



RMIT University

Singapore Country Commitment



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Foreword

His Excellency Allaster Cox, Australian High Commissioner to Singapore



Established in 1987, RMIT's partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) is one of the world's most enduring transnational education partnerships. Like the Colombo Plan, this partnership has opened doors for generations of Singaporeans to education opportunities.

Singapore and Australia have both changed incredibly since those early days. Our bilateral relationship has been elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Landmark agreements, such as the Singapore-Australia Green Economy Agreement, reflect a mature partnership built on a shared commitment to addressing global challenges, strengthening regional cooperation and building prosperity.

Education is a key part of this relationship. A truly two-way endeavour, Australians and Singaporeans both benefit from study, research and workforce development in each others' countries. Education is pivotal to building the people-to-people ties that power trade, investment and cultural exchange. It drives the research and innovation that is crucial to solving global challenges such as climate change, alleviating poverty and delivering inclusive digital transformation.

I am pleased RMIT remains as committed as ever to the community it serves in Singapore and globally, and I look forward many more years of successful endeavours.

Allaster Cox

Introduction

Professor Alec Cameron, Vice-Chancellor and President, RMIT University



RMIT University has been present in Singapore for almost four decades, educating close to 60,000 students and contributing to the educational, social, and economic development of one of the region's most vibrant and influential metropolises.

Our vision is to be a leading university of impact in the Asia Pacific region, using technology, design and enterprise to achieve an inclusive and sustainable future. So we set a high bar for our contribution and aim to be embedded in the communities where we operate, graduating genuinely global citizens ready to generate their own positive impact.

Today, our partnerships in Singapore span learning and teaching, research and student mobility, along with workforce skills solutions and industry engagement. RMIT Singapore alumni – along with RMIT alumni of other campuses – are leaders across government, business and the creative arts, both locally and across ASEAN. Collectively we are immensely proud of the way their education and careers reflect the dynamic and interconnected world in which we live, learn and work.

RMIT provides transformative education and life-changing research wherever we operate, and our focus on the Asia Pacific is clearly reflected in RMIT's *Knowledge with Action* strategy. In the 50th year of ASEAN-Australia relations, we have developed this Singapore Country Commitment to recognise the depth of our history and connection, and to articulate the important role Singapore plays in the future of RMIT's interconnected regional network.

It sets out the guiding principles of how we will use our scale and influence to work with our community in Singapore – connecting this network to the wider region and working together to address the greatest challenges and opportunities of our time. It provides a framework for ongoing engagement based on shared priorities, understanding and mutual respect.

Alec Cameron

Singapore, Australia and ASEAN – partners in a changing world



In the 50 years since ASEAN was founded, Southeast Asia has transformed significantly and is now projected to be the world's fourth largest regional economy by 2040. ASEAN's *Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Higher Education* makes clear that education is a catalyst for economic, political and socio-cultural development within the region. Digital transformation, student mobility and evolving workforce needs are ASEAN-wide priorities amplifying the importance of education in a rapidly changing environment.

From its early role as a founding member of ASEAN to its status today as a regional hub for over 7,000 multinationals, Singapore has built its reputation as an integral and constructive international partner, and as a home of innovation and education excellence.

Today, Singapore, ASEAN and Australia share increasingly complex challenges. Climate change, supply chain disruptions, ageing populations and transformative new technologies including generative AI, are all having a profound effect and make collaborative and cross-boundary solutions essential.

Singapore is uniquely placed to address these challenges, as an industry and financial hub at the geographical heart of Southeast Asia. For example, the *Singapore Green Plan 2030*, is a dynamic approach to building the green economy, sustainable cities and a whole-of-nation movement to achieve net zero by 2050.

Implementing this ambition locally, means solutions can then benefit the broader region through collaborative engagement. The *Singapore-Australia Green Economy Agreement* is an example of cross-border collaboration, reflecting the shared determination of both governments and private sector partners to support the green economy transition across the Asia Pacific region. It also highlights the importance of research in transitioning to a green

economy – the higher education sector can play a key role here.

Singapore's national higher education institutions and lifelong learning program, SkillsFuture, are ideally positioned to ensure workforces and industries have the necessary skills for extensive transition.

Opportunities exist for international higher education institutions like RMIT to complement Singapore's own initiatives, working with local partners. This approach will work best where priorities align, and clear mutual benefit exists.

Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040 makes clear that Australian education providers are in a strong position to support growing education demand in the region. It notes that Australian institutions need to be responsive to evolving student preferences and industry needs.

RMIT's Singapore Country Commitment encapsulates the University's promise to engage constructively with the changing dynamics of our region. We aim to build on the skills and expertise already existing in Singapore and across Southeast Asia, as more than an overseas education provider. Our vision is to be a partner of choice in delivering solutions for our community and region in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world.

Singapore and Australia – an enduring bilateral partnership

RMIT's Singapore Country Commitment sits within the context of a broader Australia-Singapore partnership which has flourished and grown over time. Australia and Singapore are intrinsically connected by history, geography and common interests. Today, Singapore is Australia's fifth largest trading partner overall (\$52.9b in 2022) and fifth largest source of foreign direct investment (\$148.6b in 2022).

The *Australia-Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP)*, launched in 2015, elevated an already burgeoning partnership and encompasses all aspects of the bilateral relationship, including education. 2025 will see the CSP enter its second decade, a demonstration of the longevity and depth of ties between our two countries.

Aligning RMIT's Singapore Commitment to government priorities

RMIT's approach to international engagement intersects with Australia's *Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040* and International Development Policy. Likewise, RMIT complements local host country policies and strategies, such as the *Singapore Economy Vision 2030*, with its clear goal of becoming a global Asia node of technology, innovation, and enterprise.

RMIT also works closely with national, state and local governments in all of the locations where we operate. This includes regularly engaging partners such as the Australian High Commission in Singapore,

the Australian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta and Global Victoria in Melbourne and Singapore.

This is because RMIT knows the important role universities play in delivering on government priorities to build the workforces and communities of the future. Universities are natural enablers and amplifiers of cross-border people-to-people connections, a crucial part of building stronger ties between Australia and Southeast Asia. Universities do this most effectively when aligned to broader national and regional priorities.

Singapore and RMIT



From 1880s Melbourne, RMIT has grown to be an international university of technology, design and enterprise, with three campuses in Melbourne, two campuses in Vietnam, a research and innovation hub in Europe, and long-standing partnerships across the Asia Pacific, including Singapore. RMIT's community includes more than 90,000 students, 500,000+ alumni and over 11,000 staff.

We have developed a strong reputation for empowering people and communities to adapt and thrive across generations through education, research and civic engagement. How and what we do to achieve this has changed over time, but we continue to focus our efforts on providing inclusive solutions at the interface of technology, design and enterprise. We bring these same principles to our engagement wherever we operate.

RMIT's Singapore story began in the 1980's and, in the decades since, has built on a strong foundation of genuine partnership and the strength of our network. RMIT's Singapore Country Commitment outlines the next phase of our engagement and a renewed pledge to work with and deliver for our Singapore community and partners. We look forward to achieving strong outcomes for our community in Singapore and across Southeast Asia, now and into the future.

Today, this community in Singapore reflects an increasingly interconnected and diverse cohort of alumni from across the region and the world, including many who studied at RMIT

Vietnam. In addition to current RMIT students based in country, many more are connected with Singapore through life-changing mobility programs. Around 23,000 Southeast Asian students enrolled in RMIT programs in 2023 alone, including more than 4,300 enrolments in Singapore.

Our wider community also includes senior government figures, industry advisors and global corporate partners who work with us to deliver quality outcomes, ensuring RMIT creates genuine and relevant impact. In Singapore and the region, our community and partners are the key enablers of RMIT's network. They provide the Australian community with an Asia front door, enabling us to be a leading university of impact in the Asia Pacific, and accelerate sustainable development in the region.

Singapore is a key node in this interconnected network. We will look to develop a hub for deeper industry and alumni engagement, along with collaboration with our Asia Trade and Innovation Hub in Melbourne and innovation hubs in Hanoi and Europe, to contribute to this strategic goal.

A front door to Asia

RMIT acts as a front door for Australian partners to understand and engage with Southeast Asia by facilitating dialogue, collaboration and partnership. This approach draws on the whole of RMIT's network, from our longstanding presence in Vietnam to our established community and partners in Singapore.

RMIT's Melbourne city campus hosts the Australian APEC Study Centre (AASC), a centre for excellence in trade and development programs and policy, and the Asia Trade and Innovation Hub (ATIH), a meeting place for regional engagement and a front door to Asia for Australia-based partners.

The Australian APEC Study Centre is part of a wider consortium of centres across the Asia Pacific, including the Singapore APEC Study

Centre at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS).

These Melbourne-based initiatives complement RMIT's Singapore Country Commitment, multiplying connections and enabling collaboration our Asia Pacific partnership networks.

The Asia Trade and Innovation Hub, is created in partnership with Asia Society Australia, bringing together combined expertise to cultivate greater understanding and connectivity between Australia and the region.

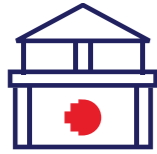
RMIT recognises that achieving meaningful impact in our region requires connection with community, understanding of local and regional dynamics and collaborative effort.



RMIT in Vietnam

RMIT's engagement in Singapore complements our longstanding presence of over 23 years in Vietnam. RMIT Vietnam was the first international university in Vietnam and is now the country's leading international university and a vibrant part of Vietnam's education landscape. In June 2023, RMIT launched its Vietnam Country Commitment, articulating the actions it will take in the years ahead to fulfil its education, research and civic contribution to support the economic and social prosperity of Vietnam.

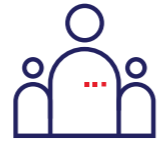
RMIT in Singapore: Key facts



Partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) established in 1987 – one of the world’s oldest and most enduring transnational education partnerships



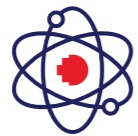
60,000+ Singapore alumni have graduated from RMIT programs globally



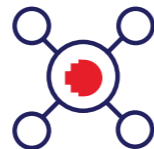
~23,000 Southeast Asian students enrolled in RMIT programs globally in the last year, including 4300+ enrolments in Singapore (15% of whom were from the broader Asia Pacific region), and more than 10,000 at RMIT Vietnam



1200+ RMIT students from Melbourne have travelled to Singapore to participate in global experiences



Undergraduate programs in Singapore from all RMIT’s higher education colleges: College of Business and Law, College of Design and Social Context and STEM College



Cross-border solutions delivered by RMIT’s College of Vocational Education partnering with Infinite Learning in Indonesia’s Nongsa Digital Park – innovative learning experiences responding to regional government and workforce needs



Industry connectivity with over 50 Singaporean organisations supporting student programs and experiences



490+ joint publications between RMIT and Singaporean institutions since 2017, with a field-weighted citation index of 1.77, and a total of 2550+ with Southeast Asia

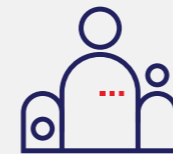


RMIT’s WriCE (Writers Immersion and Cultural Exchange) program has brought together over 90 writers from 15 countries across the Asia Pacific, including China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Singapore and Australia

RMIT’s commitments to Singapore

RMIT is proud to have made a consistent contribution to education in Singapore over almost four decades, educating approximately 1.6% of Singapore’s total workforce. Over this time, we have built a community, established strong partnerships and expanded our contribution to encompass research, student mobility, workforce skills solutions and industry engagement.

This Singapore Country Commitment sets out RMIT’s guiding commitments for the years ahead. Our commitment is aligned with Singaporean, ASEAN and Australian government priorities, as well as RMIT’s *Knowledge with Action* strategy. It is grounded in RMIT’s history and responsive to contemporary dynamics to ensure we serve our community and partners in Singapore and ASEAN in the best possible way.



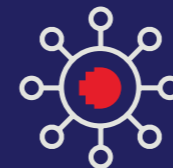
Commitment 1

Connect and engage our communities, alumni, governments and industry to collaborate on initiatives and new ideas to create positive change



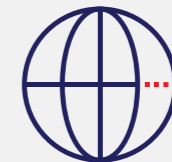
Commitment 2

Continue to offer world-class and industry-connected education solutions



Commitment 3

Partner with industry to deliver targeted workforce skills solutions and executive education



Commitment 4

Partner in applied research that supports Singapore’s national and regional priorities



Commitment 1

Connect and engage our communities, alumni, governments and industry to collaborate on initiatives and new ideas to create positive change

- **Activate an alumni advisory board to foster formal, deeper collaboration**
- **Strengthen networks and community through an industry-connected hub**

Singapore represents our largest alumni community outside of Australia and many are leaders across government, civil society, business, and the creative arts. Our alumni continue to maintain and cultivate relationships and networks with fellow graduates and give back to the RMIT community. An alumni advisory board will provide strategic insights and recommendations to help foster deeper collaboration between RMIT and our alumni. We also aspire to support our alumni with industry-connected upskilling and reskilling lifelong learning solutions, designed to recognise the need for maximum flexibility.

RMIT seeks to establish a network of industry-connected centres across Southeast Asia to enable an interrelated and dynamic response to the needs of RMIT's community and partners. An industry-connected hub in Singapore will facilitate connection and collaboration with our community of partners and alumni, as well as students, academics, researchers and government.

This networked hub will enrich learning experiences and support partnerships to address shared challenges. It will extend our regional presence, serving as a gateway to link our research, education, innovation and talent in Singapore, with Vietnam, Australia, Europe and our other locations across the world.



Commitment 2

Continue to offer world-class, industry-connected education solutions

- Renew our longstanding partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM)
- Collaborate with other like-minded partners

As we look to the future, learning and teaching is, and will continue to be, at the heart of how RMIT engages in Singapore. Our signature pedagogy means we are at the forefront of industry-connected and experiential learning. Partnering with autonomous and private education institutions in Singapore, we will continue to provide a complementary learning experience to both domestic and regional students.

RMIT is known for its deep connections with industry and this is reflected in the way we deliver education on campus, online and with partners. Our applied, experiential approach integrates practical and team-based learning with conceptual and technical knowledge. Industry Advisory Boards for RMIT programs in Singapore draw expertise and insights from Singapore-based leaders in their fields. They help shape our curriculum to ensure students grow both their academic and employability skills specific to Singapore and the region. RMIT empowers learners to be expert, enterprising, adaptive, critically engaged, ethical global citizens.

As we renew our partnership with the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) until 2028, we commit to continue to deliver our active, applied and authentic programs. We also commit to continue to develop and deliver new world-class programs at the intersection of RMIT's key strengths and Singapore's priorities.

Thank you to our partner, the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM)

Established in 1987, we have one of the world's oldest and most enduring transnational education partnerships and are proud of our achievements including of educating over 52,000+ students together. We look forward to continuing this partnership through this Singapore Country Commitment.



Commitment 3

Partner with industry to deliver targeted workforce skills solutions and executive education

- Utilise RMIT's regional presence and network to collaborate with industry in Singapore and across Southeast Asia

Education is lifelong and, as SkillsFuture has highlighted to all Singaporeans, individuals increasingly need to upskill and reskill. At the same time, industries are also in constant transformation – adapting to the impact of technological and societal change on their workforce, and upskilling and reskilling to support new capability needs and growth aspirations.

RMIT is a trusted advisor and skills provider. Drawing on our diverse interdisciplinary expertise, industry insights and Southeast Asian network, we respond to changes in the world of work with solutions that include innovative short form education offerings.

In Singapore and across the region, we work in close collaboration with industry to support the skills and knowledge needs of

lifelong learners. An example is our growing collaboration in Indonesia at Nongsa Digital Park with Infinite Learning, which is jointly supported by Singaporean and Indonesian governments to address identified skill gaps in digital media and gaming.

RMIT Online's Future Skills short course offerings are another example of our best-in-class education solutions. These courses are co-designed with industry partners and based on extensive research of digital skill gaps and the knowledge, skills and attributes required. RMIT Online will continue to collaborate with our regional industry partners to offer a suite of online short course solutions aligned with Singapore Government priorities and workforce needs.



Commitment 4

Partner in applied research that supports Singapore's national and regional priorities

- Focus on collaborations in the digital, care and green economies and industry 4.0

The RMIT research ecosystem is an active network made up of thousands of people, collaborating across borders and time zones, to develop practical, sustainable and ethical solutions to great challenges in society. RMIT's reach across Australia and Southeast Asia into Europe, and our experience in partnering on a large scale with educational institutions, industries, cities and entities, brings innovative insights and impact to the challenges we strive to address.

RMIT's existing research activity includes 490+ joint publications with Singaporean institutions in recent years, and 2550+ across Southeast Asia.

In line with our ambition to be a leading university of impact in the Asia Pacific, we will continue to collaborate with like-minded institutions, such as our partner the Singapore University of Technology and Design. We will also continue to work with other Southeast Asian partners, to address economic and workforce priorities across the region.

Leveraging RMIT's strengths, our research focus will centre around:

- Sustainable cities
- Urban innovation
- Decarbonisation
- Food tech and food waste
- Advanced manufacturing
- Med-Tech and digital health
- Cybersecurity
- Creative practice

Our applied approach is evident in our industry-connected research and training, along with our distinctive model of creative practice doctoral training through practice research symposiums (PRS) to explore candidates' research questions. The model nurtures a regional professional learning community, with six public PRS events annually across Australia, Europe and Asia, including Singapore.

Making a genuine contribution to Singapore

RMIT is committed to making a genuine difference in the communities in which we operate, creating positive impact through education, research and civic engagement.

RMIT alumni success stories across Southeast Asia



Dung Phương Nguyễn (Grace)

An alumna of RMIT Vietnam based in Singapore, Grace is now the Head of Small Business Sales at Google for Vietnam and Indonesia. Drawing on her regional knowledge which includes a decade of executive and managerial experience across Southeast Asia, Grace is actively involved in the RMIT alumni community, including by providing mentorships to students as well as advice on RMIT strategic directions.

“The RMIT experience gave me both the structured foundation and the practical insights to prepare me for my professional career and thrive in international marketplaces more effectively – be it Vietnam, Australia, Singapore or anywhere else in the world.”



Jonathan Lee

Jonathan received the top student award in RMIT Business Management in 2017 for outstanding academic achievement in his RMIT Bachelor of Business (Management) program at SIM. Jonathan has quickly risen through the ranks of one of Asia’s leading banks, UOB to become Singapore Commercial Banking Vice-President and has cemented himself as an expert in business financial management.

“As a relationship manager, my role is to help small and mid-size corporate clients grow their business through recommending appropriate banking solutions. Applying the concepts I learnt at RMIT has equipped me with the skills and capability to excel in my career.”



Jeanine Lim

Equipped with a Bachelor of Arts (Media Studies) from RMIT Melbourne, Jeanine has contributed to Singapore’s media industry for more than two decades as a filmmaker and educator. She has directed feature documentaries and short films which have screened at international film festivals and mentored countless media students. Jeanine has taught many of the working media practitioners in Singapore, having worked at the National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University, Singapore Polytechnic and Temasek Polytechnic. On the side, Jeanine runs Project Give Pray Love, a charity that helps the poor in Vietnam.

“My passion for film began at RMIT, where I made my first short film. RMIT exposed me to the art of reading films, how to analyse them and look beyond the surface...skills I now impart to my students. RMIT’s film courses inspired me, and I hope that in the same way, I can also inspire my students.”



Case Study

Singapore thought leadership event brings together RMIT's community of alumni and industry partners in Southeast Asia

The first of RMIT's College of Business and Law's 'Global Future Ready Business Series' events was held in Singapore in August 2023. This thought leadership event addressed one of the most pressing issues facing business leaders today: attracting, retaining and engaging talent.

Attended by business leaders and RMIT alumni from across the Asia Pacific region including Singapore, Vietnam and Australia, the event delivered effective strategies and actionable insights to motivate and retain talented staff.

Discussion focused on the importance of talent management and retention of staff in the current climate. As industry faces new challenges linked to artificial intelligence, a new generation of consumers are seeking personalised and intuitive customer experiences.

Hosted by RMIT Alumni Singapore, the event drew on expertise from RMIT's community of alumni and industry partners with a panel of regional and Singaporean executive and people leaders including from CMA CGM, Jones Lang LaSalle and Lee Hecht Harrison.

Case Study

Next-gen industry-connected RMIT Bachelor of Business launches at SIM

The new Bachelor of Business takes a career-focused approach centred around industry and experiential learning. The program exemplifies RMIT's signature pedagogy of active, applied and authentic learning by providing students with practical hands-on experience solving industry problems and gaining work-ready skills for a competitive global job market.

Launched at the Singapore Institute of Management in 2023, RMIT's new Bachelor of Business allows students to personalise their learning. This includes choosing their own majors and minors, with the flexibility to change them along the way.

RMIT has partnered with leading companies and institutions including Adobe, Singapore Red Cross and IBM to co-design the program through industry-contextualised assessments, internships, and an experiential learning course that includes a virtual industry project.

RMIT also works closely with our Industry Advisory Board comprised of prominent alumni and the Singapore business community, with members also providing regional perspectives and experiences. The board embeds industry perspectives into our program design to ensure it is at the forefront of meeting industry needs.



Case Study

Addressing critical workforce gaps in Southeast Asia

RMIT's strategic partnership with Infinite Learning in regional tech hub Nongsa Digital Park delivers innovative learning experiences which respond to government and workforce needs.

Established in 2021, this partnership is supported by the Singaporean and Indonesian governments and reflects the benefits of RMIT's commitment to Singapore that extends across Southeast Asia, addressing critical digital workforce skills gaps. Nongsa Digital Park is situated on Batam Island in Indonesia, known as the 'digital bridge' connecting Indonesia to Singapore and the rest of the world.

Launched in August 2023, RMIT's College of Vocational Education's *Introduction to Game Design*, offered in partnership with the Indonesian Ministry of Education's Kampus Merdeka program, is designed to boost the games and interactivity workforce in Southeast Asia. 300 participants from across Indonesia were selected to join the inaugural five-month course, which offers an opportunity for students to learn while having direct exposure to industry. It is an important step towards the goal of consolidating a Centre of Excellence in Nongsa Digital Park, which will drive the growth of the digital gaming industry in Indonesia.





Case Study

Writers Immersion and Cultural Exchange

RMIT's strong focus on design and creative industries and long history of engagement in Singapore have led to well-established programs, including RMIT's *Writers Immersion and Cultural Exchange* (WrICE) program founded in 2014.

The WrICE program has brought together a community of over 90 Asia Pacific writers from 15 countries including Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, and Australia for collaborative residencies in Asia and Australia. Delivered with partners including Sing Lit Station and the Jakarta Post, the WrICE program builds networks and raises the professional profile of writers across the region. The program provides a framework for intercultural and intergenerational exchange and the sharing of knowledge, creativity and skills.

Since 2021, WrICE has been conducted in parallel with the *Connecting Asia Pacific Literary Cultures* research project, which aims to develop a best practice model in literary intercultural exchange to improve transnational understanding and cultural literacies. Funded by the Australian Research Council, the project includes evaluating key WrICE activities such as collaboration events with Singapore Writers Festival and will culminate in a Symposium to be held in 2024.

Case Study

SUTD and RMIT discuss the Future of Education, Jobs and Research at RMIT's Asia Trade and Innovation Hub

Building on a partnership between the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) and RMIT which began with student exchange and mobility programs, RMIT hosted a special 'In Conversation' event on the Future of Education, Jobs and Research with SUTD in Melbourne in November 2023.

Held at RMIT's Asia Trade and Innovation Hub, the event discussed the re-imagining of the higher education system to address opportunities and challenges across the Asia Pacific region in delivering on future workforce needs.

Countries across the region and beyond must continue to invest in education and research to remain competitive in this changing landscape. Internationally renowned Professor Yeo Kiat Seng's keynote focused on new research areas and how these inform the way we think about research collaboration and alter the nature and direction of research.

SUTD and RMIT share a focus on the intersection of technology, design and enterprise. The growth of RMIT's partnership with SUTD directly supports enhanced regional connectivity and RMIT's *Knowledge with Action* strategy – to be a leading university of impact in the Asia Pacific region.

A global team of RMIT experts creating impact

Our impact in Singapore is made possible through the hard work of RMIT's staff community including our teaching and professional staff, academics and researchers. Their contribution enables RMIT to commit to this next chapter.



Professor Zhifeng Bao

An expert in big data management and mining, Zhifeng has held several roles at RMIT including directing the Centre for Information Discovery and Data Analytics and managing the Master of Data Science.

Prior to joining RMIT, Zhifeng was based in Singapore where he earned the "Best PhD Thesis Award" from the National University of Singapore and garnered numerous research accolades including the Chris Wallace Award for Outstanding Research, from The Computing Research and Education Association of Australasia.

Having made significant contributions in topics such as query optimisation, indexing techniques and data quality, Zhifeng is an integral part of RMIT's research ecosystem and enjoys close collaboration with researchers from Singaporean institutions.

"I have several long-term collaborations with Nanyang Technology University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) including across three Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Projects studying spatial data analytics, machine learning enhanced data structures and algorithms, and look forward to continued joint research between RMIT and Singaporean institutions in the future."



Senior Lecturer Dr Sandy Fitzgerald (née Ng)

Sandy is an experienced academic. She taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses and supervised PhD candidates to completion. She is a work-integrated learning expert, a mentor to many students, a transnational educator, and a researcher.

She has disseminated her work in the media, conferences, and journals. Sandy's expertise and understanding of Singapore's education system led to her 4.5-year Singapore secondment.

In a leadership role, she oversaw RMIT's business programs at SIM, delivered a keynote speech on behalf of RMIT Alumni Singapore to the Australian High Commission in 2021, was involved in strategic initiatives to deepen the RMIT- SIM partnership, set up the inaugural business internship program in Singapore and uplifted teaching staff capabilities through regular L&T workshops.

"I have a special connection to Singapore. I grew up in Singapore. A part of Singapore's success story is based on the nation's vision of providing world-class education accessible to the population. RMIT is privileged to be one of the education providers that plays a part in uplifting Singapore's workforce. I welcome the Singapore Country Commitment initiative that cements and deepens RMIT's resolve to offer quality education to Singapore-based student cohorts."



Associate Professor Eric Too

Eric is the Program Manager for RMIT's Bachelor of Construction Management (Honours) program in Melbourne, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Eric's leadership has ensured these programs are accredited by major professional institutions world-wide and recognised globally, including by the Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers.

Eric's expertise in construction and project management is highly valued internationally. He was selected to be part of the prestigious European Commission 'Erasmus+ Staff Mobility Teaching Program' at the University of Twente, Netherlands.

Within Southeast Asia, Eric was invited by the University of Indonesia to join their "World Class Professor Program". He is currently the Visiting Professor to Brawijaya University, Indonesia. Eric has been at RMIT since 2004 and over this time he launched the Construction Management Industry Advisory Board, bringing together senior management from both public and private institutions in Singapore.

"My vision is to nurture graduates who are world ready, and as a leading global city, Singapore is an important partner for our programs. The strong Singaporean industry links bring the construction management program to the forefront of knowledge by embedding cutting-edge immersive VR and AR technology."

RMIT's strategic direction

Born out of deep community engagement in the Asia Pacific region and across the world, RMIT's *Knowledge with Action* strategy to 2031 lays out a clear institutional direction for the formative decade ahead. RMIT's ambition is to serve our communities with applied knowledge and skills for an inclusive and sustainable future.

We are proud of our presence and contribution in Singapore. Looking to the future, *Knowledge with Action* opens the door for RMIT in Singapore to embrace an even greater regional focus, extending thought leadership, educational offerings and partnerships into Southeast Asia to drive regional impact around shared challenges and themes.

Knowledge with Action has a strong focus on empowering individuals and communities to adapt and thrive in a complex and rapidly evolving global environment. It aligns RMIT's strengths to national, regional and global priorities, positioning the University to partner for positive impact and to shape a more sustainable and equitable future.

The strategy identifies four key areas of impact: emerging technologies, smart and

sustainable cities, social innovation and regional collaboration. Establishing a network of industry-connected centres across Southeast Asia will facilitate collaboration and accelerate sustainable development for the Asia Pacific region through inclusive partnership and thought leadership.

For RMIT in Singapore, this will mean a greater focus on business-to-business engagement and collaboration anchored around RMIT's values, key areas of impact and strategic locations.

Knowledge with Action also sets the priority for RMIT to act as a front door to enhance understanding and engagement with Southeast Asia. This will be the outcome of transformative education and lifechanging research, both within Singapore and across international networks, that will further Singapore's relationships with Australia and the region.

Vision

To be a leading university of impact in the Asia Pacific region, using technology, design and enterprise to achieve an inclusive and sustainable future.



Mission

To empower people and communities to adapt and thrive across generations with education, research and civic engagement that are applied, inclusive and impactful.

Ambition

To lead internationally in four key areas: emerging technologies, smart and sustainable cities, social innovation and regional collaboration.

Measuring progress

This Singapore Country Commitment sets out RMIT's guiding principles, for partnership and activity in Singapore and Southeast Asia, aligned to our strategy, *Knowledge with Action*.

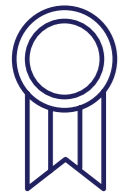
RMIT has criteria to measure our progress towards our ambitions which is aligned to our *Knowledge with Action* strategy implementation plan and RMIT's outcomes framework. This includes:

- Connectivity of our Singapore industry-connected hub, with other hubs and partners
- Broader engagement with our current and new partners
- Offering cutting-edge workforce solutions for in-demand skills
- Continuously increasing an already high level of student learning satisfaction
- Enhanced engagement with our alumni on issues of reciprocal importance
- Thought leadership to enhance policy dialogue and build positive civic impact, and
- Increased research activity and collaboration in the fields of research aligned to national priorities

We look forward to working with our partners and community to deliver RMIT's Singapore Country Commitment and achieve strong outcomes for our community in Singapore and across Southeast Asia.



RMIT at a glance



#1

globally for reducing inequalities in THE Impact Rankings¹



=140th

2024 QS World University Rankings²



Locations

Campuses

Australia: Melbourne City, Brunswick, Bundoora
Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi

Research and innovation hub in Spain

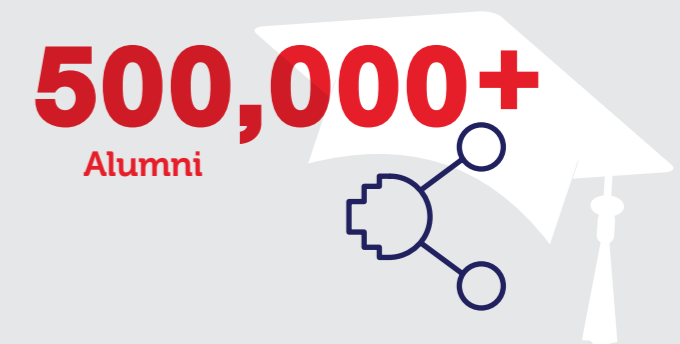
Partners in Singapore, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India and China



100% Renewable grid electricity

on all Australian campuses – on target to become carbon neutral by 2025

1. Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings 2023
2. QS World University Rankings 2024



April 2024

