



MEDIA RELEASE

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International education growth continues

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) has welcomed news that the international education sector's contribution to Australia's bottom line grew by 17 per cent last year.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics figures released on Friday showed that international education exports reached a record \$21.8 billion in 2016, an increase of 17 per cent on 2015.

ACPET CEO Rod Camm said this strong growth, and record number of international student enrolments in 2016, confirmed the significance of international education to Australia.

"This growth is encouraging and a strong endorsement of the quality of Australia's higher education and VET sectors and the regard in which it is held internationally," he said.

"And private education plays a vital part with nearly 90 per cent of international students studying a vocational education and training qualification in Australia doing so with a private provider."

He also stressed that Australian providers are well placed to deliver education to students in their home countries.

"We are pleased that transnational education is a key component in the National Strategy for International Education 2025 and Austrade's AIE 2025 and the work of the Council for International Education who oversight these plans".

"ACPET looks forward to contributing to the discussion on how best to realise opportunities for high quality transnational education."

Mr Camm said while the growth in Australia's international education sector was very encouraging, it also required continued collaboration and careful management.

"It is important that all stakeholders work together to support continued sustainable growth and ensure high quality educational and social experiences for our international students, whether within Australia or in their own countries."

[ENDS]

Rod Camm is available for interview. Please phone the SAS Group on 07 3221 9222, or directly on 0409 484 051.