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IMPACTS OF THE MONOLINGUAL MINDSET ON EMPLOYABILITY

MS. ANATOLI (NATALIE) AMANATIDIS, EDUCATION ABROAD ADVISOR, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

MS. RUTH O'HAGAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEW COLOMBO PLAN SECRETARIAT, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE, AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

ASIA PACIFIC ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2018
EMPOWERING FUTURE READY GRADUATES

BEFORE WE START...

- The changing nature of work
- Overseas study and employability
- The importance of languages
- Data findings
- Using the NCP and the Diploma in Languages to further overseas study opportunities for language learning
WORK - WHY IT'S CHANGING

- Foundation for Young Australians Report 2016 - The New Work Basics
- The move from low skilled to high skilled occupations
- Data capture conducted from across 6000 websites covering 4.2 million job advertisements between 2012-2015
- Enterprise skills vs. technical skills

OVERSEAS STUDY AND EMPLOYABILITY

- Overseas study programs increasingly becoming a means to provide enterprise skills to students across academic, professional, intercultural and personal domains.

- One of the enterprise skills that can be gained from overseas study: learning and acquisition of an additional language.

- Through networks built and skills created opens up opportunities in the global workforce.
ENTERPRISE SKILL: LANGUAGE

- After digital literacy, the demand for bilingualism is the most sought after skill by employers in graduates - recording a 181% rate of growth

- An added dimension to the overseas study experience, accessing highly nuanced features of culture and community

- Utilisation prompts an openness and shift in attitude toward host country

Adi - Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia
(Studying Chinese and Spanish)
EMPOWERING FUTURE READY GRADUATES

WHAT THE STUDENTS SAY:

- Student polling conducted through the Global Society shows that 52% of students believe that learning a language on exchange has made them more work ready.
- A further 25% indicating that it has somewhat helped them.
- Majority of responses recorded across France and Japan.
- Small survey amongst University of Melbourne students found that one of the top benefits of learning a language increased career prospects and international opportunities.
WHAT THE STUDENTS SAY:

- Student testimonials - language not just for the sake of language, but for discipline's sake, to utilise the language within their career path of choice

“Knowledge of Eastern culture and proficiency in Chinese is extremely beneficial in modern workforces, due to the need to work with Chinese-speaking clients”
- Jordan, National University of Taiwan

"I have found that my ability to speak, read and write Chinese has made me a great deal more competitive on the job market than I was before I had these skills"
- Charlie, Peking University
OVERSEAS STUDY EXPERIENCES AND THE DIPLOMA IN LANGUAGES

- Concurrent qualification usually undertaken alongside an undergraduate degree
- Short term and long term overseas study options can be easily incorporated
- New Colombo Plan funding for 2019 also incorporates greater opportunities for language and industry based experiences
- New Colombo Plan presentation: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NHSZvAf2kCG6CxL9HKHNRUkA1vkp6N_E/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NHSZvAf2kCG6CxL9HKHNRUkA1vkp6N_E/view)
THE NEW COLOMBO PLAN
WHAT IS THE NEW COLOMBO PLAN?

• Signature initiative of the Australian Government focused on the Indo-Pacific
• Prestigious scholarships for long-term study
• Flexible mobility grants
• 30,000 Australian undergraduates in the first five years
• 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper:
  - central to Australia’s soft power
  - showcases the Australian higher education sector
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Lift knowledge of the Indo-Pacific in Australia by increasing the number of Australian undergraduate students undertaking study and internships in the region;

2. Deepen Australia’s people-to-people and institutional relationships within the region, through the engagement of students, universities, businesses and other stakeholder networks in the Program;

3. Establish study in the Indo-Pacific as a “rite of passage” for Australian undergraduate students, and as an endeavour that is highly valued by the Australian community;

4. Increase the number of work-ready Australian graduates with regional experience.
THE NEW COLOMBO PLAN SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

• A prestigious, transformative program targeting future leaders

• Provides funding to Australian undergraduates for study in the Indo Pacific region of up to one year, plus internships or mentorships

• Opportunity to develop skills, form networks and build connections

• 40 eligible host locations

• Scholarship program must be eligible for credit towards student’s undergraduate degree

• Location and Indigenous Fellowships for the highest ranked scholars
THE NEW COLOMBO PLAN MOBILITY PROGRAM

- Semester-based or short-term study, internships, mentorships, practicums and research
- 40 host locations
- Credit for undergraduate degrees at Australian universities
- 18 to 28 years old, with exemptions for Indigenous students
- Supported around 13,000 students in 2018
- Driving up overall student mobility and supporting diversity and equity (AUIDF)
THE NEW COLOMBO PLAN MOBILITY PROGRAM
INTERNSHIPS AND PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

• Internships (96% scholars : 33% mobility)

• New Colombo Plan Internship and Mentorship Network (over 250 organisations)

• Supporting Australian universities to develop innovative partnerships with the private-sector (Arcare, Huawei, Mitsui, Tata)

• 32 Business Champions

NCP Business Champion Andy Penn (Telstra) with NCP students in Jakarta, Indonesia
“The NAB’s internship program allowed me to form invaluable friendships that helped me settle into a new country and work environment. This experience helped shape my career aspirations.” Rebecca Lawrence (Indonesia Scholar)
“My internship with QBE was by far the most rewarding element of my experience and my eyes were opened to the dynamic corporate environment of Hong Kong.” Jake Schatz
DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

• An Indigenous scholar has been successful in each of the five scholarship rounds to date

• Indigenous Fellow Scholarship Award and the Indigenous Alumni Ambassador; flexibility on age

• Scholars:
  • 54% female
  • 5% identify as having a disability
  • 6% born outside Australia*
  • 15% speak language other than English at home*
  • 31% from regional Australia*
  *sample of 127 returned scholars

• Mobility:
  • 63% female
  • 15% born outside Australia*
  • 39% from regional Australia*
  • 21% speak language other than English at home*
*sample of 3700 returned mobility students

Indigenous mobility students from Charles Darwin University in Timor-Leste
THE RESULTS SO FAR

Students say:

• More confident in their ability to engage with people in the Indo-Pacific (93%)
• NCP Mobility was rewarding and a life-changing experience (97%)
• More regionally-literate and work ready (90%)

Australian Universities say:

• NCP has both strengthened existing and encouraged the development of new relationships with universities in the Indo-Pacific region

NCP scholars Ryan Cunningham, Jonathan Glindermann, Gemma Clancy and Michelle Howie at Lions Rock, Hong Kong
INCREASED LANGUAGE OPPORTUNITIES – 2019 ONWARDS

Aim:
To encourage more students to seek language training opportunities in the region

Enhancements have been made to the Scholarship Program for the 2019 round
❖ Opportunity to apply for increased language training support from one month to six months for full-time in-country language training

Enhancements have been made to the Mobility Program for the 2019 round
❖ The addition of Language Training Grants of $1,500 per student, in conjunction with Semester-based Mobility Projects, for in-country language training
NEW COLOMBO PLAN SCHOLARS

**Studied or worked primarily or entirely in the language of host location**
- Yes, 41
- No, 59

% of respondents, n=125

**Undertook formal language training as part of Scholarship program**
- Yes, 73
- No, 27

% of respondents, n=126
NEW COLOMBO PLAN SCHOLARS

Language proficiency before & after course
% of respondents, n=91

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<th>Level</th>
<th>Before language course</th>
<th>After language course</th>
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Level of improvement in proficiency after language course
% of respondents, n=91

- Stayed the same: 4%
- Improved one level: 48%
- Improved two levels: 26%
- Improved three levels: 15%
- Improved four levels: 4%
- Improved five levels: 1%
**NEW COLOMBO PLAN SCHOLARS**

**Other activities that help improve language skills**
*Multiple answers allowed so total >%; % based on n=90*

- Additional language training: 74%
- More opportunities for immersion: 67%
- Access to online materials: 30%
- Studying university subjects in the language: 29%
- Other: 4%
NEW COLOMBO PLAN MOBILITY STUDENTS

Undertook formal language training as part of NCP experience

% of respondents, n=3,666

- No: 50
- No, but improved language skills by studying or working primarily in language of host location: 29
- Yes, did formal language training: 17
- Yes, also studied or worked primarily in language of host location: 4
10 most common language/s trained in as part of NCP experience

% of respondents, n=760

- Chinese / Mandarin: 31%
- Indonesian / Bahasa: 28%
- Japanese: 10%
- Korean: 5%
- Thai: 4%
- Khmer: 4%
- Vietnamese: 3%
- Tetun: 3%
- Lao: 3%
- Nepalese: 1%
NEW COLOMBO PLAN MOBILITY STUDENTS

Course duration - Language course 1
% of respondents, n=757

- Less than 4 weeks: 59%
- 1 month up to 3 months: 24%
- 3 months or more: 17%
WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES GOING FORWARD?

Building demand and diversity
• Helping students to understand the value of an Asian study experience, including language acquisition

Growing Alumni Network
• Facilitating connections and ensuring networks are long-lasting

Engaging the private sector
• Supporting work-based learning activities
• Fostering links between Australian participants and businesses in the region

- 2019 Mobility Round opened on Monday 19 March -
NEW COLOMBO PLAN ALUMNI PROGRAM

- Supports alumni to maintain a connection to each other, the program and the Indo-Pacific as they progress in their lives and careers
- Access to exclusive networking events, professional development and mentoring opportunities
- A growing online alumni network of future leaders including Australia’s Global Alumni Network
- Connecting businesses to talented youth with first-hand experience in the Indo-Pacific region
- An active Alumni Ambassadors Program
NCP & REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

Foreign Minister Julie Bishop addressing the New Colombo Plan
ASEAN Australia SUMMIT Reception, 17 March 2018
FOR MORE INFORMATION

ww.dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-plan
ncp.secretariat@dfat.gov.au
@NewColomboPlan