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evolve

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Message from Director of Studies

Friends for life



Dear All,

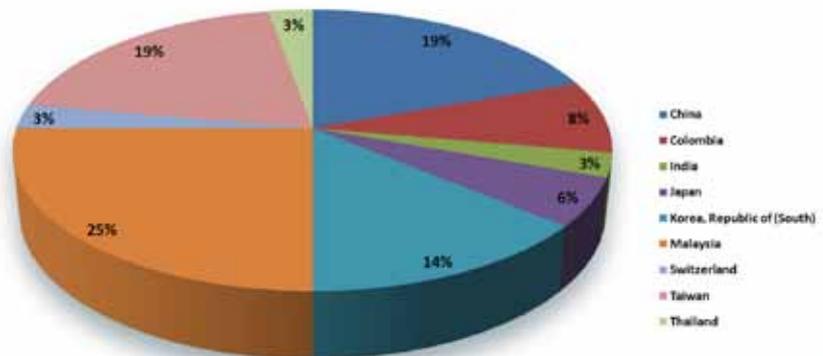
Our ELICOS department is growing rapidly and we recently added a new class, General English 2. We also recently conducted a survey of the country of origins of our ELICOS student body. We were very happy to see that our students originate from all four corners of the world:

Switzerland, Colombia, China, Japan, South Korea, India, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and many more countries. It is wonderful see such diversity in the classroom. The classroom is a place where we have the opportunity to make new friends from countries with which we would normally have no contact. In RGIT'S multicultural classrooms, students have the opportunity to teach each other about their cultures and to make new friends, some of which may be for life.

RGIT is happy that, in encouraging students from all over the world to join its programs, it is playing a part in establishing strong bonds and friendships between people from different cultural backgrounds.

Lana Harasymiv
Director of Studies

ELICOS Students Demographics by countries





EAST COAST ADVENTURE

Fraser Island

By Yasmine Al-khudri, ELICOS student

I had been in Australia for almost two months when my friend from Switzerland arrived to visit me in Melbourne. I was studying at Melbourne Uni as an exchange student. I took a little bit more than 2 weeks off to travel up the East Coast with my friend.

From Melbourne, we took the plane to Sydney, where we stayed 4 days. We went to the Blue Mountains, had a walk in the CBD, walked across the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge and saw the Opera House from every point of view possible. We also spent a whole afternoon at Manly Beach, a very beautiful beach near Sydney.

From Sydney we flew to Byron Bay. Unfortunately, we only had an afternoon and one night there, as we had to leave early the following morning to go to Brisbane (by coach), but we saw the sunset and enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere of the small town, so it was nice.

We then spent one day and one night in Brisbane. I found Brisbane very cute and lovely and quite different because in this small city, where nearly everything is within walking distance, we found three different atmospheres, one next to the other.

First, there is the CBD, where there are big buildings and many law offices and shops, secondly there is the beautiful lagoon, where we felt like we were on a beach holiday, and thirdly, there are the botanic gardens and the river. All of this is situated in a small area, so I thought it was very different to all the other cities I have visited and I had never experienced that.

After Brisbane, we went to Hervey Bay by coach. There, we took a boat tour to see whales and we did a two-day tour on Fraser Island. Seeing whales was amazing! They got so close to the boat and they were huge! Fraser Island was beautiful. We walked through some rain forests, we saw a boat that had shipwrecked the beach many years ago

and we had many wonderful views of the sea. We saw dingoes and a dead shark on the sand too.

After Fraser Island, we went back to Hervey Bay to take the coach to Brisbane and to take a flight to Airlie Beach. Airlie Beach was such a cute town. Very peaceful, and I loved the shops. Typical beach/sport/surf shops, the sort you find in small beach towns and of course, not in Switzerland, so I just love it.

From Airlie Beach, we went on a gorgeous Catamaran, for a 3 night, 3 day tour around the Whitsunday Islands. One of the best memories of my life! We saw amazing sunsets, snorkelled in the Great Barrier Reef and saw amazing colourful fish and corals, tried the paddle board, which is not as hard as I had thought and, and we went on the famous Whitehaven Beach. The sand was so white and soft, it felt like silk. It was beautiful!

After our boat trip, we still had a day left in Airlie Beach so we decided to take a flight to see the

Great Barrier Reef from the sky. I can't remember if it cost \$90 or \$180, but what I know is that it was more than a 100% worth it! It was the most beautiful thing I have ever seen!

After Airlie Beach and the Whitsundays, we took a night coach to Port Douglas, where we spent three days. We pretty much spent our three days relaxing on the beach, swimming and reading and went to a lovely market.

Finally, before flying back to Melbourne, we went to Cairns, by coach again, where we spent a whole day and night. We didn't enjoy Cairns, because it wasn't a very nice place and there was very little to do, except a bit of shopping.

The trip was really amazing. Wonderful places and sights and I recommend everyone to go see the Great Barrier Reef at least once in their lifetime!



Brisbane Lagoon



Whale watching at Hervey Bay



The Whitsunday Islands

What's on in Melbourne



Free Bike Tours for International Students Sat 4 May, City

The Squeaky Wheel is running two (free!) bicycle tours to show new international students around town. The tours run from 10:30am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 4:30pm. You'll find out about the top spots for eating, arts, culture and nightlife in central Melbourne. Best of all, bikes and helmets are provided. They'll also give you tips on how to ride safely in Melbourne traffic. You need to book, as groups are limited to 10 students per ride.



The Wardrobe Weekender Fri 4 May – Sun 5 May Barkly Square, Brunswick

Melbourne has long been an incubator for Australia's freshest designer talent. In the first week of May, Barkly Square in Brunswick will showcase Melbourne's most exciting new fashion designers.

The Square will be transformed into a range of workshops and markets. The highlight of the event is a Clothing Exchange on Saturday afternoon; a chance to swap clothes with Brunswick's grooviest locals.

Most of the Wardrobe Weekender events are free, but you need to purchase a ticket for the Clothing Exchange, which costs \$25. Buy your tickets on their website.



Garage Sale Trail, Sat 5 May, City

Now in its third year, the Garage Sale Trail is a fabulous initiative to encourage sustainability and the recycling of household items to avoid landfill. On Saturday 5 May, garage sales will pop up all around Melbourne, with city residents and workplaces offering their goods at reasonable prices. In Hosier Lane, for example, there will be a massive shoe sale to raise funds for a youth charity. As the saying goes, one man's trash is another man's treasure. It's a great way to find second-hand furniture or household goods. For more information visit: www.garagesaletrail.com.au

What's Good In Your 'Hood



- Hanaichi, QV Square,
- 245 Little Lonsdale St,
- City.
- *"It's Japanese.*
- *There are only six*
- *or seven dishes*
- *on the menu, but*
- *the food is really*
- *delicious. They have*
- *small, medium and*
- *large size disposable*
- *bowls, so you*
- *can eat the food*
- *anywhere. The cost*
- *is only \$6 to \$9."*
- Review by:
- Seung Hyukhong,
- ELICOS General English 4



- Guhng (The Palace), 19
- McKillop St, City, (off
- Bourke St, between
- Queen St & Elizabeth St).
- *"The specialty is*
- *Korean BBQ. All the*
- *meals are a little*
- *expensive, but you*
- *can enjoy a nice*
- *dinner."*
- Review by:
- Kyle, Jin Hyung Min,
- ELICOS General English 4

ON CAMPUS

Student Profile: Gerald Hjalmar Viaje

- Q. How old are you?**
A. 35.
- Q. What's the name of your course?**
A. Information Technology.
- Q. Which country are you from?**
A. Philippines.
- Q. What are 4 words that describe you?**
A. Challenger, people-person, steady, itinerant .
- Q. What do you miss most about home?**
A. My fiancée, family, out-of-town trips and the heavy traffic.
- Q. What do you enjoy most about Australia, or Melbourne?**
A. I love how I get to sleep soundly at night because of the cold weather.
Aussies are very friendly and don't dwell too much on problems, instead they take it one day at a time and just enjoy life, which I was able to easily adapt to.
- Q. What is your favourite meal?**
A. Pork barbecue with spicy pickled tuna or "Sinugba", and everything Italian ;-)
- Q. Who is someone you admire, and why?**
A. My father. He is the one who taught me to always aim high in life and make it happen.
- Q. Have you ever had 15 minutes of 'fame'? When and how?**
A. I joined Hewlett Packard's *Got Talent* in Singapore along with my band mates, and we made it to the finals. I was surprised to find out everyone in the company knows me and the band because of the kind of music that we play.
- Q. What drives you crazy?**
A. When I'm too focused on doing something and still can't get it right.
- Q. What music are you listening to?**
A. Rock, Alternative and Ballads.
- Q. What's your idea of a great night out?**
A. A candlelit dinner with my fiancée overlooking city lights after a great concert.
- Q. If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?**
A. Changing the political system in the Philippines would somehow make an impact to the world.
- Q. If you could do anything at all with your life, what would it be?**
Travel around the world while making so much money.



Gerald Hjalmar Viaje

ELICOS Student Writing

Task: ELICOS trainer, Elvira, asked students to write an email to someone. Thank you, for this terrific submission. Well done Tracy! We hope you get to stay in a 5-star hotel some time soon.

Student: Tracy (Wan-Chun Wang), ELICOS G2



Dear Mom,

How are you? I miss you so much. Don't worry about me. I'm fine.

I have some friends here, and we're going to the city in the weekend. It's called Kentine. We are going to stay in a 5-star hotel and spend whole weekend in Kentine. I'm sure we will have a lot of fun. I think Kentine is a nice place for holiday. I heard from some friends who have already been there before.

There is a big beach, lovely sunshine and bikini. But I'm a little concern about weather and tourists. If the weather is too hot, we probably will lay down on the beach and do nothing. I don't like noisy places so I hope there won't be too many tourists in the weekend.

In the weekend, we are going to swimming, go fishing and shopping. I know it sounds really fun so I can't wait.

I hope you will have a wonderful weekend too.

Love,

Tracy

FIELD TRIPS

Luxury at The Langham

“Ooooo,” “Awwwww.” You can hear that this is the highlight of their field trip. Trainer, **Peter Conheady-Barker**, leads 10 Certificate III Hospitality (Operations) students up the grand staircase at The Langham hotel, Southbank. The wide marble staircase, with its central chandelier, is majestic, breathtaking and noise-making! For just a moment, the students get to feel like royalty.

“It’s the first time many of them have seen a 5 star hotel,” says Peter.

Students visit all the kitchens, and there are plenty in a hotel that serves buffets for 200 to 300 people.

“There’s the main kitchen, the pastry kitchen, the banquet kitchen and the larder,” Peter says. They also visit the massive laundry with its expensive machines that wash and dry hundreds of sheets and towels each day. They visit housekeeping and security too.

Every time RGIT visits The Langham, the tour is lead by a different head of staff, so students enjoy insights from different perspectives.

Once, they ran into Guy Sebastian, but Guy’s privacy was well protected – no one was allowed to take photos or ask for autographs. They also saw Gillian Anderson of *The X Files* fame being secretly registered by the Head of Security. No famous person enters the hotel at 1st floor reception; they prefer the paparazzi-free back door.

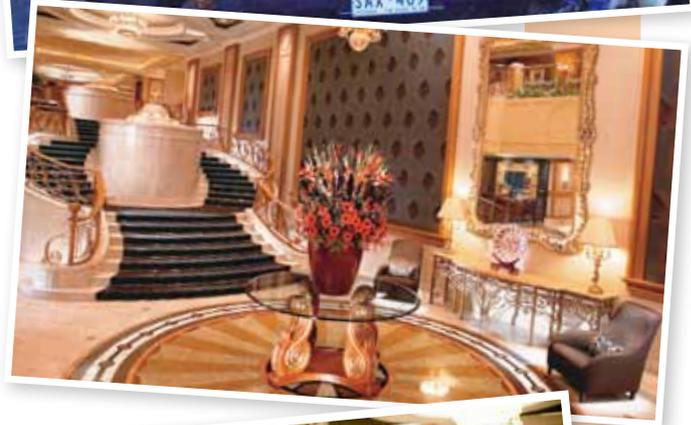
Students inspect all the luxury hotel rooms, which is fun (except the penthouse). If they are honest about it, their favourite part of the tour is the free breakfast.

“They love breakfast,” says Peter. “The Langham has a chocolate fountain and they like to dip their fruit in it,” he laughs.

Chocolate croissant, anyone?



Peter Conheady-Barker
Hospitality Trainer



FIELD TRIPS

Melbourne Museum

CREEPY CRAWLIES UNDER GLASS

ELICOS students know that the safest way to experience Melbourne's most dangerous residents – spiders and insects – is under glass, at the Melbourne Museum.

The ELICOS program offers educational excursions and activities that allow students to visit landmarks and areas of interest in Melbourne and which facilitate their use of English in the real world. These excursions add wonderful educational value and cultural insight to our curriculum.

One of the most recent excursions was to the Melbourne Museum. ELICOS trainer and excursion leader, Adrian, says the group was most captivated by the display of insects and spiders. They also visited the Forest Gallery, uncovering the hidden secrets of Victoria's mountain forests. They walked amongst the skeletons of dinosaurs and prehistoric animals and the endangered species (expired, and stuffed, of course).

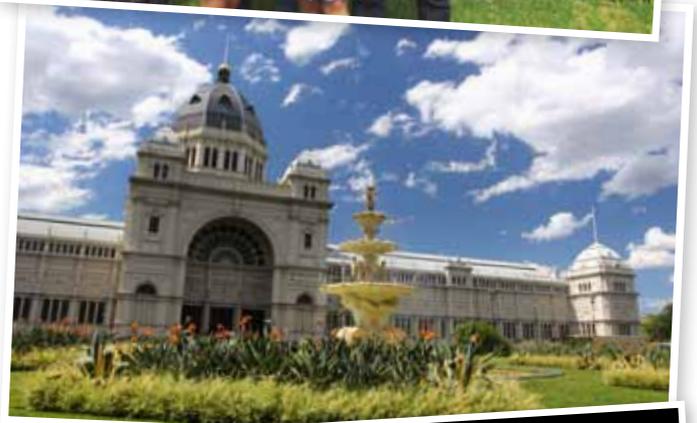
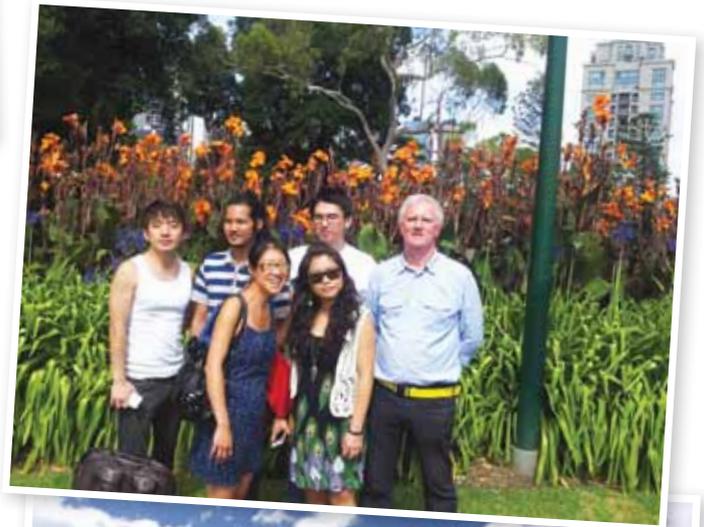
On any field trip, there are plenty of conversations to negotiate: speaking with ticket collectors, asking tour guides interesting questions, asking strangers for directions if they get lost!

The group also enjoyed walking through the picturesque Carlton Gardens and took photographs of the beautiful and historic Royal Exhibition Building. It is the only building left in the world with a Great Hall that was used for international exhibitions in the 19th century.

Excursions are for three to four hours and are usually within walking distance of RGIT. Even though they are optional, most students come because they enjoy them so much, says ELICOS trainer Elvira.

Recent field trips have included: a picnic at the Royal Botanical Gardens, the Ian Potter Gallery, the National Gallery of Victoria, the Immigration Museum, Parliament House, the State Treasury, Captain Cook's cottage and the Shrine of Remembrance.

If you have been to any great places that our ELICOS students might enjoy visiting, drop Elvira an email: Elvira@rgit.edu.au.



RGIT NEWS

OUR FABULOUS FOODIES



We know you wish you'd been invited, but the least we can do is tell you about it. Recently, 10 hospitality students (Certificate III, Commercial Cookery) served a delectable feast to 30 lucky staff and students as part of their assessment.

The students spent a day in preparation (lots of chopping) for the hot and cold buffet, listening to trainer Chris Ong's favourite instructions: "Wash your hands!"; "Wash your equipment!"; "Clean as you go!"; "Taste as you cook!".

"They had made all the recipes before, but this time I was not helping them. They had to know what to do. It's a good challenge for them to organise themselves and their equipment, but also to present the food. I don't want them to copy me. I ask them to be creative."

Of course, they might get a few ideas from television shows like *Masterchef* and *My Kitchen Rules*, but that's not cheating, says Chris.

Last term, students also learned how to use our new kitchen mixer for bread and pastry-making and our new meat slicer. Previously, this was done by hand.

"Everyone still has 10 fingers," laughs Chris.

What a spectacular job they did. On the menu was: mushroom arancini canapés, seafood chowder, antipasto, Hungarian beef goulash, Thai green chicken curry, coconut rice, potato salad, Greek salad . . . Are you hungry yet? Here's desert: chocolate mousse cake with Chantilly cream, sticky date pudding with butterscotch sauce, and vanilla cupcakes with lemon buttercream. Seriously yummo!



RGIT NEWS

BARISTAS EVERYWHERE!

The World Barista Championship is being held in Melbourne next month as part of the International Coffee Expo (www.internationalcoffeeexpo.com), and with our fabulous new barista facility and Latte Art short course, we think we've got a few champions on the way.

Next time you're in the elevator, press 6, and the doors will open to the sound of our new baristas practicing hard. The new training facility has 4 commercial coffee machines. Together with our Level 8 coffee room (2 machines), we're launching baristas faster than we can ground the coffee beans.

"We have manual and automatic machines," says Anjali Sthapit, marketing administration and short-course co-ordinator, "because different places use different machines. On the manual machine, students learn how to measure 30ml or 60ml of coffee and when to stop filtering it, for example."

Melbourne is definitely Australia's coffee capital. According to Sarah Ellul, assistant director of the International Coffee Expo, we import 30 tonnes of coffee daily. Interestingly, Australians only consume about 3.73kg of coffee per person, per year, which isn't much compared to Finland where they drink 12kg per person per year. They probably don't sleep much up there.

The Latte Art course is more for those students seeking weekend café work, where baristas are expected to create swans and hearts and tulips – unlike the morning-rush coffee makers who have people queued, tap-tap-tapping their feet, as they await their regular flat whites.

Anjali says Latte Art students go through 10 litres of milk each per training session. Wow. Whereas barista students only go through about 2 to 3 litres each. Both are allowed to practice in our facilities as much as they like during, and after, the course.

"One of our trainers, Caleb, likes to make animal faces with the milk, like bears and pigs. And some students come up with things like dragons, or a human face," she says.

Sadly, no, you're not allowed to pop into Level 6 or 8 for a free coffee (Do Not Disturb: Artists at Work!).

Want to Volunteer at the Expo?

If you'd like some work experience, and an opportunity to make coffee contacts, the International Coffee Expo is looking for volunteers (see pg 11, Job Opportunities, for more info). The World Barista Championship runs on Thursday and Friday, with semi-finals on Saturday, and finals on Sunday, so if you volunteer, you'll get to go for free.



RGIT NEWS

e-Learning Update

In the March edition of *Evolve*, we told you a little bit about our new e-Learning capabilities. Dr Chad, RGIT's e-Learning Manager, has created our e-Learning platform, called "Moodle". Moodle will be used more extensively at RGIT Melbourne throughout 2013.

What's the latest on Moodle Dr Chad?

"All business management and accounting courses already have e-Learning components. Our Information Technology and Hospitality courses will start developing components from Term 2. As a start, Hospitality is making students' results available online."

How do students use e-Learning?

"They can access useful resources. For example, we have an interactive book available for business students for their unit, *Developing a Marketing*

Plan, which helps them to create a marketing plan. And we have a special Business Dictionary available for business management students. We will provide more and more resources as time goes by."

"Another use is e-Assessments. Students can download an assessment, complete it offline and upload it again. They can also receive results online. I no longer have any hard-copy submissions from my business management students. It's all done via Moodle."

"There will also be interactive activities. For example, I put a question on a discussion board, and students discuss it online. This will become an assessable task in the future."

"This way, students begin learning from each other – we call it peer education. I have a topic in my course called Peer Resources where



students are asked to create content. The content could be a video, or written case study. They upload it to Moodle so everyone can access it and learn from it. Their own work is a great resource."

"We plan to have interactive whiteboard capability too. For instance, I will put something on my PC screen, and all students in the class will be able to see – and access it – as if we're all using the same whiteboard."

Are their special system requirements for Moodle?

"Students can access Moodle from PC or Mac systems as well as iPhone, iPads or tablets. They will need a high-speed broadband internet connection (eg: ADSL2, cable, dsl etc) and a computer manufactured in the last three years. Firefox is the preferred Moodle browser, but Internet Explorer 8 is also supported."

Great! Thank you Dr Chad.



Andrew Nicholls, our new librarian, is excited about enhancing resources in the Student Library and Student Resource Centre (SRC) on Level 8, so expect some great changes in 2013.

"The library and Student Resource Centre are undergoing a major transformation at present. We're in the process of cataloguing the collection, which will allow students and staff to borrow items more easily," says Andrew.

"We're also upgrading the collection so we have more course-specific books, journals and magazines available to loan."

Library Update

For new students who haven't had time to explore it yet, the library has a selection of textbooks, cook books, magazines (*Hospitality*, *Dengon.net*, *ANTS*, *Restaurant & Catering*), periodicals (*Management Today*, *Australian Bartender*, *Food 4 Thought*), newspapers (*The Age*, *Herald Sun*), interactive learning CDs that include the popular titles *Face-2-Face* and *Ship or Sheep?*, and DVDs as well.

The SRC offers free wi-fi internet access and printing and photocopying facilities. Print/photocopy cards are available from the SRC, and also Student Administration on Level 2. The cost is 10c per black and white page.

"We are looking at adding into the library service a suite of online databases and e-books that will allow students and teachers access to these resources from either the library, or their PC at home."

Noticed your notices lately?

Did you know that there are huge student notice boards outside the library? It's a great place to seek, and share

information. Be sure to make good use of it. You can put notices up about rooms to rent or share, second-hand books to sell, furniture wanted, even your recommendations on where to find things around Melbourne to help others who are new to the city. Perhaps you'd like to hire a car and share petrol costs with other students to do a day trip to the Great Ocean Road? Put a notice up, and find someone to adventure with you.

A little more about Andrew...

RGIT is delighted to have Andrew settled in on Level 8. Let's find out more about him.

What are you reading at the moment?

Two non-fiction titles: *Social Media Marketing* by Jan Zimmerman and Doug Sahlin. It's a book about Web 2.0 technologies and how they can be used to increase businesses profits. I'm also reading *Psycho-Cybernetics* by Maxwell Malitz, written in the late 1950's by this leading NY plastic sur-

geon who believed that not everybody could benefit from plastic surgery in order to feel better. He believed that, most of the time, a person did not need plastic surgery, but more a makeover of their inner thought process, so their own self-belief would carry them much further than having their nose or chin altered. It is a fascinating read. As it was written so long ago, it shows that even back then, people had very similar insecurities and problems, as we have today.

What are your favourite websites?

The Age and *The Herald Sun*: I like to compare how the two report stories and the different biases they present. I am also a mad Googler.

What's life like outside RGIT?

I enjoy creating websites with WordPress. I'm self-taught. You can look at my business website if you like: <http://www.onlinefast.com.au/>.

RGIT NEWS

Orientation Week

We'd like to wish a very warm welcome to our new students.

If you attended Orientation Day with Sunny Mali, our Student Administration and Services Manager, no doubt your head is exploding with all that information. To recap, here are some key things you need to know.

Student Services: Is on Level 2. Our staff can help you with student activities, attendance issues, accommodation assistance and all study-related issues.

Student Handbook: If you missed Orientation, visit Student Services and ask for an "Orientation Bag". This contains your Student Handbook, which covers important conditions of your course, as well as information about Melbourne.

Student Resource Room: Is on Level 8. This is a good place to relax with other students, have lunch, do photocopying or printing, or use the



free wi-fi internet. It has great city views! Student-trainer meetings are held here too.

Mobie watch: Australians like to shorten lots of words and add "ie" to the end. "Mobie" means "mobile phone". Please switch your mobie off during all classes. Thank you.

Serious Stuff – Your Progress

Now that you've made a commitment to us, we want to make a commitment

to you – we want you to do really well at RGIT.

We're serious about providing top quality education, and that means we ask you to participate 100% in your course so that we can help you achieve the best result. Help us, help you:

- Be here when you are required to be here
- Hand work in that is complete
- Hand work in on time

Job Opportunities

Crown Metropol, Southbank

- 5 positions for Room Attendants.

Duties: Changing beds, vacuuming, bathroom cleaning.

Requires: Excellent attention to detail, able to work reliably under minimal supervision, a reasonable level of fitness.

Remuneration: Starts from \$15.96 ph (after tax).

Charmi Hair and Spa Salon, Malvern East

These are both new positions at Charmi and therefore hours are negotiable.

- 1 position for an experienced hairdresser (full qualification not necessary)
- 1 position for an experienced nail technician

Remuneration: base salary of \$90 and 25% commission per client.

2-interviews: 1st interview with RGIT, 2nd with Charmi.

Job placement fee: \$280 for the successful applicant.

Very close to public transport (tram stop out front). Start date is as soon as possible. For more information mimii@rgit.edu.au.

Want to Volunteer @ International Coffee Expo?

The International Coffee Expo (23-26 May 2013, Melbourne Showgrounds) is looking for volunteers. The World Barista Championship is also part of the expo, so you get to see some fancy latte art too (championship semi-finals are on Saturday, the finals are on Sunday).

Possible Duties

Organisers' office volunteer: Answering phone, assisting with visitor and exhibitor enquiries

Ticket office assistant: Helping with ticket purchases, registrations, general enquiries, greeting visitors, directing them around the venue

General event volunteer: Directing visitors around the venue, assisting with enquiries

Competition volunteer: Cleaning machines, timing, general assistant, back-of-house assistant.

If you're interested, contact Sarah. ellul@cogadvertising.com.au

UNSATISFACTORY COURSE POLICY

Government regulations require international students to make satisfactory course progress which means you must pass at least 50% of units each term. If you do not make satisfactory progress, RGIT will contact you and request you meet with your trainer to begin an intervention strategy. The intervention strategy is there to help you pass your failed units and to ensure that you meet your student visa conditions.

If you fail 50% or more units in two consecutive study periods in the same course, RGIT is required to report you to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) for unsatisfactory progress.

To avoid being reported, please ensure that you pass all units and, if the school requests you to participate in an intervention strategy, please do so.

Reassessment administration fees: You must pay a reassessment administration fee if the following applies.

- You have attended less than 50% of scheduled classes for a unit, OR
- You did not complete assessments within the term in which they were offered.

Reassessment fees: \$20 per assessment; \$100 per practical assessment (Hospitality courses only).

To avoid paying reassessment administration fees, just come to class and submit all assessments on time. The choice is yours, and we know you will choose well.

Remember, if you are having difficulties, ask Student Services for advice before it affects your progress.



NEW STAFF



David Zanker
Marketing Manager

Welcome David! David has worked as a consultant with more than 100 Registered Training Organisations, so we're thrilled to have him help steer the way forward at RGIT.

Q. What kind of student were you?

A. I am a very quick learner, I don't just memorise things, I truly understand what's going on, making it very easy to answer the tricky questions. But I also had a habit of saving my 'quick learner' skills to the last minute, often the night before an exam!

Q. What were your best subjects?

A. Maths, physics and IT.

Q. Best job you ever had?

A. My best job was Director of Training Adelaide. I was working with a great team and was able to spend my days (and sleepless nights!) developing new and better ways to do things and implementing new technologies to really make a difference for training providers, professionals, students and the unemployed.

Q. Worst Job?

A. Freelancing web design... you put your heart and soul into creating something amazing for your client only to find that they want you to add a bit more 'pop' or 'Web 2.0' or, in many cases, to just copy a competitor's website. Nowadays I only develop web platforms for others to use, rather than participate in design briefs – you take it or leave it!

Q. What's life like outside RGIT?

A. I've been a hockey goalie for 10 years and love it. I also love cooking and the occasional home brew.

Q. Do you prefer dogs or cats?

A. Despite my allergies, I am a cat person.

Q. What do you like about Melbourne?

A. I've just moved from Adelaide. I love how built-up Melbourne is and how everything is walking distance. I quite like Chadstone and the DFOs.

Q. What's hot in your world?

A. I spend a lot of time browsing Reddit and I'm loving that *Star Trek Voyager* is on TV. I'm looking forward to the hockey season starting.



Vaughan Munzel
ELICOS Trainer

Welcome Vaughan! RGIT's ECLICOS department has three levels of English as a Second Language (ESL) training, ranging from elementary to upper intermediate. Vaughan is teaching our intermediate level ESL class. He spent an amazing year teaching at the remote Aboriginal community, Yiyili, in the Kimberly in Western Australia. Ask him to chat about it some time...

Q. What kind of student were you?

A. I was pretty shy at school but known for being really good at helping other people. Whenever my teachers had students arrive from overseas, I was given the job of looking after them.

Q. What were your best subjects?

A. I did really well at a few subjects: sport, music, graphics.

Q. What were you not so good at?

A. I didn't enjoy the pressure of tests, especially multiple choice ones because they never showed your ability to work things out. And woodwork, which is ironic, because I'm writing my family's history for the Immigration Museum about my great grandfather, Heinrich Munzel, who was a renowned woodworker in Melbourne's early days. He worked on many of its buildings.

Q. Best job you ever had?

A. I have had over 60 jobs, so it's bit hard to say. I did get paid to go surfing when I was a Year 12 sports teacher at one high school. I only had four students, they were all from dairy farms. We went surfing for 6-8 hrs each day!

Q. Worst Job?

A. Being an operating theatre technician in a hospital: cleaning up after operations was messy!

Q. What's life like outside RGIT?

A. I love salsa dancing. I'm in the intermediate/advanced team and do performances occasionally. When I was teaching English in Germany, I had a lot of Latin American friends and they taught me how to dance. It's very social and artistic, you feel like you feel very positive afterwards, and like you've had a work-out.

Q. Do you prefer dogs or cats?

A. Both, but probably dogs.

Q. What's hot in your world?

A. Nancy Vieira is really ticking my boxes at the moment. She is from Cape Verde off the west coast of Africa, a Portuguese-speaking colony. She sings the most beautiful world music songs.