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Welcome to the **August** edition of the Study Melbourne International Education Insider.

This month has been busy with a wide range of events and engagements that strengthen our ties with international students and industry partners.

In a significant nod to the importance of international relationships, Victoria hosted a delegation of 20 Vice-Chancellors from India. Study Melbourne and Visit Victoria also organised an event in Osaka to commemorate Osaka and Melbourne's 45th anniversary as sister cities. Both exemplify Victoria's commitment to fostering global educational ties.

We also had our first meeting of the refreshed [International Education Advisory Council](#), led by the Hon John Brumby AO, and participated in the inaugural [PIE Live Australia](#) conference.

The [Study Melbourne Hub](#) was alive and busy for our first [Everyday Heroes event](#), held as part of our [Empowered series](#). Over 50 excited international students, many still settling into their new Australian life in Melbourne, came together for a night of fun, networking, and learning from their fellow peers about studying and living in Victoria.

We're also excited to share various upcoming events focused on connecting international students, including the [Study Melbourne International Student Careers Fair](#) on 19 September 2023. In partnership with SEEK, this is a terrific opportunity for international students and graduates to connect with Victoria's dynamic business community.

Study Melbourne has also launched new initiatives delivering essential support to international students, including a [Tax Help program](#) to help students lodge their tax returns, and a [new webpage](#) with resources and support services for LGBTQIA+ students. We encourage you to spread the word and share this information with students in your network.

We hope you enjoy this update on the latest news and events. Scroll down to read more about Study Melbourne's recent activities to support Victoria's international education sector.

*The Study Melbourne team*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

## STUDY MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CAREERS FAIR

The Study Melbourne International Student Careers Fair is the first of its kind in Victoria, dedicated to connecting international students and graduates with employers. Please make sure your students don't miss out on this important event to find new career opportunities.

**Date:** 19 September 2023

**Time:** 9:30am – 3:30pm

**Location:** SEEK Headquarters, 60-88  
Cremorne St, Cremorne VIC 3121

More information about the fair, including how students can register, can be found on [our website](#).



We also encourage employers to participate in the Study Melbourne International Student Careers Fair. Register your interest by 4 September on [our website](#).

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## FUTURE FORTE CONFERENCE 2023

Celebrate an international student's remarkable journey in Australia by attending the Future Forte Conference!

**Date:** Saturday 9 September

**Time:** 9am – 5pm

**Where:** Conversation Quarter @ The State Library of Victoria.

Through this conference, Future Forte aims to address the unique challenges faced by international students and provide them with the tools, knowledge, and confidence needed to help fulfil their professional aspirations while managing their wellbeing.

We encourage industry partners to [purchase bundle tickets](#) for your students and staff.



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## STUDY MELBOURNE 101 - AN INTRODUCTION

The Study Melbourne team values working with education providers from across Victoria. In this session, we want to meet you and work together to support and enrich your work with international students.

If you:

- are new to the international education sector and work in international student support, enrichment, or employability
- have heard about Study Melbourne and want to know more
- or are keen to increase your knowledge about Study Melbourne's suite of programs and services



Then [register to join](#) our session on 13 September, hosted at the Study Melbourne Hub (17 Hardware Lane, Melbourne)! Morning tea will be provided. We hope to see you then!

## NEWS & UPDATES

### Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan



Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025 is now available in a [digital format!](#)

[Learn more](#) about how the Victorian Government is working towards establishing Victoria as a global leader in education, recognised for quality, innovation, and inclusion.

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### First meeting of the refreshed International Education Advisory Council



On 8 August, the Victorian Government hosted the first meeting of the refreshed [International Education Advisory Council](#).

At the meeting, the Council discussed key policy reform directions related to international education, including those proposed in the review of Australia's migration system and the Universities Accord process. Priorities for the Council going forward include a continued focus on the student experience and graduate employment outcomes, leveraging alumni relationships to support broader trade and investment objectives, and exploring innovative transnational education models.

The Council is chaired by the Hon John Brumby AO, former Premier of Victoria and current Chancellor of La Trobe University.

## LOCAL ENGAGEMENTS

### Twenty Indian university Vice Chancellors visit Victoria



On Monday 7 August, Study Melbourne hosted a reception and networking event to welcome a visiting delegation of 20 Vice Chancellors from Indian universities. Other attendees included local Victorian Vice Chancellors, senior university staff, Indian community representatives, and EdTech companies active in India.

Danni Jarrett, CEO of Global and Invest Victoria, spoke about Victoria's engagement with India, Study Melbourne and its services, as well as Melbourne's status as Australia's best student city.

The delegation — facilitated by Austrade and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry — spent the day visiting two Victorian universities before coming to the Victorian Government's Investment Centre for the networking event.

Learn more about our Global Education Network and how Victorian education providers can further their engagements abroad on [our website](#).

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## International Student Travel Pass Activation

From the 21 to 25 August, the Study Melbourne team “popped-up” at Melbourne Central to promote the improved International Student Travel Pass (ISTP), with free giveaways and fun activities. The ISTP, which is now available in 90-, 180- or 365-day durations, provides eligible undergraduate international students with a 50% discount on public transport statewide.

Over the week, the Study Melbourne team spoke with hundreds of interested international students and promoted not only the ISTP but also Study Melbourne's suite of services and programs.



Our next pop-up stall will be at **LaTrobe University (Bundoora Campus)** from 12pm - 2pm on 4 and 5 September.

Institutions can sign up to the ISTP scheme at any time. For more details, please visit the [PTV website](#), or contact [internationalstudent@ptv.vic.gov.au](mailto:internationalstudent@ptv.vic.gov.au).

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## Study Melbourne Ambassadors at the ISANA Conference



On 8 September, a panel of four international students, including Study Melbourne Ambassadors, will speak at the [ISANA Vic/Tas conference](#) about the ways Study Melbourne programs and services have enhanced and enriched their student experience.

They will talk about key Study Melbourne initiatives—including the [Study Melbourne Hub](#), the International Student Employment and Accommodation Legal Service ([ISEALS](#)) and the [Empowered student programs](#)—with the aim of encouraging students and education providers to engage and connect with Study Melbourne.

There's still time to [register](#) to attend the ISANA Conference! Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn more about services and initiatives that make a difference for international students.

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## Everyday Heroes – How well do you know Melbourne?

The 2023-24 Everyday Heroes program is officially live! On 3 August, the [Study Melbourne Hub](#) hosted over 50 international students - some enjoying only their second week in Australia - for the first Everyday Heroes event, "How well do you know Melbourne?", delivered by Insider Guides.

The event opened with a Q&A panel featuring experienced international students and alumni, where attendees were able to gain insights and advice on studying and living in Victoria. The rest of the evening comprised of pizza and networking, and a competitive trivia battle between groups that led to new friendships



Learn more about our Everyday Heroes program and how we support students in their transition into studying in Victoria on [our website](#).

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## Bollywood Party at the Study Melbourne Hub

In celebration of the [Indian Film Festival of Melbourne \(IFFM\)](#), a Bollywood-themed party was held at the [Study Melbourne Hub](#).

Study Melbourne ambassadors and students alike bonded over a shared love of Indian films, and enjoyed Indian cuisine, Bollywood trivia, singing, and ticket giveaways to IFFM events.

Did you know that the Study Melbourne Hub can be booked to host your events? Find out more on [our website](#)!



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## Promoting Victoria's International TAFE Micro-Credentials



At the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA) Transnational Education (TNE) Forum in Melbourne on 27 and 28 July, Caroline Hartnett (Study Melbourne) chaired a session "Providing responsive solutions to industry: The evolution of TAFE micro-credentials".

Tim Gilbert (Melbourne Polytechnic) and James Stafford (Holmesglen Institute) outlined the development of a suite of 30 micro-credentials (across 8 subject domains) to meet offshore industry skill gaps, funded by Study Melbourne. The panel explained the framework used to develop the new micro-credentials and why the micro-credentials provide flexibility to meet the needs of offshore industry clients looking for customised and contextualised training options.

Study Melbourne will promote the micro-credentials through its [Global Education Network](#) throughout 2023-24, commencing with a launch at the Study Melbourne Hub in Ho Chi Minh City in late September to align with a delegation of Victorian TAFEs visiting Vietnam.

For further details, please visit the [VTA website](#).

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## The PIE Live Australia 2023



On 24 and 25 July, Study Melbourne was pleased to attend the inaugural [PIE Live Australia](#) conference on the Gold Coast. The 2-day conference connected diverse thought leaders and sector stakeholders to share insights into the latest market trends and issues for international education in the Asia Pacific region.

Acting Director, International Education and Study Melbourne, Caroline Hartnett, hosted a panel exploring the role digital learning plays in diversifying international education. During the conference, Caroline also shared her insights about how Study Melbourne's network of offshore Hubs supports education providers to conduct research and engage with TNE partners, and together with the team from Study Melbourne, enjoyed the opportunity to engage with representatives from across the sector.

## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

### Study Melbourne & Visit Victoria Event in Osaka

This year, Osaka and Melbourne marked their 45th anniversary as sister cities.

On 22 July, an event was organised in Osaka to commemorate this significant occasion, with the theme of showcasing Melbourne's café culture. Co-hosted by Study Melbourne and Visit Victoria, supported by Osaka City, the event comprised talks, latte art demonstrations, and a photography showcase. Attendees also had the opportunity to visit free tasting booths for Prana Chai and Mörk Chocolate, and to learn more about Victoria as a premier destination for study and tourism at Study Melbourne and Visit Victoria's booths.



Learn more about our Global Education Network and how our Education Service Managers can support Victorian education providers with their international outreach by visiting [our website](#).

## SERVICES & SUPPORT

## Study Melbourne Hub (Victoria) – a versatile space for students and stakeholders



While the **Study Melbourne Hub** offers a wide range of events and activities designed to enhance employment options, social connection and student empowerment, at its core, the Hub is a space where students can go to study and meet their fellow students.

We encourage students to make the most of the Hub and the services it has to offer, including free WiFi, tea & coffee, and a reliable, knowledgeable staff team ready to provide support.

We also warmly welcome our Victorian education sector partners to the Study Melbourne Hub at 17 Hardware Lane, which can be also used as a venue to host functions, activities and events to support international students and international partner engagement. Various meeting rooms can also be booked by stakeholders wanting a change of scenery for their monthly meet-ups.

Want to book the Hub for an event or a meeting? Please visit [our website](#) for more information.

**Address:** 17 Hardware Lane, Melbourne

**Opening hours:** 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday

**Phone line:** 1800 056 449, or +61 3 9623 1512 for overseas calls

**Email:** [info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au)

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## Invite Study Melbourne to your orientation



Would you like to introduce your students to Study Melbourne? Study Melbourne can deliver a presentation to your students about the support services and employability programs we offer. We also encourage education providers to plan an orientation visit to the Study Melbourne Hub. Bring a group of students and we'll give you a warm welcome, including a tour of the Hub and a presentation about our range of services. We have merchandise, free tea and coffee, and a warehouse-style study space.

For more information, contact the [Study Melbourne Hub](#) on 1800 056 449 or email [info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au).

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## Additional support for international students

Study Melbourne continues to provide help and support for international students including:

- Legal support through the free [International Student Employment and Accommodation Legal Service](#)
- [Utility relief grants](#) to help pay overdue bills
- Free, one-to-one support and advice through [Partners in Wellbeing](#)
- Information about [family violence and state-wide support services](#).

We encourage you to share these resources with your students.



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