

# 2011 Research Agenda: Australian Universities International Directors' Forum

Presentation to Australian International Education Conference

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## Introduction

The Australian Universities International Directors' Forum (AUIDF) is a forum for International Directors in 38 Australian universities.

This paper presents the research agenda of AUIDF in 2011, covering three studies

- **Benchmarking Australian University International Operations 2010**, involving all 38 members of Universities Australia, covering 105,185 commencing international students. The study has been conducted from 2002 to 2010; this session will include time series
- **Benchmarking from the Public Domain**, analysis of data on numbers of students in Australian universities from Australia's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations in 2010.
- **Outgoing International Mobility of Australian University Students 2010**, a stocktake and benchmarking of outgoing international study experiences of students in Australian universities in 2010 by type of experience, domestic or international, level of study, gender, duration of experience, field of education and destination. The research includes analysis of the relationship between funding and participation in outgoing mobility. The methodology developed in Australia for measuring access to mobility, the number of international study experiences in a year as a proportion of the number of completing undergraduates in that year, has been adopted by Open Doors.

## Benchmarking Australian University International Operations

AUIDF has been carrying out these benchmarking studies since 2002. 29 universities participated in 2002, 33 in 2003, 34 in 2004 and 2005, 36 in 2006 and 2007, 37 in 2008 and 2009 and all 38 in the 2010 study which was carried out in 2011. The population has increased from 57,000 commencing students in 2002 to 105,000 commencing students in 2010.

Benchmarking at its simplest is a means of comparing one's performance with that of one's peers. For an education institution, it is the collection of information about an aspect of the institution's operations in a way that enables comparisons to be made with other institutions. The results of the comparison can then highlight areas where improvements are needed, where the institution can learn from others and where problems have to be investigated.

The focus of the research is on international students on campus in Australia. The research scope does not include international students in off-campus/distance/flexible mode, and does not include international students at offshore campuses.

Each participating university receives an individual report and, in each individual report, individual responses are highlighted. Each individual report is different and no participant's individual responses are reported to any other participant.

For the benchmarking of international operations, a questionnaire was distributed to Australian universities in December 2010, seeking 2010 data, in ten areas

- Costs of International Offices
- Staffing of international marketing, enquiries, admissions and compliance
- International admissions policies, procedures and quotas
- International student services
- International student mobility
- Costs of recruiting international students from key source countries
- Conversion rates from applications to offers to commencements
- Structure of International Offices
- Scholarships provided by universities to international students
- Accommodation provided by universities for international students.

Universities were invited to participate in all ten aspects, or to cherry-pick those aspects where they wished to participate. All 38 universities participated in the study. Results were distributed to universities in April 2011. Members of AUIDF have agreed that some of the high level findings in the report can be provided to this Conference.

The 38 participating universities reported 105,185 commencing international students, a large population that makes the study compelling.

### International Office Costs

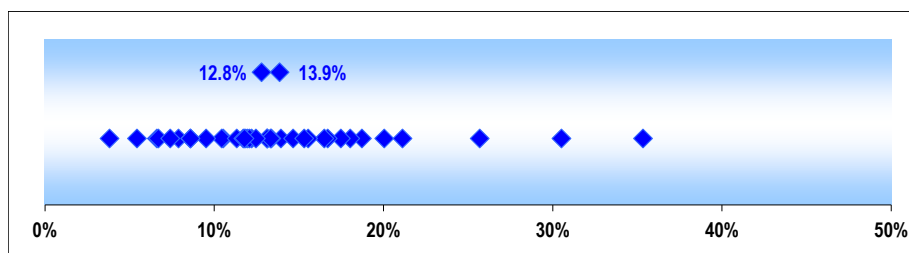
38 universities reported on both International Office costs and income from international on campus student fees, using actual or estimate or budget figures for 2010. Universities are able to benchmark their performance with that of their peers comparing International Office costs as a proportion of international student fee income.

The 38 universities reported aggregate income from international on campus student fees in 2010 of \$3.642 billion, from \$3.065 billion in 37 universities in 2009. International Office budgets, excluding commissions, aggregated in 2010 to \$223.1 million or 6.1% of income. Commissions aggregated to \$146.7 million or 4.0% of income. Costs devolved to faculties aggregated to \$20.4 million or 0.6% of income.

The costs of international operations in 2010, including international office costs, commissions and devolved costs, aggregated to \$390.2 million or 10.7% of revenue, from 10.7% in 2009.

Chart 1 shows **Cost % Including Devolved Costs**. It shows the range of the 38 responses, the average of the 38 responses (13.9%) and the median response (12.8%).

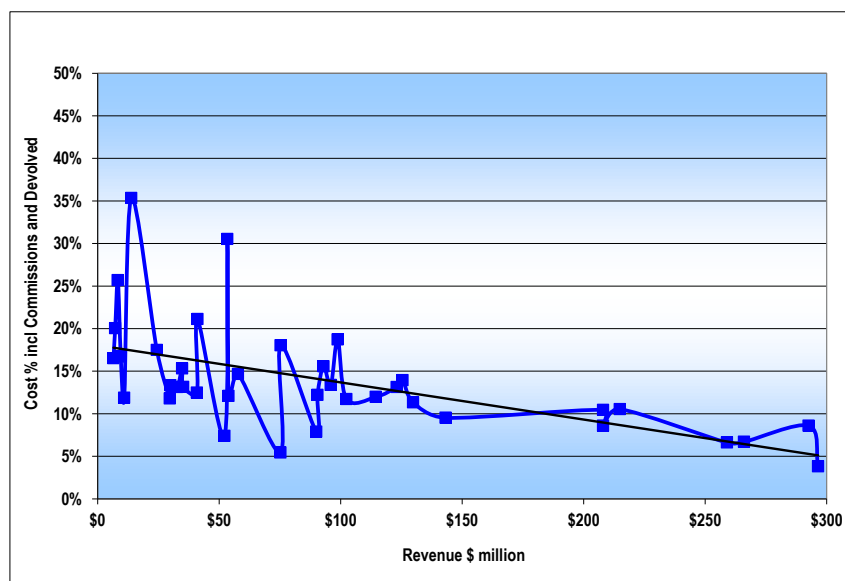
**Chart 1**  
**Cost % Including Devolved Costs**



Across all 38 universities, the aggregate cost of recruiting a student, including commissions and devolved costs, was 10.7% but, among the 38 universities, the average of the responses was 13.9% and the median was 12.8%.

As shown in Chart 2 **Size of International Student Program and International Office Costs %**, there appear to be some economies of scale.

**Chart 2**  
**Size of International Student Program and International Office Costs %**



Charts 1 and 2 provide data on costs of international operations as a proportion of international revenue.

Because international revenue is a function of pipeline and duration, measures of international costs as a proportion of revenue also are a function of pipeline and duration. To minimise the effects of pipeline and duration, costs of international operations, including commissions and devolved costs, have been analysed as costs per commencement.

All 38 universities were able to report both International Office costs and numbers of commencing students in 2010, enabling benchmarking of costs per commencement.

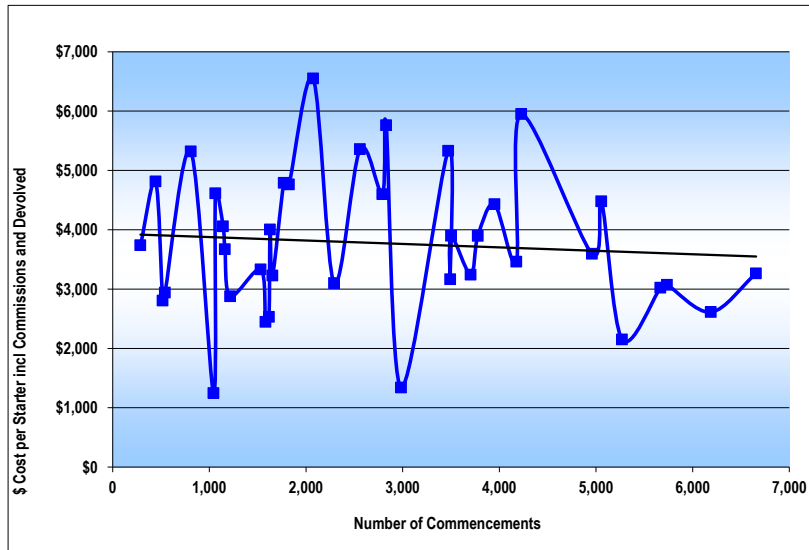
The 38 universities reported 105,185 commencements in 2010. International Office budgets, excluding commissions, aggregated in 2010 to \$223.1 million or \$2,121 per commencement, from \$1,746 in 2009. Commissions in 2010 aggregated to \$146.7 million or \$1,395 per commencement, from \$1,219 in 2009. Devolved costs amounted to \$20.4 million or \$194 per commencement, from \$165 in 2009.

The costs of international operations in 2010 aggregated to \$390.2 million or \$3,710 per commencement, from \$3,155 in 2009.

Across all 38 universities, the aggregate cost of recruiting a student, including commissions and devolved costs, was \$3,710. Among the 38 universities, the average of the responses was \$3,775 and the median was \$3,632.

As shown in Chart 3 **Number of Starters and \$ Cost per Starter**, with duration and pipeline excluded, economies of scale are less obvious.

**Chart 3  
Number of Starters and \$ Cost per Starter**

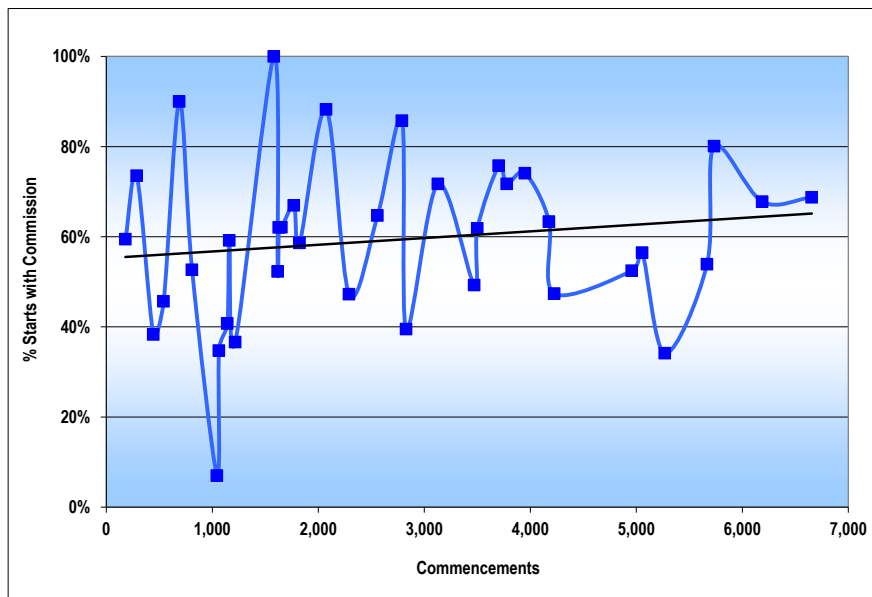


**Proportion of Starts with Commission**

Thirty-seven universities reported both the number of commencements in 2010 and the number of commencements on whom a commission was paid, enabling benchmarking of the proportion of students on whom a commission was paid. The 37 universities reported 100,659 commencements in 2010, with commission paid on 61,488 commencements or 61.1%.

Chart 4 **Number of Starters and % Starts with Commission** explores the relationship between numbers of commencements and proportion attracting commission.

**Chart 4  
Number of Starters and % Starts with Commission**



## Staffing

All 38 universities reported an aggregate 463.1 staff in 2010 dedicated to marketing, and an aggregate 105,185 commencing international students. In aggregate, it takes 4.4 marketing staff to achieve 1,000 international commencements, from 4.4 in 2009.

All 38 universities reported an aggregate 518.3 staff in 2010 dedicated to admissions, and an aggregate 105,185 commencing international students. In aggregate, it takes 4.9 admissions staff to achieve 1,000 commencements, from 4.7 in 2009.

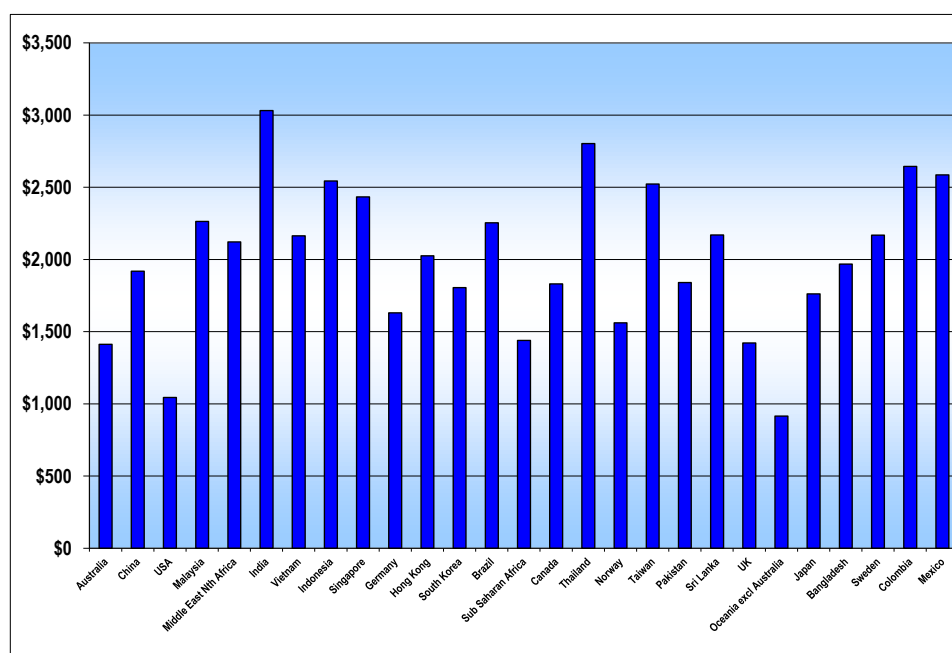
## Costs of Recruitment for Key Source Countries

If salaries, publications and scholarships are regarded as **fixed costs** that generally do not vary across countries, then commissions, travel, advertising, exhibitions, freight and the costs of offices overseas are **country costs** that do vary across countries. Commissions, travel, advertising, exhibitions, freight and the costs of offices overseas in aggregate provide a **country cost** of recruiting students from a source country.

In total 31 universities responded, including 23 universities who were able to report on costs in Australia as a source country. For these 31 universities, the country costs in 27 countries/regions aggregated to \$152.7 million, including \$115.4 million in commissions. From these 27 countries/regions, the 31 universities recruited 83,793 international students in 2010 at a country cost of \$1,822 per student, from \$1,598 in 2009. This country cost in 2010 included commission of \$1,377, from \$1,203 in 2009. This commission in 2010 of \$1,377 per student is the commission for every international student recruited, not just those on whom a commission was paid.

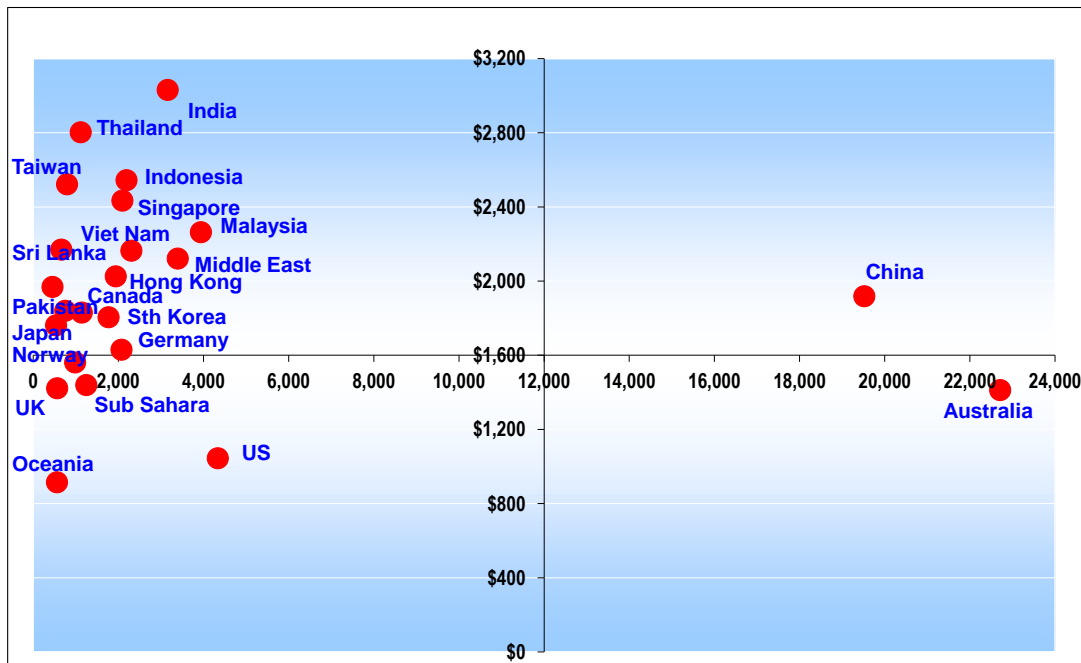
For all 31 universities in aggregate, Chart 5 displays **Country Cost of Recruitment by Source Country**. It shows the country cost of recruitment, including commission cost, for each of the 27 source countries/regions in the study, in order of the size of the country/region as a source country/region.

**Chart 5**  
**Country Cost of Recruitment by Source Country**



For all 31 universities in aggregate, Chart 6 shows **Cost and Yield: Country Cost and Number of Commencements** for the top 22 source countries/regions, those that were the sources of more than 500 students in 2010. In Chart 6, the countries in the bottom right hand quadrant are those which are large source countries for Australia with relatively low country costs. Ideally, all source countries would be in the bottom right hand quadrant with Australia and, more or less, China.

**Chart 6**  
**Cost and Yield: Country Cost and Number of Commencements**



**Recruitment Channels and Conversion: Applications/Offers/Commencements**

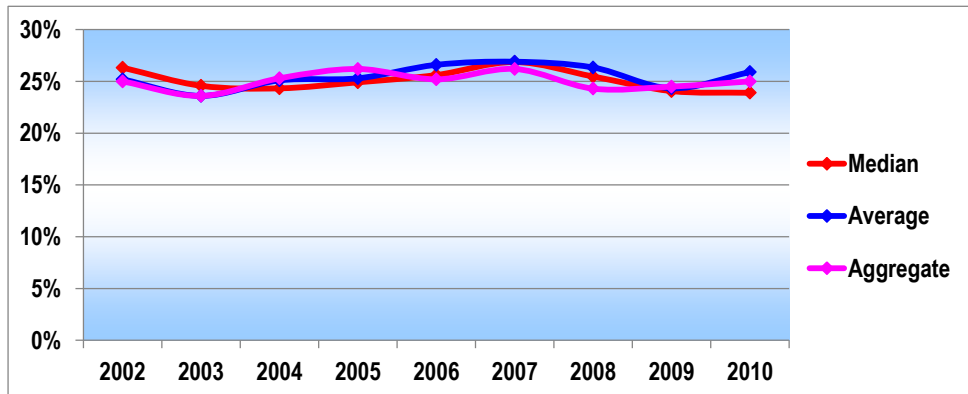
Universities were invited to benchmark conversion rates, from numbers of applicants to numbers of students offered to numbers of commencements, by level of study, or by recruitment channel or by both level and channel.

In total, 35 universities provided data for 2010 by level of study, enabling, for each level of study, benchmarking of conversion from applicants to offers, conversion from offers to commencements and conversion from applications to commencements.

In aggregate, at all levels in these 35 universities, 346,552 applications resulted in 253,180 offers and 86,777 commencements. Overall, 73.1% of applicants received an offer, 34.3% of those who received an offer commenced and, as a function of those two results, 25.0% of applicants commenced. Conversion rates since data collection commenced have been relatively stable. In 2010, universities processed 4.0 applications to obtain a commencement, compared with 4.1 in 2009, 4.1 in 2008, 3.8 in 2007, 4.0 in 2006, 3.8 in 2005, 4.0 in 2004, 4.2 in 2003 and 4.0 in 2002.

Chart 7 **All Levels Starts/Applications %: Time Series** displays time series from 2002 to 2010 in the proportion of applicants who commence.

**Chart 7**  
**All Levels Starts/Applications %: Time Series**



For an Australian university, there are 13 recruitment channels, six in Australia and seven overseas.

International students can be recruited from Australia: from the university’s own pathway programs in Australia, directly with no agent; from the university’s own pathway program in Australia, through an agent other than IDP; from the university’s own pathway program in Australia, through IDP as agent; directly from Australia with no agent; through an agent in Australia other than IDP; or through an IDP office in Australia.

Alternatively, international students can be recruited from overseas: from the university’s own pathway programs overseas directly with no agent; from the university’s own pathway program overseas through an agent other than IDP; from the university’s own pathway program overseas through IDP as agent; through the university’s own offices overseas, directly from overseas with no agent, through an agent overseas other than IDP, or through an IDP office overseas.

Chart 8 **Recruitment Channels: Size or Relative Importance** shows the size or relative importance of these 13 recruitment channels.

**Chart 8**  
**Recruitment Channels: Size or Relative Importance**

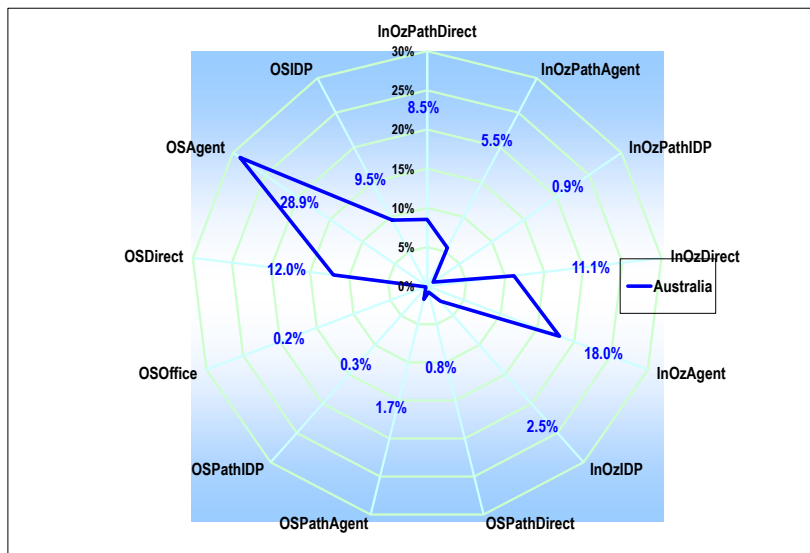
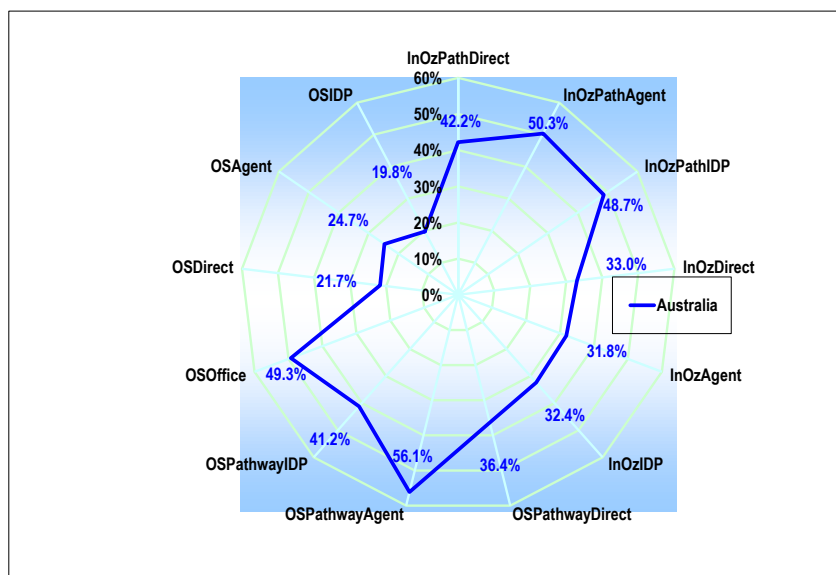


Chart 9 **Conversion Rates by Recruitment Channels** looks at the efficiency of conversion from application to commencement for each recruitment channel, without any regard to the volumes for each channel.

**Chart 9**  
**Conversion Rates by Recruitment Channels**



## Scholarships

Universities were invited to provide data on the scholarships they offered to international students. The survey was limited to scholarships (full or partial), fee waivers and stipends that were

- funded fully by the university, from non-government sources, or by donations that are totally at the discretion of the university
- available only to international students
- offered at the commencement of the student's degree program.

The survey did not cover

- scholarships/stipends for study in transnational education programs
- scholarships/stipends also available to domestic students, such as sports scholarships
- scholarships or travel grants for outgoing mobility
- prizes or awards provided after commencement of degree study in Australia
- preparatory program scholarships/stipends
- scholarships/stipends funded by government or other external funding bodies.

Twenty seven universities reported spending \$219.5 million on scholarships and stipends for commencing international students in 2010, including \$186.7 million on scholarships and stipends for commencing international postgraduate research students in 2010. These 27 universities earned \$3.218 billion in revenue from international students in 2010.

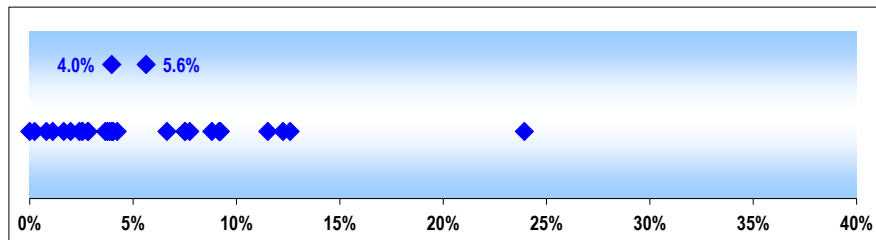
In aggregate, these 27 universities in 2010 re-invested 6.8% of their international student revenue in scholarships for commencing international students, including 5.8% of international student revenue on scholarships for commencing international postgraduate research students.



6.8% and 5.8% are big numbers, higher than the 4.0% spent by universities on commissions.

Chart 10 **Proportion of Revenue on Postgraduate Research Scholarships** shows the range of responses from the 27 universities, the average of the 27 responses (5.6%) and the median response (4.0%).

**Chart 10**  
**Proportion of Revenue on Postgraduate Research Scholarships**



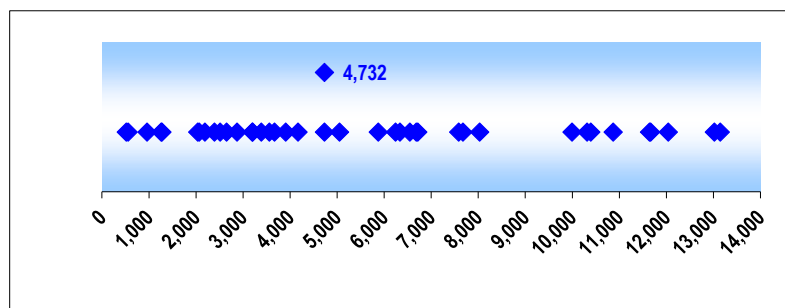
### Benchmarking from the Public Domain

Australia’s Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) releases data annually from the higher education statistics collection. From these statistics, from the public domain, it is possible to benchmark for all universities a number of measures of universities’ international student programs.

DEEWR in September 2011 released data on international student numbers in Australian higher education providers in 2010. This analysis edits that data to include only the 39 Australian universities

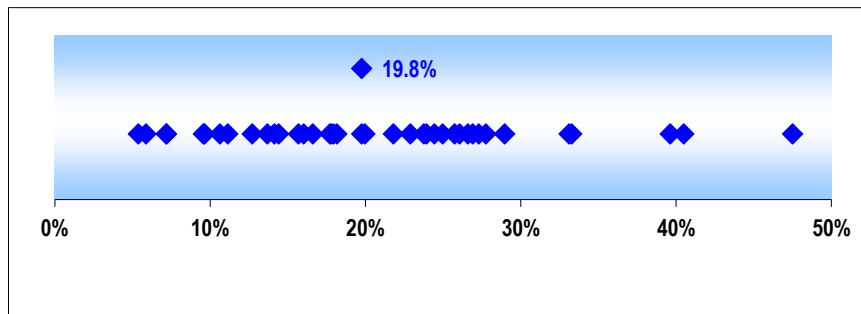
In the 39 universities, there were 221,003 international students onshore in Australia in 2010. The range among the 39 universities was from 520 students to 13,147 students as in Chart 11 **Numbers of International Students in Australian Universities 2010: Onshore**. The median university had 4,732 international students onshore in Australia, from 4,205 in 2009, 3,615 in 2008, 3,328 in 2007, 3,495 in 2006 and 3,327 in 2005.

**Chart 11**  
**Numbers of International Students in Australian Universities 2010: Onshore**



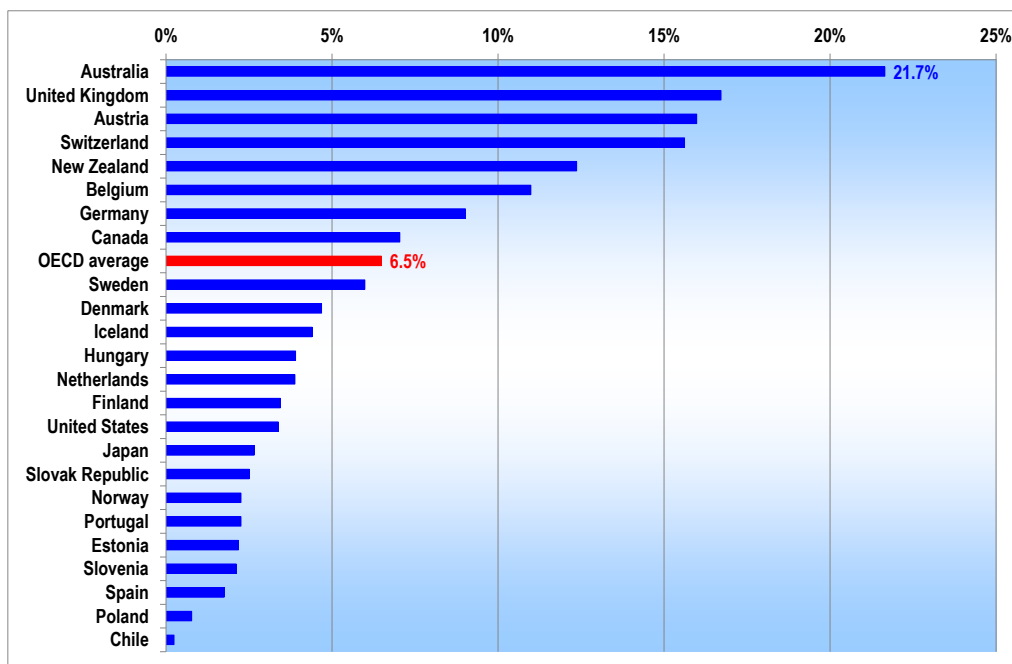
In the 39 universities, the 221,003 international students, onshore in Australia in 2010, made up 21.3% of the 1,038,579 students, onshore in Australia in 2010, in the 39 universities, from 21.1% in 2009, 20.3% in 2008, 19.4% in 2007, 19.1% in 2006 and 18.6% in 2005. The range among the 39 universities was from 5.4% to 47.5% as in Chart 12 **Proportions of International Students in Australian Universities 2010: Onshore**. The figure in the median university was 19.8%, from 18.9% in 2009, 18.5% in 2008, 17.1% in 2007, 16.3% in 2006 and 15.4% in 2005.

**Chart 12**  
**Proportions of International Students in Australian Universities 2010: Onshore**



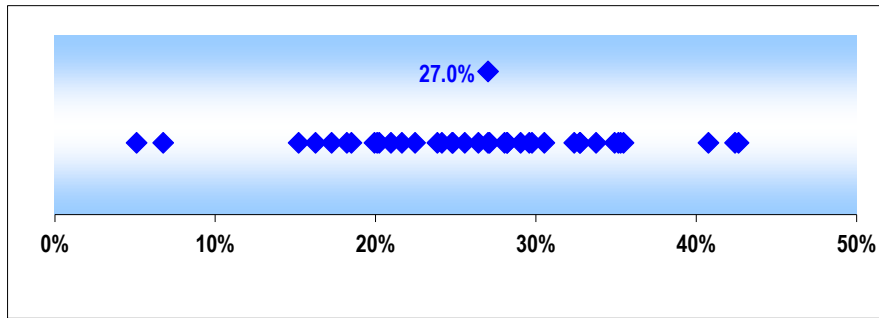
To put into international perspective the size of Australia's international student program, Chart 13 **OECD Undergraduates**, from analysis of OECD's Education at a Glance 2011, is about undergraduates only. Australia has the highest proportion of international students among its university undergraduate population of any OECD economy.

**Chart 13**  
**OECD Undergraduates**



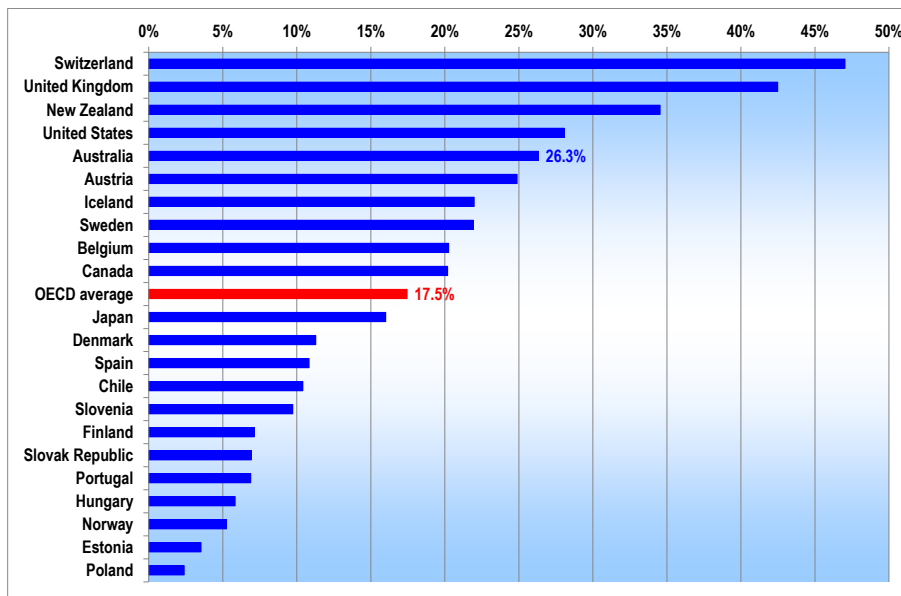
Across Australia, 26.9% of all postgraduate research students in 2010 were international, from 24.5% in 2009, 21.8% in 2008, 19.7% in 2007, 18.1% in 2006 and 17.1% in 2005. The range among the 39 universities was from 5.1% to 42.6% as in Chart 14 **Proportion of Postgraduate Research Students Who Are International**. The figure in the median university in 2010 was 27.0%, from 23.1% in 2009, 20.3% in 2008, 18.9% in 2007, 17.9% in 2006 and 16.6% in 2005.

**Chart 14**  
**Proportion of Postgraduate Research Students Who Are International**



To put into international perspective Australia's reliance on international higher degree by research students, Chart 15 **OECD Advanced Research** is from analysis of OECD's Education at a Glance 2011. Australia has a higher proportion of international research students than the OECD average, but a lower proportion than UK and US.

**Chart 15**  
**OECD Advanced Research**



1998 was the first year that DEEWR/DEST separated out numbers of international postgraduate research students in higher education in Australia. 2010 is the most recent year for which figures are available.

Table 1 **History** shows the growth of Australia's international student program, onshore in Australian universities, and the growth of international postgraduate research student numbers.

From 2004 to 2010, the only growth in postgraduate research student numbers has been from international students.

This trend will continue. As a leading indicator, 32.6% of commencing postgraduate research students in Australia in 2010 were international.

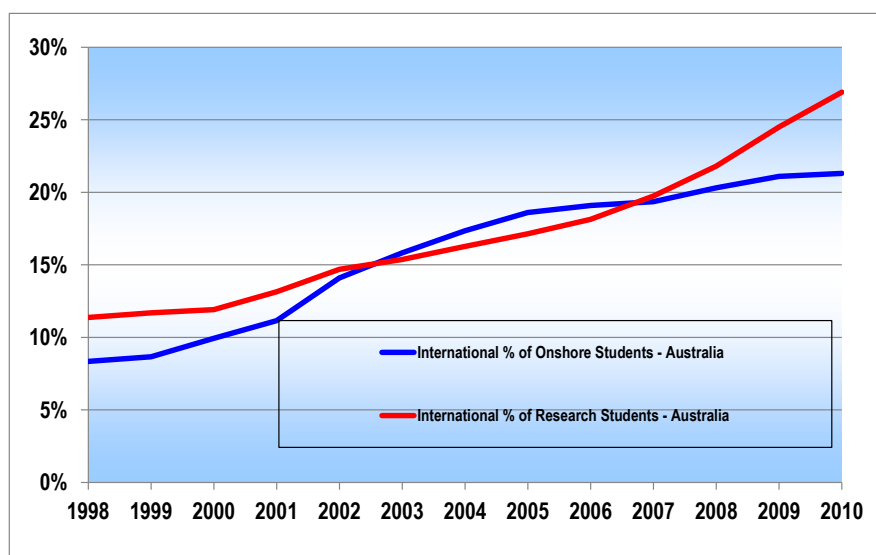
**Table 1  
History**

Year	All Onshore	Int Onshore	% Int Onshore	All Research	Domestic Research	Int Research	%Int Research
1998	654,244	54,574	8.3%	35,577	31,530	4,047	11.4%
1999	660,347	57,191	8.7%	37,051	32,719	4,332	11.7%
2000	666,036	66,158	9.9%	37,374	32,924	4,450	11.9%
2001	691,120	77,044	11.1%	38,499	33,438	5,061	13.1%
2002	828,351	116,788	14.1%	43,832	37,394	6,438	14.7%
2003	854,879	135,324	15.8%	45,659	38,640	7,019	15.4%
2004	866,785	150,363	17.3%	47,309	39,614	7,695	16.3%
2005	865,957	161,173	18.6%	48,201	39,943	8,258	17.1%
2006	881,159	168,162	19.1%	49,037	40,145	8,892	18.1%
2007	903,893	174,957	19.4%	49,819	39,983	9,836	19.7%
2008	928,640	188,339	20.3%	50,479	39,466	11,013	21.8%
2009	984,720	207,984	21.1%	52,423	39,557	12,866	24.5%
2010	1,038,579	221,003	21.3%	53,638	39,187	14,451	26.9%

As in Chart 16 **Proportions of International Students and International Research Students**, the proportion of postgraduate research students who are international grew from 11.4% in 1998 to 26.9% in 2010, at the same time as the proportion of onshore students in Australian universities who are international grew from 8.3% to 21.3%.

The Australian experience shows that it is possible to grow an international student program at the same time as an international postgraduate research student program. They are not mutually exclusive.

**Chart 16  
Proportions of International Students and International Research Students**



DEEWR publishes annually data on progress rates and attrition rates for commencing bachelor degree students for 37 universities.

The standard for measuring academic performance in Australia is the student progress rate: how much of what I attempted did I pass?

Commencing international bachelor students passed 85.4% of what they attempted in 2010, and did just as well as commencing Australian undergraduates, who passed 84.8%. In 22 universities in 2010, up from 15 in 2009, commencing international undergraduates did better than Australians. In 11 universities in 2010, down from 15 in 2009, Australians did better. In four universities, down from seven in 2009, there was no difference (less than one percentage point).

Commencing international bachelor degree students stayed the course better than commencing domestic bachelor degree students. 8.7% of commencing international undergraduates dropped out compared with 18.1% of commencing domestic undergraduates. In 36 of 37 universities commencing international bachelor degree students stayed the course better than commencing domestic bachelor degree students. In one university there was no difference (less than one percentage point)

### **Outgoing International Mobility of Australian University Students**

Universities in 2011 also benchmarked outgoing student mobility, seeking to quantify the international study experiences in 2010 of students at Australian universities.

In 37 Australian universities in 2010, 18,340 students at all levels (from 15,058 in 36 universities in 2009 and 10,718 in 37 universities in 2007) undertook international study experiences. Across these 37 universities the average university in 2010 had 496 outgoing international study experiences, the median university had 365.

In these 37 universities, there were 242,647 completions at all levels in 2010. The number of international study experiences undertaken by students at all levels in 2010 was equivalent to 7.6% of completions at all levels in 2010 (from 6.1% in 2009 and 4.7% in 2007), suggesting that 7.6% of completing students at all levels in Australian universities undertake international study experiences. The figure for the average university in 2010 was 6.8%, the median was 6.7%.

Table 2 **International Study Experiences 2010 by Type** shows these 18,340 international study experiences by type.

**Table 2  
International Study Experiences 2010 by Type**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Number of Experiences</b>
Exchange	6,696
Other Semester or Year Programs	228
Short Term Programs	5,889
Placements or Practical Training	2,650
Research	2,309
Other	568
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,340</b>

The key cohort of importance to universities is domestic undergraduates. How many Australian undergraduates have access to an international study experience during the undergraduate degree? In the 37 universities that participated in this study, 12,809 Australian undergraduate students undertook international study experiences in 2010. The figure for the average university in 2010 was 337, the median was 265.

In these 37 universities, there were 106,774 domestic undergraduate completions in 2010. The number of international study experiences undertaken by Australian undergraduate students in 2010 was equivalent to 12.0% of domestic undergraduate completions in 2010, from 8.8% in 2009, suggesting that 12.0% of completing Australian undergraduates in Australian universities undertake international study experiences. The figure for the average university in 2010 was 11.0%, the median was 10.1%.

This Australian undergraduate access figure of 12.0% compares with 9.6% in US. Open Doors in 2010 reported that 9.6% of US undergraduate students studied abroad in 2008/09, from 10.1% the previous year.

91.9% of all experiences were for credit, 2.9% were not for credit but recognised for purposes such as development of international skills and 5.3% were not for credit. 85.8% of short term study experiences were for credit, 84.3% of practical experiences were for credit.

80.6% of experiences were by undergraduates, 84.7% of experiences were by Australian (rather than international) students and 58.5% of experiences were undertaken by women. A 59:41 gender split means that 44% more women than men are undertaking international study experiences.

Universities reported the field of education for 17,774 international study experiences in 2010. Society and Culture (18%), Management and Commerce (17%) and Health (16%) were the most commonly reported fields.

Universities reported the destinations of 17,405 international study experiences. 37.4% went to Europe, 24.3% went to the Americas, 31.8% went to Asia.

Universities reported that 74% of international study experiences received funding, covering 92% of exchanges, 84% of other long term experiences, 69% of short term study experiences, 58% of international placements, 61% of research experiences and 49% of other international experiences.

By source of funding, universities reported that

- 61% of all international study experiences of all types were supported by university funds, or from a combination of university funds with other funding sources
- 21% were supported by OS HELP or a combination of OS HELP with other funding sources
- 6% were supported by funds from Australian Government programs, such as the Endeavour Awards program
- 1% were supported by funds from an overseas government or foundation
- 2% were supported by private funds or from foundations in Australia.

By amounts of funding, the 37 participating universities reported in aggregate \$26.9 million in funding for international study experiences in 2010, from \$24.2 million in 2009 and \$16.6 million in 2007, including

- \$20.1 million in university funds, from \$17.4 million in 2009 and \$12.9 million in 2007
- \$6.3 million in funds from Australian Government programs, from \$6.3 million in 2009 and \$3.5 million in 2007
- \$443,000 from private funds or foundations in Australia, from \$614,000 in 2009 and \$144,000 in 2007.

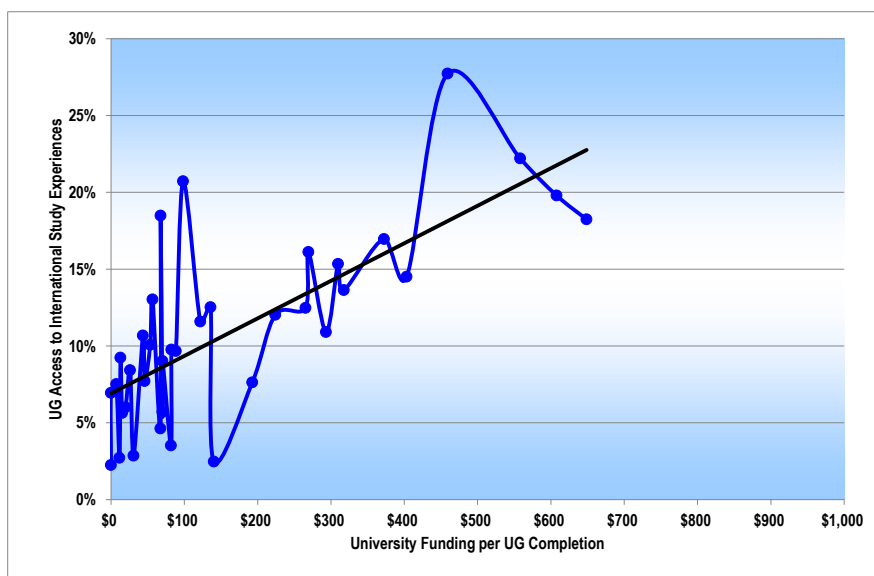
Universities reported a further \$19.1 million in loan funds from OS HELP, the Australian Government's Higher Education Loan Program to assist undergraduate students in Australian higher education providers to study abroad for one or two study periods of their degree program, from \$11.3 million in 2009 and \$8.6 million in 2007.

Students with support from university funds received, on average, \$1,794, students seeking OS-HELP accessed, on average, \$4,908.

Does funding of outward mobility matter? Universities play the dominant role in funding outward mobility. As university funds for outward mobility increase, does access to mobility increase?

Chart 17 **Funding and Access** looks at university funding per domestic undergraduate completion and Australian undergraduate access to international study experiences.

**Chart 17  
Funding and Access**



As university funding per (domestic undergraduate) completion increases, access to international study experiences by Australian undergraduates increases.

So funding is sufficient to grow outward mobility opportunities.

But funding is not necessary. The chart shows counter-examples, where two universities have lifted Australian undergraduate access to international study opportunities above 15% with modest amounts of funding.

The study of mobility added, for the first time, as an optional extra for universities, analysis of socioeconomic status (as measured by the postcode of the student's permanent home residence) for students undertaking international study experiences in 2010.

Twelve universities provided valid Australian permanent home postcodes for 3,262 students who undertook international study experiences in 2010.

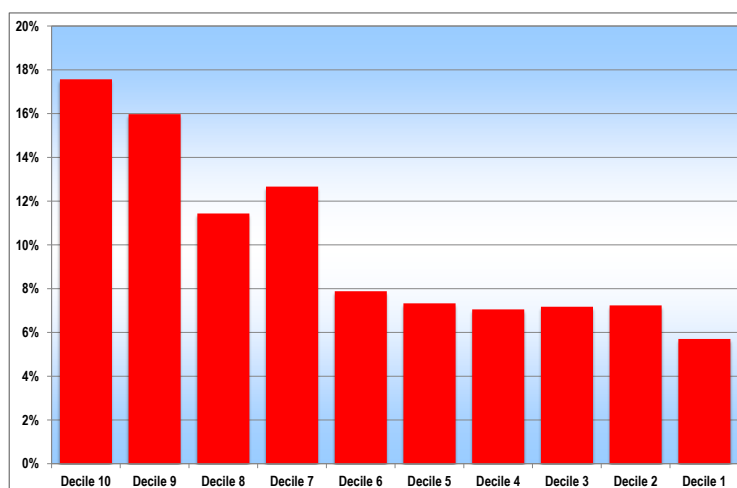
From the Australian Bureau of Statistics Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas from the 2006 Census, these postcodes were placed in deciles according to the Index of Economic Resources, which focuses on financial aspects of advantage and disadvantage, using Census variables relating to residents' incomes, housing expenditure and assets.

In Table 3 and Chart 18 **International Study Experience and Socio-Economic Status** 18% of international study experiences were undertaken by students from the highest decile of postcodes, in terms of economic resources, 6% from the lowest decile.

**Table 3**  
**International Study Experience and Socio-Economic Status**

	Number of Students	Percentage
<b>Decile 10</b>	573	18%
<b>Decile 9</b>	521	16%
<b>Decile 8</b>	373	11%
<b>Decile 7</b>	413	13%
<b>Decile 6</b>	257	8%
<b>Decile 5</b>	239	7%
<b>Decile 4</b>	230	7%
<b>Decile 3</b>	234	7%
<b>Decile 2</b>	236	7%
<b>Decile 1</b>	186	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,262</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Chart 18**  
**International Study Experience and Socio-Economic Status**



One third of all students undertaking international study experiences were from the bottom 50% of postcodes, in terms of economic resources. Availability of travel grants from universities, and access to OS HELP, appear to be opening international study opportunities to a range of Australian students.

Universities were asked to describe their risk management processes in respect of international study experiences, and responses are in Attachment A **Risk Management**.



## **Conclusion**

The final finding in this paper is about the flow of funds from international student fee revenue.

2009 provides the most recent data on finances of Australian universities. Across all universities, 16.7% of university revenue came from fees from international students

Universities appear to have adopted good practices in the use of this international student revenue, with a flow of funds for scholarships and stipends for international postgraduate research students, and a flow of funds to travel grants for Australian students undertaking international study experiences.

## Risk Management

Universities were asked whether in 2010 they have policies and procedures requiring registration, in the centre of the university, of international study experiences for their students.

In total 32 universities require registration in the centre of the university

- 14 require registration for all types of international student mobility
- 8 require registration for exchanges or where there is a scholarship or travel grant from the university
- 8 require registration for exchanges only
- 1 requires registration where there is a scholarship or travel grant from the university
- 1 university wrote in that “research students register with the Research Office and have any international travel approved; in country study tours that have credit applied to a degree have it noted by Faculty and on central student records”.

Universities were asked whether in 2010 they require insurance for students on international study experiences.

In total 35 universities require insurance

- 27 require insurance for all types of international student mobility
- 1 requires insurance for exchanges or where there is a scholarship or travel grant from the university
- 4 require insurance for exchanges only
- 1 requires insurance where there is a scholarship or travel grant from the university
- 1 university wrote in that the requirement for insurance is for “enrolled activities only (student exchange, placement where student gets credit and other enrolled programs)”
- 1 university wrote in that insurance is required “in all cases except students on the international work placement program”.

Of the 35 universities that require insurance

- 24 require life insurance
- 32 require medical insurance
- 29 require insurance to cover evacuation
- 25 require public liability insurance
- 33 require travel insurance.

In terms of the practicalities of obtaining insurance

- 15 universities offer to arrange insurance
- 11 universities require students to produce evidence of insurance
- 4 require evidence and offer to arrange insurance
- 1 university wrote in that “there are no practical arrangements offered, nor requirements to provide evidence; students are advised to make arrangements for insurance in regard to activities not directly related to the international student experience”
- 1 university wrote in that “advice is provided on relevant insurance providers”
- 1 university wrote in that “for research and other students on university scholarships, the insurance is automatically part of the travel approval process; therefore exchange students not on university scholarships are not automatically covered and do not require university approval to travel”
- 1 university wrote in that “the travel insurance is offered free of charge to the students; the only part they need to pay for additional insurance is for private travel in excess of two days”
- 1 university wrote in that “students are covered by university travel insurance policy while overseas on university business but also recommended to purchase own health/travel insurance policy to suit their needs”
- 1 university wrote in that “students are automatically covered by university insurance if approved to travel; travel approval required as part of university travel policy”.