you obviously need a much bigger public sector in the longer term and to do that you need more Government revenue. That’s the beauty of it. We cover the tax office too, so it’s a comprehensive economic package really.

Comprehensive? Answer: Absolutely. And as the blue collar men lose their jobs, we’re also becoming more gender balanced, as well as more professional. Female professionals now make up almost one quarter of combined male and female union membership in Australia. So come back when you want union ticket. If you don’t want to do that you should see how you get on with the Government. You’re starting to sound like a Tory.

John Black is a former journalist, union official and marginal seat strategist for the winning 1983 ALP campaign, who went on to became a Labor Senator and member of the ALP National Executive. After losing his Senate spot in 1990 he wrote a political comedy with former Liberal Senator Chris Puplick and former Democrat Senator Dr Michael Macklin and worked as a lobbyist for Phillips and News Ltd. He now runs his own demographic profiling company Australian Development Strategies and his election profiles can be seen at www.elaborate.net.au.

OXYGEN FOR LIFE

A team of University of Melbourne physicists and doctors is developing life-saving oxygen supply machines that continue working even during power cuts, to treat young children with pneumonia in developing countries.

The team has received $100,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation via its Grand Challenges Explorations Grants program to prototype new technology, with a chance to receive a further $1 million once it is proven.

The machine, known as LPOS, stores oxygen at low-pressure to ensure steady supply when the electricity fails. It has potential to reduce child pneumonia mortality rates in developing country health facilities by 30 per cent. The team will test it in medical clinics in Uganda in August.

Pneumonia is the number one killer of children under five-years-old worldwide, causing 1.5 million child deaths a year. One child every 30 seconds.

Even if a child suffering from severe pneumonia is on antibiotics, without a steady flow of purified oxygen, their lungs struggle to cope and the condition often becomes fatal.

University of Melbourne Faculty of Science physicist Associate Professor Roger Rassool, who is leading the project, said the biggest problem with treating young pneumonia patients in developing countries is electricity shortages.

“In these basic health clinics, doctors commonly use an oxygen concentrator machine, which uses electricity to produce oxygen,” he said.

“The air we breathe is 78 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen. This machine removes the nitrogen from the air and increases the concentration of oxygen to 90 per cent.” The problem is, he says, when the electricity fails, as it often does in Sub-Saharan Africa, East Timor and Papua New Guinea, the flow of oxygen stops.
“We have developed a method of storing oxygen safely at a low pressure, which has the ability to maintain a flow of oxygen to a patient during a power outage,” he said.

“We thought, why don’t we capture the spare oxygen that’s being made when the power is on and keep it in a low pressure storage system to tap into when the power goes off? Now we have funding to build it and test how to store enough oxygen to get through a day without electricity.”

The store would be enough to keep a child alive in excess of eight hours, even during a complete blackout, he added. “We have a simple, yet profound key performance indicator and that is how many lives we save.”

Associate Professor Jim Black from the Nossal Institute, who is also working on the project, worked in remote health clinics in Mozambique for a decade. He knows first-hand the devastation pneumonia has in these communities. “If you diagnose that a child with severe pneumonia, and you don’t have oxygen to treat it, that child will commonly die,” he said.

“It’s dreadful. It’s one of the hardest things to deal with when you work in an African health service, particularly when you know just how easy it would be to solve these problems if you had the right resources.”

Shipping in bottled oxygen, he says, is not practical due to the logistics and cost of distributing it to clinics. Instead, doctors use machines that use electricity to filter the nitrogen from the air, which are effective provided the power doesn’t fail. That’s why finding a way to store oxygen when the power fails is crucial.

“With a combination of antibiotics and highly concentrated oxygen, the immune system kicks in, and within only 24 to 48 hours, the child can clear out their lungs and wean off the oxygen.”

“With this technology, we can make big inroads against the mortality rate. That’s why we’re so dedicated to making this work. We can start talking in terms of tens of thousands of deaths that can be prevented.”

This August, the team will travel to Uganda to test the technology in medical clinics in East Africa while recording data, understanding the local issues with power supply and establishing relationships on the ground.

The University of Melbourne team

The ultimate aim is to establish a startup in Melbourne with strategic partnerships between the University, industry and community, to form the manufacturing capability here in Australia.

For more information on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Round 1 Grand Challenges Explorations Phase I grants see: http://grandchallenges.org/

“...the store would be enough to keep a child alive in excess of eight hours even during a complete blackout.”
VC VIEWS

The criticality of our international students

Professor Ian Young
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY VICE CHANCELLOR

We all understand the critically important role that international students play in our institutions. It is obvious that they are an important part of the funding mix of all our universities. But the importance of international education to Go8 universities goes far beyond the financial element. International students shape cultural diversity on our campuses, they build alumni networks internationally and they add significantly to the intellectual discourse on our campuses. Importantly for Go8 universities, international PhD students undertake much of the research produced by our institutions. For Australia to continue to a destination of choice for international students, the reputation of our universities will be critical. Here, the Go8 plays an important role for the nation. The reputation of Australia’s universities depends significantly on the research performance of the Go8. Continued investment in this research excellence by government and industry will be important to underpin continued growth in international education. It is pleasing that the government clearly recognises the important of international students to Australia.

Professor Glyn Davis
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE VICE CHANCELLOR

At the University of Melbourne, one of the key desires we have for all our graduates is that they leave the institution equipped to be active global citizens. This is not something that comes about simply by luck. The inbound and outbound mobility of our students, combined with a richly multicultural environment on campus that sees students from more than 120 different nations studying together, contributes greatly to that global learning.

Yet international education goes beyond just learning. The benefits we see as a University community of a worldwide network of engaged alumni are immense, alumni who not only build the brand and reputation of the University through their deeds, but create networks and opportunities for new graduates whether they be working in Australia or around the world.

Professor Warren Bebbington
UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE VICE CHANCELLOR

With the explosive growth of Asian affluence, the international demand for the university education market will grow strongly for years to come. The challenge is whether Australian universities can do what is needed to share in that growth.

Dr Michael Spence
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY VICE CHANCELLOR

So much of Australia’s future depends upon deep knowledge partnerships with the major countries in our region. Welcoming international students to Australia, together with crucial research links, builds capacity both here and overseas. International students fundamentally enrich university life and their presence underpins the development of enduring people-to-people links between countries.