



**15 December 2016**

### **ACPET thanks outgoing Chair**

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) has thanked outgoing Chair Mel Koumides for his contribution following his resignation this week.

Mr Koumides, co-founder of Academia International, advised the ACPET Board of his decision to stand down in order to dedicate more time to his business.

ACPET CEO Rod Camm thanked Mr Koumides for his significant efforts on behalf of the private education and training providers, and the broader industry, over many years.

“Mel Koumides has been tireless and influential in driving positive change over the last decade through his active involvement in ACPET’s State and National committees and, more recently, as Chair of the Board,” he said.

“I would like to personally thank him for his leadership and support during his time as Chair.

“The commitment to ethical education and international standards for quality has been a real feature of Mel’s leadership. His work on behalf of ACPET and our members has set a platform for further development and we understand his need to concentrate on his own business during this period of change.”

The ACPET Board is committed to help the private tertiary education industry meet the high standards required for the future of this important sector which supports Australia’s expert capability.

The ACPET board has appointed Bruce Callaghan, an experienced director who was the former deputy chair and chair of the Board’s Governance Audit and Risk functions, to lead the sector through the challenging new policy environment, nationally and internationally.

“We are very fortunate to have the benefit of Bruce’s considerable commercial expertise, developed over an extensive career in government, business, training and higher education sectors as we look to the opportunities 2017 presents,” Mr Camm said.

“He is deeply committed to close collaboration with government in planning and delivering policy changes which support student achievement and a strong ethical private training sector in Australia.”

[ENDS]

**Rod Camm is available for interview on 0409 484 051.**