



Event: Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) Swinburne campus visit

Date: Friday 4 March 2016

Location: Swinburne University of Technology

Speech notes

Vice-Chancellor Professor Linda Kristjanson

Acknowledge traditional elders of the land, the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation.

Good morning and welcome to Swinburne University of Technology.

VIP acknowledgements

- Consul, Mrs Suzzaini Abdullah and Vice Consul
- Miss Salina Sa-Idul Haj from Education Malaysia Australia

The 2016 Asia-Pacific Association for International Education conference has drawn to a close, but we appreciate this opportunity to host you at our university's Hawthorn campus.

Today we have visitors from 18 different countries – a testament to the importance of international education.

Some of you come from institutions and organisations with whom we already have connections with.

Others are from universities, schools, centres, and agencies we are not so familiar with. We value this chance to get to know you and the work that you are involved in, with the potential of forging more cross global relationships.

At Swinburne, we work closely with countries across the globe to create education and research opportunities that will create long-lasting outcomes. We are proud to have strong partnerships and agreements with universities in Asia, North America, South America and Europe.

As a university, we strive to help of our students and staff unlock the skills and capabilities required to transform their own lives and the lives of others in their community.

We do this by providing a dynamic environment devoted to excellence in both education and research.

Just this year, the Times Higher Education ranked Swinburne as one of the top 100 most international universities in the world.

The Academic Ranking of World Universities places Swinburne in the top three per cent of universities in the world. This is supported by our innovative approach to research development and quality education.

And last year, for the first time, Swinburne entered the Times Higher Education Top 100 universities under 50 years old.

Today is a chance for you to step into our community and see first-hand some initiatives that we are truly proud of.

You will have an opportunity to visit our Swinburne Virtual Reality Theatre for an Astro Tour where you will see stunning, high-resolution 3D images of space, captured by the world's most powerful telescopes.

You will visit the Swinburne Design Factory, part of the Design Factory Global Network – a global network of universities offering innovative education, research and partnerships.

Here, you will take part in some Lego Serious Play. You will see how we use Lego to help students think innovatively to develop strategic planning, communication, and creative thinking skills for the future.

Finally, there will be a tour of our Factory of the Future, a \$100 million complex which features a superior suite of advanced manufacturing equipment. The concept behind the factory is that you can walk in with an idea and by the end of the day it could be built and tested.

I would like to thank you again for visiting us here at Swinburne; we hope you leave our campus today feeling inspired.

And do enjoy our Aussie BBQ breakfast!