

## **MEDIA RELEASE 08/2011**

**14 September 2011**

### **Transforming Australia's University System**

Today marks the passing of legislation through the Senate which will ensure from 2012 that all students who are ready for university will be able to gain a place.

The bill creates a major transformation in higher education funding by allowing students and universities more flexibility to choose and offer degree places based on demand.

“The passing of this bill has confirmed the changes proposed by Government, following the Bradley Report, will now come into place. Universities have been preparing for the new system for some time and will now be able to increase their numbers confident that the funding for students will be there into the future,” Professor Ian O’Connor, IRU Chair.

“IRU universities are pleased be able to offer more opportunities and flexibility to students who wish to attend university.”

As a network, social inclusion is an area of strength. IRU has a track record for its commitment to Low SES, Indigenous, Remote and Rural Students, with over 15% of our students coming from these backgrounds. Operating in over 40 locations across metropolitan, outer-metropolitan, regional and remote campuses means the new funding arrangements will provide opportunities and meet the aspirations of students in these areas.

#### **Contact**

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