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It has been rewarding and refreshing to connect with students and colleagues in person over the last month at industry events and program celebrations. We share the sector's optimism now international students are returning to campus and we are thrilled to see our student community exploring Melbourne and the wonders of regional Victoria.

Study Melbourne has been busy making sure Victoria's international students feel welcomed, supported, and empowered – whether they are here in Victoria or studying in their home country. This work supports the significant power of work Victorian universities, TAFEs and private colleges are undertaking to support and welcome international students as they commence or continue studies in 2022.



As borders reopen and the sector moves into recovery, there have been several policy announcements and consultations across government, and we continue to work with industry to ensure the sector's views and perspectives are represented.

[The Study Melbourne Country to Coast program](#) has been extremely popular and we are thrilled to offer students the opportunity to explore Victoria's diverse regions. It was also fantastic to share the experience of [Melbourne Fashion Festival](#) in style with some of our offshore students at the [Study Melbourne Hub - Shanghai](#).

Through Study Melbourne, the Victorian Government offers programs and support services to help our international students feel safe, fulfilled and supported.

We recently observed [International Women's Day](#) and embraced the opportunity to be inspired by our talented and strong female international students and leaders of tomorrow through celebrations including the Victoria x Vietnam Female First Symposium delivered through the [Study Melbourne Hub - Ho Chi Minh City](#), and the inspiring Future Female Conference.

Planning is also well underway for the inaugural [Melbourne International Student Week](#) on 7 to 13 May, bringing together the international student community and showcasing the culture and services that Melbourne has to offer. We look forward to seeing you there!

Regards,
The team at Study Melbourne

NEWS & UPDATES



International Student Arrivals

Study Melbourne continues to work with the sector to support the arrival of international students to Victoria, and to warmly welcome returning and commencing students.

We offer dedicated resources for students who are travelling to Victoria from overseas, and for those who have just arrived.

Connect your students to Study Melbourne's [International Student Arrivals](#) and [Welcome to Melbourne, Victoria web pages](#) to help them settle into student life, learn about support services and programs for international students in Victoria and find helpful checklists and resources.

Peer worker project provides crucial mental health support for international students



[The Study Melbourne Inclusion Program](#) is proud to support Elvis Martin - an international student mental health peer worker, using his experience to help other international students living in Melbourne.

Elvis's role is part of a pilot project led by youth mental health organisation [Orygen](#) in partnership with higher education provider [Melbourne Polytechnic](#) and [RMIT](#).

Since November, Mr Martin has raised awareness of mental health within the international student community at Melbourne Polytechnic, and helped students connect with this support

when they need it.

Orygen's Associate Director, Employment and Education Partnerships, Gina Chinnery, said the project's goal was to reach up to 100 international students experiencing mental health challenges.

Please visit the [Industry section](#) of the Study Melbourne website for more information.

University roundtable with the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Australia



Study Melbourne was proud to host His Excellency Dato' Roslan Abdul Rahman, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Australia, for a university roundtable on 10 March.

As part of the High Commissioner's first official visit to Melbourne, the roundtable was an opportunity for Victorian universities to learn about the education opportunities with Malaysia.

With nearly 12,000 Malaysian students enrolled with Victorian education providers in 2020, Malaysia is Victoria's largest international education market in Southeast Asia and fourth-largest overall.

The roundtable reaffirmed the long-standing commitment that many Victorian universities have to the Malaysian market. The High Commissioner and our universities expressed a shared interest in further developing Victoria-Malaysia education and research partnerships and increased two-way student mobility.

To find out more about opportunities in Malaysia, please contact Cassie Tam, Education Services Director in Malaysia, at cassandra.tam@global.vic.gov.au.

Study Melbourne Online Teacher Training Showcase



Study Melbourne, in partnership with [FutureLearn](#), has curated a selection of 10 online modules for schoolteachers in Southeast Asia. The project is promoting Victoria's strengths in teacher

education and as a world-class study destination.

Courses cover topics such as teaching children with additional needs, using storytelling as a teaching tool, flipped teaching, and communicating in English.

The Showcase has seen more than 5,000 enrolments from 138 countries, with the highest number of enrolments from India, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Study Melbourne would like to thank the following institutions which have contributed courses for the showcase: Deakin University, Federation University, Melbourne Polytechnic, Holmesglen TAFE, Australian Catholic University, The Australian Council for Educational Research, Deakin University English Language Institute (DUELI), and the StoryBox Library.

Multi-Study Hub fashion event



In celebration of Melbourne Fashion Week the Shanghai Hub held a runway show by designer and RMIT alumni Cindy Zhang.

On 4 February, the [Study Melbourne Hubs](#) launched the first cross-Hub live event, in celebration of [Melbourne Fashion Week](#), showcasing the versatility and potential of the Study Hub initiative to raise the profile of Victorian education across different industry areas and multiple markets.

Promoting the state's education strengths in fashion and design, a runway show by designer and RMIT alumni Cindy Zhang was the [Shanghai Hub](#) event's highlight, featuring elegant designs worn by Victorian alumni and students who were thrilled to be catwalk models for a night.

Enthusiastic in-person and virtual attendees participating via live video links from the Study Melbourne Hubs in Shanghai, [Ho Chi Minh City](#), and [India](#), were treated to a talk by Karen Webster, Dean and Principal of LCI Melbourne. She presented her unique take on Melbourne as a fashion hub, followed by an [inspiring film](#) showcasing the graduate projects of fashion design students from Victorian institutions.

Students based in the Ho Chi Minh City Hub also put their creativity to work in a sketching contest that combined traditional Vietnamese and modern fashion.

The Study Melbourne Hubs are a free resource for Victorian education sector stakeholders (including education providers, educators, EdTech companies and agents) to organise and hold activities and events to support student or partner engagement.

Find out more on the [Industry section](#) of the Study Melbourne website.

Please share the [Study Melbourne Hubs](#) page with your student networks for information about the latest events and support services.

Victoria x Vietnam Female First Symposium



In celebration of [International Women's Day 2022](#), Study Melbourne proudly delivered the Victoria x Vietnam Female First Symposium on 15 March.

The event featured an inspiring line-up of speakers from higher education partnerships between Victoria and Vietnam, including leaders from Deakin University, La Trobe University, Monash University, Swinburne University, University of Melbourne, Victoria University, Hanoi University, University of Danang and FUNix.

Delivered online and at the [Study Melbourne Hub Ho Chi Minh City](#), the panel discussions were an opportunity for female entrepreneurs, researchers and innovators to share their insights and experiences on female leadership in the education sector and female participation in STEM fields.

The Symposium was also a point of reflection on the enduring education partnerships between Victorian and Vietnamese universities and their commitment to female inclusivity and empowerment.

EVENTS & KEY DATES

Study Melbourne agent info session India 2022

Calling all Nepal education agents to join our upcoming agent info session. This month's session is introducing agents from Nepal to how they can benefit from free events and activities offered by the Study Melbourne Hub India.

[Study Melbourne Hub India](#) is a unique Victorian Government initiative, helping South Asian students and alumni to enhance their career, increase social connections and foster personal development. The hub supports existing students and alumni to enhance their connections to studying in Victoria, and future students looking for a pathway to our world-leading education providers.

Study Melbourne's Agent Info Session series focuses on a different market in South Asia each month. Stay tuned for upcoming sessions for Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bhutan.

[Join us](#) to find out how agents can make the most of the virtual hub.

Event details:

- **Date:** 8 April 2022
- **Time:** 11.30 AM to 12.30 PM IST
- **Venue:** Virtual
- **Cost:** Free - [Register to participate](#)



Study Melbourne Country to Coast

[The Country to Coast program](#) has provided international students with the opportunity to explore regional Victoria. Our recent trips offered different activities such as surfing, whale watching and wildlife walks, while the cultural activities helped students understand the local indigenous culture and history.

"This trip was the first stepping stone for me towards exploring Australia. It was an absolute pleasure to meet a large group of international students & I enjoyed every bit of the 3 day trip. I would like to recommend other international students to at least try 1 trip with Beyond Melbourne and the amount of happiness you get will be just fabulous!" — Param Trivedi, Deakin University (Master of Architecture).



Event details:

- **Date:** 23 April 2022 (1 day program)
- **Location:** Phillip Island
- **Cost:** \$35/per person - [Book now.](#)

For more excursions visit the [Study Melbourne Country to Coast webpage.](#)

International Education Sector Briefings 2022

Delivered by our Commissioners and Global Education Network in market, [monthly sector briefings](#) provide on the ground market intelligence and updates regarding new opportunities, student/agent feedback, competitor activities, changes to education policies and various Victorian Government business development activities in market. Each month has a focus on a different country or region.



Event details for South Asia:

- **Date:** 26 April 2022
- **Time:** 2:00 – 3:00pm AEST
- **Location:** Online
- **Cost:** Free - For the full schedule of our upcoming market briefings register via our [Eventbrite page.](#)

Contact Atal Samad at atal.samad@global.vic.gov.au for further enquiries.

Melbourne International Student Week

The inaugural [Melbourne International Student Week \(MISW\)](#) celebrates the return of international students to Victoria, centred around a launch weekend of festivities at Federation Square on 7-8 May – including live music, comedy, dance classes, free food and giveaways – followed by a week-long program of activities delivered by education providers and other organisations until 13 May.

We encourage our industry colleagues to take part in this event and share more information about the week with your student communities. To get involved, visit the [MISW website](#) or contact info@misw.org.au



Event details:

- **Date:** 7 - 13 May 2022
- **Location:** Federation Square (7 – 8 May) and locations around Melbourne (9 – 13 May)
- **Cost:** Free

MARKET ENGAGEMENT

Travel benefits and privileges for Victorian university students

A national carrier in Malaysia is interested to offer preferred partner status to all Victorian universities through a student travel program. This will be led by the Victorian Government Trade & Investment Network in Kuala Lumpur. Under the MHexplorer programme, students gain access to cheaper fares, additional baggage allowances, flexible travel dates and special promotions for friends and family.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Cassie Tam, Education Services Director in Malaysia, at cassandra.tam@global.vic.gov.au.

Franchise partner opportunity with Malaysian private college



With a legacy of 40 years as a private educational institution, a Malaysian college is looking for a Victorian university franchise partner to jointly deliver 3+0 undergraduate programs. Areas of study include Business (Finance, Accounting, Marketing, International Business) and IT (Computer Science, Data Analytics and Networking & Security).

For more information, please contact Cassie Tam, Education Services Director in Malaysia, at cassandra.tam@global.vic.gov.au.

SERVICES & SUPPORT



Support for international students in need

Study Melbourne continues to provide help and support through our dedicated [COVID-19 support hub](#). We encourage you to share this resource with your students.

International students in Victoria can access other support, including:

- confidential support and practical help through the [Study Melbourne Student Centre](#)
- [free legal advice](#) on accommodation and employment matters
- a dedicated [COVID-19 support hub](#)
- help to find work through the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- [utility relief grants](#) to help pay overdue bills
- free, one-to-one support and advice to international students through the [Partners in Wellbeing team](#)
- for information about family violence and state-wide support services visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).

COVID-19 UPDATE



COVID-19 vaccine third dose | Coronavirus Victoria

If you are aged 18 and over and you had your second dose three or more months ago, you are due for your third dose now. For more information about COVID-19 Pfizer and Moderna third doses visit the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

Victoria's current restriction levels

Victoria has moved to COVIDSafe Settings. For updates on current restrictions, please visit the

[Victorian Government's coronavirus website.](#)

Support for Victorian businesses

[Government assistance](#) is available for Victorian businesses impacted by COVID-19.



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