



## Meeting of the Council for International Education

Thursday 29 November 2018, Canberra

The Ministerial and Expert Members of the Council for International Education (the Council) held their third meeting in Canberra today, chaired by the Hon Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Education.

The Council recognised the significant contribution international education makes to Australia's economy, society and international standing, and acknowledged significant progress against the goals of the *National Strategy for International Education 2025*.

The Council made a strong commitment to put the student experience at the centre of its efforts, and called on the sector to help address the challenges of diversification and to spread the benefits of international education beyond our major cities. Council members acknowledged that increasing community awareness of the economic and cultural benefits of international education is critical to ensuring international students have a rewarding experience, which in turn will support the sustainability of the sector.

Expert Members of the Council agreed to take forward priority activities that drive improvements in the quality of education and the student experience as well as diversity of partner countries and education offerings. In 2019, Expert Members will:

- continue to work with the sector to develop creative and innovative ways to encourage and incentivise international students to consider a regional experience
- champion a package of actions to address workplace exploitation of international students, an ongoing risk that can harm students and damage Australia's reputation
- take forward the recommendations of the Latin American Working Group and work with the sector to capitalise on opportunities highlighted in that Group's report to position Australia as an education partner of choice in this important region
- look at new approaches to our education relationships with key partners such as China and India and
- encourage increased engagement and cooperation on international schools education, English language instruction and vocational education and training, sectors with significant growth potential.

Council Members' consideration of these issues was informed by reports and initiatives developed by sector-led Working Groups, each championed by Expert Members, on Student Services Delivery, Marketing and Collaboration and Latin America. These reports are available [here](#).

Expert Members also held a policy deep-dive on opportunities for expanding school education cooperation.

### Council Membership

Council Members recognised the changes in membership since they last met, with the departure of two Expert Members, and the altered Ministerial membership following portfolio changes announced on 26 August 2018. The Council would like to thank former members, Sue Freeman and Belinda Robinson, for their contribution to

advancing the goals of the National Strategy. Work is underway to fill the remaining vacant Expert Member positions.

### **Ministerial Members**

- The Hon Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Education (Chair)
- Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment
- The Hon David Coleman MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
- Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education
- The Hon Karen Andrews MP, Minister for Industry, Science and Technology

### **Expert Members**

- The Hon Phil Honeywood – CEO, International Education Association of Australia
- Professor Kent Anderson – Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Community & Engagement), University of Western Australia
- Brett Blacker – CEO, English Australia
- Tracey Horton AO – Non-Executive Chairman, Navitas (apology)
- Karyn Kent – CEO, StudyAdelaide
- Gerald Lipman – Chief Executive, International College of Hotel Management
- David Riordan – Director of City Operations, City of Sydney
- Bijay Sapkota – President, Council of International Students Australia (ex-officio position)
- Derek Scott – Principal and CEO, Haileybury