



Australian Government



NEW COLOMBO PLAN

Connect to Australia's future - study in the region

The New Colombo Plan

Michael Bergmann
New Colombo Plan Secretariat

NAFEA – Beyond the Borders
14 July 2016





The (original) Colombo Plan



10,000th Colombo Plan student: From Burma, studying at Queensland University, 1971, National Archives of Australia



The New Colombo Plan is a signature initiative of the Australian Government which aims to lift knowledge of the Indo-Pacific in Australia by supporting Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the region.





Prestigious scholarships program

Flexible group mobility program

A focus on internships and mentorships



- More than \$100m committed over five years.
- 10,000 students in the first three years of the program
- Top 5 mobility locations for 2016
 - China (899)
 - Indonesia (823)
 - India (569)
 - Japan (422)
 - Singapore (313)



- In 2016, 100 scholarships were awarded to students from 26 universities
- Top 6 scholarship locations for 2016
 - Singapore (15)
 - Japan (12)
 - South Korea (12)
 - Hong Kong (11)
 - China (9)
 - Indonesia (8)



- 39 of 42 eligible universities have participated in the NCP
- 38 eligible host locations across the Indo-Pacific
- 32 of those locations have received mobility students and 23 have received scholarship recipients
- The 2016 mobility round covers over 50 fields of study



What makes the NCP special?

- A foreign policy and an education initiative
 - jointly implemented across two portfolios
- Strong involvement from Australia's diplomatic network
- Engagement by host governments
- Strong focus on business engagement and work-based learning
 - Internships and mentorships network
 - Mobility partners program
 - Business Champions program





Scholarship

“It's really great to have such enthusiastic students. They are very smart, fast learners and it's nice to have an exchange of ideas from Australian students which contributes to the NAB culture and office in Japan. In fact, it's great that we are all learning from each other.”

Kohei Tsushima
General Manager NAB Japan



Cindy Huang, Macquarie University and Patrick Gan, Western Sydney University at NAB's Tokyo office.





Scholarship

“My 5-month internship with QBE has unlocked career opportunities that I didn’t even know existed. I’ve been exposed to an exciting industry that I now want to pursue a career in.

For an ex-miner from Bendigo who only got his passport in 2013, and is 5-months into his corporate career, this all feels pretty special.”

Jake Schatz



Jake Schatz, La Trobe University with David Fried, CEO Emerging Markets QBE Insurance Group and NCP Business Champion.



Mobility

“The New Colombo Plan definitely helped to advance my career. I gained employment in a competitive environment and I use the knowledge I learned in Taiwan every day.”

Jake McMahon



New Colombo Plan mobility students from the Australian Catholic University on the ward in Taipei.





Mobility

La Trobe Accounting Work Placement

24 students over three years, 6 in 2016-17

One month in Malaysia – industry experience
and cultural immersion

Part of an existing program



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY





Scholarships and Mobility Programs

Thoughts for a successful bid

- **Mobility**
 - Weighting is important, but focus on all criteria
 - Institutional links and partnerships matter
 - Longer in country is generally better
 - Don't forget the summary description
- **Scholarship**
 - Universities can nominate up to 10: use it!
 - Consider less 'popular' locations
 - Again, longer in country is generally better
 - Have a carefully considered plan for study and an internship or mentorship
 - Relate the proposal to the broader NCP goals and Australian interests (not only the student's personal goals)





Monitoring and Evaluation

- Internal MEF developed, for
 - Strategic management
 - Accountability
 - Learning and improvement
- Help us understand
 - Participants experiences
 - Impact
 - Personal networks
 - Institutional Partnerships.
- Range of sources include
 - Alumni and Student Data
 - Alumni Surveys
 - Feedback: Business, Posts, high-level stakeholders





“With the fastest growing region on our doorstep, Australian organisations need to quickly develop a workforce capable of taking full advantage of the Asian century. The New Colombo Plan will be vital in developing a pipeline of future leaders with the skills and connections needed to successfully do business in Asia.”

*Mr Mike Smith, former CEO, ANZ Bank
and NCP Business Champion*

Visit
dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-plan

Email
ncp.business@dfat.gov.au

Follow us on Twitter
[@NewColomboPlan](https://twitter.com/NewColomboPlan)