

AUSTRALIA'S INNOVATIVE **UNIVERSITIES IN ASIA**

A network of seven world class, research intensive universities.

IRU universities were established as comprehensive research intensive universities between the mid 1960s and 1970s.

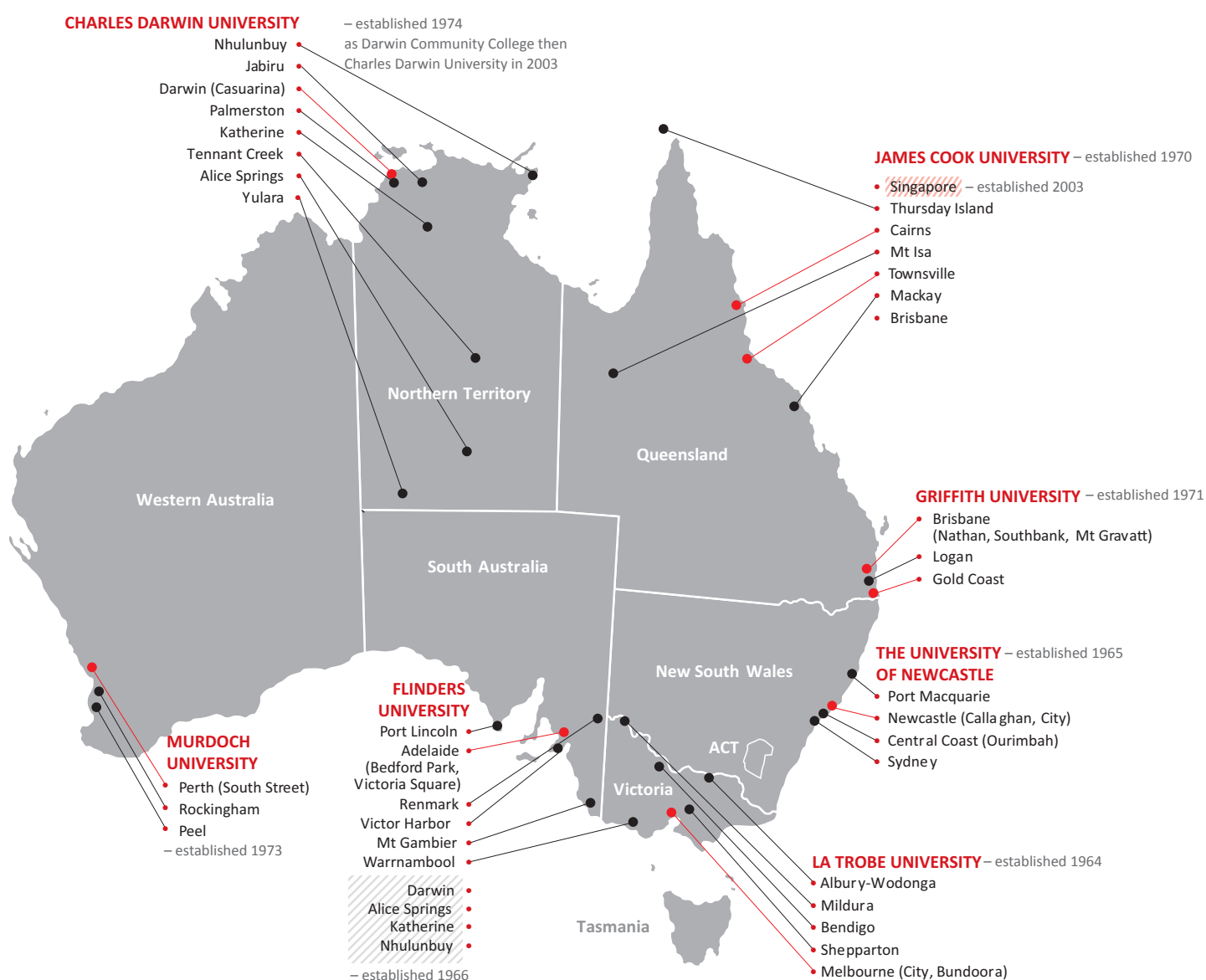


TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW	5
1. WORKING WITH ASIA SINCE THE 1960S	6
» Colombo Plan Scholars	6
» Asian studies: the early days 1970s to 1980s – educating Australian students	8
» Asian focused research centres – commencing 1991	9
2. EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS	10
» IRU alumni networks	10
» Distinguished alumni	11
3. AUSTRALIA'S ASIA GENERATION	14
» Asian focused degrees, and languages	14
» Australian students in Asia	15
» Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards	16
4. WORKING WITH ASIA NOW: POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS	17
» Australian degrees available in Asia	17
» Teaching partnership highlights	18
» Collaborative research in Asia - addressing international challenges in our region.	19
» Health Sciences	19
» Environmental Sciences	20
» Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences	21
» Spotlight on the Chinese Academy of Sciences	22
5. FUTURE DIRECTIONS	23

Rankings

We are young universities who are consistently highly ranked in various international indices and league tables.

- In 2012, 5 of our members were in the Times Higher Education, world's top 100 universities under 50 years old.

Students

Innovative teaching and student wellbeing is part of our ethos.

- Each year we teach over 175,000 students, including over 41,000 international students
- Approximately 15% of our students are from Asia.

Research

We are known for our multidisciplinary research strengths.

- 74% of all research undertaken at our universities is classified as, 'at', 'above' or 'well above' world standard

Visit www.iru.edu.au/research-strengths.aspx to see our world class research disciplines.



OVERVIEW

Australia's Innovative Universities in Asia

IRU universities have a long history of engagement with Asia which provides us with a substantial platform for supporting much closer engagement in the future.

Engagement with Asia is now a bi-partisan objective that is crucial to Australia's future prosperity. We welcome the renewed focus on Asia which the expertise and experience of IRU members can help drive.

The Government's Asian Century statement provides a thorough analysis of the challenges and opportunities for stronger engagement. It has reworked the OS-HELP scheme to give greater weight to study and relevant professional experience in Asia. The Coalition has made a similar case and is developing policy proposals to support much higher levels of Australian students studying in Asia and to upscale the take up of online university education from Asia.

The policies recognise that Australia's prosperity requires effective interaction with the growing world economies of our region, all of which are closer to northern Australia than the southern State capitals. Effective interaction is two-way, building off the strengths and opportunities of each partner.

As universities we contribute in four major ways:

1. We have long educated significant numbers of Asian citizens, creating a much stronger and more capable workforce in their home countries;
2. We are building Australian students' capability through extensive Asian focussed content in our degrees and supporting more and more Australian students studying or practicing their future professions in Asia;
3. We research on issues of major importance to Australia and our Asian neighbours, research that is increasingly conducted via partnerships with researchers in Asia's universities;
4. We support development in countries such as Timor Leste, to assist them on the path to matching the outcomes of other Asian countries.

In this publication we show our long history of engagement with Asia, the outcomes to date, and set out our plans to do more in the years to come.

Through the IRU network we plan to deliver in 2014:

- a wider range of courses and practicums in Asia, using the presence of other Australian students to overcome the challenges that living in Asia can pose;
- an IRU Asian Languages Network, to overcome the pressure on individual languages in each university creating both:
 - » strong interest in degree majors in Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian and Hindi; and
 - » a diploma of languages for students of all degrees.
- continued engagement and strengthening of our strong links with Malaysia's universities including research collaboration and researcher exchange;
- further collective engagement with other Asian countries, including China and Indonesia.



Professor Barney Glover
Chair, IRU
May 2013

1.

WORKING WITH ASIA SINCE THE 1960s

IRU universities have been engaging with Asia¹ since their inception in the 1960s and 70s. The network's engagement in the region is deep and multileveled, beginning with the arrival of Colombo Plan scholars in the 1960s, followed shortly thereafter with the commencement of Australia's first degree in Asian studies in the 1970s and the early formation of Asian research centres. These early connections laid the foundation for a rich and varied alumni network which remains strong today.

Colombo Plan Scholars

The Colombo Plan, was a bilateral scheme developed in early 1950s that sponsored thousands of Asian students to study in Australian tertiary institutions.

This decade marks the 60th Anniversary of the approximately 30,000 Colombo Plan students from regional countries, who studied in Australia.

Colombo Plan scholars came to IRU universities, commencing in the 1960s, attending our campuses in:

- Newcastle, The University of Newcastle
- Adelaide, Flinders University
- Melbourne, La Trobe University
- Perth, Murdoch University; and
- Townsville, James Cook University

Many of the Colombo Plan students have gone on to forge distinguished careers and leadership positions in their home countries. The connections established during this time are still alive today.

A small sample is presented below.

The University of Newcastle



Minister Khaw Boon Wan
Malaysia
**Minister for National Development,
Singapore**

- Bachelor of Engineering 1978 (University Medal), Bachelor of Commerce 1978, Doctor of Engineering honoris causa 2002
- Inaugural recipient of the 2011 Eminent Award at the Austrade Australia Singapore Alumni Awards in Singapore

Minister Khaw Boon Wan is a remarkable University of Newcastle alumnus. He has gained national and international distinction as an outstanding member of the Singaporean Government, in particular for his achievements in the role of Singapore's Minister for Health 2004 to 2011.

Minister Khaw is currently the Minister for National Development responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies related to land use planning and infrastructure development.



Mrs Cheong-Chua Koon Hean
Singapore
**Chief Executive Officer,
Housing and Development Board,
Singapore**

- Bachelor of Science 1979, Bachelor of Architecture (First Class Honours and University Medal) 1981, Doctor of Architecture, honoris causa 2010
- Recipient of the 2010 convocation medal for professional excellence

Mrs Cheong-Chua Koon Hean is recognised for her extensive experience in urban policy and governance, strategic planning, urban design and conservation.

From 2004 to 2010 she was the Chief Executive Officer of Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority where she distinguished herself as a global leader in urban planning.

Mrs Cheong-Chua is currently Chief Executive Officer of Singapore's Housing and Development Board, a 5,000 strong organisation which is responsible for housing 82% of Singapore's population in comprehensively planned towns.

¹ The definition of which countries include Asia vary depending upon data sources. For the purposes of this document we include the following 26 countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

Flinders University

Mr Lee Pheng Soon
Singapore
*Regional Medical Director,
Mead Johnson, Singapore*

- Bachelor of Science 1977,
Bachelor of Science (Hons) 1978

Mead Johnson is a global leader in pediatric nutrition which develops, manufactures, markets and distributes more than 70 products in over 50 markets worldwide.

Mr Edmond Khoo
Singapore
Deputy Principal, Temasek Polytechnic

- Bachelor of Economics 1975

Temasek Polytechnic is a significant contributor to the field of paraprofessional education in Singapore.

Flinders University is one of a number of universities which accords the Temasek Polytechnic Diploma advanced standing towards degree studies.

La Trobe University

Professor Swee-Hin Toh
Malaysia
*Distinguished Professor
and Consultant*

- Bachelor of Science Chemistry 1969,
Diploma of Education 1972

Professor Swee-Hin Toh is Distinguished Professor and long-term Consultant, Office of the Vice-Rector of the United Nations mandated University for Peace, with headquarters in Costa Rica.

He came to La Trobe University as a Colombo Plan scholar from Malaysia in 1967.

In 2000, Professor Toh won the UNESCO prize for Peace Education.



Datin Paduka Professor Jamilah Binti Ariffin
Malaysia
Adjunct Professor La Trobe University

- Bachelor of Arts Hons, Sociology 1972

Professor Jamilah was a Colombo Plan student at La Trobe University commencing in 1968 and is now an Adjunct Professor.

Her research promotes understanding of gender and development and family and social change in Malaysia. She founded the Asia-Pacific Forum on Families Malaysia.

Murdoch University

Associate Professor Gamini Senanayake
Sri Lanka
*Associate Professor, School of
Engineering and Information
Technology, Murdoch University*

- Graduate Diploma Mineral Science (Extractive Metallurgy) , PhD Hydrometallurgy 1986

Following his PhD Associate Professor Senanayake was senior lecturer at the University of Sri Lanka for 7 years. He joined Murdoch University in 1993.

He an active researcher, professional member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and on the editorial board of Elsevier's International Journal of Hydrometallurgy.

Associate Professor Mohammed Anuar Bin Osman
Pakistan
*Head and Studies Director, Institute of Systems Biology
University Kebangsaan Malaysia*

- PhD 1987

Professor Osman graduated with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Agriculture in Pakistan, and under his Colombo Plan scholarship, went onto complete a PhD research program into the immunogenicity and pathogenicity of infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis (pink eye, in cattle).

Professor Osman has continued his work in systems biology, and now also undertakes specialist research and practice in animal toxicity testing. He has been awarded several large research grants for his work in biotechnology.

“Over 80 Colombo Plan Scholars from Singapore studied at The University of Newcastle. Over the last few years in an effort led by Mr Peter Tay - Bachelor Of Engineering (Ind) 1972; Bachelor Of Arts (Econs) 1973 – the scholars have given back a range of scholarships for Australian students, in recognition of the great difference the Colombo Plan made in their own lives.”

Asian studies: the early days 1970s to 1980s – educating Australian students

Since their inception, our members have emphasised the importance of Asia to Australia's future.

In 1975 Griffith University and Murdoch University and in 1976 Flinders University, commenced offering Asian studies, the same year that Australia became the first external ASEAN² dialogue partner.

- 1975 Griffith University – Bachelor of Asian studies - Australia's first undergraduate degree in Asian studies
- 1975 Murdoch University – Southeast Asian studies - Chinese studies and offering Chinese, Indonesia and Malay languages.
- 1976 Flinders University – Asian Studies - 1989 Asian Studies Major with Indonesian

Griffith's *School of Modern Asian Studies* was founded in 1975, lead by Professor Colin Mackerras AO. Professor Mackerras inspired generations of Australian students to take on the challenge of studying in China, and in doing so, helped Asian Studies become a thriving and well recognised area of study.



Emeritus Professor Colin Mackerras AO FAHA one of Australia's leading China scholars

In 2011 Griffith University established the world's first Tourism Confucius Institute with China University of Mining and Technology, with Professor Mackerras as its first Director.

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTES	ESTABLISHED
Griffith University + China University of Mining and Technology	2011
The University of Newcastle + Central Normal University, China	2011
La Trobe University + Chongqing University	2011
Charles Darwin University + Anhui Normal University and Hainan University	2012

Flinders University first offered Asian studies in 1976, the same year The Asian Studies Association of Australia was founded to promote and support the study of Asia in Australia.



The Association's flagship journal "The Asian Studies Review", is edited by Dr Michael Barr, Flinders University.

Today Flinders University, Griffith University, Murdoch University and La Trobe University have some of the strongest Asian studies programs in Australia.

“In 1989 La Trobe University had the second largest number of students in Australia studying undergraduate subjects on Asia.”

² Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), founded in 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand

Asian focused research centres – commencing in 1991

The early days of teaching and research set in motion the creation of Asian focused research centres at IRU universities.

- Charles Darwin University
 - Centre for Southeast Asian Studies (1991-1998)
- Murdoch University
 - The Asia Research Centre 1991
- Griffith University
 - Griffith Asia Institute 1991

The Asia Research Centre – Murdoch University

The Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University investigates the impact of the new middle classes which emerged in Southeast Asia following a decade of economic boom in the 1980s. With more than half of the current 18 core researchers having secured one or more of Australia Research Council Discovery Project Grants, the Centre has developed to become one of Australia's leading concentrations of expertise on South East Asia.

In the 1990s, to assist businesses becoming interested in Southeast Asia as an export market, the Asia Research Centre hosted an array of conferences and briefings for businesses eager to learn about tax regimes, investment laws and labour relations in countries like Indonesia and Vietnam.

With the Asian Financial Crisis during the latter part of the 1990s, the Centre's researchers were at the forefront of attempts to explain the suddenness with which Asia's economies took a strong downturn, hosting a workshop on the issue which was addressed by then Foreign Minister Alexander Downer.

The Centre's pioneering studies have created a framework, known as the Murdoch School of political economy, for explaining the nature of political contestation in Asia as well as the fortunes of Asian economies.

The *Murdoch Commission* (established 2013) is a major international commission of inquiry into the evolving interactions and relationships between Asia, Western Australia, and Australia more generally.

The commission examines Western Australia's broad development potential and produces a targeted, evidence-based analysis of the prospects of Western Australia in the Asian Region, generating practical insight for policy development.

The Griffith Asia Institute

The Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) with over 50 academic staff, including several Research Fellows, is a leading centre of Asia-focussed research. It promotes theoretically informed and policy relevant research outcomes with an emphasis on traditional and non-traditional security, international business and economics, and the human protection hub.

In addition to its research centre role, GAI coordinates large-scale outreach events, including the Australia-China Futures Dialogues (in partnership with Peking University) and the Perspectives: Asia series (in partnership with the Queensland Art Gallery).

GAI has strategic partnerships with a number of regional institutions, including Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (KEMLU), Peking University, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia, and Yonsei University, South Korea.

In 2012 Flinders University established the *Centre for the United States and Asia Policy Studies* as an internationally regarded source of high quality, accessible research, on policy issues between Australia, the US and Asia, offering uniquely integrated perspectives on the respective players in the Asia Pacific.

The centre has five principal areas of policy concern:

- Asia's changing strategic landscape
- Australia and US security and defence policy and its links to other US allies in the region
- Australia Asia trade relationship
- issues related to governance and politics in the region
- policy analysis with a focus on energy, water, pollution and other environmental issues of relevance.

In 2013 La Trobe University is establishing a unit to oversee the University's Asia strategy, drawing on and further developing the University's deep expertise and longstanding links with the region.

2.

EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS

Over the last few years, on average, 75% of our international students have been from the Asia-Pacific region. A robust and active alumni network is integral to maintaining our strong ties, and our networks are wide and well established.

Between 2001 and 2011 we graduated over 72,000 students from Asia, with more than 30,000 Asian students enrolled across the IRU in 2011. These are significant numbers, and ensuring these people to people connections are maintained and nurtured is a priority for our universities.

2011 STUDENT NUMBERS BY REGION

North East Asia	15,036	China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan
South East Asia	13,054	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam
Southern and Central Asia	13,054	Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.
Total	31,302	

IRU alumni networks



Our alumni have gone on to highly distinguished careers with many notable achievements. The following highlights just a few examples from each of our universities.

Distinguished alumni

Aviation and Environment



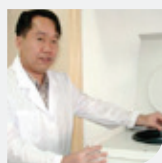
Dr Mamoru Mohri
Japan
Director, Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Tokyo

- PhD Physical Science 1976 - Flinders University

Dr Mohri flew on Space Shuttle Endeavour, STS-47, as the first Japanese astronaut to perform Japan-United States cooperative experiments on the Spacelab-J mission in 1972.

He qualified as a NASA Mission Specialist in 1978 and flew for a second time aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour, STS-99, in 2000 during which he mapped more than 47million miles of the earth's surface to develop a 3-D rendition of the planet, and for the first time ever, acquired earth observation data with a High-Definition Television (HDTV) Camera.

Since 2000 Dr Mohri has been the Director of the Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation. He is also involved in the training of new Japanese astronauts.



Professor Xu Daping
China
Director, Research Institute of Tropical Forestry, Chinese Academy of Forestry.

- PhD Biotechnology 2005 - Murdoch University

Since the completion of his PhD, Professor Daping has been promoted from Vice-Director of the Institute to Director and leads a national project on tree improvement and cultivation of tropical plantations.



Mr Barathan Pasupathi
Singapore
Chief Executive Officer, Jetstar, Asia

- Master of Business Administration 1993
- Murdoch University

Mr Pasupathi has over 16 years experience in senior roles across the energy, aviation and finance sectors, including three years as Jetstar Asia's first Chief Financial Officer.



Associate Professor Zhou Yun
China
Director, International Cooperation Centre for the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences

- Master of Environmental Studies 2003
- The University of Newcastle
- Recipient of the 2011 AusAid Australia China Alumni Award.

Associate Professor Zhou has led various national programs and participated at international forums for the environment. She has been project director for a number of international environmental projects funded by the World Bank, Ausaid, the Canadian and Swedish International Development Agencies.

Associate Professor Zhou's focus is on climate change and energy, environmental impact assessment, and promoting public participation in environmental protection. She has been very active in Sino-Australian environmental cooperation, particularly in the Australia-China Environment Development Program.

Business, Health, Hospitality and Science



Dr Liang Joo Leow
Malaysia
**Conjoint Lecturer the University
of New South Wales and Clinical
Lecturer at Macquarie University.**

Internationally accredited interpreter and translator

- Masters of Public Health and Tropical Medicine 2005
- James Cook University

Dr Leow's interest in the field of public health and tropical medicine was sparked whilst working on AusAid health projects in East Timor in 2003.

Whilst at James Cook University, Dr Leow researched a bacterial cause for rosacea, one of the most common skin ailments. He continued his research while training in dermatology with the findings being published in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology in 2011.



Dr Yong Cai
China
**Group Leader Photon Division
Brookhaven National Laboratory, US**

- PhD Physics 1993 - La Trobe University

Dr Cai is currently the inelastic X-ray Scattering Group Leader for the Photon Division at Brookhaven National Laboratory in the United States.

He is a world leading expert in the area of inelastic X-ray Scattering, an important technique that utilizes the bright and intense x-rays from the latest generation of synchrotron sources for the precision investigation of the atomic and electronic properties of materials.



Dr Ly Qui Trung
Vietnam
**Chairman and CEO, Pho24
Co-Founder and Managing Director
of Nam An Group**

- Master of Hospitality Management 1995
- Griffith University
- Recipient of Griffith Business School Alumnus Award 2009

Dr Trung is a highly successful entrepreneur who established Pho24 a Vietnamese noodle restaurant franchise. Over just seven years Pho24 has gone from one store in Ho Chi Minh City to nearly 80 stores in five countries.

Dr Ly Qui Trung is an Adjunct Professor to the Griffith Business School. In 2009 he was awarded the Griffith Business School Alumni Network Outstanding Alumnus Award for the year.



Mr Clinton Dines
Australia
**Executive Chairman, Caledonia Asia
Non-Executive Director, Kazakhmys
and Zanaga Iron Company**

- Bachelor of Arts in Asian and International Studies 1979 - Griffith University
- 2008 distinguished alumni award.

Clinton graduated with a Griffith degree in Asian Studies in 1979, and left Australia that year on an 18-month postgraduate program arranged by Griffith. The program gave him the opportunity to learn Chinese in-country, teach English to Chinese teachers and graduates, and be immersed in the culture and traditions of the region which proved both an enriching and challenging experience. Through this experience, Clinton developed a love for China and its people, and has been working in the Greater China Region ever since.

During his career Clinton has occupied management positions with the Jardine Matheson Group, the Santa Fe Transport Group and Asia Securities Venture Capital. He has been the senior country executive in China for BHP and, since the merger in 2001 until 2009, President of BHP Billiton China, the world's largest diversified resource group.



Dr Geoff Raby
Australia
**Chairman and CEO, Geoff Raby &
Associates**

- Bachelor of Economics (Hons), Master of Economics, PhD - La Trobe University
- Recipient of the La Trobe University Distinguished Alumni Award 2007
- 2010 made guest Professor of Nakai University Tianjin China.

Dr Raby is Chairman and CEO of Geoff Raby & Associates, a Beijing-based business advisory firm. In addition to his roles at Geoff Raby & Associates, Dr Raby is Chairman of ASX-listed SmartTrans Ltd, as well as an Independent Director on the boards of Fortescue Mining Group, OceanaGold and Yancoal Australia. He is also Co-Chair of Corrs Chambers Westgarth's China Business Practice, Senior Advisor to Kreab Gavin Anderson, and Vice Chairman of Macquarie Group China.

Dr Raby is a member of the Advance Global Advisory Board and the International Education Advisory Council. He is an honorary citizen of Chengdu City, Sichuan province, an award presented to him in February 2013 in recognition of his contribution to the development of relations between the region and Australia. Dr Raby was Australian Ambassador to China from 2007 to 2011.

Government

Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili
Malaysia
Minister Science Technology and Innovation

- Bachelor of Agricultural Science 1980
PhD Agriculture 1985 - La Trobe University
- 2009 distinguished alumni award

Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili was appointed Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation in the Malaysian cabinet in March 2008.

Prior to his current roll, in 2004 he was appointed by Abdullah Badawi as the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department with a special role promoting National Unity and Integration.



Mr Bill Tweddell
Australia
Australian Ambassador to the Philippines

- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) 1971, Bachelor of Economics 1975 – James Cook University

Mr Tweddell completed both his degrees part time, whilst working at the university. In 1976 he joined the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) and was posted to Dhaka in Bangladesh, with subsequent appointments to Athens and New Delhi, where he rose to the rank of Deputy High Commissioner.

In the late 1990s Mr Tweddell was High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, as well as Chief of Staff and Principal Adviser to the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer. From mid 2005 to 2008 he was Australia's Ambassador to Vietnam and then First Assistant Secretary, Americas and Africa division at DFAT in Canberra until commencing his current role as Australian Ambassador to the Philippines since January 2012.



Professor Ali Ghufon Mukti
Indonesia
Indonesian Vice-Minister of Health

- PhD Community Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology 2000 - The University of Newcastle

Professor Mukti is noted for his expertise in the areas of health insurance, health financing, family medicine and epidemiology.

Previously Dean of Medicine at the University of Gadjah Mada, Indonesia, Professor Mukti has acted as Chairman of many professional organisations in the health sector in Indonesia, and is one of the organisers of the South East Asian Public Health Institutes Network.



Dr Daniel Sparringa
Indonesia
Senior Presidential Advisor in Public and Political Communication, Government of Indonesia.

- Masters of Social Science 1991
PhD Social Science 1997 - Flinders University

Following his PhD, Dr Sparringa was involved in a strategic network promoting democracy with non-violent means in Indonesia, and in bridging groups from different political and ideological backgrounds.

After political reform and succession in 1998, Dr Sparringa became an independent political analyst for national media.

Apart from teaching undergraduate and postgraduate study in Airlangga University, he frequently gives public lectures in Indonesia and abroad on the topic of democratic transition and has been a mediator in several conflict areas in Indonesia.

3.

AUSTRALIA'S ASIA GENERATION

IRU member universities have played, and will continue to play, a key role in preparing the next generation of Australians with experience and understanding of Asian culture.

Ensuring increasing numbers of our students are well educated in Asian culture, language, business and politics is front of mind across the senior IRU executive. We are committed to further increasing the number of students who have a study experience in Asia.

Asian focused degrees and languages

A number of our members have been offering Asian related degrees since the mid-1970s. Today the range of courses we offer are far broader and deeper.

The recently formed IRU Asian languages network is looking to collaborate and to increase the number of students taking up culture and language studies.

Across the IRU all four of the Government's target languages, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian and Japanese are taught as part of an undergraduate degree.

ASIAN LANGUAGES TAUGHT AS PART OF DEGREE

LANGUAGE	La T	Mur	UoN	Gr	CDU	FI	JCU
Chinese	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Japanese	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Indonesian	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Hindi	✓						

IRU ASIA RELATED DEGREES

IRU MEMBER	UNDERGRADUATE	POSTGRADUATE
Flinders University	Diploma of Languages Bachelor of Arts (majors in Asian Studies, Indonesian, Chinese) Bachelor of Languages (Chinese, Indonesian) Bachelor of International Studies (majors in Asian Studies, Indonesian) Bachelor Degrees with Majors/Minors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian Languages (Indonesian, Chinese, Japanese) Asian Studies, Culture and Society, Intercultural competency 	Graduate Certificate & Graduate Diploma in Language (Indonesian) Master of Language studies (Indonesian) Master of Education (Studies of Asia/ Leadership and Management)
Murdoch University	Bachelor of Asian Studies Bachelor of Asian Studies (Specialist) - requiring one year of study at a University in Asia.	Graduate Certificate in Asian Languages Postgraduate Diploma in Asian Studies Master of Asian Studies PhD
La Trobe University	Diploma in Languages (Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian and Japanese) Bachelor of Asian Studies	Master of Education (Studies of Asia/Leadership and Management) Masters of Health Administration – (bilingual) Sechuan Province China
Griffith University	Diploma of Languages (Chinese, Japanese) Bachelor of Languages and Linguistics (Chinese, Japanese, Korean) Bachelor of Asian Studies	Master of Asian Studies
James Cook University	Bachelor of Social Science (Asia-Pacific Governance and Development)	Masters of Development Practice
Charles Darwin University	Diploma of Languages (Indonesian/Mandarin) Bachelor of Arts with specialist elective Bahasa Indonesia or Chinese	
The University of Newcastle	Diploma of Languages	

Australian students in Asia

International student mobility is integral to educating globally aware graduates and citizens. The impact of these individual experiences last a lifetime, with the array of connections made by large numbers of outwardly bound students laying down strong foundations for enduring cross cultural diplomacy. The concepts of 'soft power' and 'complex interdependence'³ go to outlining the importance of these inextricable connections between countries. In short, the breadth and depth of cross cultural understanding and engagement Australian citizens have in Asia, will directly impact upon our nation's future in the region.

There are many types of mobility programs to Asia in which Australian students can immerse themselves whilst working towards their degree:

- Semester exchange – with partner institutions
- Short term programs – with partner institutions
- Study abroad – study with non-exchange partner institutions
- Placement/Practical Training – work experience, internships, business placement, clinical placement, service placement.
- Research Placement – research projects.

In 2011, 37% of IRU students who undertook international study experiences, travelled to the region. The top four destinations were China, Indonesia, Japan and Hong Kong, with the majority being for short-term programs followed by placements, semester exchange and research.

With the rapid changes in recent years in the way students are studying and learning, more flexibility in the curriculum has evolved and other types of immersive experiences are increasing in popularity.

IRU universities have short term study programs in Asia available to students, whether they be cultural and/or language based experiences or discipline related placements. In some instances where small cohorts of students, from individual members, make these experiences less viable, our members can pool their resources to gain critical numbers of students from across our Australia wide network, to undertake collaborative study experiences in the region.

Beyond short term study programs and tours, many degree related placements currently exist, with staff utilising their professional networks to provide a range of opportunities for students to gain experience off shore.

The Australian Consortium for 'in Country' Indonesian Studies (ACICIS), lead by Murdoch University, with 23 Australian universities, is the primary conduit through which Australian students study in Indonesia.

Since 1995, more than 1400 students have studied across seven Indonesian universities.

Examples of degree related placements in Asia:

- Medical, Nursing and social work students from Flinders, James Cook and the University of Newcastle undertake a variety of clinical and community placements in Bangladesh, Burma, China, East Timor, India, Laos, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.
- Griffith Engineering students are able to complete a required three month industrial placement overseas via partner universities in Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines and China.

Examples of short term programs:

- Murdoch University and the University of Newcastle, both have very active and longstanding relationships with Japan.
 - » As part of the Bachelor of Asian Specialist Program students from Murdoch University go on a one year exchange with one of seven Japanese University partners.
 - » The University of Newcastle's annual tour to Shohoku College, deepens student's understanding of language and culture, including stays with Japanese families.
- Environmental science students from Charles Darwin University complete a 2 month field intensive in a village in Kupang with staff and students from partner universities in Java and Eastern Indonesia.

La Trobe University has received two international awards:

- for Oral Health students experiencing an international study practicum, by participating in the Buddhi Bangara oral health program in Nepal as part of an international elective. La Trobe University received the prestigious Heiskell Award in recognition of this initiative.
- "Making the world your campus", depicting staff and students from the Urban, Rural and Environmental Planning course, in Sri Lanka helping to improve the quality of life in communities devastated by the Boxing Day Tsunami.

3 'Complex interdependence' – the concept that the success of nations are inextricably tied together. Keohane, R.O. & Nye, J.S. 1997, "Interdependence in World Politics".

Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards

Students from IRU members are well represented in the Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards, with 32%, 13 of 40, of the scholarships awarded to our students in 2013⁴. The Awards provide scholarships to Australian and international students for international study, research and internships, to outstanding scholars and researchers with strong future leadership capabilities.

Ms Nguyen Minh Nguyet has been a senior lecturer in the English Department and guest lecturer/supervisor at the Postgraduate Studies Department of La Trobe partner Hanoi University for 20 years. She recently won a Prime Minister's Endeavour Award to return to La Trobe to undertake PhD studies.

In 2012, Charles Darwin University graduate, Dr Jeanne Rini Poespoprodjo, received the Prime Ministers Australia Asia award in Canberra. Dr Poespoprodjo is a paediatrician working in Papua. She is holder of one of the six inaugural Allison Sudradjat Awards for outstanding scholars from Indonesia and PNG to study in Australia.



Dr Poespoprodjo receives her award in Canberra from Minister Stephen Smith.



Wenny Bekt Sunarharum; Indonesian Ambassador, H.E. Mr Nadjib Riphath Kesoema; Erna Rochmawati; and Nicholas Metherall (La Trobe University)



Award Holder Glen Burton (The University of Newcastle) with Mr Mitsuyasu Otsuki, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan.



Elsie Giles (Griffith University)



Ms Nguyen Minh Nguyet with friends.

UNDERGRADUATE - OUTBOUND AUSTRALIA ASIA AWARD WINNERS 2013

COUNTRY	AWARDEE	FIELD OF STUDY	IRU UNIVERSITY
China	James Baker	Disability rights	Flinders University
	Tom Gerrits	Law and International Studies	
Hong Kong	Alexander Choy	Law and International Business	Griffith University
	Elise Giles*	Business	
	Brittany Laidlaw	Environmental Sustainability	
	Georgia Sands	Law and Politics	
Indonesia	Sally Hill	Law, International Relations, Languages	La Trobe University
	Nicholas Metherall*	Sociology, Aid and Development	

POSTGRADUATE - OUTBOUND AUSTRALIA ASIA AWARD WINNERS 2013

COUNTRY	AWARDEE	FIELD OF STUDY	IRU UNIVERSITY
Japan	Glen Burton*	Civil Surveying and Environmental Engineering	The University of Newcastle
Singapore	Rebecca Curran	Pharmacy	Griffith University
Thailand	Brianna Lee	Criminology	Murdoch University
Indonesia	Christine Parfitt	Marine Environment Conservation	
	Paul Van Nimwegen	Marine conservation	

4 <http://www.innovation.gov.au/InternationalEducation/EndeavourAwards/Documents/EndeavourBulletinIssue22.pdf>

4.

WORKING WITH ASIA NOW: POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Working with other countries on issues and aspirations of common importance leads to better social and economic outcomes for all involved. Teaching partnerships for undergraduate and postgraduate students across many Asian countries are common and continue to evolve. They involve academics from Australia and the region teaching collaboratively, providing students with enriching cross cultural learning and research experiences. IRU researchers are well embedded with colleagues in Asia working towards solutions for our common problems including areas of IRU research strength in Health, Environmental, Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences.⁵

Australian degrees available in Asia

Teaching partnerships and joint PhDs

The IRU has over 500 unique teaching partnerships across 24 countries with universities and other higher education providers across the region. The table below lists some major examples. These partnerships facilitate a range of transnational education models, pathways and cross border articulation agreements.⁶

Joint Higher Degrees Research promote and strengthen research collaboration between the countries involved. They are an important part of the foundation of international research collaboration, and continue to gain profile and relevance internationally.

Students from all our universities are enrolled in conjoint PhDs with partner countries in Asia. For example:

- James Cook University have joint PhDs with three Chinese Universities - China University of Geosciences, Peking University and Hefei University of Technology.
- In Thailand Flinders University have a long standing joint PhD collaboration with Pharmacy students at Mahidol University and in China the Joint Research and Education Collaboration Centre (JRECC) was established in conjunction with Hunan University and Central South University as platform for intensive collaboration across several research areas and educational programs, primarily in health sciences and engineering.

UNIVERSITY	TEACHING PARTNERSHIP
James Cook University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore Campus
The University of Newcastle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore Partner Campus • Hong Kong Management Association
Murdoch University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore Partner Campus – Kaplan Higher Education Institute, SMA Institute of Higher Learning
La Trobe University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore – Singapore Nurses Association • China – Chinese University of Hong Kong, East China Normal University, Harbin Medical University, Peking University, Sichuan University • Malaysia – Masterskill Malaysia • Vietnam – Hanoi University, Foreign Trade University
Flinders University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore – Parkway College of Nursing and Allied Health, SGH Postgraduate Allied Health Institute, Social Services Training Institute, National Cancer Council • China – Nankai University, Capital Normal University, Chinese University of Hong Kong • Malaysia – HELP University
Griffith University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore – Kaplan Higher Education Institute, Institute for Adult Learning • China – Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Art School

⁵ To view our world class research strengths please visit www.iru.edu.au/research-strengths.aspx

⁶ Transnational education commenced in the 1980s. Australian academic staff began teaching offshore, subsequently a wide range of offshore teaching models have developed.

Teaching partnership highlights

National teaching award for partnership with Singapore

In December 2012 Flinders University's Asia Pacific Palliative Care team won an Australian Award for University Teaching.⁷

The Asia Pacific Palliative Care Program is delivered in Singapore via a partnership between Flinders University, the National Cancer Centre Singapore and the Asia Pacific Hospice Network.

Now in its seventh year, the program has so far provided a rare opportunity for students from countries including China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Myanmar, India, Thailand, Bangladesh, Iran, Indonesia, Korea, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Taiwan and Singapore, to gain specialist palliative care training.

Indonesia Ministry of Foreign Affairs Partnership

In Indonesia, Griffith University helps deliver short courses for mid-level to senior diplomats from Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on

- regional economic and security issues,
- global governance,
- balance of power politics in South East Asia; and
- regional integration

Joint academic and learning centre

In November 2005, Griffith established a joint academic and learning centre with China's Peking University.

The joint centre conducts research and offers postgraduate programs in Applied Linguistics, Biosecurity and Population Health.

Joint study centres and bilingual degrees in China

La Trobe's *Centre for China Studies* is an initiative with Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University. The joint centre is dedicated to China studies in Australia and provides a focal point for strategic engagement with China complemented by a wide range of China related programs in research, staff and student mobility and short training courses.

In July 2012 La Trobe University signed an agreement with Sichuan University for the joint teaching of the bi-lingual Master of Health Administration degree.

Spotlight on India – recent highlights include:

Building on traditional links with India that go back to the opening of its Library by former Prime Minister Indira Ghandi in 1968, La Trobe University in December 2011 partnered with three leading Indian institutions: Delhi Technological University, the Indian Institute of Technology and the Presidency College at Bengaluru University, to encourage students to study in Australia and to build strong research collaborations, supported by the La Trobe South Asia office in Delhi.

La Trobe University has been teaching Indian history, Sanskrit and Hindi since its inception and also has one of the largest libraries on Indian history and language in Australia.

Griffith University's, *Asia Pacific Centre for Franchising Excellence* drives franchise best practice. The university has recently signed an MOU with the International School of Business, Hyderabad India to enable the Government and major stakeholders in the franchise sector to fully understand the growth, trends and dynamics of the sector

⁷ The Australian Awards for University Teaching are national awards designed to recognise quality teaching practice and outstanding contributions to student learning <http://www.olt.gov.au/awards>

Collaborative research in Asia - addressing international challenges in our region.

This section looks at just a few examples of the type of collaborative research activities we undertake with our partners in Asia. The examples highlighted include:

- Health Sciences
- Environmental Sciences
- Agriculture and Veterinary Science

In 2012, 12.4% of all our research publications were the result of collaborating with our counterparts in Asia, (up from 9.7% in 2008) representing over 3500 publications. At present the top 10 highest number of collaborations by Asian country, in rank order, are as follows:

China, Japan, Singapore, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, Bangladesh and Vietnam.

There are also many other collaborations with Cambodia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and other countries, which are expected to expand and deepen.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Tropical Health - Malaria - Tuberculosis - Dengue Fever - Cardiovascular Health - Liver Cancer - Gastroenterology - Eye Conditions

Each year, millions of people die from infectious diseases and malnutrition, a significant proportion of whom reside in the tropics.⁸ Researchers are working with partners in the region to determine the most effective, affordable and appropriate approaches to prevent these deaths.

The research of Professor Nicholas Anstey, Head of the Global Health Division and Senior Principal Research Fellow at Charles Darwin University's *Menzies School of Health Research*, into Malaria and Tuberculosis (with clinical research in Timika, Papua, Indonesia and Sabah, Malaysia) involves over 40 collaborative publications in Asia.

In 2012 Professor Anstey was awarded an Australian federal government grant to continue malaria research in 2013.

Malaria, Tuberculosis and Dengue Fever

Charles Darwin University's Menzies School of Health Research, is undergoing a significant expansion from 2013 at the Royal Darwin Hospital, ensuring the University is well placed to contribute to health issues in the region.

Charles Darwin and James Cook Universities specialize in indigenous and tropical health research in more than 60 indigenous communities across Australia and developing countries in our region. Partners in the region are diverse and include health care providers, policy makers, and researchers from: Indonesia, East Timor, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Bangladesh, Nepal and Singapore.

Malaria causes approximately 500 million clinical infections a year, and is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in the region. Tuberculosis kills over 2 million people each year.

For twelve years researchers have been collaborating with Indonesia's Ministry of Health's *National Institute of Health Research and Development*, sharing a joint research facility in Timika, Papua and Indonesia. There are a wide range of community and hospital-based projects aimed at improving the prevention and treatment of Malaria and Tuberculosis.

Griffith University's *Centre for Environment and Population Health* works with Indonesia's *Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health* and key university partners including the University of Indonesia and Hasanuddin University, to address public health and environmental management issues. To date the partnerships have led to over 60 students graduating in post graduate and PhD degrees addressing public health issues such as disease control and prevention, climate change related health problems, environmental health risk assessment, and emergency and disaster management.

James Cook University's mosquito research facility, uses funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation towards their eliminate dengue program.



Bill and Melinda Gates visit James Cook University's Mosquito Research Facility

⁸ The Tropics are home to 80% of the world's bio diversity and 40% of its population. Over 70% of Asia's countries, including the northern parts of Australia reside in the tropics. http://stateofthetropics.org/wp-content/uploads/Project-Overview_Final1.pdf

Cardiovascular Health

The University of Newcastle's internationally renowned stroke researcher Professor Chris Levi and his team are collaborating with researchers from Harbin Medical University in China, into methods of cooling the brain following a stroke. The stroke treatments pioneered by Professor Levi and his team have transformed lives and medical practice.

Liver Cancer

The *Queensland Tropical Health Alliance* (QTHA) based at James Cook University's Cairns Campus is a unique collaboration of world-class researchers focused on reducing the burden of tropical diseases. Throughout Southeast Asia, there is a strikingly high prevalence of a particular type of liver cancer, cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) and a worm parasite, *opisthorchis viverrine*. QTHA researchers are working to understand how this debilitating yet neglected pathogen causes cancer in so many people in Southeast Asia.

Griffith University and James Cook University are collaborating with China's Sun Yat-sen University in the field of cancer stem cell research.

Gastroenterology

Diarrhoea-related diseases claim the lives of more than 1.5 million children year, most in developing countries. Flinders University's world renowned Professor Graeme Young is working together with Yale College and Christian Medial College College Vellore, India, via 3 Bill Gates Foundation grants totalling \$13.5M, to address childhood malnutrition and infant deaths from dehydration. Professor Young currently heads a large research initiative at *Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer*.

Eye conditions – treating the leading cause of blindness and vision loss

The *Flinders Centre for Opthamology*, eye and vision research, is a world class multidisciplinary group improving the outcomes for patients with blinding eye conditions. Its researchers collaborate with a wide range of Australian and international partners to tackle the leading causes of blindness and vision loss, including a range of other eye related conditions.

- In India researchers collaborate with the Meera and L.B. Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement and the LV Prasad Eye Intitute, Hyderabad, India.
- In Singapore joint research is done with the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Eye Research Unit.

The centre has received over \$6m in funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and in 2012 Australia's Governor General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVC commended the excellent work being undertaken at the Centre.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Energy – Water – Climate - Environment

The *Newcastle Institute for Energy and Resources* (NIER) is a world class research facility making a substantial contribution to sustainable energy research in the energy and resources sector. Collaborating with national and international partners, NIER provides practical and viable benefits to industry, the community and the economy by advancing research in clean energy production, energy efficiency and the minimisation of carbon emissions.

Through its four-way partnership between Chinese power companies, universities, and their Australian counterparts, NIER is leading research that will allow both countries to upgrade their power distribution networks to encompass renewable source electricity generation and effectively integrate these into the power grid.

Griffith University's *Australia-China Joint Centre for Energy and Environmental Materials* is a joint lab in energy and environmental materials. The Centre will develop multi-faceted and long term engagement with key-institutions and organisations in China including the largest university in China, Jilin University, the Institute of Solid State Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and the South China University of Technology. Under the joint lab, there will be researcher exchanges, joint doctoral programs, joint research projects, workshops and seminars.

In 2012 Charles Darwin University partnered with Tenex Energy, creating the world's first tropical, environment focussed, tidal energy research centre. The partnership has the potential to significantly contribute to Darwin's evolution as a regional hub and gateway to Asia.

Charles Darwin University via the *Research Institute for the Environment* is bringing together multidisciplinary research intensive elements from environmental, life sciences and renewable energy disciplines. There is a pressing need to understand tropical ecosystems and how they relate to people's livelihoods as well as addressing significant health issues. Charles Darwin University has been collaborating with Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Malaysia on environmental degradation and loss of ecosystems, climate change and natural resource management.

Since 2007 the Indonesian Government has been working with Griffith University's *Centre for Excellence for Sustainable Development*, to battle the effects of climate change and environmental degradation in the region. The Centre provides a range of initiatives to assist the nation develop sustainably and to mitigate the impact of climate change on the region. The centre is the culmination of a long and successful education and research association with the Indonesian Government dating back to the early 1980s.

The Cairns Institute at James Cook University brings together the expertise and intellectual resources of more than 20 academic disciplines, creating a uniquely robust and relevant research, consulting, training and teaching hub for Northern Australia, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific.

The University's distinguished Research Professor and Australian Laureate, Professor William Laurance researches the impacts of intensive land uses, such as habitat fragmentation, logging, hunting, and wildfires, on tropical ecosystems, and on global change phenomena and conservation policy.

He has worked extensively in Southeast Asia, including Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

Professor Bernard Dell, Research Director, *School of Veterinary and Life Sciences*, and *Agricultural and Fisheries Sciences* at Murdoch University has been collaborating with the *Chinese Academy of Forestry* for more than 20 years.

In September 2012 Professor Dell was honoured for his contribution to sustainable forestry in China where he was the only foreign expert invited to speak at the 50th Anniversary of the Research Institute of Tropical Forestry.

In the past two decades Professor Dell has witnessed tremendous change in the forest landscape across southern China. Today there are 2.5m hectares of Eucalypt plantations across southern China. The research undertaken has effectively reduced China's dependence on imported wood fibre, which has made a huge difference to the livelihoods of many rural workers and farmers in Southern China.

AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY SCIENCE

Improving crops - sustainable agriculture - ensuring global food security – Agriculture R&D – Veterinary Science international placements

In October 2012, Murdoch University lead an *Australia-China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement* delegation to China to evaluate new carbon reforestation programs underway in China, and to explore opportunities for scientists in the two countries to work together. China has plans to increase national forest cover area with reforestation being an important component of the

Australian Government's carbon farming initiative. With similar growing conditions and water management issues, this collaboration is likely to help solve some of these challenges.

Murdoch's *Australia China Centre for Wheat Improvement* is one of six new Australian joint research centres established under the Australia-China Science and Research Fund. Researchers at the centre will be looking to map the complete wheat protein genome in order to improve resistance to disease, climate adaptability and quality traits. With researchers from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Lianyungang Academy of Agricultural Science and Yangzhou University, this world class collaboration will work to map the complete genome ensuring sustainable wheat crops and products into the future.

La Trobe's Centre for Agribioscience opened in April 2013 as a joint venture between La Trobe University and the Victorian State Government. The Centre accommodates up to 400 staff, providing leading edge technology and world class equipment for research into plant and animal genomics, plant pathology, animal health and agricultural sustainability.

La Trobe University are partnering with Nanjing Agricultural University, a pioneer of modern agricultural education via exchange and research collaboration programs. The Centre for Agribioscience combined with La Trobe's Institute for Molecular Sciences will ensure the University will have a world leading role in agriculture, molecular sciences and nanotechnology related research.

Murdoch University's *School of Veterinary and Life Sciences*, have international field placements and projects around the world as part of their postgraduate Veterinary and Conservation Management degrees. A range of field studies and placements have been undertaken in Asia, including the Sumatran Orang-utan Conservation Project.



La Trobe's Centre for Agribioscience

Spotlight on The Chinese Academy of Sciences and The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

The Chinese Academy of Sciences

Environment, water, soil, crop science, marine bio-products.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), funded by the Chinese government, comprises almost 4000 researchers covering all fields in Social and Behavioural Sciences and Education, Humanities and Law.

Griffith University, James Cook University, The University of Newcastle and Flinders University, all have strong links with CAS.

Griffith University has more than 25 institutional links including research, articulation and exchange. In July 2012 the President of CAS, Professor Chunli Bai, a well known chemist and leading scientist in nano-science was awarded an Honorary doctorate from Griffith University.

Professor Stuart Bunn, Director of *Griffith University's Australian Rivers Institute* is collaborating with the Key Laboratory of Aquatic Botany and Watershed Ecology (KLABWE), Wuhan in Environment and Water. This partnership is further strengthened by a Queensland Government - CAS Joint Biotechnology Projects Fund grant in 2011 to advance a joint research project into pollution in our waterways.

Griffith is also working with CAS's Research for Eco-Environmental Sciences and the *Guangdong Institute of*

Eco-Environment and Soil Science in the area of biological mechanisms of soil carbon and nitrogen cycling.

James Cook University has a joint research partnership with the CAS's Institute of Soil and Water Conservation to collaborate on new models of flood forecasting and water management. Griffith University, Hunan Agricultural University and other partners are also part of this collaboration.

The University of Newcastle's *Australia-China Research Centre* for Crop Improvement is a multi-institutional research centre bringing together research teams of international excellence in plant biology, breeding, discovering key genes and biological processes. In January 2013 the centre held the 1st Australia-China Symposium on Crop Science in conjunction with the Chinese Academy of Science and the Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Science.

Prof Wei Zhang, Biochemical Engineer, is Professor of Bioprocessing at Flinders's *Medical Science and Technology* and Founding Director, *Flinders Centre for Marine Bioproducts Development*. Professor Wei Zhang obtained his PhD from Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and has over 40 joint international peer reviewed publication.

The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Flinders University collaborate with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), supported by an exchange program for visiting fellowships to support those who currently conduct, or wish to conduct research in China, on Chinese topics, or areas of common interest.

Collaboration in the social sciences resulted in the Social Science symposium in Adelaide 2011 and a joint publication "Sustainable Development in China", which is due out in 2013.



Professor Stuart Bunn



Professor Chunli Bai

“In 2012 Griffith was the first university in Australia to establish a Dual Degree PhD Program with the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Candidates are jointly supervised and are awarded two separate doctoral degrees by the two institutions.”

5.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

This document has outlined the depth and history of IRU members' engagement with Asia. As the opportunities grow for interaction between Australians and the people of Asian countries, our universities will continue to lead Australia's universities in engagement with Asia.

Over 2013 and 2014 we will target developments in three key areas.

1. Increasing the number of students studying and working in Asia

Asia is already the most common destination for IRU students studying or working out of Australia. We want a much greater number of students to take up these options, retaining the emphasis on experience in an Asian country.

There remain considerable challenges to make living in Asia an attractive option for many students. We plan as a network to use our collective resources to provide greater support to students looking to study in an Asian country including creation of a stronger Australian student network whilst in country to allow students both the experience of Asia and the support of other Australians around them.

2. Creating an IRU Asian Languages Network

The teaching of languages is a major challenge for any Australian university due to small numbers of students studying a resource intensive subject. Our universities have maintained the teaching of Asian languages as essential to effective interaction with Asia and the study of those societies.

To overcome the pressure on individual languages in each university we are creating an IRU Asian Languages Network to make better use of the knowledge and skills of the staff supporting each Asian language. This will share the teaching of languages giving all IRU students access to staff across the Network improving the depth of teaching, and using the rapidly growing capacity of the internet to support language learning.

Our focus will be two fold:

- increasing the number of students wishing to learn a language in depth as part of their degree; and
- encouraging students to gain sufficient knowledge of an Asian language to allow them to live and work in Asia using their prime degree. These students can enrol in a Diploma of Languages alongside their Bachelor degree.

The outcome will be to stimulate stronger interest in Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian and Hindi through making those languages easier to study across the network.

3. Strengthening Research links

The IRU initiated links to Malaysia's research universities in 2012 which are being renewed in 2013. These links are stimulating greater exchange between researchers and options for research students to research in both countries.

In 2014 we will be continuing our collective approach to collaborate with other Asian countries, including China and Indonesia.

Our Contact Details

For further information about IRU please visit our
website or email the IRU Executive Director.

IRU Secretariat w // iru.edu.au e // executivedirector@iru.edu.au