

## MEMBERS OF THE MINISTERIAL TASKFORCE

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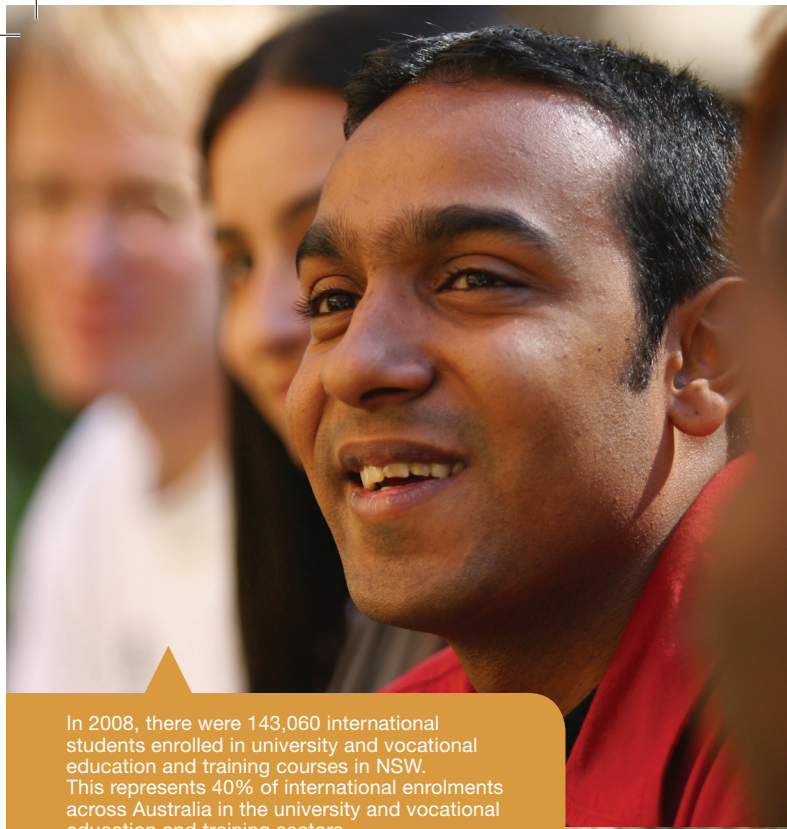
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## Ministerial Taskforce on International Education



“International education fosters cross-cultural understanding and international connections which are vital to expanding Australia's business, diplomatic and academic links with the rest of the world.”

Julia Gillard MP  
Deputy Prime Minister  
16 March 2009



In 2008, there were 143,060 international students enrolled in university and vocational education and training courses in NSW. This represents 40% of international enrolments across Australia in the university and vocational education and training sectors.



There were 9,847 international students enrolled in NSW public and private schools in 2008. This represents 34% of international enrolments across Australia in the schools sector.

## MINISTERIAL TASKFORCE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

International students are an integral part of the NSW economy and contribute enormously to the vibrancy of our community. The NSW Government is committed to ensuring international students enjoy their experience living and studying in NSW.

In November 2008 a Taskforce was initiated by the Minister for Education and Training, The Hon Verity Firth, MP to examine ways to enhance the experience of international students studying and living in NSW.

### THE PURPOSE OF THE TASKFORCE

The prime objective of the NSW Ministerial Taskforce on International Education is to review the international student experience in New South Wales and make recommendations to the NSW Minister for Education and Training on the agreed objectives.

In addition to identifying marketing strategies to increase enrolments of overseas students, the Taskforce aims to address safety and security concerns.

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Taskforce will:

- » Examine the areas of:
  - › marketing and recruitment
  - › social inclusion, welfare, immigration and safety, and
  - › the quality of education and training
- » Identify and consult with key stakeholders to assist in developing recommendations to the NSW Minister for Education and Training
- » Sponsor a series of sub-committees to address key issues
- » Conduct an analysis of other states/countries to develop a whole of state/government approach to marketing and recruitment of international students
- » Call for submissions from interested parties
- » Develop a report including recommendations for the NSW Minister for Education and Training.

## SNAPSHOT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

International education activity contributed \$14.2 billion in export income to the Australian economy in 2007-08, up 23.4 per cent from the previous financial year. Over the 10 years to 2007-08, education exports have grown at an average annual rate of 16 per cent, compared with an average annual rate of 7 per cent across all services exports.

### Markets for education exports

Australia's international students continue to be predominantly from the Asian region. In 2007-08, onshore students from the Peoples Republic of China made the largest contribution to export income with \$3.1 billion followed by India, \$2.0 billion; the Republic of Korea, \$1.0 billion; and Malaysia, \$0.7 billion. Hong Kong, Thailand and Indonesia were also important markets with more than \$0.5 billion each.

### Positive impact

Income generated in New South Wales through expenditure by international students amounted to \$5.3 billion or 39 per cent of export income from all onshore students in 2007-08. Income in Victoria and Queensland was \$4.5 billion and \$1.9 billion respectively, while income in the other States and Territories contributed a further \$2.0 billion. Apart from the financial impact, international students contribute to the cultural diversity of our state. They also are significant influencers among students, family, and friends who may be considering visiting NSW for study and travel.

Source: Australia Education International (AEI) Research Snapshot Number 42 November 2008

