

**aiee40** YEARS

2026 Sydney

*Future Thinking*

27-30 October 2026

# Program

See what's on at AIEC 2026

Hosted by



# Program Information

-  This program was last updated on 26 June 2026. Please note that the program is subject to change before the conference in October. Please check the [schedule online](#) for the latest updates.
-  All sessions and functions will be held in person at the Sydney International Convention & Exhibition Centre (ICC), unless otherwise noted. Social events, and pre-conference sessions on Tuesday are only available to conference attendees.
-  All times in this program are in local Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT)/UTC+11. Daylight saving time is observed in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania from Sunday 5 October 2026.
-  Sessions in the plenary room, Darling Harbour Theatre will be recorded and available to all delegates up to two months after the conference ends.
-  AIEC is an environmentally friendly event, please consider the planet before printing.


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# Conference schedule

26/06/2026 – for more recent updates please check the online program at [aiec.idp.com](http://aiec.idp.com)

Tuesday 27 October 2026		Wednesday 28 October 2026		Thursday 29 October 2026		Friday 30 October 2026	
Time	What's on	Time	What's on	Time	What's on	Time	What's on
11:30 – 19:00	Welcome Desk open	07:15 – 08:30	Breakfast sponsored by Ascent One   Recruitment Intelligence for the Future: New Research to Strengthen Agent Partnerships and Confidence – by invitation only	06:30 – 07:30	Acumen 5km walk/run (Main Foyer)	08:00 – 14:00	Welcome Desk open
12:00 – 14:30	Beginners Masterclass   Guide to international education data (Pre-conference)	08:00 – 17:30	Welcome Desk open	08:00 – 17:30	Welcome Desk open	08:00 – 12:00	Exhibition open
12:00 – 14:30	Advanced Masterclass   International education data for experienced practitioners (Pre-conference)	08:00 – 17:30	Exhibition open	08:00 – 17:30	Exhibition open	09:00 – 09:30	Breakfast in Exhibition Hall
12:00 – 14:30	Beginners Masterclass   AI for international education professionals (Pre-conference)	08:00 – 17:30	Sensory Room (Room C3.1)	08:00 – 17:30	Sensory Room (Room C3.1)	09:30 – 10:30	3.1. Plenary   Student panel
12:30 – 17:30	Speakers' preparation room open	08:00 – 17:30	Speakers' preparation room open	08:00 – 17:30	Speakers' preparation room open	10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea
14:30 – 19:00	Exhibition open	08:45 – 10:00	1.1. Plenary   Opening keynote	08:45 – 10:00	2.1. Plenary	11:00 – 12:00	3.2. Plenary   40th Anniversary panel
14:30 – 15:30	Orientation for first timers	10:00 – 10:30	Morning tea – sponsored by IELTS	10:00 – 10:30	Morning tea – sponsored by ECA	12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
15:30 – 16:00	Afternoon Tea	10:30 – 11:30	1.2. Concurrent sessions	10:30 – 11:30	2.2. Concurrent sessions	13:00 – 14:00	3.3. Plenary   Keynote
16:30 – 17:30	0.3. Welcome Plenary   incl. IEAA Awards Ceremony	11:30 – 11:45	Short break	11:30 – 11:45	Short break	14:00 – 14:30	3.4 Closing plenary
17:30 – 19:00	Welcome Reception	11:45 – 12:45	1.3. Concurrent sessions	11:45 – 12:45	2.3. Concurrent sessions	14:30	Conference close
		12:45 – 13:45	Lunch – sponsored by Ascent one	12:45 – 13:45	Lunch		
		13:45 – 14:45	1.4. Concurrent session	13:45 – 14:45	2.4. Concurrent sessions		
		14:45 – 15:00	Short break	14:45 – 15:00	Short break		
		15:00 – 16:00	1.5. Concurrent sessions	15:00 – 16:00	2.5. Concurrent sessions		
		16:00 – 16:30	Afternoon tea – sponsored by Allianz	16:00 – 16:30	Afternoon tea – sponsored by Flywire		
		16:30 – 17:30	1.6. Concurrent sessions	16:30 – 19:00	Free expo time		
		17:30 – 19:00	Happy Hour – sponsored by IELTS	19:00 – 22:00	Conference Celebration		

# Tuesday 27 October 2026

Last updated 26 June 2026 for more recent updates please check the online program at [aiec.idp.com](http://aiec.idp.com)

11:30 – 19:00 Registration desk open

12:30 – 17:30 Speaker's preparation room open

14:30 – 19:00 Exhibition open

## Pre-conference sessions

Darling Harbour Theatre

Cockle Bay 1

Cockle Bay 2

Room C3.4

12:00 – 14:30

**0.1.1** Beginners masterclass:

**0.1.2** Advanced masterclass:

**0.1.3** AI Beginners masterclass:

**International education essentials for beginners**

**International education data for experienced practitioners**

**AI for international education professionals**

**Kirrilee (Kik) Hughes,**  
IEAA

**Jonathan Chew,**  
IEAA | Navitas

**Prof. Ren Yi,**  
IEAA | University of Southern Queensland

**Marnie Watson,**  
Griffith University

**Chamalee Karunanayake,**  
IDP Education

**Neha Khanna-Vanderhyde,**  
IDP Education

14:30 – 15:30

**0.2** Information session

**Orientation for first-time attendees**

**Elizabeth Lee-Finkelstein,**  
IEAA

15:30 – 16:00 Afternoon tea – Exhibition Hall

16:00 – 17:30 **0.3** Welcome Plenary

Darling Harbour Theatre

Welcome to Country

Welcome from IDP and IEAA

Welcome from Sydney

IEAA Excellence Awards

17:30 – 19:00 Welcome Reception – Exhibition Hall

# Wednesday 28 October 2026

<b>07:15 – 08:30</b> Hosted breakfast sponsored by Ascent One – Recruitment Intelligence for the Future: New Research to Strengthen Agent Partnerships and Confidence – <i>by invitation only</i>						
<b>08:00 – 17:30</b> Registration desk open						
<b>08:00 – 17:30</b> Speaker's preparation room open						
<b>08:30 – 17:30</b> Sensory room open (Room C3.1)						
<b>08:00 – 17:30</b> Exhibition open						
<b>08:45 – 10:00</b> <b>1.1. Opening Plenary</b>						
Darling Harbour Theatre						
MC and Host <b>Annabel Crabb</b> , Australian journalist and commentator						
Welcome to Sydney						
Keynote speaker <b>Michael McQueen</b> , Award-winning speaker, consultant and trend forecaster						
Keynote Q&A						
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b> Morning tea – sponsored by IELTS						
<b>10:30 – 11:30</b> <b>1.2. Concurrent</b>						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
<b>1.2.1</b> Panel	<b>1.2.2</b> Panel	<b>1.2.3</b> Panel	<b>1.2.4</b> Inspire	<b>1.2.5</b> Panel	<b>1.2.6</b> Inspire	<b>1.2.7</b> Café
<b>Listen to the voices: data perspectives from multiple sector stakeholder groups (1760)</b>	<b>Policy levers to accelerate Australian TNE delivery (1972)</b>	<b>Better together: partnering for graduate success (1929)</b>	<b>Enhancing graduate outcomes</b>	<b>More than funding: building global partnerships through sponsored students (1725)</b>	<b>Supporting international student wellbeing</b>	<b>From oversight to insight: adapting to a new era of education agent management (1918)</b>
<b>Joanna Storti</b> , IDP Education <b>Jonathan Chew</b> , IEAA   Navitas	<b>Janet Ilieva</b> , Education Insight United Kingdom <b>Keri Ramirez</b> , Studymove Australia <b>Marnie Watson</b> , Griffith University	<b>Helen Kronberger</b> , Austrade (Chair) <b>Ben Bawden</b> , Study Queensland <b>Mark Bailey</b> , Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade <b>Shirley Ng</b> , Australian Industry Group	<b>10:30</b> <b>A unified support ecosystem designing the student success hub for global learners (1852)</b> <b>Dom Harden</b> , Swinburne College <b>Struan Robertson</b> , La Trobe College <b>10:45</b> <b>Beyond compliance: future-thinking support for the international school's sector (1867)</b> <b>Jo Kwai</b> , St Peters Lutheran College <b>Vanessa Newbery</b> , Hills International College Ltd <b>Leisl Bruhn</b> , Ivanhoe Grammar School <b>11:00</b> <b>Work-ready from the start: employability in action (1926)</b> <b>Magdalena Hoeller</b> , Kaplan Australia <b>Casey Parkes</b> , Kaplan Australia <b>11:15</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	<b>Aaron Duff</b> , Austrade (Chair) <b>Anna Kirkham</b> , Western Sydney University <b>Odile Ruijs</b> , Flinders University <b>Yuli Rahmawati</b> , Indonesian Embassy <b>10:30</b> <b>Geopolitics and student experiences: pathways, wellbeing and practical strategies (1890)</b> <b>Ly Tran</b> , Deakin University <b>10:45</b> <b>The wellbeing advantage: strengthening student retention and institutional sustainability (1864)</b> <b>Mia Juritzen</b> , Nous Group <b>11:00</b> <b>Distributed Care Model: building scalable wellbeing systems in transnational education (1730)</b> <b>Tarin Ong</b> , Murdoch University Singapore <b>11:15</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	<b>Danielle Hartridge</b> , IEP Advisory (Facilitator) <b>Naresh Gulati</b> , Ascent One <b>Melanie Duncan</b> , IEP Advisory	

11:30 – 11:45 Short break							
11:45 – 12:45 1.3. Plenary							
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6	
1.3.1 Panel	1.3.2 Panel	1.3.3 Panel	1.3.4 Inspire	1.3.5 Panel	1.3.6 Inspire	1.3.7 Café	
<b>International Education and Skills Strategic Framework: getting more value for Australia (1976)</b>	<b>MEGA: Make Exchange Great Again – future-focused US–Australia student mobility strategies (1953)</b>	<b>Bringing global campuses to India: is the market really ready for TNE? (1902)</b>	<b>The human face of international education</b>	<b>Adapting pathway partnership models for a changing international education landscape (1807)</b>	<b>Innovations in IE strategies</b>	<b>How students really use AI to choose where to study (1857)</b>	
	Linda Rust, The University of Melbourne (Chair)	Steve Berridge, ECA - Ventures (Chair)		Marnie Watson, Griffith University (Chair)		Alison Jenkins, Studyportals (Facilitator)	
Fiona Morris, Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC) <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC)	Simon Watson, University of Technology Sydney John Lucas, ISEP United States	Lawrence Pratchett, UniReady Global Caryn Nery, Victoria University Vik Singh, Austrade	<b>11:45</b> <b>More than mathematics: the human foundations of a successful TNE partnership (1752)</b> Monique van Veen, University of Canterbury Ainslie Moore, Australia Institute of Future Education	Malcolm Baigent, Navitas Sally Kift, Navitas Angie Taras, Griffith College	<b>11:45</b> <b>Global Fellows as reputation catalysts: a strategic model for international research impact (1887)</b> Lori Hocking, Adelaide University Victoria Bick, Adelaide University	Priscilla Trevisan, University of Sydney	
			<b>12:00</b> <b>Learning to be interactive global citizens by challenging and overcoming fears (1819)</b> Matt Flemming, Victorian Government Department of Education Emilia Fields, Fields International Education Consulting		<b>12:00</b> <b>Making skills visible in the classroom: a practical framework for international education (1895)</b> Caitlin Hamilton, UNSW Stephen Doherty, UNSW Himani Chugh, UNSW		
			<b>12:15</b> <b>Lessons from the Minh story: redefining future crisis response for students (1709)</b> Adrian De Luca, We Are Australia Foundation Limited		<b>12:15</b> <b>Action learning for employability: embedding industry-assessed projects in MBA programs (1925)</b> Heidi Le Sueur, International College of Management Sydney (ICMS) Virginia De Luca, International College of Management (ICMS)		
			<b>12:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>		<b>12:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>		

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch – sponsored by Ascent one

13:45 – 14:45 1.4. Concurrent						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
1.4.1 Panel	1.4.2 Panel	1.4.3 Panel	1.4.4 Inspire	1.4.5 Panel	1.4.6 Inspire	1.4.7 Café
<b>Beyond the Big Four: global students are rewriting the rules (1965)</b>	<b>No more 'lightbulb' innovations – let's re-wire the sector! (1838)</b>	<b>Beyond the Run: film, lived experience and community cohesion in international education (1986)</b>	<b>Admissions and Recruitment Insights</b>	<b>Why institutions struggle to hear international students' voices – and what actually works (1802)</b>	<b>Developing successful TNE partnerships</b>	<b>Stronger Together – practical pathways to better sector partnerships (1843)</b>
<b>Dirk Mulder,</b> The Koala News (Chair)	<b>Lucy Blakemore,</b> Intesa Insights & Consulting (Chair)			<b>Weihong Liang,</b> International Students Representative Council of Australia (Chair)		<b>Tracy Harris,</b> Tracy Harris Solutions (Facilitator)
<b>Tim Field,</b> The University of Sydney <b>Erika Scrimshire,</b> ETS <b>Sarah Todd,</b> QS Quacquarelli Symonds	<b>Chris Smith,</b> ReadyTech Pty Ltd <b>Georgia Rowe,</b> Adelaide University <b>Steven Warburton,</b> The University of Newcastle	<b>Samantha Encarnacion,</b> Study NSW <b>Jenny Chen</b> <b>Jack Li</b>	<b>13:45</b> <b>Balancing flexibility and compliance in advanced standing decisions (1830)</b> <b>Helen Yang,</b> La Trobe University	<b>Weihong Liang,</b> International Students Representative Council of Australia <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC) <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC)	<b>13:45</b> <b>Beyond mobility: why most academic partnerships fail – and what comes next (1906)</b> <b>Qiuping Pan,</b> Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne <b>Celina Yu,</b> Asia-Australia Network for Education and Enterprise	<b>Sarah Chamberlain,</b> ReadyTeacher / Publicis Sapient <b>Rebecca Hall,</b> OES <b>Sophie O'Keefe,</b> English Australia
			<b>14:00</b> <b>From volume to value: rethinking how we assess agent performance (1938)</b> <b>Isabelle Lange,</b> Edith Cowan University		<b>14:00</b> <b>Leading together with care: reimagining cross-cultural partnerships for success (1851)</b> <b>Emma Steinke,</b> RMIT University <b>Sudhirkumar V Barai,</b> BITS Pilani	
			<b>14:15</b> <b>Commencements versus new overseas student commencements (1850)</b> <b>Steve Nerlich,</b> Self-employed		<b>14:15</b> <b>At a crossroads: the reality, risks and opportunities shaping transnational education (1883)</b> <b>Theo Psychogios,</b> Deloitte <b>Hugo Jackson,</b> Deloitte	
			<b>14:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>		<b>14:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	
14:45 – 15:00 Short break						

15:00 – 16:00 1.5. Concurrent sessions						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
1.5.1 Panel	1.5.2 Panel	1.5.3 Panel	1.5.4 Inspire	1.5.5 Panel	1.5.6 Inspire	1.5.7 Café
<b>Who carries Australia? Global talent flows and the future of international education (1759)</b>	<b>When canaries sing: social licensing to ensure community support (1732)</b>	<b>Partnership innovation: global mobility insights from the global education network (1740)</b>	<b>TNE case studies from the VET and Pathway secotrs</b>	<b>Beyond academics: why cultural capability is the missing link in student success (1835)</b>	<b>Hong Kong, Japan and SE Asia: market insights</b>	<b>Student Café: From lived experience to shared solutions (1757)</b>
	<b>Guy Perring,</b> Etio (Chair)	<b>John Qiu,</b> Box Hill Institute (Chair)		<b>Casey Parkes,</b> Kaplan Australia (Chair)		<b>Kim Martin,</b> The PIE (Facilitator)

**Suchita Gokarn,**  
India Trade and International Investment  
**Speaker,**  
(TBC)  
**Speaker,**  
(TBC)  
**Speaker,**  
(TBC)

**Eleanor Mitchell,**  
Charles Sturt University  
**Martin Hookham-Simms,**  
University of Auckland  
**Kyla Steenhardt,**  
Education New Zealand

**Kien Chai,**  
Box Hill Institute  
**Dawn Wood,**  
Kirkwood Community College USA  
**Jenn Tan,**  
ITE Singapore  
**Sarah Ward,**  
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

**15:00**  
**From partnership to practice: establishing the Automotive Centre of Excellence-Cambodia (1814)**  
**Laura Macpherson,**  
Bendigo Kangan Institute

**Marcela Lapertosa,**  
Value Learning  
**Varsha Devi Balakrishnan,**  
Kaplan International College Adelaide

**15:00**  
**The future of TNE in Hong Kong: the impact of recent legislative changes and the AI era (1821)**  
**John Cribbin,**  
HKU SPACE

**15:15**  
**Diplomacy and stewardship: An India-Australia TNE model for the vegetable industry (1909)**  
**Brett Galt-Smith,**  
Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment  
**Lucy Gregg,**  
AUSVEG

**15:15**  
**Capitalising on the emerging TNE segment in Japan's mature education market (1927)**  
**Saori Tominaga,**  
Australian Trade and Investment Commission/Austrade

**15:30**  
**Global teaching, global impact: building a future-focused TNE ecosystem (1734)**  
**Jennifer Coster,**  
Monash College  
**Benedette Bonanno,**  
Monash College

**15:30**  
**The next five years of Southeast Asia: where will the growth actually come from? (1948)**  
**Rebecca Bendall,**  
Acumen, part of Sannam S4 Group  
**Filiz Block,**  
Acumen

**15:45**  
**Q&A**

**15:45**  
**Q&A**

16:00 – 16:30 Afternoon tea- sponsored by Allianz

16:30 – 17:30 1.6. Concurrent sessions						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
<b>1.6.1</b> Panel	<b>1.6.2</b> Panel	<b>1.6.3</b> Panel	<b>1.6.4</b> Inspire	<b>1.6.5</b> Panel	<b>1.6.6</b> Inspire	<b>1.6.7</b> Café
<b>Transnational education future: an Australian Government perspective (1767)</b>	<b>Modelling outbound tertiary student flows from Southeast Asia (1827)</b>	<b>Designing for future skills: new models for international education (1794)</b>	<b>Marketing Insights for a new generation</b>	<b>THE University Rankings (1756)</b>	<b>Korea, LATAM and Vietnam: insights from the Australian Government</b>	<b>Career coffee catch-up: early careers in a changing international sector (1956)</b>
<b>Rashima Ghai,</b> Austrade (Chair)	<b>Rishen Shekhar,</b> Self employed (Chair)	<b>Ray Fleming,</b> Stratentia (Chair)				<b>Keith Rebello,</b> Adelaide University (Facilitator)
<b>Jen Bahen,</b> Australian Government Department of Education <b>Jordan Qian,</b> Department of Education	<b>Kirrilee (Kik) Hughes,</b> IEAA <b>Jonathan Chew,</b> IEAA   Navitas <b>Jazreel Goh,</b> British Council	<b>James Bailey,</b> UNSW College <b>Tracy Harris,</b> Tracy Harris Solutions	<b>16:30</b> <b>Unreachable: always connected, always scrolling, never yours (1829)</b> <b>Jacqueline Raposo,</b> Havas People		<b>16:30</b> <b>Korean students' dedication to education and opportunities for Australia (1774)</b> <b>Olivia Jeong,</b> Austrade	<b>Daniel Tackage,</b> The University of Adelaide <b>Kenny Khoo,</b> Flinders University <b>Heidi Piper,</b> Griffith University <b>Hang Nguyen,</b> Western Sydney University
			<b>16:45</b> <b>A practical framework for driving student acquisition with WhatsApp (1853)</b> <b>Jessica Naing,</b> Sinorbis		<b>16:45</b> <b>From ELICOS to degrees: future skills to open the door to Australian HE in Latin America (1798)</b> <b>Camilo Pena,</b> Austrade	
			<b>17:00</b> <b>The funnel is broken: moving from funnels to influence loops (1924)</b> <b>Chamalee Karunanayake,</b> IDP Education		<b>17:00</b> <b>Vietnam update (1978)</b> <b>Freya Kaine,</b> Australian Embassy in Hanoi	
			<b>17:15</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>		<b>17:15</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	

17:30 – 19:00 Happy Hour – sponsored by IELTS

# Thursday 29 October 2026

- 06:30 – 7:30 Acumen 5km walk/run
- 08:00 – 17:30 Registration open
- 08:00 – 17:30 Speaker's room open
- 08:00 – 17:30 Exhibition open
- 08:00 – 17:30 Sensory room open (Room C3.1)

<b>08:45 – 10:00 2.1. Mini plenary</b>	
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1
<b>2.1.1</b> Future Ready: What ATEC Means for International Education	<b>2.1.2</b> Mini plenary – TBA

The Hon. Phil Honeywood, IEAA CEO  
 Prof. Barney Glover AO, Chief Commissioner of the Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC)  
 The Hon. Fiona Nash, Former Minister for Local Government and Territories of Australia

## 10:00 – 10:30 Morning tea – sponsored by ECA

## 10:30 – 11:30 2.2. Concurrent sessions

Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
<b>2.2.1</b> Panel	<b>2.2.2</b> Panel	<b>2.2.3</b> Panel	<b>2.2.4</b> Inspire	<b>2.2.5</b> Campfire	<b>2.2.6</b> Inspire	<b>2.2.7</b> Café
<b>Global Dialogue   perspectives from Canada, New Zealand, USA and Australia (1761)</b>	<b>International education's social licence: what students, communities and data are telling (1820)</b>	<b>Australia–China TNE: data-driven risk management strategies in the new era (1710)</b>	<b>Driving growth in international education</b>	<b>Researchers Campfire (1753)</b>	<b>Data and research insights</b>	<b>Days of our lives: 2026 senior leaders edition (1735)</b>
The Hon. Phil Honeywood, IEAA CEO (Facilitator)	Julie Wilkens McMahon, Times Higher Education (THE) (Chair)	Charles Sun, China Education International Co Ltd (Chair)		Kirrilee Hughes, Bestari Consulting (Facilitator)		Morwenna Shahani, UTS College (Facilitator)

**John Hudzik**, Michigan State University  
**David Downs**, Education New Zealand Manapou ki te Ao New Zealand  
**Larissa Bezo**, Canadian Bureau for International Education Canada

**Matthew Donlon**, Voyage  
**Nate Henderson**, Study NSW  
**Chris Smith**, ReadyTech Pty Ltd  
**Franz Nazareno**, Student

**Darren Turner**, Adelaide University  
**Jay Poria**, Australian National University  
**Alek Voninski**, The University of Newcastle  
**Helen Yang**, La Trobe University

**10:30**  
**Creating a framework for international market prioritisation (1898)**  
**Samantha Fossey**, The University of Melbourne  
**Will Khammy**, The University of Melbourne

**Marnie Watson**, Griffith University

**10:30**  
**What student search data tells us about the future of study destinations (1854)**  
**Carlie Sage**, Studyportals

**Lucy Blakemore**, Intesa Insights & Consulting  
**Rebecca Hall**, OES  
**Jonathan Chew**, IEAA | Navitas

**10:45**  
**Agile insight in a fast-changing world: early lessons from an international student panel (1907)**  
**Kyla Steenhardt**, Education New Zealand

**10:45**  
**Research insights on resilience for leaders in international education (1855)**  
**Alison Taylor**, CQC2T, UNSW

**11:00**  
**Only got 6 seconds to sell the world (1935)**  
**Jay Pandya**, The University of Sydney

**11:00**  
**Is your forecast still valid? Monitoring risk in international student pipelines (1941)**  
**Phillip Allen**, UTS College

**11:15**  
**Q&A**

**11:15**  
**Q&A**

11:30 – 11:45 Short break							
11:45 – 12:45 2.3. Concurrent sessions							
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6	
<b>2.3.1 Panel</b>	<b>2.3.2 Panel</b>	<b>2.3.3 Panel</b>	<b>2.3.4 Inspire</b>	<b>2.3.5 Campfire</b>	<b>2.3.6 Inspire</b>	<b>2.3.7 Café</b>	
<b>Wellbeing under pressure: what international students need now and what we must rethink (1846)</b>	<b>An idealist, a realist and a futurist walk into a bar / admissions office in 2030 (1744)</b>	<b>Skills in demand: how global talent fosters growth for Australia’s tech sector and innovation precincts (1758)</b>	<b>The evolving student mobility landscape</b>	<b>Teaching for international student success - what’s changing in practice (1755)</b>	<b>AI, Meta and the future</b>	<b>TNE boot camp: conception to implementation and success (1982)</b>	
<b>Becky Hyde,</b> Medibank (Chair)	<b>Jason Howard,</b> Bowerbridge Advisory (Chair)			<b>Christina Del Medico,</b> Navitas (Facilitator)			
<b>Brian Smith,</b> Medibank <b>Zac Ashkanasy,</b> Nous Group <b>Chris Poole,</b> QUT <b>Helen Nguyen,</b> QUT	<b>Dale Leszczynski,</b> RMIT <b>Aleicia Shekhar,</b> Self-employed	<b>Toshi Kawaguchi,</b> Study NSW <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC) <b>Speaker,</b> (TBC)	<b>11:45</b> <b>Beyond participation: rethinking learning abroad through the student voice (1893)</b> <b>Emily O’Callaghan,</b> miXabroad	<b>12:00</b> <b>Building resilient mobility ecosystems that transcend government support (1832)</b> <b>Elizabeth Zou,</b> University of Canterbury	<b>12:00</b> <b>Are you ready for Meta’s biggest algorithm shift in a decade? (1919)</b> <b>Lauren Lucas,</b> Social Garden <b>Georgia Enright,</b> Social Garden	<b>12:15</b> <b>Ten shifts in student discovery: what Gen Alpha does differently in an AI world (1781)</b> <b>Emma Talbot,</b> Hybrid ANZ	<b>Rashima Ghai,</b> Austrade <b>Jen Bahen,</b> Australian Government Department of Education
			<b>12:15</b> <b>Rethinking study abroad: the changing shape of US outbound mobility (1943)</b> <b>Kate Barnes,</b> Acumen			<b>12:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	
			<b>12:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>				
12:45 – 13:45 Lunch							

13:45 – 14:45 2.4. Concurrent sessions						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
2.4.1 Panel	2.4.2 Panel	2.4.3 Panel	2.4.4 Inspire	2.4.5 Campfire	2.4.6 Inspire	2.4.7 Café
<b>China: cooperating on international education through global instability (1980)</b>	<b>Professional accreditation in transnational education (1928)</b>	<b>Europe calling: networks or alliances? (1771)</b>	<b>Supporting student success and transition to employment</b>	<b>Where to now for the school sector – future trends, insights and opportunities (1754)</b>	<b>The future of international education</b>	<b>From anecdote to evidence: future proofing learning abroad (1884)</b>
	<b>Caryn Nery,</b> Victoria University (Chair)	<b>Sabine Pendl,</b> University of Graz (Chair)		<b>Linda Vaughan,</b> Victorian Government Department of Education (Facilitator)		<b>Emily O’Callaghan,</b> miXabroad (Facilitator)
<b>Alison Dell,</b> Australian Government Department of Education <b>Stephanie Smith,</b> Austrade	<b>Christopher Ziguras,</b> The University of Melbourne <b>Aastha Shrestha,</b> Deakin University	<b>Isis Kowaliauskas,</b> Griffith University <b>Wessel Meijer,</b> Tilburg University	<b>13:45</b> <b>Absorbing mobility shock: advising and student success in an unequal global landscape (1901)</b> <b>Noora Shuaib,</b> Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence		<b>13:45</b> <b>Responding to internationalisation’s polycrisis to be future ready (1717)</b> <b>John Hudzik,</b> Michigan State University	<b>Edilio Mazzoleni,</b> Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore <b>Keri Ramirez,</b> Studymove <b>Cara Bonnington,</b> The University of Sydney <b>Martha Johnson,</b> CEA CAPA Education Abroad
			<b>14:00</b> <b>Not just what they do, it’s how they feel: international student transitions to employment (1789)</b> <b>Nancy Arthur,</b> Adelaide University <b>Ly Tran,</b> Deakin University		<b>14:00</b> <b>Partnership, engagement and social licence in the Australian school sector (1951)</b> <b>Caroline Miller,</b> Independent Schools Australia <b>Mariana Lane,</b> Independent Schools Australia	
			<b>14:15</b> <b>Bridging the gap: unlocking international student talent through employability programs (1963)</b> <b>Nara De Souza,</b> StudyPerth		<b>14:15</b> <b>Resetting the value proposition: moving beyond export dollars and jobs (1748)</b> <b>Kim Liu,</b> Deloitte Access Economics	
			<b>14:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>		<b>14:30</b> <b>Q&amp;A</b>	

14:45 – 15:00 Short break

15:00 – 16:00 2.5. Concurrent sessions						
Darling Harbour Theatre	Cockle Bay 1	Cockle Bay 2	Room C3.3	Room C3.4	Room C3.5	Room C3.6
<b>2.5.1 Panel</b>	<b>2.5.2 Panel</b>	<b>2.5.3 Panel</b>	<b>2.5.4 Inspire</b>	<b>2.5.5 Campfire</b>	<b>2.5.6 Inspire</b>	<b>2.5.7 Café</b>
<b>Beyond India: rethinking recruitment in South Asia's emerging markets (1828)</b>	<b>Raising the bar: IEAA's Agent Quality Research Project (1973)</b>	<b>Beyond TNE: Sri Lanka's multi-model architecture for Australian partnerships (1878)</b>	<b>Student engagement strategies</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Perspectives on international education from across the globe</b>	<b>The Wellbeing Café: collaborative strategies for international student support (1705)</b>
	<b>Rishen Shekhar,</b> Self employed (Chair)	<b>Kalum De Silva,</b> President - Sri Lanka Australia Chamber of Commerce (SLACC) (Chair)				<b>Guy Perring,</b> Etio (Facilitator)

**Elissa Newall,**  
Edified  
**Barbara Jones,**  
Federation University  
**Paul Bolt,**  
Keystone Enrolment Services

**Sharyn Martin,**  
Edified  
**Mark Pettitt,**  
Edified  
**Sonya Singh,**  
AAERI

**Sandi Seneviratne,**  
Austrade  
**Matt Bushby,**  
Macquarie University Cyber Skills Academy  
**Amrith Weerasekera,**  
Colombo International Campus (CIC) and Campus Direct

**15:00**  
**The Global Portal: from Melbourne to the world. Virtual mobility via a shipping container (1932)**  
**Sarah Baldacchino,**  
The University of Melbourne  
**Matt Ellum,**  
University of Melbourne

**15:15**  
**Student retention as a whole-of-organisation strategy (1888)**  
**Tim Weir,**  
Teton Advisory Group

**15:30**  
**Infrastructure as student experience strategy in an era of global competition (1847)**  
**Anthony Meola,**  
JLL

**15:45**  
**Q&A**

**15:00**  
**Beyond Western Europe: unlocking student diversity from the Baltic states (1910)**  
**Kristina Dapsyte,**  
The University of Sydney

**15:15**  
**Future thinking or reproducing the past? South African perspectives (1719)**  
**Emnet Tadesse Woldegiorgis,**  
Ali Mazrui Centre for Higher Education Studies (AMCHES),  
University of Johannesburg

**15:30**  
**Global training, local stratification: comparing AU, UK and US PhD in Taiwan HE system (1845)**  
**Li-Chuan Chiang,**  
National Kaohsiung Normal University

**15:45**  
**Q&A**

**Emma Morgan,**  
Griffith University  
**Lucinda Malgas,**  
Asia Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE)

<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Afternoon tea- sponsored by Flywire</b>
<b>16:30 – 17:30</b>	<b>Free expo time</b>
<b>19:00 – 22:00</b>	<b>Conference Celebration</b>

# Friday 30 October 2026

08:00 – 14:00 Registration open

08:00 – 12:00 Exhibition open

09:00 – 9:30 Breakfast in Exhibition Hall

09:30 – 10:30 **3.1. Plenary**

Darling Harbour Theatre

**MC and Host**  
**Annabel Crabb,**  
Australian journalist and commentator

Panel | Future thinking: what international students really think about Australia

10:30 – 11:00 Morning tea

11:00 – 12:00 **3.2. Plenary**

Darling Harbour Theatre

**MC and Host**  
**Annabel Crabb,**  
Australian journalist and commentator

Panel | AIEC at 40: Then. Now. Next.

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 14:00 **3.3. Plenary**

Darling Harbour Theatre

**MC and Host**  
**Annabel Crabb,**  
Australian journalist and commentator

**Keynote speaker**  
**Julia Gillard,**  
Former Prime Minister of Australia

14:00 – 14:30 **3.4. Closing Plenary**

Darling Harbour Theatre

**MC and Host**  
**Annabel Crabb,**  
Australian journalist and commentator

Closing address

IEAA AGM wrap up

IDP Wrap up

2027 announcement and conference close

14:30 Conference Close

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