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Welcome to the **May 2023** edition of the Study Melbourne International Education Insider.

While the weather's starting to cool, we're showing no signs of slowing down. [The Victorian International Education Awards 2023](#) is in full swing, with applications open until **Monday 5 June 2023**. We encourage you to apply for one of 9 awards we have on offer, with 2 new categories opened for "Outstanding EdTech Provider of the Year" and "International Student Employer of the Year". Don't miss your chance to be recognised for your contributions to the international education sector.

We're delighted that the [Hon. John Brumby AO](#) has been reappointed as Chair of the State's International Education Advisory Council, along with the reappointment and appointment of several international education leaders. The Council provides strategic advice to the Minister for Trade and Investment on risks and opportunities for a more innovative and competitive international education sector in Victoria.

We've enjoyed terrific engagement with Vietnam this year, which will be further strengthened with an upcoming high-level university outbound mission to Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City led by the Hon. John Brumby AO. The mission will focus on Victoria's research and innovation strengths and involve delegates engaging with senior officials from the Vietnamese Government (including the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education and Training), alumni, innovators, and key industry stakeholders.

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

- The Study Melbourne team

NEWS & UPDATES

Apply NOW for the 2023 Victorian International Education Awards



The deadline for applications to the **2023 Victorian International Education Awards** is fast approaching.

The Victorian International Education Awards, presented by Study Melbourne, is an initiative started by the Victorian Government to recognise institutions, businesses and not-for-profits who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to enhancing the experiences of international students (beyond academic support) and showcasing their value to the Victorian community.

The awards ceremony will recognise winners across 9 different categories, including:

1. Excellence in International Student Experience
2. Excellence in International Education – TAFE
3. Excellence in International Education – Private Education and Training
4. Excellence in International Education – English Language Training
5. Excellence in International Education – University
6. Outstanding EdTech Provider of the Year (NEW)
7. Excellence in Innovation in Partnerships and International Engagement
8. Excellence in International Student Employability and Career Development
9. International Student Employer of the Year (NEW)

Applications close on **Monday 5 June at 11:59 pm AEST**.

Visit [our website](#) for more information.

Appointments and reappointments to Victoria's International Education Advisory Council

The [Hon John Brumby AO has been reappointed](#) as Chair of Victoria's International Education Advisory Council, with several international education leaders also newly appointed, or reappointed as members for 2023-25.

The Council advises the Minister for Trade and Investment on issues and policies relating to Victoria's international education sector. Council Chair and members provide strategic advice on risks and opportunities for a more innovative and competitive international education sector, support implementation and review of the government's international education policy and provide consultation through member stakeholder networks.

Since 2020, the Council has played a critical role in advising government on sector stabilisation and recovery. This includes contributing to the successful implementation of short-term recovery initiatives, the development of [Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025](#) and the establishment of [Victoria's Commitment to Action: improving international student employment outcomes](#).

To find out about the members of the IEAC, visit [our website](#).

Study Melbourne Inclusion Program 2023 – Supported projects



The **Study Melbourne Inclusion Program (SMIP)** forms part of Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025 and addresses key issues affecting international students, such as social isolation, mental health, employability and cultural competency.

Since its inception in 2015, the Program has funded 134 projects and supported more than 230,000 students while building the international education sector's capacity to assist international students in a better way.

This year, Study Melbourne has funded 15 projects that will help support international students and their wellbeing while enhancing their time in Melbourne and in regional Victoria. Initiatives include:

- *The NGV Language Exchange program*, which welcomes international students from non-English speaking backgrounds to participate in art-inspired programs designed to encourage social connection and build their confidence with conversational English,
- *The International Student Mental Health Peer Work project* by Orygen, which lets international students use their own experiences with mental health and moving to Australia to support their peers, and
- *The Melbourne Victory x Student FC program* by Melbourne Victory Football Club, which will recruit 100 international students to train and play football, helping to build relationships with other club members and provide opportunities to practise their language skills.

You can learn more about the SMIP and all the funded projects on [our website](#).

MARKET ENGAGEMENT

Workshop reflections – How to rock your profile and optimise your career prospects on LinkedIn



On 22 April, Study Melbourne Hub Ho Chi Minh City held an employability workshop focused on how to improve a LinkedIn profile to optimise career prospects. Approximately 20 participants were in attendance, including students and alumni from Victorian and Vietnamese universities.

The event kicked off with a meaningful information session from Harvey Tran, a La Trobe University alumnus, providing insights on how to build a strong e-resume, an impressive personal brand and tips on effective professional networking skills using LinkedIn. Study

Melbourne also provided a free profile photo shooting session for all attendees.

Thu Huynh, an alumna from RMIT Vietnam, shared that *“the useful LinkedIn tips were very helpful, and the photo shooting session truly allowed me to enhance my resume credibility.”*

At the Study Melbourne Hub Ho Chi Minh City, we provide not only a vibrant space for learning and networking but also opportunities to contribute to our education network and increase Victorian student and alumni skills through meaningful activities.

For more information about our events and activities, please head to [our website](#).

Study Melbourne agent workshop in Shenzhen



On 15 April, Study Melbourne, in conjunction with Global Education Alliance (GEA), delivered an Agent Workshop in Shenzhen, attended by 50 education counsellors from the Greater Bay Area.

Gabriel Sun, Study Melbourne Education Services Manager, delivered an interactive session alongside 5 Victorian university representatives from La Trobe University, Australian Catholic University, Deakin University, RMIT University and Swinburne University.

This was the first Study Melbourne joint event held post pandemic and was dedicated to informing education stakeholders in the region about [Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025](#) and most up to date university offerings.

Study Melbourne is committed to being the market leader in China and promoting Melbourne and Victoria as Australia's best study destination.

Learn more about our Global Education Network on [our website](#).

Study Melbourne Hub Shanghai – Coffee culture and pour-over coffee workshop



On 15 April, Study Melbourne Hub Shanghai hosted a Melbourne coffee culture and pour-over coffee workshop. Twenty prospective students and alumni attended the workshop and learned about Melbourne's vibrant coffee culture and how to make pour-over coffee. All the coffee beans were roasted in Victoria.

It was terrific to meet prospective students who showed a strong interest in studying in Melbourne and were enthusiastic about its coffee culture. We hope that the workshop created a strong networking community for these prospective students at the Hub.

Learn more about our Study Melbourne Shanghai Hub on [our website](#).

Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur - Coffee and Comedy Night



At the Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur, over 110 attendees braved the rain to enjoy our Coffee and Comedy Night.

The event, which coincided with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, featured three comedians—Gajen Nad, Phoon Chi Ho, and Aw Yuong Tuck—all of whom are Victorian alumni.

In addition to their stellar comedy sets, the audience was treated to a selection of Victorian tea and coffee, a homage to Melbourne's famous coffee culture.

A night filled with laughs and caffeine was also a great opportunity for students to network and socialise, including New Colombo Plan (NCP) scholars.

Through the Victorian Government, the Study Melbourne Hub remains committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive community for international students, uplifting and supporting them with a wide range of programs of events.

If you're interested in learning more about Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur, please visit [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.

With free WiFi, tea, and coffee, as well as reliable, knowledgeable staff ready to support students wherever they may be in their education journey, we encourage students to come and stop by, and enjoy the services we have to offer.

We 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

24/7 phone line:

- Local call: 1800 056 449
- Overseas call: +61 3 9623 1512

Email: info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au

Jobs Victoria Advocates at the Study Melbourne Hub every Monday and Thursday!



Every **Monday** from 12 pm to 4 pm and every **Thursday** from 1 pm to 3 pm, advocates from Jobs Victoria will be at the Study Hub to assist international students with their job search. The service can:

- Help students find employment support, training and education
- Share information and tips about getting a job
- Support students to apply for jobs on the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- Connect students to other services such as housing support or counselling

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](#)
- Help to find part-time work through the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- [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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