Australia and International Education - Where to now?

Address to the 3rd Asia-Pacific International Education Forum, Adelaide, August 2013

Claire Field, Chief Executive Officer
Australia’s tertiary education system

• 173 higher education providers – 38 public universities, 11 TAFEs, **124 private higher education providers**

• 4,860 vocational education and training providers – 58 TAFEs, approx 400 enterprise, union and government training providers, **approx 4,400 private providers**

• **ACPET – 21 years as peak industry association**
  – approx 1,000 members
  – half deliver only to local students
  – half deliver education to Australian & international students
International tertiary students

- Private
- Public

2008: 58% Private, 42% Public
2009: 45% Private, 55% Public
2010: 41% Private, 59% Public
2011: 36% Private, 64% Public
2012: 44% Private, 56% Public
2013: 45% Private, 55% Public
Enrolments by sector

HE

VET

ELICOS

Private

Public

www.acpet.edu.au

Creating futures
Private tertiary enrolments

2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013
---|---|---|---|---|---
ELICOS | VET | HE
0 | 40,000 | 60,000 | 80,000 | 100,000 | 120,000 | 140,000 | 160,000 | 180,000
Visa applications lodged offshore
On and offshore visa applications VET
On and offshore visa applications ELICOS
Unused capacity in VET

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>NSW</th>
<th>VIC</th>
<th>QLD</th>
<th>TAS</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>NT</th>
<th>Total Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRICOS capacity</td>
<td>83,495</td>
<td>77,839</td>
<td>38,197</td>
<td>1,040</td>
<td>9,087</td>
<td>16,619</td>
<td>1,852</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>228,289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrolments</td>
<td>37,500</td>
<td>29,139</td>
<td>14,103</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>4,062</td>
<td>7,530</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>93,180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percentages</td>
<td>44.9%</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>89.4%</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
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A plan for international education

International Education Advisory Council
– Michael Chaney AO
– The Hon Bruce Baird AM
– Prof Ian Chubb AC
– Claire Field
– The Hon Dr Geoff Gallop AC
– Prof Margaret Gardner AO
– Ross Love
– Chris Madden
– Dr Geoff Raby
– Virginia Simmons AO
– Jennifer Westacott
Issues & recommendations

Coordination

– Ministerial Coordinating Council on International Education
  • Ministers
  • Peak bodies (ACPET)
  • Business
  • State/Territory representative

– Oversee five year international strategy
Issues & recommendations

Quality

– Monitor TEQSA & ASQA and refine regulatory processes
– Consolidate regulation for dual/multi-sector providers
– Continue to progress international recognition of AQF qualifications
– Ensure new regulations are not ‘one size fits all’
Issues & recommendations

Quality

– Investigate seeding initiatives for innovative online delivery
– TEQSA & ASQA to focus on transnational education
– Ensure providers maintain students’ English language proficiency
– Grow excellence in STEM capability
Issues & recommendations

A positive student experience

– Ensure international students are treated equally regarding transport concessions
– Appropriate treatment in public hospitals
– Promote meaningful engagement with domestic students & communities
– Review off-campus accommodation
Issues & recommendations

A positive student experience

– Promote opportunities for work experience during & after studies

– Austrade to undertake an assessment & analysis of emerging markets to develop a strategy to support increased diversification of international students
Issues & recommendations

Partnerships

- Monitor OS-HELP & consider extending to private students
- Increase proportion of school students studying a foreign language
- National research policy settings to drive collaboration between Australian institutions & encourage international engagement
Issues & recommendations

Partnerships

– Incentives for more exchanges – research, teaching, course development & offering joint qualifications

– Specific country strategies to encourage partnerships

– Use industry champions to identify potential links between Australian providers & overseas businesses
Issues & recommendations

Partnerships

– Encourage VET providers to commercialise IP & training in traditional & emerging markets
– Support Australian providers offshore through participation in AusAid programs
– Support Australian providers interested in partnerships in potential regional education hubs (eg Singapore, Malaysia)
Issues & recommendations

Integrity – student visa program

– Conduct a review of GTE to address unintended consequences
– Expedite streamlined visa processing for low risk providers
– Educate employers on benefits of employing international students
– Consider increased skilled migration points from an Australian education
Issues & recommendations

Data analysis & research
  – Establish an Australia-Asia International Education Research Network

Competition, promotion and marketing
  – Annual review of Austrade’s performance
  – Communications campaign on benefits international students bring to Australia
  – Increased promotion in emerging regions
The future of international education

- OECD/UNESCO identify an increase in internationally mobile students from 2 million in 2000 to 4 million in 2010 (7% annual increase)
- Expected to increase to 7 million by 2020
- 50% are expected to seek an English-language education
- OECD recognises Australia as 3rd most popular country for international students (2010)
The policy changes Australia needs

- Streamlined visa processing for small and large low-risk providers
- Remove Genuine Temporary Entrant criterion
- Post-study work arrangements extended to international VET students
- Implement the recommendations of the International Education Advisory Council
- Incentives to deliver more VET offshore
Working collaboratively for change

- November 2010 – education peak body meeting with key Ministers & Opposition
- 2013 – regular meetings and joint Communiques
- ACPET, English Australia & Austrade – joint promotion of Australia as a study destination (ICEF)
- International collaboration – Singapore, India, New Zealand, South Africa, Thailand. Plus ACPET China & regular delegations across the region
Keeping in contact

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