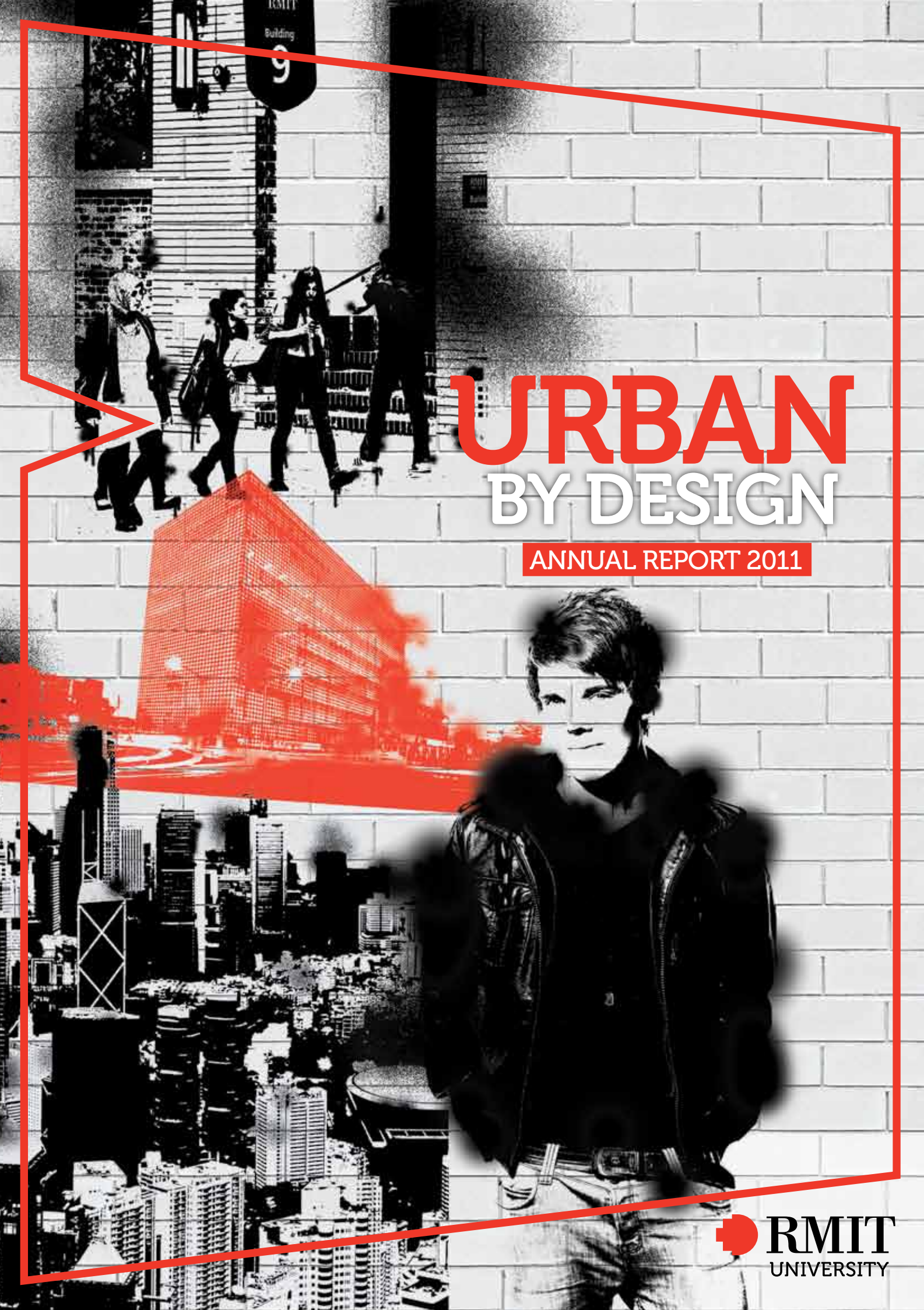


RMIT
Building
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URBAN BY DESIGN

ANNUAL REPORT 2011





Office of the Chancellor
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March 2012

The Hon Peter Hall MLC
Minister for Higher Education and Skills
Level 36
121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne Vic. 3000

Dear Minister,

In accordance with the requirements of regulations under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, I am pleased to submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the Annual Report of RMIT University for the year ended 31 December 2011.

The Annual Report was approved by the Council of RMIT University at its meeting on 27 February 2012.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ziggy Switkowski
Chancellor

Published by:

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An aerial photograph of a dense urban skyline, likely Hong Kong, featuring numerous skyscrapers and a river. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red color. The text 'ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW' is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters.

ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

MISSION, VISION, GOALS AND VALUES

MISSION OF RMIT UNIVERSITY

The University brings knowledge within reach through education and research to enrich and transform the futures of individuals, cities, industries and nations.

RMIT'S VISION TO 2015

RMIT will be a global university of technology and design. As a university of technology and design, RMIT will focus on creating solutions that transform the future for the benefit of people and their environments. We will collaborate with partners to ensure the global impact of our education and research, and we will reach out through our presence in cities across the world to make a difference.

GOALS

To achieve our vision, we will be:

1. **Global** in attitude, action and presence, offering our students a global passport to learning and work.
2. **Urban** in orientation and creativity, shaping sustainable cities and drawing inspiration from the challenges and opportunities they provide.
3. **Connected** through active partnerships with professions, industries and organisations to support the quality, reach and impact of our education and research.

CORE VALUES

Creative

- » RMIT creates opportunities for students and staff to explore, test and fulfil their potential.
- » Imaginative curriculum and research solutions are sought, applied and rewarded.
- » RMIT fosters a creative and inventive culture which values achievement.

Connected

- » Students' aspirations, experience and needs are central to evaluating our performance and shaping improvement.
- » Industry and community are active partners in our education and research.
- » Global networks formed around knowledge, industries and cities underpin our operations.
- » Collaboration and teamwork is encouraged and a sense of belonging for students and staff is supported.

Fair

- » Learning opportunities support a diverse range of students, including those who may be disadvantaged.
- » Respect for Indigenous cultures is reflected in our work.
- » Intellectual freedom and tolerance are nurtured and debate encouraged.
- » A physically, culturally and socially safe work and study environment is provided for all staff and students.
- » Ethical, honest and open dealings characterise relationships with students, staff and partners.

Passionate

- » Building enthusiasm and a sense of achievement in our students and staff is a high priority.
- » Excellence in teaching, scholarship, research and service is rewarded and supported.
- » Cultural and social diversity is encouraged and celebrated.

Committed to making a difference

- » Our graduates are creative, skilled, highly employable and purposeful.
- » Knowledge and skills developed in our students and staff serve the needs of and bring benefits to individuals, cities, industries and nations.
- » Our staff are constructive and agile in meeting the needs of individuals, cities, industries and nations.

CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENT

RMIT University is a special place – contemporary, urban with a culturally diverse student population, architecturally innovative, and with a unique legacy connecting today's higher education programs with yesterday's trade skill-building mission.



This past year has presented the University with predictable challenges: increased local and international competition for students and staff, a complicated economy, inhibiting exchange rate for overseas candidates, pressure on resources and budgets, and shifting regulatory settings in our sector. Such factors test the management discipline of any institution, but create circumstances where alert universities such as ours can succeed.

We've ended the year pleased with our progress. The interest of students and their families in an RMIT education has never been higher; our alumni are making their mark in the communities they choose to serve; our facilities have improved; our finances are healthy; and our character and reputation are well defined and respected. Our academics inform public debate, our executives help shape national education strategies, and many of our programs set standards for innovation and excellence.

The University Council has been busy. An ambitious capital investment program is underway with major new buildings to be completed in 2012. Partnerships with industry and communities continue to be developed. The Vice-Chancellor and her team continue to enhance their business plans to better deliver on our aspiration to be a leading global university of technology and design. The Council has worked well and in a collegiate spirit, while wrestling with the complex and significant challenges that confront today's universities. Their contributions are much appreciated.

Our immediate outlook is promising. We're encouraged by the quality of our graduates and the careers they are forging. Our staff are committed, professional and keen to make a difference. And our balance sheet gives us the capacity to plan boldly.

It promises to be an exciting time at RMIT University.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. P. Switkowski". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Dr Ziggy Switkowski
Chancellor

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENT

In 2011 RMIT University began implementing its new Strategic Plan to 2015, *Transforming the Future*. This plan commits RMIT to be recognised as a global university of technology and design.



This Strategic Plan is supported by new academic and research plans. The University's Academic Plan, *Transforming the Student Experience*, concentrates on our high impact areas and on our efforts to transform the lives of our students through pathway clusters and by delivering an education that builds professional and vocational capabilities. Our Research Plan, *Impact Through Innovation*, is also highly focused on increasing the quality, scale and impact of our research activity and outcomes.

Education continues to become more competitive internationally, as institutions worldwide seek to attract students from across the world to their own countries. And while competition for prospective students has continued to increase, RMIT has maintained its position as a world leader in international education. In 2011 we had 11,978 onshore and 17,596 offshore international students. RMIT reaffirmed its excellence in international education, achieving a five star rating in the QS Stars evaluation system.

In 2011 RMIT marked the 10th anniversary of its operations in Vietnam. Starting with only 30 students, RMIT Vietnam now has approximately 6,500 students and is the largest international branch campus of any university in the world. To accommodate this growth, the expansion of the Saigon South Campus continued with the opening of the US\$15.2 million recreation and events complex and student accommodation, by the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Kevin Rudd MP. RMIT Vietnam was also visited by the Governor-General, Quentin Bryce AC, during the year.

Our investments in improving outcomes in learning, teaching and research continued in 2011. The Learning and Teaching Investment Fund supported 30 projects across the University aimed at enhancing teaching practice and learning outcomes. Unsurprisingly, a number of these focused on improving our own use of technology such as online interactive learning and simulation environments.

The Excellence in Research Australia exercise confirmed RMIT as producing above world standard results in architecture; communication and media studies; human movement and sports science; mechanical engineering; pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences; and urban and regional planning. We built our research outcomes in our areas of focus. During 2011, RMIT had more than 1,500 students undertaking a higher degree by research, and conferred degrees to 227 higher degree by research students including 170 PhDs.

In November, three RMIT researchers were awarded more than \$1.3 million in special ARC funding. Dr Anthony O'Mullane (School of Applied Science) was awarded a Future Fellowship for his project that aims to deliver an inexpensive method for producing a class of nanostructured composite materials.

Dr Francisco Tovar and Dr Khashayar Khoshmanesh (School of Electrical and Computer Engineering) each received an ARC Discovery Early Career Research Award in recognition of projects employing advanced micro-engineered systems to explore how and why blood clotting occurs.

Notably, China's largest Chinese medicine hospital, the Guangdong Provincial Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine, signed a \$2 million agreement with RMIT and the Guangdong Provincial Academy of Chinese Medical Studies for research into the use of herbal medicines for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and acupuncture for allergic rhinitis.

Our commitment to transforming the lives of our students was maintained through our various equity and scholarship schemes. A total of 922 SNAP (Schools Network Access Programs) students commenced across all three RMIT Colleges. RMIT awarded more than 2,000 scholarships to its students. The prospects of all our students are considerable, with the 2011 QS World University rankings indicating that RMIT graduates are ranked 51st in the world by prospective employers.

While achieving these outcomes, the University has maintained strong financial discipline. RMIT has again achieved a strong financial result with an overall surplus of \$55.3 million on revenue totalling \$819 million. With an EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation) of 14.4 per cent, RMIT's performance enables it to continue investing in education and research. In particular, construction of the Design Hub – supported by the Commonwealth through a grant of \$28.6 million from the Education Investment Fund – and the Swanston Academic Building continued in 2011. Both will be completed in 2012, transforming the Melbourne City campus.

2011 also saw the opening of the Advanced Manufacturing Precinct and our new lecture theatre in Bundoora, which received support in funding from the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments respectively.

Embarking on the implementation of *Transforming the Future* has provided renewed focus for the institution to deliver on the promise to be a global university of technology and design. As the most globalised of all Australian universities, with an excellent reputation in both technology and design, I am confident that we can achieve this goal.



Professor Margaret Gardner AO
Vice-Chancellor and President

ABOUT RMIT

RMIT IS A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN, FOCUSED ON CREATING SOLUTIONS THAT TRANSFORM THE FUTURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENTS.

RMIT University enjoys an international reputation for excellence in professional and practical educational programs and high quality outcome-oriented research.

One of Australia's original educational institutions founded in 1887, RMIT is now the nation's largest tertiary institution. The University offers an extensive range of postgraduate, undergraduate and vocational programs. The work-relevant learning pathways RMIT offers between vocational and higher education provide students with many flexible learning options.

RMIT is ranked as a Five Star university under the QS Stars evaluation system for universities world-wide. This highest ranking places RMIT among the world's top universities, reflecting its outstanding reputation, cutting-edge facilities and internationally renowned education and research. The University is a world leader in technology, design, global business, communication, global communities, health solutions and urban sustainable futures.

RMIT University has three Melbourne campuses (in the central business district and in Brunswick and Bundoora in the city's northern suburbs), as well as campuses in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. With significant partnerships in Hong Kong, mainland China, Malaysia, Singapore and India, RMIT has a strong educational presence in the Asia-Pacific region. The University also has research and industry partnerships on every continent.

RMIT is proud of the strong industry links it has forged over its 124-year history. Collaboration with industry is integral to the University's leadership in applied research and education, and to the development of highly skilled, globally focused graduates. As a result, RMIT graduates are valued by employers around the world for their leadership skills and work readiness.

All RMIT educational programs include work or clinical experience, industry projects, internships and opportunities for overseas study and placements, ensuring that graduates are equipped with the skills and insight that employers value in the ever-changing global economy.

RMIT's links with employers and universities across the world provide a global passport for students and staff by enabling them to benefit from exchange, work placements, study or research in other countries. A range of scholarships are available to support education and research.





The RMIT community is diverse. The University's total student population of 74,782 includes 29,500 international students, of whom 17,500 are taught offshore (6,500 at RMIT Vietnam). Students benefit from a learning environment which is intellectually stimulating and distinctive, and which has strong connections with contemporary professional practice.

RMIT's four Research Institutes (Design; Global Cities; Platform Technologies; and Health Innovations) represent established areas of University expertise. Together with other research groups in the University, these Institutes are concerned with addressing the problems and needs of industry and communities world-wide.

As a member of the Australian Technology Network of universities, RMIT is on target to achieve a major commitment of a 25 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, based on a 2007 baseline. RMIT is also a Fair Trade University.

RMIT University is a self-accrediting university established under Victorian Government legislation. RMIT's objects under its Act include the fostering of excellence in teaching, training, scholarship, research, consultancy, community service and other educational services and products. The University has the power to confer degrees, diplomas, certificates and other awards, and is a major provider of vocational education and training (VET) programs.

SENIOR OFFICERS

Vice-Chancellor and President



Professor Margaret Gardner AO BEcon(Hons), PhD (Syd), DUniv (Griffith), FAIM, GAICD

Professor Gardner is RMIT's Chief Executive Officer for higher education and vocational education and all controlled entities. She is responsible for ensuring strong, effective leadership and clear direction within the University through an appropriate vision and strategic plan. She also chairs the Boards of RMIT Vietnam Holdings and RMIT International University Vietnam.

Professor Gardner has had a prominent academic career, having held leadership positions at Griffith University and the University of Queensland.

She currently chairs the Museums Board of Victoria and is a director of Open Universities Australia. She is also a member of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Council on Australia Latin America Relations and Chair of its Education Advisory Group, and is a member of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission Board, the Federal Government's Higher Education Research Reference Group and the ANZAC Centenary Advisory Board.

In 2007, Professor Gardner was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in recognition of service to tertiary education, particularly in the areas of university governance and gender equity, and to industrial relations in Queensland.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Vice-President



Professor Gill Palmer BSocSc(Hons) (Birm, UK), MSc(Industrial Admin) (LSE), PhD (London City), GAICD

Professor Palmer was appointed DVC Academic in August 2010 after two years as Pro Vice-Chancellor (Business) and eight years as Dean of Monash's Business and Economics faculty.

She has an extensive background in higher education, teaching and publishing in organisational theory and employment relations. As well as Monash University, she has worked in leadership roles at London School of Economics, CASS Business School (UK), Queensland University of Technology and the University of Wollongong. She held management roles with the British Government and managed a business consultancy in the UK. She has been President of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management and the Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand, Chair of an ARC review of management research and Foundation Board Member of the Australia and New Zealand School of Government.

Chief Operating Officer and Vice-President Resources



Mr Steve Somogyi MSc (Melb), SM (MIT), FIAA, F Fin, FAICD

The Vice-President Resources contributes to operational and system development and effectiveness, and to the strategic improvement of facilities and people resources. He is responsible for leadership of the corporate resources areas of the University and its controlled entities, including Financial Services, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, Internal Audit and Risk Management, Legal Services, Property Services and Web Services and Information Policy.

Mr Somogyi was appointed to this role in 2006, having previously had extensive experience in the financial services and health care industries.

He is a director of OnePath Life, OnePath General Insurance, VERNet, Guild Group and RMIT Foundation, and is a member of the Commonwealth Government's Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Business and Vice-President



Professor Ian Palmer BA(Hons) (ANU), PhD (Monash), FASSA

Professor Ian Palmer commenced at RMIT in January 2009, holding the roles of Dean, School of Graduate Research, and Deputy PVC Business (Research). In August 2010 he assumed the role of PVC and VP (Business).

Professor Palmer has held visiting academic positions at the University of Virginia, Cornell University and Macquarie Graduate School of Management. He was also previously the President of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management and foundation Chair of the Business Academic Research Directors Network.

In 2008 Professor Palmer was elected to the US Academy of Management's Organizational Development and Change Division as Representative-at-Large. He was also appointed by the Federal Government as Chair of the Research Quality Framework Panel 10 for Economics, Commerce and Management, and to Life Membership of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Design and Social Context and Vice-President



Professor Colin Fudge BArch(Hons), MA(Town and Regional Planning) (Sheffield), DSc (Bristol), FRIBA, MRTPI, FRSA

Professor Fudge was appointed to this role in 2008, having previously worked in academia and government. This included the two universities in Bristol and the University of Cardiff (UK), Chalmers University and KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden), UK and Swedish governments, the Victorian government and European Commission.

Professor Fudge has contributed through interdisciplinary research on public policy and public health; cities, sustainable development and adaptation to climate change; demographic change; and urban design. This has been recognised through the awarding of the Royal Professorship of Environmental Science by the Swedish Academy of Sciences and an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

He has written eight books and edits a series for Palgrave Macmillan. He was Chair of EU Urban Environment Expert Group, Founding Director of WHO Research Centre, Commissioner for CABE and is Chair of the RMIT Sustainability Committee and the EU Centre Board.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Science, Engineering and Health and Vice-President



Professor Peter Coloe BSc(Hons), PhD (Monash), FASM

Professor Coloe was appointed to this role in 2008, having contributed significantly to management, education and research activities throughout his 20-year career at RMIT.

Professor Coloe served on Council from 1999 to 2008 and chaired the Academic Board from 2000 to 2008, during which time he championed many of the University's teaching and learning developments particularly in the study of science.

A prolific researcher as well as a sought-after research supervisor, Professor Coloe has more than 160 publications and has been awarded three worldwide patents which have gained him international recognition.

Professor Coloe has served as an advisor to the Federal Government's Biosecurity Australia risk assessment panel and the Victorian Government's biotechnology task force. He is a council member of the Australian Society for Microbiology, a member of the International Union of Microbiological Services, an ARC and NHMRC grants referee and serves on Microbiology Australia's Editorial Board.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation and Vice-President



Professor Daine Alcorn BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD (Melb), GAICD

Professor Alcorn leads the University's capability in research and innovation. Her teaching and research background is in health and life sciences with a focus on quality teaching and learning. Her research in renal development, structure and function has been supported by continued national research funding for 20 years, resulting in more than 100 publications.

Professor Alcorn was the inaugural Pro Vice-Chancellor establishing the Science, Engineering and Technology Portfolio at RMIT.

A past member of Australian Medical Council accreditation teams, she has contributed to medical program reviews at Bond University and the Universities of Western Australia, Tasmania, Adelaide and Sydney. She has served on the NHMRC Research Committee and chaired its Research Fellowships Committee; was the Inaugural Chair of the Victorian Cancer Agency Consultative Council and a Board Member of Museums Victoria; and is currently a Board Member of the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor International and Development and Vice-President



Mr Stephen Connelly BA(Hons), MA, DipEd (Monash), PGDM (Melb), GAICD

Stephen Connelly was appointed DVC I&D in February 2010, having previously spent five years at Swinburne University as Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) and later Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development and Engagement). Prior to that, he spent seven years at La Trobe University as Marketing Director, and later Director, of the International Programs Office.

Mr Connelly was Chair of the Victorian International Directors' Committee in 2000-02, and foundation Chair of the Australian Universities International Directors' Forum. He is currently President of the International Education Association Australia.

He has lived and worked in Germany and Malaysia, and has more than 20 years' experience in international education.

Director TAFE and Vice-President



Mr Allan Ballagh DipEd (Melb State College), BEng (Gordon), Med (RMIT), GradCert Enterprise Management (Swinburne)

The Director TAFE provides leadership and expert advice to the University in relation to its TAFE operations. He is responsible for ensuring the development and promotion of RMIT's capacity to innovate in vocational education provision and pedagogy.

Mr Ballagh has a broad range of leadership and management experience in the TAFE sector. He is RMIT's delegate to the Victorian TAFE Association CEO Council and represents TAFE Directors Australia on the National Quality Councils Training Package Steering Committee. Mr Ballagh is also a member of the Capital City Local Learning and Employment Network Management Committee.

University Secretary and Vice-President



Dr Julie Wells BA DipEd (University of WA), BA(Hons) (Murdoch University), PhD (Monash)

Dr Wells was appointed University Secretary in April 2009, heading the Office of Governance and Planning which provides integrated support for University governance and for strategic, academic and business planning. She was previously Executive Director, Policy and Planning, and has served as Principal Policy Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor.

Dr Wells has extensive experience in tertiary education administration and management, and in public policy. Her background includes teaching and administrative roles in schools, TAFEs and universities, providing advice and support to State and Commonwealth parliamentarians, and leading the policy and research unit in the National Tertiary Education Union's National Office. She was a founding Board Member of the Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

President RMIT Vietnam and Pro Vice-Chancellor RMIT University



Professor Marilyn Liddell AM MBBS (Melb), MFM (Monash), MD (Monash), FRACGP, GAICD

Professor Liddell was appointed President RMIT Vietnam in 2009, having previously held similar roles at Monash University. Prior to this, she had a long career in clinical medical practice, then combined this with academic medicine, becoming Head of Monash University's Department of General Practice. Her primary research interests were in clinical communication and medical education.

In 2010 she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to tertiary education and administration, particularly in the discipline of medicine and in cross-cultural exchange and cooperation with Malaysia.

Professor Liddell steered the Monash Malaysian campus through an extensive phase of development, including setting up an Australian Medical Council accredited medical school. She is currently leading a major development of RMIT Vietnam.

2011 GALLERY

New RMIT Chancellor

In May, the Governor of Victoria, Alex Chernov AO QC, installed Dr Zygmunt (Ziggy) Switkowski as University Chancellor at RMIT's Storey Hall. The installation ceremony featured an academic procession and a bagpiper, and was followed by the Honorary Awards conferring ceremony.

As one of Australia's most respected technology, innovation and business leaders, Dr Switkowski presents an outstanding fit with RMIT's strategic vision to be a global university of technology and design.



Dr Ziggy Switkowski at the Chancellor installation ceremony.



The Governor-General chats with an RMIT Vietnam student.

Governor-General visits Saigon South campus

One of the most notable visitors to RMIT Vietnam in 2011 was the Australian Governor-General, Quentin Bryce AC.

During her visit, Ms Bryce praised the role of pioneering individuals who had created new opportunities for women through better education, and she commended RMIT Vietnam on its contribution to building the skills of youth in Vietnam.

Ms Bryce also met students in an informal session in which she answered questions on a wide range of topics.

Recreation complex and residential centre opened

A new recreation and events complex and student accommodation building was opened in April at RMIT's Saigon South campus. In his opening address, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kevin Rudd, praised the facilities and the vision of RMIT in establishing a strong presence in Vietnam over the past 10 years.



Cutting the ribbons: (L to R) Kevin Rudd; Hua Ngoc Thuan, Vice-Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee; Professor Marilyn Liddell AM, RMIT Vietnam President; Professor Margaret Gardner AO, RMIT Vice-Chancellor and President.



Minister for Higher Education and Skills, Peter Hall, attended the project launch in Storey Hall.

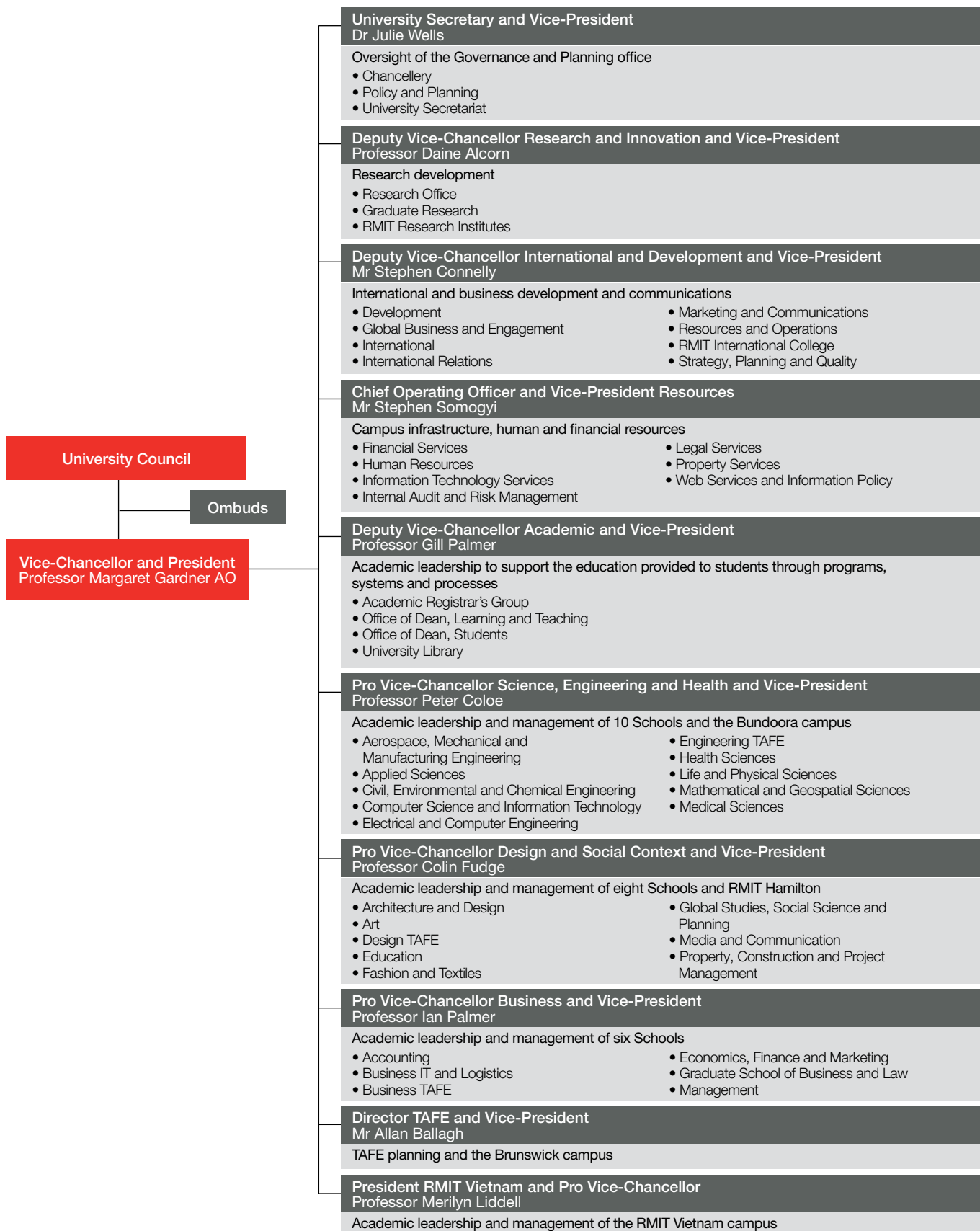
Funding awarded to Indigenous Training Program

A project aimed at boosting Aboriginal participation in vocational education was awarded \$100,000 funding under the State Government's Access and Equity program.

The program will build on the success of the University's innovative training program for plumbing apprenticeships, through which Aboriginal students came to Melbourne from across Australia and benefited from new learning technologies and teaching approaches.

ORGANISATIONAL SUMMARY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2011

This organisational chart provides a graphical representation of the management structure of RMIT University as at 31 December 2011. Up-to-date versions of the organisational chart are available on RMIT's website.



STATISTICAL SNAPSHOT

Enrolments by Sector (headcount)	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
HE	43,974	47,641	50,472	53,350	55,115
VET	21,683	22,604	21,132	20,554	19,667
By Type					
Domestic	42,772	44,469	44,119	44,740	45,208
International Onshore	9,134	10,077	11,148	11,912	11,978
International Offshore	10,837	11,735	11,444	11,585	11,134
Vietnam	2,914	3,964	4,893	5,667	6,462
By Award Level					
Postgraduate Research	1,612	1,621	1,616	1,672	1,691
Postgraduate Coursework	8,759	9,543	10,332	10,805	10,592
Undergraduate	33,603	36,477	38,524	40,873	42,832
VET	21,683	22,604	21,132	20,554	19,667
Total	65,657	70,245	71,604	73,904	74,782

*HE enrolments data provisional as at January 2012. Final data available April 2012.

Fee Type (load%)					
HE					
Government-funded	46	44	43	43	43
Australian fee-paying	8	8	7	6	6
International Onshore	20	20	21	22	22
International Offshore	19	19	19	18	17
Vietnam	6	8	10	11	12
Other	1	1	0	0	0
VET					
Government-funded	72	72	71	71	72
Australian fee-paying	9	11	14	15	17
International Onshore	8	10	10	8	7
International Offshore	8	6	3	3	2
Other	3	1	2	3	2

Enrolment Load					
HE EFTSL	32,001	34,593	36,431	38,985	40,406
VET SCH	8,171,892	8,208,224	8,405,487	8,241,993	7,959,312

Student Completions					
HE	8,410	11,990	12,906	13,760	N/A
VET	5,290	5,557	5,630	6,497	6,590

N/A: Not available

Graduate Outcomes (Domestic) %	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
HE Student Satisfaction ¹	67.7	66.9	66.0	79.4	80.4
VET Student Satisfaction	82.7	84.6	83.9	80.8	85.4
HE Graduates in Full-Time Employment ^{2,3}	83.7	85.9	77.7	76.2	77.6
HE Graduates in Further Full-Time Study	13.5	12.4	12.3	13.7	13.7
VET Graduates in Employment ³	83.2	80.4	82.8	79.7	78.5
VET Graduates in Further Study	45.1	41.3	39.9	46.3	40.1

1 2010 and 2011 HE results are not comparable to previous years as there was a labelling change to the survey instrument.

2 Percentage of those available for full-time employment.

3 Includes those in full-time and part-time employment.

Sources: HE: GCA, CEQ, GDS RMIT data files. VET: NCVER, SOS RMIT data files.

Foundation Studies Enrolments (headcount)	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Melbourne	456	632	691	808	723

VCE Program Enrolments (headcount)	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	466	454	500	468	504

Staff (Total FTE*)	2009	2010	2011
RMIT University, onshore campuses	3,615.0	3,639.2	3,670.8
RMIT Vietnam	421.8	484.1	542.5

* Full-time equivalent (two people both working 0.5 time fraction = 1 FTE).

For detailed employment statistics, please refer to Page 69.

Global, Urban and Connected **	2008	2009	2010	2011
Research income from international sources – total	\$1.0m	\$1.9m	\$1.8m	N/A
Research income from international sources	3.5%	6.0%	6.3%	N/A
International academic staff onshore (HE)	43.3%	45.4%	45.8%	44%
Academic staff Level B and above holding PhDs (HE)	61.0%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%
Global student mobility uptake (HE+VET)	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%	2.9%
Domestic undergraduate completions with a mobility experience (HE)	9.6%	10.8%	17.4%	N/A
International students EFTSL (HE+VET)	39.7%	40.6%	41.7%	41.8%
International profile of RMIT's student cohort (in QS World University Rankings)	4th	4th	4th	6th
Selectivity (applications per place – HE UG and PG coursework students)	8.8	9.8	9.1	8.6
Selectivity (applications per place – HE UG coursework students)	3.2	4.1	3.6	3.5
RMIT's global reputation with employers (HE) (in QS World University Rankings)	60th	65th	76th	51st
Industry scholarships	N/A	N/A	\$2.4m	N/A
Industry scholarships (student load EFTSL)	N/A	N/A	2.5%	N/A
Commercial revenue from industry	\$31.1m	\$32.2m	\$31.8m	\$35.0m

** This represents a sub-set of RMIT's Business Plan indicators.

UG: Undergraduate. PG: Postgraduate.

N/A: Not available

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The consolidated 2011 net operating result for RMIT University and its subsidiaries was \$53.3 million, continuing the strong results of recent years. RMIT University's operating result was \$55.3 million or 6.8 per cent of revenue.

University revenue increased to \$817.3 million from \$806.6 million, excluding the effect of income received from the Commonwealth for deferred superannuation benefits.

For the consolidated group, with the same exclusions, revenue increased to \$882.8 million from \$869.4 million.

The following comments refer to RMIT University only, unless specified otherwise.

Australian Government Financial Assistance – including HECS-HELP and VET FEE-HELP – increased by \$19.0 million, from \$354.0 million to \$373.0 million. Commonwealth Supported Places were 1,083 EFTSL ahead of target. Commonwealth research grants were in line with the previous year at \$22.4 million.

TAFE-specific State Government grants totalled \$64.7 million, a decrease of \$21.9 million on 2010.

This was due to a decrease in capital grants by \$15.3 million and a slight decrease in student enrolments. VET FEE-HELP revenue increased from \$5.4 million to \$6.9 million.

Course fees and charges increased to \$283.6 million from \$271.1 million, or 4.6 per cent.

Australian undergraduate fee-paying revenue decreased to \$3.0 million, while domestic postgraduate revenue increased by 4.5 per cent from \$11.1 million to \$11.6 million.

International fee-paying student revenue increased by 6.0 per cent (or \$13.9 million) to \$247.4 million. Favourable trends have been reported in HE, VET and Foundation Studies, with total enrolments at 102 per cent of target.

Other fees and charges increased by 17.6 per cent to \$15.0 million. Investment revenue decreased by \$1.2 million to \$5.0 million due to lower interest income. RMIT's Council-approved investment policy ensures only high quality securities issued by prudentially safe institutions are utilised.

Income received from the Commonwealth for deferred superannuation benefits was lower than in 2010 as the estimated unfunded liability decreased. This varies considerably from year to year but has no surplus impact as the revenue recognised is matched by corresponding expenditure.

Employee benefits and on-costs increased by 4.9 per cent to \$472.9 million, excluding the effect of deferred superannuation benefits. Salary increases were incurred according to the enterprise bargaining agreement. The average number of full-time equivalent staff in 2011 was 3,574 – 42 higher than the previous year.

Repairs and maintenance decreased to \$14.1 million from \$20.9 million.

The operating result attributed to TAFE was a loss of \$1.0 million, compared to a surplus of \$17.6 million in 2010 due to one off capital grants received in 2010 but not being available in 2011. Revenue decreased by 6.8 per cent to \$144.3 million, while expenses increased – employee costs by 4.2 per cent and other expenses by 3.3 per cent.

The current ratio increased from 43.3 per cent to 45.7 per cent. Current assets decreased from \$117.4 million to \$108.1 million, with cash balances decreasing by \$5.7 million.

Current liabilities decreased by \$34.1 million mainly due to decreases in student fees paid in advance, accounts payable and accrued expenditures.

Capital expenditure was \$178.2 million, compared to \$194.6 million in 2010. Property-related capital expenditure was a large proportion of the total capital expenditure for the year.

In 2010 RMIT entered into an agreement with CBA for the provision of \$225 million in long term borrowings, with funds to be drawn down over the life of the agreement commencing Quarter 1, 2011. The total outstanding loan at the end of 2011 was \$90.0 million, providing a major source of funds for the capital work.

Cash balances for the consolidated group totalled \$72.2 million.

RMIT Vietnam continued its strong and sustained growth. It continues to generate strong cash flows, with total revenue increasing by US\$4.7 million or 12.9 per cent.

RMIT Training experienced a decrease in demand for English language courses. Revenue decreased by \$4.4 million or by 15.5 per cent.

RMIT Foundation delivered a positive financial result with a small profit. The investment portfolio experienced market volatility due to changes in the financial market.



A radical urban model produced by RMIT Landscape Architecture researchers for an eco-resort in China's Lake Taihu region.

A photograph of a sailboat on a body of water. The sail is white and features the text "ft10" and "CHN-4". The boat is on the right side of the frame. In the background, there is a forested hillside with various trees, including some with pink blossoms. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The water is dark and reflects the surrounding landscape.

2011 FOCUS

CREATING SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURES

RMIT University is urban in orientation and creativity, shaping sustainable cities and drawing inspiration from the challenges and opportunities they provide.

Urban living has supplanted rural life for the first time in human history. For all their vibrancy and liveliness, cities face the challenge of providing secure and sustainable places to live, in the face of unprecedented growth.

Urban populations, whether in Melbourne or Mumbai, expect a safe and healthy environment, clean water, public transport, sewerage, open spaces.

How do we ensure that our cities tread with lighter footprints? How do we balance the needs of expanding urban areas and the regions on their fringe? How do we improve the health and happiness of city-dwellers?

RMIT researchers grapple daily with these questions, and the answers come from an exciting range of disciplines – from computer science to public art; from urban planning to renewable energy technologies.

As a global university of technology and design, RMIT is committed to a philosophy of research founded in action and experience. We look to learn from, and contribute to the work of, our partners in industry and business, government and the community. We see the task of shaping sustainable cities as one in which we all need to be engaged.

The University aims to be an “urban laboratory” in which new elements of design, experience and innovation are explored and tested. We ensure that our campuses are permeable, contributing to the high quality of urban design and sustainability, and to the life of the city around them.

RMIT has been part of the rapid growth of the city of Melbourne, both its centre and its urbanising periphery. Since 2000, the University has spread beyond this city's boundaries to locate some of its education and research in other cities: Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong, Singapore, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, Hyderabad and Ghent. We have a deep-seated interest in, and an obligation to contribute to, the development of the vitality and sustainability of these cities, and of urban areas world-wide.

This special Urban section of the RMIT Annual Report presents a range of achievements for the University in 2011 which demonstrate excellence in research, education and engagement in urban design and sustainability.



Landscape Architecture students transform a neglected city space.

NEW LIFE FOR DISUSED CITY SPACES

RMIT students have transformed two sites in inner Melbourne, utilising their design and conservation skills in learning projects that contribute directly to urban life.

First-year Landscape Architecture students (left) took up the challenge of transforming a vacant lot at 567 Collins Street that had been unused for 30 years. The project involved 120 students, and was undertaken courtesy of APN Property. The students developed and implemented landscape architectural design strategies to reinvigorate the space and put their new skills into practice.



Lecturer Nevil Schultz with students Gerard Morel and Juno Petherbridge.

In a separate project, final-year Conservation and Land Management student Gerard Morel (above) has restored the original biodiverse grassland on a site that was once little more than a litter dump. The site, next to Trades Hall in Victoria Street, Carlton, is now home to plants representing the pre-1750 vegetation of Melbourne, including wallaby and kangaroo grasses.

SUPPORTING URBAN RENEWAL BEYOND OUR BORDERS

The UN Global Compact Cities Programme, which is hosted and supported by RMIT's Global Cities Research Institute, has undertaken a project to relocate a community in Brazil from an urban slum to a new, purpose-built, environmentally sustainable housing complex.

The 600 former residents of Vila Chocolatão, just metres from the business district in Porto Alegre, were successfully relocated to the new community, Residential Nova Chocolatão, in mid-2011.

Taking a comprehensive approach to slum reclamation, the project involved a high level of community engagement and sensitivity to the ongoing needs of the community. The initiative focused on ecological awareness, but also strove to achieve economic, political and cultural sustainability for the community as a whole.

Sustainability has been built into the relocation by linking it to a city-wide recycling program that draws all of the city's slum dwellers into an ongoing livelihood initiative. Corporate partner Usiminas set up a state-of-the-art recycling facility in the complex to provide employment for community members who had mostly relied on the collecting, sorting and trading of rubbish for income.

The UN Compact Cities Programme has also established an internship program, which will give RMIT students the chance to contribute to research on the Chocolatão community and other urban sustainability initiatives.



RMIT researcher Dr Elizabeth Kath met residents and spoke with City of Porto Alegre representatives during a visit to the community.



The final day at Vila Chocolatão: Mario, who had lived in the slum for 30 years, with Vania Goncalves de Souza, from the City of Porto Alegre, who worked closely with the community to prepare them for the move.



The Mayor of Porto Alegre, Jose Fortunati, with Chocolatão residents.

CREATING SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURES



Lecturer Simon Curis (left) with student Dean Benstead and his O2 Pursuit.

AIR-POWERED MOTORBIKE UNVEILED

Final-year Industrial Design student Dean Benstead's venture could mean that the air we use to pump car tyres could one day power the vehicles themselves.

Mr Benstead has designed and developed the O2 Pursuit, a functional prototype of a motocross bike that is fuelled purely by compressed air. The clean and green motorcycle was unveiled at the 2011 Sydney Motorcycle and Scooter Show, and later won the Product Design (Automotive and Transport) category of the Melbourne Design Awards.

Using an air engine developed in Melbourne by Angelo Di Pietro of Engineair, the O2 Pursuit is based on the geometry of a 250cc motocrosser. Preliminary testing has shown that it can reach speeds in excess of 100kmh.

The motorcycle has attracted the attention of Two Wheels magazine and was featured in an issue early in 2011. It has also gained the support of Yamaha Australia, who have donated running gear from a WR250R motorcycle to help Mr Benstead further his research.

RMIT DESIGNS MELBOURNE'S FUTURE

RMIT staff, alumni and students all enjoyed success in the 2011 Melbourne Design Awards.

Industrial Design teacher Leyla Acaroglu won in the Animation category with her film *Life Pscycle-ology* (below), which is part of her Eco Innovators community engagement project, and student Dean Benstead took out a Product Design award for his air-powered motorcycle (left).



Still from Leyla Acaroglu's winning animation *Life Pscycle-ology*.

Graphic Arts graduate Lam Viet Quoc (Victor) Tran won the Advertising (Student and Professional) award, and students Alexis Belcher and Takahiro Kunitoshi were among the finalists for the Fashion award.

Industrial Design graduate Luca Abate was part of the Charlwood Design team which took out the Product Design (Consumer) award as well as being finalists in the Product Design (Medical and Scientific) category.

This success proved that as a global university of technology and design, RMIT produces world-class thinkers who can turn their ideas into reality. The University's emphasis on learning through action and experience enables graduates to produce outstanding works that become part of everyday lives.

CONCRETE RESEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION

In 2011, Engineering lecturer Dr Indubhushan Patnaikuni and PhD student Mohamad Solikin undertook a study of the viability of using high volume fly ash in concrete production.

Fly ash is a by-product of coal-powered electricity generation, and by applying it to concrete production, the waste product finds a valuable use, while also avoiding the need for the less environmentally friendly Portland cement. It is estimated that concrete accounts for 6 to 8 per cent of human-generated CO₂ through the production of Portland cement as a key ingredient of concrete.

While some concrete production already uses a small proportion of fly ash, the RMIT researchers are determining whether a larger proportion could be used to lessen the carbon outputs resulting from the development of urban buildings and infrastructure.

China and India consume large amounts of cement and together produce more than 300 million tonnes of fly ash a year, potentially making the outcome of the research greatly relevant to the urbanisation of these nations.



Dr Indubhushan Patnaikuni and PhD student Mohamad Solikin.



The Mekong Delta in Vietnam is severely threatened by climate change. *Photo by Ifte Ahmed.*

RESILIENT CITIES

From the houses we live in to the shape of our cities and how we respond to the environmental challenges facing us, RMIT is tackling the big questions that will make a difference to our future.

The RMIT Global Cities Research Institute, one of the University's four major research institutes, focuses on research to provide sustainable and secure cities in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. The Institute's work on climate change adaptation, globalisation, urbanisation, security and reconciliation looks at the ties that bind us, as well as the challenges different communities face.

In 2011, government, industry and academia were brought together at a workshop focusing on approaches to climate change adaptation in policy and practice. The Institute's Climate Change Adaptation Program conducted the workshop as part of a project funded by the Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research (VCCCAR), in collaboration with researchers from Monash University and the University of Melbourne.

Discussions focused on creating an opportunity for dialogue between policy developers, practitioners and researchers, to explore the challenges and opportunities for climate change adaptation in various contexts, from the individual to State levels.

The outcomes will inform a number of publications as part of a VCCCAR project.

The Institute is also coordinating activities in the Pacific with the United Nations' Making Cities Resilient campaign, and participated in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction conference in Geneva.

In October, researchers collaborated with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) and Tra Vinh University at a workshop on sustainable urban development and climate change adaptation in Vietnam.

The training and research development workshop was held in Tra Vinh, in the Mekong Delta in southern Vietnam, a region facing serious climate change impacts.

The Climate Change Adaptation Program has continued to build strong relationships in Vietnam, particularly with VASS and its regional chapter, the Southern Institute of Sustainable Development.

The collaborative workshops are paving the way for long-term engagement in Vietnam and are critical to strengthening local resilience to climate change impacts.



Participants gather at the opening of a workshop on sustainable development in Vietnam. *Photo by Ifte Ahmed.*



A workshop exploring climate adaptation.

HOUSING PROJECT WINS HEALTH PROMOTION AWARD

An innovative housing development that is the focus of a major RMIT research project was recognised in 2011 with a VicHealth Award for Environments for Health.

RMIT's Centre for Design is leading a five-year longitudinal research project investigating how best practice planning principles impact on the health and wellbeing of the community of Selandra Rise.

Designed in partnership with the City of Casey, the Planning Institute of Australia, Growth Areas Authority and Stockland, Selandra Rise aims to set a blueprint for creating healthy, engaged communities.

The research team was cited by VicHealth for its efforts in creating a housing development that was a "real-world model of how health can be incorporated into a master planned community to encourage physical activity, social inclusion and safety".

The project is studying a range of factors including mental health, physical health, social inclusion, safety, employment and transport to determine the key features that contribute to health and wellbeing, and to identify best practice for the design of future communities.



Victorian Premier Ted Baillieu at the VicHealth Awards presentation.



RMIT's Dr Cecily Maller (far right) with the team behind the VicHealth award-winning Selandra Rise development.





REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES



From left: Raquel Portes with Melissa Martinez and her *Shades of White*, at the Graphica fashion and textiles exhibition.

In 2011, the two divisions of RMIT that support students and their engagement with the University – Academic and Students – were consolidated under the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic. The merger provides opportunities for integrated support of academic governance, policy and practice.

Two new leadership positions were created to lead the University's planning and strategy in learning and teaching, educational technology, students services and student engagement. Professor Owen Hughes commenced as Dean of Students, and ALTC National Teaching Fellow, Professor Geoff Crisp, joined the University as Dean of Learning and Teaching.

A new Statement on Student Experience was embedded in the RMIT Strategic Plan in 2011, affirming the University's commitment to continually improve education and services by fostering independent thought, nurturing openness and creativity, building a sense of belonging, enabling success and understanding aspiration.



Ten pin bowlers Jason Noguera, Karri Butterworth, Fairuze Fadzil, Stephanie Kondogonis and Michael Bagnato celebrate their gold medal win at the Southern University Games.



Camilla Stirling with her *Fed Square Floral* design at the Graphica fashion and textiles exhibition.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, with Minister for Higher Education and Skills, Peter Hall, at the Indigenous Training Program launch in Storey Hall.

Student Experience

A project was launched in 2011 with the aim of enhancing the consistency and accuracy of advice, information and referrals given to students. This was achieved through comprehensive training of 350 student advisors to ensure best practice in academic governance and policy, good client relations and effective communication.

Professional development initiatives included the development of a collaborative community of practice among student advisors across the University, and information and training sessions to provide frontline student advisors with a clearer understanding of their respective roles.

Student wellbeing advisory services were consolidated into one unit to provide comprehensive and holistic advice on a range of matters including finances, housing, legal, emergency welfare and international student support.

Consultation with students and responsiveness to feedback are key elements of RMIT's Strategic Plan and Academic Plan. Student views are sought via student-staff consultative committees, student representation on Council, surveys, issues-based focus groups, and a formal complaints system which operates at School, College and University levels. Together, these mechanisms allow students to convey their views about their programs and the services offered at all campuses and at partner institutions.

The 2011 Student Experience Survey was administered for the first time across all programs, achieving the largest response in the history of the survey. In total, 23,740 students provided feedback, compared to 9,294 in 2010. Improvements initiated as a result of this feedback include program enhancements, increased library resources, technological innovations and a more attractive built and landscaped environment.

The popular Learning Lab website was redeveloped in 2011 to further support the English language and literacy development of onshore and offshore students. Service reach was enhanced by use of mobile devices for student communication. An increased number of services are now available on demand.

Career Services

The Careers Expo in March attracted 101 employers and 3,000 students. Fifty-three exhibiting organisations and 1,500 students attended the RMIT Work Experience Fair, held in August.

Graduate Employer forums, held over two days due to their increased popularity, gave students the opportunity to engage directly with recruitment professionals from major organisations. Students gained an insight into the operation of local and international organisations at 31 employer presentations held over the year. Employer Secrets seminars gave inside information on finding and keeping employment.

The Volunteer Expo was added to the RMIT events calendar in 2011, highlighting opportunities for students to enhance their employability and community engagement through volunteer work in Australia and overseas.

Student Engagement

The University continued to provide opportunities for students to volunteer and lead through its LEAD (Learn Engage Aspire Develop) program. Activities included mentoring to new students, organising events, acting as Ambassadors at RMIT events and involvement in student committees. As a result, 600 volunteers had their participation in LEAD activities recorded on their academic transcript.

Eighty-nine international students took part in the 3Cs Cross Cultural Communication program, enabling them to learn from local students about Australian workplace culture, communication, job searching and networking.

RMIT's partnership with the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) entered its second year. Students volunteered to mentor indigenous school children in the University's partner schools on a one-on-one basis, participating in weekly workshops on key topics such as identity and racism. In 2011, all indigenous students who completed the AIME program in RMIT partner schools progressed into their next school year.

Equity and Diversity

RMIT is committed to ensuring it has an inclusive and diverse student population, and to building education and training opportunities for disadvantaged urban populations. One of the ways this is achieved is through the University's Schools Network Access Program (SNAP), an innovative approach to university and TAFE selection that provides an alternative selection process to ATAR. Through SNAP, the University recognises that economic disadvantage has a strong impact on Year 12 achievement. RMIT now partners with over 100 schools in the Melbourne metropolitan area and in Gippsland. The effectiveness of the initiative is borne out by the academic outcomes of students from SNAP partner schools, which are comparable with the success rate of RMIT's total domestic student cohort.

RMIT deepened its engagement with SNAP schools by providing opportunities for secondary students to engage with the University's discipline areas prior to Year 12. Taster programs in creative fields provided extension and enrichment activities for many Year 9 students, as well as giving them an opportunity to have a week-long city experience. Aspiration Days were also conducted, aimed at raising awareness of study options and providing opportunities for interaction with RMIT students to learn first-hand about their tertiary study experiences.

A project to develop an innovative approach to the recruitment, support and engagement of disengaged young people in training was awarded \$100,000 funding from the State Government. RMIT developed the innovative delivery model in partnership with the Fitzroy Stars Football Club, whose members are drawn mainly from the local Koori community.

The project, *Learning Communities: An Indigenous Partnership Model*, aims to create new pathways into tertiary programs and employment. Students will enrol in Mechanical Engineering and Dental Assistance, two industries identified as providing opportunities for indigenous employment. Student mentoring will be provided at all stages of the project, and teachers will receive professional development to build their capability in working with Indigenous learners.



RMIT team captains Jake Mortimer and Samantha Coates accept the Spirit of the Games award from a member of Geelong City Council.



PoisE'n Bollypop Dance Collective: (L-R) Catherine Goh, Gary Lee and Raymond Lim.



Student at RUSU Clubs Festival at Brunswick campus.

Recruitment and Outreach

Enquiries to Info Corner, RMIT's innovative front-of-house information centre for prospective students, totalled 190,000 enquiries across all channels. Face-to-face enquiries totalled 125,000, and average waiting time was reduced by 33 per cent.

Open Day attendance reached 42,000, an increase of 23 per cent against the previous year. There was a 30 per cent increase in the number of prospective students attending campus tours during the year, and the Student Recruitment team conducted more than twice the number of off-campus presentations.

Staying true to its name, RMIT continues to forge the way in student engagement via digital technology. Digital and online media are being increasingly used for marketing purposes, as a sustainable, measurable and appropriate channel for communicating with the University's student population.

Now a Google and YouTube partner, RMIT is able to offer students technological solutions to their communication needs. RMIT has 700 videos on YouTube, including student success stories, research achievements and program highlights, prompting increased enquiries from prospective students and industry partners. Use of all social media – YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Google Plus – grew significantly from the previous year.

The University's new online direct applications system, *Apply*, opened for the domestic mid-year intake. The system, which enables applicants to receive a selection decision within 24 hours, has proved very successful. At the end of the mid-year intake, direct applications had increased by 34 per cent over the previous year.

Following these improvements in system capacity, RMIT developed a University Level Selection pilot program to consider improvements to the user experience and to selection process efficiency. During the pilot, 220 mid-year applications were received and assessed across four College of Business postgraduate programs. As a result, 140 offers were made, resulting in 78 enrolments – 23 more than the previous year.

RMIT further boosted applications by introducing an "Apply Now" link from program listings on the website, which led to a 150 per cent increase in traffic to the applications system.

RMIT Link

RMIT Link offers opportunities for students to connect with one another, build networks across programs and disciplines, extend their experience, and enhance their sporting and creative practice. Activities include arts and sporting events, professional development and engagement with the broader community.

Students were encouraged to have a say in the direction of arts and sport at the University and complete creative projects outside of their coursework by applying for funding, running a club or collective, representing the University on a national or international level, or sitting on the RMIT Link Board.

In 2011, RMIT Link supported 27 sport and recreation clubs ranging from aikido to wakeboarding, with 1,200 members.

For the fourth time in five years, the RMIT Redbacks returned from the Southern University Games with the Spirit of the Games Award (above left) for best team spirit, fair play and organisation during the event. Eighteen RMIT teams comprising 183 students attended the games in Geelong and competed in 13 of the 14 sports offered.

RMIT Link presented four theatre productions and five major creative arts events during the year. The *Graphica* fashion and textiles exhibition was held as part of the L'Oréal Melbourne Fashion Festival, this year featuring 63 exhibitors from various RMIT programs. Over two weeks, the exhibition attracted 1,120 visitors.

RMIT Link's partnerships with the Melbourne community included the Melbourne Fringe Festival, Human Rights Arts and Film Festival, Melbourne International Film Festival, Craft Cubed and Moreland City Council.

The University funded 68 art projects which resulted in a broad range of student-produced work featured in exhibitions, dance workshops, music concerts, short films and a writing anthology. Funding was awarded to 12 arts collectives including three new groups: PoisE'n BollyPop Dance Collective (above), Artists for Human Rights and Action, and The Sound Collective.

With an emphasis on multidisciplinary and cross-media exhibitions and performances, RMIT's First Site Gallery showcases an ever-changing array of student work. In 2011, First Site held 50 exhibitions, with 6,000 visitors enjoying the diverse artistic offerings from students across a wide range of disciplines. Located in the vaulted basement of Storey Hall, First Site is considered to be one of Melbourne's most innovative galleries for emerging artists, designers and creative practitioners.

Campus sporting activities involved 1,530 students. Events included *Challenges*, a series of one-day tournaments in soccer, basketball, netball, badminton and table tennis.

RMIT Student Union

RMIT Student Union (RUSU) is RMIT's student-run organisation which helps students explore their social, professional, political and cultural identities by supporting and funding 80 clubs and societies. Each year, students elect the representatives who manage RUSU on their behalf.

In 2011, RUSU expanded its global profile by supporting student participation in international conferences through Student Initiative Grants. Events attended included the Global Initiatives Symposium in Taipei, the Design and Art Direction student awards in London, and Timor-Leste Studies Association's conference in Dili.

The President of RUSU visited Vietnam to help students at RMIT Vietnam establish their own student council. In addition, Student Rights expanded its service provision to include online advocacy for offshore students.

During the year, RUSU delivered 200 social and cultural events, both on and off campus, to assist students in establishing long-term social and professional networks. RUSU's Organic Fair Trade Cafe, Realfoods, promoted healthy lifestyles by hosting six cooking demonstrations with celebrity chefs, dieticians and fitness experts. Free weekly yoga and tai chi classes were provided for staff and students.

STUDENT DIVERSITY

All Students %	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
HE					
Female	51	50	50	50	50
International	46	49	49	52	51
VET					
Female	46	47	49	48	46
International	12	11	9	8	6

By Age Group %	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
HE					
Young people 15–19	11	11	10	10	10
Aged 20–24	50	51	53	55	57
Mature age 25–44	35	34	33	32	30
Mature age 45+	4	4	3	3	3
VET					
Young people 15–19	27	28	28	26	30
Aged 20–24	33	32	32	32	32
Mature age 25–44	32	32	31	33	30
Mature age 45+	8	8	9	9	9

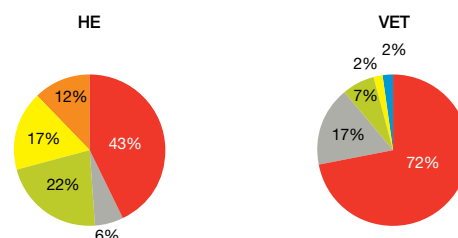
Domestic Students %	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
HE (Undergraduate only)					
School leavers	51	48	49	48	44
Articulation from VET	19	20	21	21	20
Overseas born	21	21	19	20	20
Non-English speaking background	5	5	5	5	5
Rural/remote	11	11	12	11	11
Low socio-economic status	16	16	14	15	15
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
VET					
School leavers	15	15	16	15	17
Overseas born	25	27	26	25	25
Non-English speaking background	8	11	10	9	9
Rural/remote	16	16	12	13	12
Low socio-economic status	17	18	16	17	16
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.1	1.2

HE 2011 data provisional as at February 2012.

The figures in the table above are based on student enrolments.

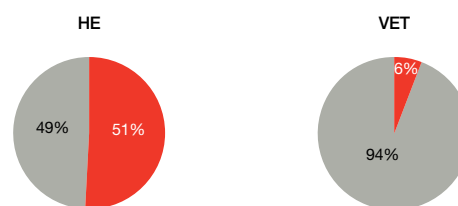
STUDENTS BY FEE TYPE (LOAD BY EFTSL/SCH)

Broad Fund	HE % load	VET % load
Government-funded	43	72
Australian fee-paying	6	17
International Onshore	22	7
International Offshore	17	2
Vietnam	12	0
Other	0	2



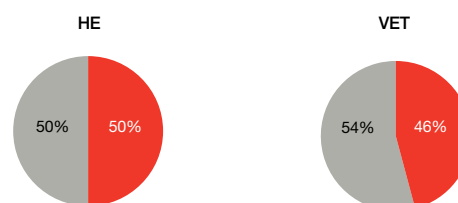
STUDENTS BY CITIZEN STATUS

Citizen Status	HE % headcount	VET % headcount
International	51	6
Domestic	49	94



STUDENTS BY GENDER

Gender	HE % headcount	VET % headcount
Female	50	46
Male	50	54



STUDENTS BY AGE GROUP

Age Group	HE % headcount	VET % headcount
Young People 15–19	10	30
Aged 20–24	57	32
Mature Age 25–44	30	30
Mature Age 45+	3	9





A five-year Academic Plan, *Transforming the Student Experience*, was endorsed after extensive consultation with all Colleges, Schools and units across the University.

The new Academic Plan, which supports the University's Strategic Plan to 2015, identifies strategies and initiatives to address areas of priority to our students, staff, partner organisations and the wider community. The Plan commits RMIT to making a difference to the lives of our students through:

- » academic programs and the enabling of successful academic progression
- » investment in learning technology, spaces and administrative systems
- » facilitation of excellent learning
- » strong student engagement
- » ensuring graduate employment in the professions and occupations of the future.



Associate Professor Barry Judd with Nikki Stephenson, who will co-teach an elective for the Indigenous Studies specialisation.



Opening address by Professor Gill Palmer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, at RMIT's Learning and Teaching Expo.



Technologies to Connect and Transform colloquium at the Learning and Teaching Expo.

RMIT's Learning and Teaching Investment Fund distributed more than \$2 million in 2011 to 60 projects that will enhance many aspects of University teaching and student learning.

Following a review of professional development programs for academic and teaching staff, a new PD model and a more flexible approach to educational development programs has been introduced. The University has also developed new assessment principles to provide a foundation for improving assessment practices and to enhance student learning.

LEARNING AND TEACHING INITIATIVES

As student numbers and demographics change, the University continues to refine its programs and processes to ensure an engaging student experience.

A project titled *Maths Ready* was conducted with first-year engineering students, following successful trials in preceding years. The project aimed to identify mathematics capacity and to provide support to students in need of further skills to optimise their chance of success.

A further project was initiated to build students' affiliations with their peers, and to create a sense of belonging and achievement. The Student Cohort Experience Forum brought students together with academic and professional staff to identify best practice in learning, teaching and service provision, as well as current student cohort activities across the University, with a view to developing pilot programs to enhance the student experience.

At the beginning of the year, students enjoyed the benefits of working in a new online learning environment following completion of an upgrade to the latest version of Blackboard.

Similarly, Google Apps for Education technology was adopted, enabling the software and storage for student email accounts to exist in Google's cloud. The system will also provide additional collaboration and productivity tools, as well as 24-hour access to recorded lectures and desktop presentations from any location. The moves underlined the University's commitment to providing its students with the best technology to support their learning and research.

Progress was made in 2011 to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic staff at the University. RMIT welcomed the appointment of Associate Professor Barry Judd, who has reviewed and improved the Indigenous Studies specialisation that was introduced in 2010. In addition, a number of early-career indigenous academics have been appointed to contribute to the development of electives in the specialisation and to further their academic expertise in their discipline areas.

The University's graduate program will also provide work-based experience to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates, contributing to positive student outcomes and developing career pathways.

More than 250 academic and professional staff attended RMIT's 2011 Learning and Teaching Expo in Storey Hall. The theme, *Transforming the Future through Teaching*, came to life in a rewarding day of panels, seminars, presentations and discussions on current aspects of university teaching and learning.

Highlights of the day included a keynote speech by Associate Professor Mark Freeman from the University of Sydney on the emerging quality standards agenda, and a panel discussion on new models of program delivery.

Library Developments

In 2011, the University Library initiated a number of improvements in student support, resource accessibility and facilities. The Library's resources for supporting research were also strengthened.

With the aim of providing study support at students' point of need, an "Ask a Librarian" live chat service was introduced, enabling students to receive instant responses to queries online. Also, library staff are "going mobile", using iPads to offer help in the Library spaces where students are working.

Launch of *iSearch* tutorials reinforced this student-centred approach. The online resource helps students improve their research and referencing skills through a series of modules suited to self-paced learning.

Many of the Library's catalogue records have been transferred to databases for access via Google and Google Scholar. As students regularly utilise search engines for information, this project has made the Library's resources more readily accessible.

2011 saw an increased number of visits to the Library and a rising demand for study space, which is being met by regular archiving and reallocation of staff and teaching areas. Extended opening hours at Swanston and Brunswick libraries received positive feedback from students.

The RMIT Research Repository celebrated the milestone of its 10,000th record, reaching beyond 11,000 by the end of the year. This vital resource includes records for books, book chapters, journal articles, conference papers, digitised theses and creative works. With major search engines indexing repository material, these records get a great deal of exposure and downloads have approached 200,000.

RMIT AWARDS

HONORARY DEGREES

Dr Chung Po Yang SBS, OBE, JP
Doctor of Arts *honoris causa*

Dr Harold Mitchell AO
Doctor of Business *honoris causa*

Dr Naomi Milgrom AO
Doctor of Business *honoris causa*



Chancellor, Dr Ziggy Switkowski, Dr Chung Po Yang SBS OBE JP, and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO.



Dr Harold Mitchell AO receives his honorary doctorate.



Dr Naomi Milgrom AO

AUSTRALIAN LEARNING AND TEACHING COUNCIL

The following RMIT staff were granted ALTC awards:

Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning

Associate Professor Lisa French
(School of Media and Communication)
For sustained leadership in research-led cinema studies and media curricula

Dr Kerry Mullan
(School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning)
For awakening a love of French language and culture in students

Dr Peterjohn Radcliffe
(School of Electrical and Computer Engineering)
For engineering teaching innovation spanning 25 years

Dr Joan Richardson
(School of Business IT and Logistics)
For embedding new technologies in end-user computing curriculum

Associate Professor Laurene Vaughan
(School of Media and Communication)
For a sustained contribution to postgraduate student education



Award recipients with the RMIT Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor.

STAFF AND STUDENT AWARDS

Francis Ormond Medal, to a staff member who has served the University with distinction or given meritorious service
Ian McBean
(School of Property, Construction and Project Management)

Ralph McIntosh Medal, for outstanding service to students
Professor Suresh Bhargava
(College of Science, Engineering and Health)

RMIT Award (HE), for student achievement
Alister Peter Smith, Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical Engineering)/Bachelor of Business (Management)

RMIT Award (TAFE), for student achievement
Dylan James Turnbull, Advanced Diploma of Business (International Business)

J N McNicol Prize, for outstanding achievement in a bachelor degree
Johanna Louise Austin, Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical Engineering)

Beazley Award, for outstanding achievement in an apprenticeship
Mai Tran Ngoc Dang, Dental Technology

Patricia Guthrie Memorial Award, for an outstanding female student
Jillian Maree Whelan, Bachelor of Science (Applied Sciences) (Honours)

RESEARCH AWARDS

Vice-Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence

Professor Charlie Changli Xue
(School of Health Sciences)

Vice-Chancellor's Award for Emerging Researcher

Dr Rick Franich
(School of Applied Sciences)

Dr Madhu Bhaskaran
(School of Electrical and Computer Engineering)

Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Thesis

Dr Nicole Pepperell
(School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning)

Malcolm Moore Industry Research Award,

for an industry-partnered research project by an early career researcher
Dr Olivia Guntarik
(School of Media and Communication)

Ian Permezel Memorial Award, recognising an early career researcher to enable presentation of a paper at an overseas conference

Dr Sharath Sriram
(School of Electrical and Computer Engineering)

University Research Award, for best doctoral thesis

(awarded for each RMIT College)

Dr Minh Phuong Doan
(School of Economics, Finance and Marketing)

Dr Judith Hart
(School of Health Sciences)

Dr Nicholas Justin Murray
(School of Architecture and Design)



(L-R) Associate Professor Christopher Ziguras, Dr Nicole Pepperell, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, Dr Rick Franich, Dr Madhu Bhaskaran, Professor Charlie Xue.

TEACHING AWARDS

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award

Associate Professor Christopher Ziguras
(School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning)

Outstanding Achievement in Teaching and Research

Associate Professor John Reece
(School of Health Sciences)

Early Career Academic (Higher Education)

Dr Shanthi Robertson
(School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning)

Biological Sciences, Health and Related Studies

Dr George Lenon
(School of Health Sciences)

Humanities and the Arts (including Design)

Dr Mandy Oakham
(School of Media and Communication)

Law, Economics, Business and Related Studies

Dr Foula Kopanidis
(School of Economics, Finance and Marketing)

Social Sciences (including Education)

Peter Meaney
(School of Education)

Work Integrated Learning

Dr Bee May and Prue Bramwell
(School of Applied Sciences)

Internationalisation

Ian Woodruff
(School of Management)

Teaching Large Classes

Dr Richard Guy
(School of Medical Sciences)

TAFE Outstanding Teacher/Trainer of the Year

Hazel Sims
(School of Business TAFE)

Outstanding Training Initiative of the Year Award

Justin Compton
(School of Design TAFE)

Outstanding Sessional Teaching (Higher Education)

Karen Elgar
(School of Health Sciences)

Outstanding Sessional Teaching (TAFE)

Elizabeth Eades
(School of Business TAFE)

Jenni Woods
(School of Design TAFE)

PROGRAMS THAT ENHANCE LEARNING

Assessment and Feedback

Sonja Cleary, Sharee Griffiths,
Leonie Murphy, Dr Mee Young Park,
Faye Partridge
(School of Health Sciences)

Educational Partnerships and Collaborations with Other Organisations

Robyn Lang, Robert Sheen,
Andrew Webster
(School of Business TAFE)

The First Year Experience

Dr Bernie Holland
(School of Medical Sciences)

Innovation in Curricula, Learning and Teaching

Associate Professor Margaret Jollands,
Luis Alban, Dr Nhol Kao,
Professor Tom Molyneux,
Dr Partha Parthasarathy,
Professor Doug Swinbourne, Dr Liam Ward
(School of Civil, Environmental and Chemical Engineering)

Postgraduate Education

Associate Professor Terry Hallahan
(School of Economics, Finance and Marketing)

Indigenous Education

Wayne Ellerton, Geoff Burns,
Warren James, Geoff Mason,
Geoff Steel, Greg Tink
(School of Engineering TAFE)

Robyn Blaikie (School of Education)

Widening Participation

Professor Ann Lawrie, Faye Campbell,
Nigel Curwell, Ewa Domalewska,
Robyne Drysdale, Dr Danilla Grando,
Dr Tien Huynh, Dr Neale Jackson,
Danka Jovetic, Dr Belinda Kennedy,
Associate Professor Gina Nicoletti,
Professor Dayanthi Nugegoda,
Dr Greg Nugent, Professor Eddie Pang,
Dr Jeff Shimeta,
Associate Professor Peter Smooker,
Angela Smyth,
Associate Professor Trevor Stevenson,
Helen Williams, Lynda Wilson,
Dr Liliana Zaluzniak
(School of Applied Sciences)

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Researchers at RMIT continue to seek innovative solutions to real problems through multidisciplinary research projects and collaborations with external partners.

Key focus areas in 2011 were sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change, as well as liveability in the urban landscape. Excellence in research was recognised and fostered through grants and other forms of financial support, and outstanding researchers were honoured with prestigious awards.

In November, RMIT was awarded 12 ARC grants totalling \$3.1 million for projects on a wide range of subjects including globalisation, the future of trade unions, and the media's treatment of world crises.

A further three RMIT researchers were awarded more than \$1.3 million in special ARC funding. Dr Anthony O'Mullane (School of Applied Sciences) was awarded a Future Fellowship for his project aimed at delivering a cost-effective method to produce a class of multifunctional nanostructured composite materials. Dr Francisco Tovar and Dr Khashayar Khoshmanesh (p.33) (School of Electrical and Computer Engineering) each received an ARC Discovery Early Career Research Award.





Dr Khashayar Khoshmanesh.



The provincial capital city of Hué in central Vietnam faces climate change impacts.



Chinese Museum: Tammy Wong and Shao Xiong Chia's *Public Private Habits* explored the migration of cultural habits.

Research Institute Achievements

RMIT's four Research Institutes have continued to unite researchers from across the University within multidisciplinary teams, and have enjoyed a number of exciting and noteworthy successes in 2011. From working within collaborative partnerships to convening events and forums, the Institutes have driven and engaged in a broad variety of research activities. Bringing together experts and stakeholders from around the world to consider critical issues, the Institutes utilise partnerships to translate research into practical outcomes of benefit to society.

Global Cities Research Institute

The work of this Institute, under the direction of Professor Paul James, focuses on the sustainable future of cities world-wide and investigates research themes that are at the core of RMIT's strategic goals. In 2011, major projects included adaptation to climate change, sustainable responses to globalisation, alternative pathways to reconciliation, community sustainability and urban renewal.

The Sustainable Urban and Regional Futures program is investigating the tension between urban growth and the need to reduce the ecological footprint of cities. Projects have included environmental assessment and modelling, life cycle assessment and eco-footprinting. The Institute signed a partnership agreement with World Vision to rethink their community engagement methodology in light of increasing global urbanisation.

RMIT continues to host the International Secretariat of the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme. Working in 50 cities around the world, the Cities Programme is applying the methods developed at RMIT to projects as diverse as slum reclamation in Brazil, economic restructuring in Poland, climate change mitigation in San Francisco and water sustainability in Milwaukee, US.

The Climate Change Adaptation Program enjoyed much success in 2011, with research focusing on strengthening capacity and supporting adaptation activities in the Asia-Pacific region. The Program is working with Oxfam Australia to produce a toolkit to help communities in the region respond to the challenges of climate change.

The Program was also awarded a \$78,000 grant by the Japanese-based Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research to conduct research in two secondary cities in Asia – Satkhira in Bangladesh and Hué in central Vietnam. This project involves conducting climate risk assessments to inform new adaptation guidelines in countries most severely threatened by climate change.

Design Research Institute

The Design Research Institute, which is directed by Professor Mark Burry, has sharpened its focus towards solving important and complex urban challenges, leveraging RMIT's leading creative design research capabilities and global networks.

The *Work Where I Live* project collaborated with Sustainability Victoria and the Department of Treasury and Finance in a series of research projects and a symposium on the shared and dispersed workplace. This connected approach to urban and regional planning challenges is proving mutually beneficial to design researchers and to government and industry in making policy and resource decisions based on the social, economic and environmental impacts of innovative workplace design.

This year's Design Challenge, organised in partnership with Deloitte and the Australian Community Workers' Association, focused on the theme of homelessness. Entrants were invited to form transdisciplinary teams and develop ideas aimed at reducing the risk of homelessness, improving the daily life of people struggling without stable housing, and building new pathways to social inclusion.

The winner from the 11 finalists will be announced in 2012. The Design Challenge acts as a "solution finder" for major issues, working as a catalyst for innovative collaboration and highlighting research projects with practical application.

GATEWAY, an exhibition at the Chinese Museum (above), was the first in a series of art events planned for Melbourne's Chinatown, as part of a strategy initiated by RMIT aimed at contributing to the city's diverse creative and cultural life. The exhibition reflected on the changing relationship between Australia and China, and on perspectives of an increasingly globalised world.

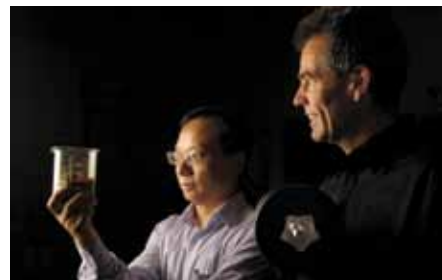
An international symposium, *Affirmative Architecture*, explored projects to expand the potential of architectural intervention in cities, suburbs, urban fringe areas, rural towns and remote locations. The two-day symposium and exhibition was convened by the Institute in partnership with Curtin University and Iredale Pedersen Hook.



Professor Grahame Holmes' Power and Energy Research Group are working with MIL-Systems to help smooth the path for solar energy.



Professor Daine Alcorn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, and Professor Yu Bo Lu, President of the Guangdong Provincial Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine, sign a major research agreement.



Associate Professor Jiming Ye and Professor John Hawley of the Exercise Metabolism Research Group.

Platform Technologies Research Institute

This Institute, directed by Professor Xinghuo Yu, continues to engage in innovative research focused on integrating smart materials and systems into technologies for a sustainable future.

The Institute is working with inverter manufacturer MIL-Systems to develop better ways of integrating home-generated solar power into the electricity grid. The project, which aims to facilitate investment in sustainable energy supply sources to support the competitiveness of Victorian industry, is backed by a Sustainable Energy Research and Development grant of \$647,000 from the Victorian Department of Primary Industries.

Taking inspiration from the structure of insect wings, RMIT researchers have become the first to fabricate batches of nanoscale sensors on the tips of optical fibres using nanoimprint lithography. The research was funded through an NHMRC grant to develop intravenous sensors based on a combination of advanced manufacturing, fibre optics and nanotechnology.

In July, the Institute ran an Experience Day for high school students, providing them with the unique opportunity of a hands-on encounter with the "lab-on-a-chip" micro and nano technologies being researched at the University.

The 37th Annual Conference of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society was held in Melbourne in November, at the initiative of Professor Xinghuo Yu. It was the first time the Society had held its conference in the southern hemisphere. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, was Honorary Chair and RMIT's Chancellor, Dr Ziggy Switkowski, was a keynote speaker at the conference which attracted 800 attendees and 1,130 papers.

In a crucial step towards the development of self-powering portable electronics, RMIT's Microplatforms Research Group has opened the way towards the development of everlasting batteries. In 2011, nano-researchers for the first time characterised the ability of piezoelectric thin films to turn mechanical pressure into electricity.

Health Innovations Research Institute

Under the direction of Professor David Adams, this Institute seeks to address the changing needs of biomedical research and society, and to translate basic science discoveries into effective, safe, therapeutic outcomes.

China's largest Chinese Medicine hospital is backing RMIT researchers to help provide better health outcomes for sufferers of emphysema and chronic bronchitis. The Guangdong Provincial Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine has signed a \$2 million agreement with RMIT and the Guangdong Provincial Academy of Chinese Medical Studies for research into the use of herbal medicines for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and acupuncture for allergic rhinitis.

The Institute hosted a series of lectures in 2011 by high-profile researchers who addressed key health issues. As well as sharing details of high quality, innovative research, the seminars provided networking opportunities between universities, researchers and health organisations from across Australia.

A leading US research and lobby group has invested \$500,000 in the Institute's research into a cure for multiple sclerosis. Dr Steven Petratos (p.32) was one of only two Australian researchers to receive the support of the National MS Society. The research will be conducted in collaboration with Monash University, Yale University and the University of Toronto.

Institute research fellow Dr Geza Berecki was awarded an NHMRC grant of \$400,000 to further his work into the use of marine cone snail venom to reduce chronic pain. The grant followed indications that the research might soon produce non-addictive pain-killing drugs 1,000 times more powerful than morphine.

The Exercise Metabolism Research Group is looking at the role of exercise in the prevention and treatment of obesity-related conditions such as diabetes and insulin resistance. In an early breakthrough, the researchers have found that exercise is just as effective as insulin-sensitising drugs in treating the condition, and that the design and development of cities is crucial in allowing even small amounts of daily exercise.

Research Collaborations

RMIT's commitment to remaining connected through research partnerships is longstanding. 2011 has seen the University continue to foster exciting and fruitful collaborations, engaging both local and global partners across a variety of research fields.

RMIT researchers, in partnership with the UN Global Compact Cities Programme, are developing a participatory toolkit for establishing local urban sustainability indicators. The project titled *Circles of Sustainability* aims to identify and debate critical issues and to set targets for progress towards sustainable development, and is supported by industry partners Fujixerox Australia, Cambridge International College, Microsoft Australia, Angusta Systems and the City of Melbourne.

RMIT's relationship with the University of Salford, UK, was strengthened by collaborations to share, research, design and develop digital devices and wireless protocols to connect and interact across the globe. In April, RMIT hosted the Interact Connect Workshop, which showcased innovative uses of networked multimedia systems developed by researchers from the two institutions.

RMIT participated in eight Cooperative Research Centres in 2011: the CRCs for Advanced Automotive Technology; Advanced Composite Structures; Advanced Manufacturing; Bushfires; Competitive advantage through cooperation (CAST); Polymers; Smart Services; and Spatial Information.



Students Dipesh Parekh, Lauren Burns, Asintha Nanyakkara and Tze Min Koh led the field at an international aerospace summer school in China.



Dr Anthony O'Mullane.



Imagining the Future exhibition: *Game Boys Advanced* (Patricia Piccinini). Photo by Graham Baring.

Research Education

2011 saw a variety of events and initiatives to foster research activity by rewarding outstanding research achievements and preparing students for future research.

A multidisciplinary workshop, *Jump Start*, was held for students embarking on a higher degree by research program. The workshop, which included presentations on University services and research practices, was a new development in RMIT's support for research and research training. It formed part of the Graduate Research Summer School for research candidates, which offered a week-long program of workshops, forums and seminars.

Presentations by RMIT PhD students led the field at an international aerospace summer school in China. More than 100 students from across the globe spoke on their postgraduate research topics, with presentations by Lauren Burns, Tze Min Koh and Asintha Nanyakkara (above) recognised as the three best. The students travelled to Beihang University of Aeronautics and Astronautics with colleague Dipesh Parekh from the School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering for two weeks of lectures, experimental workshops and tours of previously off-limits Chinese aerospace and aviation laboratories.

In 2011, RMIT had more than 1,500 students undertaking a higher degree by research, and the University offered grants to 158 of these students to undertake international travel related to their research program. The University conferred degrees to 227 higher degree by research students, and 170 PhD and 57 Masters awards.

Research Fellowships

In 2011, RMIT appointed four outstanding researchers as Vice-Chancellor's Senior Research Fellows: Associate Professor Toby Allen (School of Applied Sciences), Dr Heather Horst (School of Media and Communications), Dr Anthony O'Mullane (above) (School of Applied Sciences) and Dr Marcelo Stamm (School of Architecture and Design).

The fellowships are designed to add to RMIT's research capacity in its areas of research focus and to lead research and collaboration across the University. RMIT also appointed Dr Juan Molero as Senior Research Fellow, and a further five Research Fellows.

e-Research

The e-Research Office launched the RMIT Campus Cloud, aimed at enhancing the availability of teaching labs to researchers. The cloud project serves as a research topic in its own right, and RMIT is collaborating with German cloud management technology organisation Zimory GmbH to extend the Campus Cloud to e-Research servers at the University of Pisa and the University of Munich. The evaluation will determine the feasibility of self-managed clouds in a university environment and will assess practical issues in cross-university research cloud management.

E-researchers are also collaborating with colleagues at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology to improve architectural design and maintenance of complex software systems, with the support of a grant from the German Academic Exchange.

RMIT Gallery

The RMIT Gallery featured a range of international exhibitions in 2011.

A stunning exhibition of contemporary Italian jewellery provided a glimpse at the Paduan style of jewellery design. *Gioielli d'Autore: Padova e La Scuola Dell'Oro* (Artistic Jewellery: Padua and its Jewellery School) featured 188 pieces created by 16 of the Paduan school's alumni. First shown in Padua in 2008, the exhibition has toured to Venice, Munich and other European cities before arriving at RMIT, which is recognised as one of the main academies training gold and silversmiths worldwide.

Two popular exhibitions highlighted the strong interest in Melbourne on Japanese animation and culture. *Revolutionising Anime: Production I.G's pursuit of ultra-realistic fantasy* detailed the intricate process behind creating animation through storyboards, backgrounds and digital images, while the quirky and playful *JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters* provided summer holiday visitors with an understanding of the historical love of characters in Japanese society.

An exhibition by Tate Adams AM showcased the skill of one of Australia's most acclaimed printmakers, and provided an opportunity for the former RMIT lecturer to revisit RMIT where he made a significant contribution to the creative development of generations of students who have gone on to become major artists and printmakers.

In a major exhibition commencing in December, a huge line-up of artists explored the question of what the world would look like 100 years from now. *2112 Imagining the Future* tapped into public concern about the consequences of climate change, and threw the debate over to prominent international and Australian artists to share their visions. The exhibition also featured the *NOW and WHEN Australian Urbanism* architecture exhibition, courtesy of the Australian Institute of Architects, which featured in the 2010 Australian Pavilion at *la Biennale di Venezia*.

ACADEMIC SCHOOLS

As at 31 December 2011, RMIT University offered programs of study in 24 Schools across three Colleges.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

School	Head of School
Accounting	Professor Garry Carnegie
Business IT and Logistics	Professor Caroline Chan
Business TAFE	Ms Vicki Molloy
Economics, Finance and Marketing	Professor Tony Naughton
Graduate School of Business and Law	Professor Margaret Jackson
Management	Professor George Cairns

COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

School	Head of School
Architecture and Design	Professor Richard Blythe
Art	Professor Elizabeth Grierson
Design TAFE	Mr Keith Cowlshaw
Education	Professor Annette Gough
Fashion and Textiles	Mr Keith Cowlshaw
Global Studies, Social Science and Planning	Professor David Hayward
Media and Communication	Professor Stephanie Donald
Property, Construction and Project Management	Professor Ron Wakefield

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

School	Head of School
Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	Professor Aleksandar Subic
Applied Sciences	Professor Andrew Smith
Civil, Environmental and Chemical Engineering	Professor Chun Qing Li
Computer Science and Information Technology	Professor Athman Bouguettaya
Electrical and Computer Engineering	Professor Ian Burnett
Engineering TAFE	Mr Christopher Barnes
Health Sciences	Professor Charlie Xue
Life and Physical Sciences	Ms Cheryl Underwood
Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences	Professor John Hearne
Medical Sciences	Professor Stephen Bird

Through RMIT's honorary and visiting academic appointment policy, eminent people are invited to become involved in teaching and research at the University. This helps to strengthen RMIT's links with industry, community and government, and provides our students with exposure to people who are leaders in their respective fields.

ADJUNCT PROFESSORIAL APPOINTMENTS 2011

Name	School
Gerhard Vorster	College of Business
Chris Gonzales	School of Business IT and Logistics
Dirk Hollaender	School of Economics, Finance and Marketing
Ivan Deveson	Graduate School of Business and Law
May Miller Dawkins	Graduate School of Business and Law
Patrick Nash	Graduate School of Business and Law
Peter Sheldrake	Graduate School of Business and Law
Christopher Sawyer	School of Architecture and Design
David Porter	School of Architecture and Design
Jacqueline Hoyer	School of Architecture and Design
Bartholomeus Brands	School of Architecture and Design
Stephen Alomes	College of Design and Social Context
Wayne Quilliam	College of Design and Social Context
Andrew Jaspan	School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
Duncan MacLennan	School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
Harry Blutstein	School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
John Griffin	School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
John Van Groningen	School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
Deb Verhoeven	School of Media and Communication
Alistair Gibb	School of Property, Construction and Project Management
Kersti Nogeste	School of Property, Construction and Project Management
Paul Anthony Bowen	School of Property, Construction and Project Management
Francis Rose	School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Viktor Verjenko	School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Bruce Thorley	School of Applied Sciences
Ganapati Yadav	School of Applied Sciences
John Ashton	School of Applied Sciences
Paul Gorry	School of Applied Sciences
Valery Davydov	School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Maria Vassos	School of Health Sciences
Yuriy Kuleshov	School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences
Neale Cohen	School of Medical Sciences
Robert Davidson	School of Medical Sciences
Wenhua Zheng	School of Medical Sciences

VISITING FELLOW APPOINTMENTS 2011

Name	School
Mujahid Abdulrahim	School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

SENIOR ASSOCIATE APPOINTMENTS 2011

Name	School
Rick Van Dam	School of Applied Sciences
Mingfang Wu	School of Computer Science and Information Technology
Sheila Howell	School of Computer Science and Information Technology

ASSOCIATE APPOINTMENTS 2011

Name	School
Wei Peng	School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Ashfaq Khan	School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences
Benjamin Burton	School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences

RMIT has established a reputation for excellence in business and management education, providing high quality, industry-responsive programs relevant to the national and global marketplace.

RMIT's College of Business is one of the largest in Australia. With programs offered in Vietnam and significant teaching partnerships in China, Hong Kong and Singapore, the College attracts 23,000 students from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Leadership and College Initiatives

Key leadership changes included the appointment of Professor Val Clulow as Deputy PVC, Learning and Teaching, and Professor Caroline Chan as Head of the School of Business IT and Logistics.

A significant project for 2011 was the launch of Student Central to provide College of Business students access to an extended range of services at a single location in Building 108.



Business Medal winner Dylan Turnbull with Professor Ian Palmer, Pro Vice-Chancellor Business.



Leanne Brinkies, General Manager of ZenithOptimedia, presents the Advertising Media Research Award to Rebecca Bladon, who also won the John Clemenger Award for Most Outstanding First Year student at the AIA Graduations.



RMIT and its industry partners receive a B-HERT award for Excellence in Accounting Teaching Collaboration.

Academic and Student Achievements

RMIT's School of Business IT and Logistics won first place in the annual SAP/Linfox Supply Chain Competition. Students from the Business IT, Commerce and Logistics Management postgraduate programs competed against other Victorian universities in the one-day event in which teams were given an industrial problem to solve with assistance from a Linfox mentor.

Two postgraduate logistics students won prestigious industry awards. James Hucker received the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transportation Australia's Young Professional of the Year Award at both state and national level, and will represent Australia in the Institute's 2012 international convention in the UK. Jason Barclay received the Supply Chain and Logistics Association Australia's Victorian Industry Excellence Award.

International Business graduate Dylan Turnbull (above) won the Business Medal for his outstanding academic achievement and community leadership. He achieved 21 high distinctions, and his community involvement included extensive volunteering activities.

Master of Information Management student Leonee Derr won a \$30,000 Barrett Reid scholarship from the State Library and will visit the US and Europe for research into best practice to engage young adults in public libraries.

Advanced Diploma of Advertising student Alexander Little received the Advertising Institute of Australasia's Most Outstanding Graduate award. He also took home Bundy Agency's Creative Techniques in Advertising award and 3AW Fairfax Radio's Advertising Campaign Presentation award.

Advertising and Fashion Design graduate Linda Vydra, founder of Lydra fashion accessories label, was shortlisted in the international Fashioning the Future awards coordinated by London College of Fashion's Centre for Sustainable Fashion. The awards provide a cross-disciplinary platform for celebrating initiatives in sustainable design, development and communication.

Awards received by academic and teaching staff included the American Library Association's Library History Round Table award to Dr Sue Reynolds and the Women in Executive Leadership Award to Dr Cathy Brigden.

Learning and Teaching

RMIT's School of Accounting and its industry partners received the inaugural award for Excellence in Accounting Teaching Collaboration at the Business/Higher Education Round Table (B-HERT) Awards function. Sponsored by CPA Australia, the award recognises industry partnerships that foster excellence in teaching and improved graduate outcomes.

The Student Learning Advisor Mentors (SLAMs) program experienced unprecedented growth in 2011. More than 2,300 student visits were made, supported by 130 student mentors. The program continues to provide academic assistance with a range of VET, undergraduate and postgraduate courses. RMIT Vietnam has also expanded its SLAMs program at both the Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City campuses.

The Master of Strategic Procurement was launched in Semester 2. It is the only dedicated procurement program available in Victoria, and was designed as part of an Australian Technology Network of Universities initiative to build a larger and more capable pool of professional procurement talent.

The Australian Human Resource Institute has accredited the Human Resource Management major, which is available as part of the new Bachelor of Business program structure.

More than 75 participants from universities and professional accounting bodies in Australia, Singapore and Vietnam attended the Accounting Educators' Conference at RMIT in November. The conference is a forum for educators to consider key issues and developments in accounting education.



Victorian Premier, Ted Baillieu, with Garry Barker (left) and Leon Gettler, producers of RMIT's *Talking Business* series.



L-R: Paul Monks and Filip Kratochvil, winners of the RMIT Business Plan Competition.

Industry Engagement

Strongly aligned with the University's strengths and priorities, the College of Business strives to incorporate leading technology, novel design and deep professional practice into the educational experiences of its students. To that end, the College has undertaken an audit of its industry engagement activity, indicating partnerships with 1,144 external organisations. The information documented in this project has quantified the breadth of the College's industry partnerships and provided an excellent resource for future strategic ventures.

Participation in the RMIT Business Plan Competition continues to grow. In 2011, a record number of teams participated in the worldwide event which helps RMIT students turn their business dreams into reality. The competition is the biggest program of its type in Australia, maintaining strong ties to industry through its impressive contingent of sponsors, judges and mentors.

Victorian Premier Ted Baillieu discussed the key challenges faced by his government in *Talking Business*, the podcast series sponsored by the College of Business. Mr Baillieu joins a long list of prominent business leaders who have been interviewed in the series by senior journalists Leon Gettler and Gary Barker, including Malcolm Turnbull, Saul Eslake, Lindsay Tanner, Barry Westhorpe, chief executive of the CEO Institute, and Richard Morris, British Consul-General.

A number of successful events were coordinated by the RMIT SEEDS program, which aims to support student initiatives in social and environmental enterprise developments. A lecture presented by Dr Pamela Hartigan, world leader in social enterprise, was attended by more than 300 people. Dr Hartigan shared her insights into the ways unconventional entrepreneurs are tackling the world's most pressing problems.

Professor Nilmini Wickramasinghe (School of Business IT and Logistics) was named Chair of Health Information Management at Epworth HealthCare. RMIT has partnered with Epworth and the Cleveland Clinic (Ohio, USA) on an initiative to provide students with innovative international training and research. Professor Wickramasinghe's appointment will further strengthen this clinical academic alliance.



Professor Margaret Gardner introduces the 2011 APEC Lecture.



Minister for Trade, Dr Craig Emerson (centre) is welcomed to the APEC Study Centre by conference speaker John Larum (left) and Alan Oxley, Chairman of the APEC Study Centre.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

The APEC Study Centre at RMIT – together with its component facility, the Melbourne APEC Finance Centre – continues to promote Australia's and RMIT's strategic, economic, social and educational objectives throughout the Asia-Pacific region and globally. The Centre is a co-coordinator of the Asia Pacific Infrastructure Partnership and is involved in organising meetings with government and industry leaders in Mexico, Peru, Chile and the Philippines. It is working closely with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, OECD, International Monetary Fund, the Basel Group and major government agencies and businesses throughout the region.

The Minister for Trade, Dr Craig Emerson, delivered the keynote lecture at the APEC Study Centre's annual conference, *Is Australia Managing?*. The event brought together eminent Australian and international business leaders and experts to examine connections between the global economy and Australia's trade and competitiveness. Sessions canvassed topics including the nature of Australia's two-speed economy and the impact of developments in China.

The Centre also designed and organised a training program for senior China Bohai Bank officials, and an Australian Leadership Awards fellowships program, *Promoting Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure Development*.

Key initiatives for 2011 included a series of major regional symposiums aimed at identifying reforms to financial policy and regulatory capacities in response to the GFC; enhancing investment flows by reducing risk in private investment in APEC economies; and developing financial regulations supporting micro, small and medium enterprise lending to promote financial inclusion.

The Centre participated in the Islamic Finance Roadshow, and developed a website to assist businesses across the region in understanding trade barriers in APEC economies.

APEC initiated an agreement between RMIT and the Asian Development Bank Institute to promote joint activities in capacity building and research on regional economic, financial and social issues, and has established an agreement with the Asia-Pacific Finance and Development Centre to pursue similar objectives.



Tran Duc Mau of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, opening an RMIT human resource management conference in Ho Chi Minh City.



Professor Caroline Chan, Head of the School of Business IT and Logistics.

International

RMIT has three major offshore education partnerships that have been in operation for nearly a quarter of a century: Singapore Institute of Management, Hong Kong Management Association and the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade. Agreements with all three partners were renewed for the delivery of programs over the next few years. The agreements incorporate changes in program structure, administration and arrangements to strengthen partnership management and enhance quality, viability and efficiency.

2011 marked the 10th anniversary of the Tianjin Government Leaders Training Program, which provides the next generation of Tianjin leaders with access to international training at RMIT. Since 2001, 220 senior Tianjin government officials and managers of state-owned enterprises have participated in the program.

The program has fostered international understanding and goodwill, and has facilitated commercial, education and official interactions across borders and between diverse organisations. The partnership with Tianjin is now a key focus for the University's internationalisation strategy, with a range of new education and research collaboration agreements signed during 2011.

More than 50 researchers attended the inaugural Thai Studies Conference, organised by the College of Business and the University of Melbourne's Asia Institute. The conference, sponsored by the Royal Thai Embassy, and the Australia-Thailand Institute, provided an international forum for researchers to share knowledge and perspectives on Thai politics, business, culture and society, and on the relationship between Thailand and Australia.

International experts in human resource management discussed the latest workplace developments and challenges faced by Vietnam at a conference organised by RMIT. More than 100 delegates attended the event, including representatives from the Vietnam Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Can Tho University, L'Oréal and Garmex.

The conference addressed the HR challenges and opportunities faced by Vietnam and provided a platform for future research and funding partnerships.

As part of a strategy to enhance the flow of international students coming to RMIT's Melbourne campus, the College has developed collaborative programs to create educational linkages with overseas universities. Student learning experiences and employability are expected to benefit from such programs, while opportunities for research collaboration and international industry links will increase.

Development is well advanced with the Shanghai Lixin University of Commerce, Malaysia's International Education College (INTEC), Tianjin University, Nankai University and Southwest University, China. Opportunities for research scholars and research students to utilise external scholarships in order to undertake work and studies at RMIT is part of this initiative.

Research

The inaugural College of Business Research Week was held in November. The program featured an extensive range of events aimed at showcasing research achievements and new collaborations to academics, HDR candidates, industry colleagues and the wider RMIT community.

During 2011, RMIT received considerable external recognition and funding for its research projects. Professor Sandra Jones is to receive funding totalling \$220,000 under the ALTC's Leadership for Excellence program for her collaborative project, *Evidence-based benchmarking framework for a distributed leadership approach to capacity building in learning and teaching.*

Professor Peter Fairbrother was appointed to the ARC College of Experts' Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences panel, which assesses and determines ARC funding applications.

Under the leadership of Professor Fairbrother, the Centre for Sustainable Organisations and Work was established in 2011 to foster the development of research teams with common interests and thematic strengths. The Centre brings together researchers across a range of disciplines to focus on themes such as sustainability and management practices, labour studies, green technologies, communication during bushfires, and social media.

Professor Caroline Chan (School of Business IT and Logistics) secured a \$190,000 competitive tender from the Department of Health and Ageing for the pilot implementation of a Food Composition Database. This is an initiative of the Industry Partnership Agreement under the Federal Government's Food and Health Dialogue and provides a framework for government, public health groups and industry to work collaboratively across all levels of the food supply chain to improve dietary intakes.

Professors Paul De Lange and Brendan O'Connell were part of a research team that won a \$187,000 ALTC grant to examine the implementation of threshold learning outcomes for the Australian accounting discipline. Professor De Lange was also part of a research team that won an ARC Linkage Grant for its study into how migration reshapes labour markets.

Professor Ian Palmer, Pro Vice-Chancellor Business, has been appointed a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Dr Hossein Zadeh (School of Business IT and Logistics) received a prestigious IBM Faculty Award, which forms part of a highly competitive research program intended to foster collaboration between researchers at leading universities worldwide and those in IBM research, development and service organisations.

COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

RMIT's College of Design and Social Context (DSC) encompasses the fields of art, communication, design, education, humanities, property and social sciences. Programs are dedicated to student creativity and engagement in new forms of intellectual and cultural activity.



A quirky chair by Furniture Design graduate Roz Campbell exhibited at the Milan Furniture Fair.



A still from graduate Michael Greaney's short film, *Aww Jeez*.



Kate McLennan, winner of the 2011 Kit Denton Disfellowship.



HMAS Follies Narcissus, by student Robyn Hosking, which won a Craft Victoria Fresh! award.



New Fashion Design studio at RMIT's Brunswick campus.

Student and Staff Achievements

In the School of Art, Professor Lesley Duxbury was awarded the Australia Council for the Arts' 2011 grant for New Work (Established Artist), and Ian Haig received an Australia Council Inter-Arts grant. Also in the School of Art, Darren Sylvester won the \$20,000 Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award for 2011, and Fiona Hillary (School of Art) was awarded a \$60,000 Public Art project through the City of Greater Dandenong.

Sharon West (Indigenous Arts Unit) won the Kodak Salon's 2011 *Excellence in Conceptual Photography* award for *The Black Blue Boy (no apologies to Gainsborough)*.

Novelist Kim Scott became the first Indigenous writer to join RMIT's Writers in Residence program, following the appointment of playwright Hannie Rayson to the program earlier in the year.

Professional Writing and Editing student Kate McLennan (above), together with Kate McCartney, won the Australian Writers' Guild's 2011 \$30,000 Kit Denton Disfellowship. Also at the AWGIE Awards, Screenwriting student Jill Moylan was awarded the Monte Miller award (Short Form) with a project developed at RMIT, and alumnus Shaun Grant won the Feature Film award (Adaptation).

Architecture graduate Helen Duong won the Architecture Australia prize for Unbuilt Work. This is the third time in four years that the prestigious prize has been won by an RMIT graduate with their Design thesis project.

Interior Design graduate Christina Fogale was named overall winner at the Australasian Student Design Awards, Australasia's leading student design awards program. Four other RMIT graduates received individual prizes in the event.

Research fellow Tracy Cooke won best paper by a PhD student at the Association of Researchers in Construction Management's conference in the UK.

Animation and Interactive Media graduate Michael Greaney had his short film *Awww Jeez* (below left) selected to represent Australia in France at Annecy 2011, one of the world's largest animation festivals.

Industrial and furniture design graduates featured at the 2011 Milan Furniture Fair, the world's premier furniture, lighting and home accessory exhibition. This is the 8th year that RMIT has exhibited at the fair.

Three RMIT graduates stole the show at the Craft Victoria's *Fresh!* awards, winning six of the seven awards on offer for the best craft and design graduates in Victoria. Inari Kiuru (Gold and Silversmithing), Thomas Llewellyn (Industrial Design) and Robyn Hosking (Ceramics) won two awards each.

Fashion graduate Laura Wade won a prestigious scholarship from the Australians in New York Fashion Foundation, enabling her to complete a six-month internship at a New York design house.

Fashion student Joanna Henning won the Australian final of the Triumph Inspiration Award with her piece *Anatomised Beauty*.

Karen Grubb (School of Education) received the State Government's Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Award for the Gippsland Region.

RMIT graduates dominated the Textile Design category of the Design Institute of Australia's Victorian Graduate of the Year Awards (GOTYAs). Julie Newton won first prize, Jessica Eisenhauer was runner-up and Georgie McKenzie was highly commended.

Infrastructure

Student journalists have broadcast for the first time in Building 9 on RMIT's City campus. A retrofitting of the building, which was originally built to train RAAF personnel in communications during World War II, has provided extensive new teaching and learning spaces.

The building's innovative facilities were designed to complement the School's undergraduate and postgraduate Media and Journalism programs, including print, radio, television and online news. New production facilities include 19 editing suites, an on-air radio suite (linked to Triple R), converged newsroom, phone recording booth, audio post-production suite, multi-track studio and dubbing suites. The School is also the first Australian educational institution to include an Omneon MediaGrid – a scalable high-performance system for storing, sharing and serving media files.

The School of Art's new Gold and Silversmithing studio was launched, providing a specialist site for this internationally renowned program.

A state-of-the-art Fashion Design Studio was opened at Brunswick campus, giving students the chance to study in an integrated learning environment that simulates a working fashion studio.

RMIT's International Centre of Graphic Technology continued to show leadership in printing and graphic arts training with the commissioning of a Heidelberg Speedmaster SM52 eight-colour press, which will create the best possible learning outcomes for printing apprentices.



NSW's longest serving Premier, Bob Carr, presented a lecture on international politics in the period between World Wars I and II, at the invitation of the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning.



Spoons by student Ellah Blake was displayed at Queen Victoria Market.

Learning and teaching

The environmental innovation and dedication of staff in RMIT's Bachelor of Arts (Textile Design) was recognised with the program winning the Premier's Sustainability Award for Tertiary Education.

The Textile Design degree won a further flagship sustainability award at the Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability's annual conference, receiving a Green Gown Award in the Learning and Teaching category.

Three chandelier sculptures by RMIT Visual Art students will be installed in the Queen Victoria Market's F-Shed, as part of a joint design project between the two organisations.

In July, RMIT supported an urban design challenge at Melbourne's Docklands as part of the State of Design Festival, in which 100 designers, artists and craftspeople from around the world worked against the clock to construct new public space interventions, responding to the theme *Design that Moves*.

A Student Chapter of the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB) has been established in the School of Property, Construction and Project Management. The Chapter provides a platform for researchers to develop their research interests and disseminate their knowledge across CIB's extensive global network.

Industry Engagement

Professor Chris Chamberlain and Dr Guy Johnson (School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning) have been appointed to the new ABS Homelessness Statistics Reference Group.

The School of Education continued its work with the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. This included delivering the Postgraduate Certificate of Primary Mathematics Teaching and the Supporting New Teacher's Practice program for the Department's Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership. Other industry projects included evaluating the Department of Human Services' Early Childhood Development Project, and working with the Alannah and Madeline Foundation and City of Whittlesea on a range of projects.

Dr Barry Hill (School of Media and Communication) established a research, teaching and learning partnership with the Music Outback Foundation, aimed at building cultural connections to remote indigenous communities through music, art and technology. As a work-integrated learning initiative, RMIT provided assistance with sound and lighting for the Foundation's Mobfest Community Music Events program.

Visual Merchandising students won the public vote for best window display in Enterprise Melbourne's *Look.Stop.Shop.* event during the State of Design Festival. The students worked with Kookai at Melbourne Central to create their interactive display.

Research

The School of Architecture and Design held a pilot event at RMIT Vietnam to establish a bi-annual Graduate Research Conference in Asia. Prominent architects, Minsuk Cho (Korea) and Vo Trong Nghia (Vietnam) – both of whom designed their national pavilions at the 2010 Shanghai Expo – gave lectures on their work.

Professor Colin Fudge, PVC Design and Social Context, launched a book titled *Architecture & Design, By Practice By Invitation: Design Practice Research at RMIT*, by Professor Leon van Schaik and Anna Johnson (School of Architecture and Design), celebrating 25 years of the design practice research program at RMIT.

Professor Bruce Wilson, Director of RMIT's European Union Centre, and Professor Colin Fudge were awarded a Jean Monnet grant from the EU for their project *Comparing Regional Development Policies and Approaches: Europe and Asia*.

A project titled *Design-led decision support for regional climate adaptation* led by Professor Ralph Horne (Centre for Design) received research funding from the Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research. The inaugural VCCCAR visiting fellow, Robert Roggema from Delft University of Technology, has joined RMIT as Senior Research Fellow and will take a lead role in the project.

A research team led by Professor Patricia Rogers, in partnership with World Vision and the social research consultancy Community Matters, was awarded a \$75,000 contract with the UK Department for International Development. The project aims to conduct a realist synthesis of the impact of community accountability on improving educational outcomes, especially for the world's poor.

Professor Rogers was also awarded US\$223,350 from the Rockefeller Foundation for her international collaborative research project to improve evaluation methods and practice.



GEElab's distinctive approach is exemplified through gamified websites, such as *playbe's playce*, an award-winning site where visitors navigate the content through playing arcade games.



REXplorer, the first location-based city exploration game, was designed by GEElab Director, Dr Steffen Walz, for the UNESCO world heritage city of Regensburg, Bavaria.

Dr Sarah Bekessy (School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning) is chief investigator with the multi-institutional Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions, which has been awarded a \$12 million, seven-year research grant from the Australian Research Council.

In 2011, RMIT's AHURI (Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute) Research Centre received six grants totalling more than \$700,000 and a three-year postdoctoral fellowship. This was the largest number of any university in the AHURI network. The grants involve senior, middle and emerging researchers.

The School of Fashion and Textiles research cluster received \$1 million research funding from industry and government bodies including Defence Materials Technology Centre, Australian Wool Innovation, Country Fire Authority, Australian Federal Police, United Bonded Fabrics, GRT Textiles and Bruck Textiles. The research programs include textile material design and engineering; medical and high-performance textiles; nanotechnology for coatings and filtration; protective textiles for ballistic, fire and chemical applications; and the forensic study of textile materials.

Games and Innovation

Three new games-related research facilities came into operation, providing extra energy and vision to this emergent and expanding industry.

GEElab (Games and Experimental Entertainment Laboratory) is set to drive innovation in the games, entertainment and creative media industries both in Melbourne and internationally. Directed by Dr Steffen Walz, one of three inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Senior Research Fellows, GEElab will invent new concepts, products and services, while critically reflecting on the role of games and entertainment in our culture. A satellite location in Stuttgart, Germany, will foster collaborations in Europe.

Exergames is a multidisciplinary research lab that engages the engineering, arts, design and computer science disciplines using interactive technologies to promote healthier living through exertion games.

The Virtual Room (VROOM) at RMIT is a revolutionary interactive and immersive research lab that enables the visualisation of ideas, objects and experiences. The display environment provides audiences with the illusion that the entity is physically contained within the confines of eight screens.

International

Paul Steinfort (School of Property, Construction and Project Management) was invited to participate in the recovery phases of both the Japan tsunami and Christchurch earthquake, based upon the models he developed from his RMIT PhD thesis to improve project management of disaster recovery projects.

Art lecturer Anthony McInnery was one of 10 artists invited to participate in the *Default Masterclass: Art, Cities and Regeneration*, an international cultural and artistic residence hosted in Lecce, Italy.

Art lecturer Laresa Kosloff was one of three performance artists selected by the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art to be showcased during the Vernissage at the Venice Biennale, the world's largest contemporary art event.

An exhibition at Gallery Loupe in New Jersey, US, featured the work of 18 RMIT jewellery postgraduate students and alumni. *Australian Jewellery Topos* focused on place and its multi-layered potential – personal and public, contemporary and historical.

As part of the international Artists in Residence program, the School of Art commenced an annual indigenous artists exchange partnership with the University of Lethbridge, Alberta. The AiR program also hosted arts from Korea, Austria, China and the US.

International speakers joined key Australian experts at RMIT's Legal and Police Interpreting Conference, held at Storey Hall and hosted by the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning. Speakers addressed issues including the training needs of legal police interpreters, the provision of language services in legal and police contexts and the interaction between courts and interpreters.

RMIT's European Union Centre held its inaugural annual conference in Melbourne, in partnership with the University of Oxford's Media and Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe research project. The conference titled *Media, Communication and Democracy: Global and National Environments* explored the implications for democratic processes of the growing power of media owners.

Student mobility was enhanced with the introduction of an exchange project giving selected RMIT Architecture students the opportunity to study at one of three universities in Spain, France and Italy. The project titled *Designing the New World: Developing Architectural Education in Response to Climate Change* is backed by funding of \$294,200 over three years from the European Union and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

RMIT entered into an agreement with Indonesia's oldest University, Universitas Indonesia, to build translation and interpreting capabilities in the respective countries, including the development of expertise in assessment tests and of a research base for the translation and interpreting discipline.

Associate Professor Brenda Weber of Indiana University was the inaugural recipient of an international fellowship awarded by RMIT's AFI Research Collection, a specialist film and television industry resource. The fellowship was established to raise the profile of the collection among film and television scholars in Australia and overseas, and to develop research into Australia's screen industry.

Coordinator of French Studies, Kerry Mullan, was a visiting scholar with the Université Paul Valéry Montpellier, funded by the Languedoc-Roussillon region of France in conjunction with the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and the French Embassy.

Four journalism students were awarded Australia-Korea Foundation fellowships totalling \$20,000, enabling them to undertake seven-week work placements with media organisations in South Korea. RMIT is the first Victorian university to participate in the AKF program.

RMIT's College of Science, Engineering and Health (SEH) has internationally recognised expertise in a diverse range of disciplines, reflected across many outstanding endeavours and achievements in 2011.

Learning Spaces

RMIT University's Advanced Manufacturing Precinct, which was opened in June, has provided a major addition to the University's technical training and research facilities and an exceptional resource for industry in the heart of Melbourne.

Advanced manufacturing in Australia is a \$100 billion sector that accounts for half of Australia's manufacturing output. The diverse and rapidly expanding sector comprises automotive, aerospace, machinery, tooling, medical, instrumentation and high-performance textiles.

The Precinct brings together RMIT's applied design and manufacturing streams in one location, unlocking opportunities for innovation and product development. The project has created leading-edge infrastructure in support of practical training in advanced manufacturing, and gives companies access to rapid prototyping and precision manufacturing functions and services not available in-house – including one of Australia's two additive manufacturing machines.

The Precinct also aims to foster innovation by encouraging collaboration across sectors and disciplines while supporting a range of industry sectors.





Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, and the Minister for Manufacturing, Exports and Trade, Richard Dalla-Riva, at the opening of RMIT's Advanced Manufacturing Precinct.



Professor Daine Alcorn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, with Dr Wang Guoqiang, China's Vice-Minister for Health.



International collaboration (see below): (L-R) Alumnus Slobodan Bendjo, representing Melbourne's Serbian community; Professor Irena Cosic; Neda Maletic, Serbian Ambassador; Professor Peter Coloe.

Health Workforce Australia provided \$1.1 million to two RMIT schools, delivering a major expansion of learning and teaching facilities. Dental health programs received funding for a new clinical simulation learning space, to be located at the Royal Dental Hospital.

The new learning space gives RMIT the most comprehensive vocational dental education facilities in Australia, and will facilitate the introduction of the Advanced Diploma in Oral Health (Dental Hygiene). Dental health programs run by the School of Life and Physical Sciences have provided training in infection control and instrument reprocessing to the University of Melbourne's oral health and dental science programs, as well as lectures to La Trobe University dental students.

Reinforcing RMIT's position as a leading medical radiations education institution, Health Workforce Australia also funded the School of Medical Sciences for additional clinical placements in the medical imaging program, as well as a full suite of X-ray equipment which simulates emergency facilities in hospitals.

Teaching Achievements

Dr Patricia McLaughlin and Associate Professor Andrea Chester received the College's first Australian Learning and Teaching Council project grants. Their projects focused on pathways between vocational and higher education, first-year transition and peer mentoring. Dr PJ Radcliffe was awarded an ALTC citation for engineering teaching innovation spanning 25 years.

Margaret Hamilton (School of Computer Science and Information Technology) helped design the *Two Cities as a Living Lab* elective, which will be offered in RMIT's Melbourne and Ho Chi Minh City campuses. As part of the IBM-funded project, students will draw on local examples and apply cross-disciplinary design, social and technical approaches to evaluate new urban planning and development options for transportation, energy, rubbish removal and recycling services.

Industry-Connected Learning

The Laboratory Medicine graduate diploma, honours and masters programs achieved international accreditation by the Institute of Biomedical Science, UK. The accreditation panel was particularly impressed by RMIT's innovative use of teaching facilities and partnerships with placement providers, as well as the students, who were recognised as extremely articulate and a credit to the University.

The College's four Associate Degrees in Engineering Technology received full accreditation from Engineers Australia. The Bachelor of Applied Science (Surveying) received accreditation from the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, which grants graduates automatic recognition in many countries around the world.

RMIT academics and graduates were honoured at the Victorian Spatial Excellence Awards. Professor Simon Jones received the Academic Excellence award, Professor William Cartwright was awarded Professional of the Year, Geospatial Sciences graduate Frazer Wilson was recognised for his final year project, and RMIT Surveying alumnus David Monahan received the Excellence in Cadastral Surveying award.

The Environment Student Vietnam Project reached its 10-year milestone with another multidisciplinary team of Environmental Science, Engineering and Social Science students working on an intensive problem-based learning task in Ho Chi Minh City. This remarkable learning opportunity brings together all the elements of an environmental consultancy working offshore on a specific problem for government and industry clients.

This year's team investigated problems associated with waste management, carrying out site research and client liaison and preparing a detailed report with recommendations. More than 100 RMIT students have taken part in the project over the past decade.

Global Engagement

The School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering established a Collaborative Academic Program agreement with Nanjing University for the Master of Aviation Management and Bachelor of Applied Science (Aviation). On completion of the appropriate program components, students will be eligible to receive the relevant awards from both institutions.

The signing of Memoranda of Understanding with two other prestigious Chinese institutions has created significant opportunities for developing strong relationships in China with disciplines in the health sciences. An MOU with Peking University involves staff and student exchange and the development of a joint masters program in applied counselling. An MOU with the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine aims to develop a double degree in Nursing in which Chinese students will spend three years studying in Beijing and two years at RMIT, ultimately graduating with degrees from both institutions.

Dr Wang Guoqiang (above left), China's Vice-Minister for Health and Commissioner of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, led a delegation to RMIT's Chinese Medicine Confucius Institute. The Institute, which was established after almost 20 years of successful partnership between RMIT and the Nanjing University, aims to further strengthen the collaboration and cultural exchange between Australia and China.

Dr Guoqiang was accompanied by Hong Kong's Director of Health and the President of Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine. The delegation praised RMIT's leadership role in Chinese medicine education and research, and its significant contribution to the international development of Chinese medicine.

The Serbian Ambassador to Australia, Neda Maletic (above), visited RMIT in June as part of ongoing international partnerships with the University of Belgrade and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Science. The visit included discussions on further collaboration between the three organisations in the field of engineering. As well as joint research, the partnerships aim to support staff and student exchanges and flexible learning programs.



Dr Stephen Davis is leading a project to enhance vaccination programs.



Professor CNR Rao and Professor Margaret Gardner AO sign a Memorandum of Understanding between RMIT and the International Centre for Materials Science, Bangalore.



Mick Butera, Executive Director of Northlink, with Associate Professor John Andrews and the hydrogen-powered truck developed at RMIT.

Research and Innovation

Three academics from the School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences received an ARC Linkage grant of \$255,000 to develop methods of detecting internal threats to website security. Associate Professor Serdar Boztas, Dr Asha Rao and Professor Kathy Horadam are working with industry partner CA Pacific to look at threats to the privacy and integrity of Australian e-commerce, large databases and communication channels.

Professor Peter Wilson (School of Health Sciences) and collaborators from Griffith University also received a Linkage grant of \$90,000 to design and develop an interactive multimedia artwork for rehabilitation of acquired brain injury.

Professor Peter Little AM and Dr Narin Osman (School of Medical Sciences) were awarded a \$373,000 NHMRC grant for the development of drugs for treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease.

Psychology researcher Dr Adrian Tomyn was awarded a three-year \$460,000 research grant by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for research into the wellbeing of disengaged young people.

An innovative project is investigating how linking infant footprints to vaccination records could improve vaccination programs in the developing world. Dr Stephen Davis (above) (School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences) is leading the project dubbed Happy Feet, which has received funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges Explorations program.

RMIT has signed a US\$207,000 research contract with global sportswear giant Adidas, as part of a partnership working to advance the sustainable manufacturing of sports shoes and clothing in Asia. A multidisciplinary research team will identify the manufacturing capabilities and requirements of the Adidas Group's suppliers in Indonesia and establish a series of improvement projects.

The project brings together researchers in sports technology, sustainable manufacturing, sustainable development, sustainable energy, supply chain management and textiles.

In November, RMIT hosted a three-day symposium aimed at strengthening collaborative links between Indian and Australian scientists in the field of nanoscience and nanotechnology. The Australia-India Joint Symposium on Smart Nanomaterials built on RMIT's existing engagement with some of India's leading institutions.

Keynote speakers included Professor CNR Rao (above), Honorary President of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore; Dr Ziggy Switkowski, RMIT Chancellor; and Dr T Ramasami, Secretary of India's Department of Science and Technology.

RMIT researchers have developed Australia's first hydrogen fuel cell truck, demonstrating how vehicle design and new sustainable technologies can make freight transport clean, green and silent. The small-scale model is operated by remote control and simulates the performance of a long-haul diesel truck. The hydrogen-powered electrical system could also supply power for the truck's air-conditioning and radio, along with a trailer refrigeration unit.

National ICT Australia's Victoria Research Laboratory is funding several PhD scholarships for RMIT students and, in turn, RMIT is contributing staff from the School of Computer Science and Information Technology to work on a range of ICT-based research projects.

Dr Samantha Richardson (School of Medical Sciences) was awarded an Australian Academy of Science grant to visit Japan's Shizuoka University to discuss metamorphosis in lampreys. She was also invited to speak at the Kumamoto Medical Bioscience Symposium in Japan in November.

Outstanding research achievements were reflected in the Excellence in Research for Australia rankings. Three areas scored above world average – Human Movement and Sports Science (ranked fifth), Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences (ranked fourth) and Mechanical Engineering (ranked fourth).

Outstanding achievements in other disciplines reflect the breadth of the College's expertise. Based on citation to publications, the Information Security and Information Retrieval group in the School of Computer Science and Information Technology was ranked first in Australia in information retrieval.



The Hon. Gordon Rich-Phillips, Victorian Minister of Technology and RMIT aerospace engineering graduate (second left), joined RMIT Management at the Avalon Airshow in a ceremony to recognise the benefits that strong global industry connections bring to Victoria.



Helen Corney and Stanley Barker in the billabong they have helped rehabilitate.



Sir Harold Kroto, pictured with research students, visited RMIT at the invitation of Professor Andrew Smith, Dean of the School of Applied Sciences.

Industry Engagement

RMIT's flight training capacity was significantly updated with the acquisition of a new 13-strong fleet of Cessna aircraft. The contract with Airflite, the Cessna dealer for southern Australia, was signed at the Australian International Airshow in Avalon, at which the University was a major exhibitor. This agreement has given RMIT the most modern flight training fleet available.

Twelve cadets from Oman Air received their flight wings at the Airshow after completing training with RMIT Flight Training. This was the second cohort of Omani cadets to undertake commercial pilot training with the University, and included the first female Oman Air cadet, Maha Masti.

Eighty of the region's top mathematicians and statisticians came together at the Mathematics and Statistics-in-Industry Study Group workshop, hosted by RMIT in February, to tackle complex technical problems facing industry and business. The workshop continued a record of successful technology transfer between academics and industry, in which the mathematical sciences have been used to provide practical, working solutions to issues faced by companies in Australia and New Zealand. This year's workshop included representatives of EPA Victoria, New Zealand Steel, Transpower, Fonterra and the Defence, Science and Technology Organisation.

The Australian Technology Network of Universities launched Australia's first Industry Doctoral Training Centre at RMIT in July. This new national centre will train graduates in applied mathematical and statistical techniques, modelling methodologies and communication and business skills for future employment in Australian industry.

Community engagement

Nobel Laureate Sir Harold Kroto (above right) visited the University to present the first public lecture in RMIT's *Transforming the Future* series, as well as a workshop for students on carbon in nano and outer space. His lecture, *Enlightenment and Education*, focused on the crucial need for the general population to have a greater understanding of science and technology.

As part of the International Year of Chemistry, RMIT was represented in a range of community and education programs aimed at raising awareness of careers in science and technology. Dr Jeff Hughes (School of Applied Sciences) was selected to deliver the 2011 Royal Australian Chemical Institute's Hartung Youth Lecture, *From Barking Dogs to Magic Sand – Putting Chemical Toys to Work*, at four Victorian universities across Victoria.

The School of Applied Sciences hosted 330 regional and metropolitan Year 12 chemistry students in a series of analytical instrument workshops, which complemented the VCE chemistry curriculum and provided a valuable hands-on experience for students and teachers alike.

A neglected site close to the Eastern Freeway has been reborn, thanks to the work of a Conservation and Land Management student team led by Stanley Barker and teacher Helen Corney (above). The students conducted field trips and authored a management plan, which led to extensive site clearing, soil restoration and tree planting. The Burke Road billabong site is now reinhabited by native wildlife, providing habitat for water birds and forming part of a corridor linking healthy vegetation along the Yarra River.

Five *Get Real Experience* days were held to give senior secondary students the opportunity to experience life on campus, engage in hands-on workshops and explore different aspects of science, engineering and technology. About 580 students from 200 schools visited the University's City and Bundoora campuses to take part in the school holiday programs, which this year included a Computing and IT Experience Day sponsored by Boeing. Also sponsored by Boeing was the three-day Science Experience program in January.

The Conservation and Land Management program offered students a unique week-long cross-cultural learning experience in Victoria's Western District, working with indigenous community representatives. Students conducted field research into natural and cultural resources after undertaking a full-day cultural awareness seminar with the Wurundjeri community in Melbourne. These unique interactions had a deep impact on RMIT's urban students, many of whom had very little knowledge of this aspect of history.

RMIT was also proud to sponsor the 2011 National Youth Science Forum, during which 400 Year 12 students from across Australia visited the City campus to participate in interactive workshops and explore career options.

More than 1,000 Year 12 Physical Education students took part in RMIT's VCE enhancement program, designed to align with the new PE study design. Students used GPS units to compare game analysis and performed fitness tests such as VO2 max testing using a metabolic cart and measures of anaerobic power and speed.

Our active partnerships with industry ensure that RMIT remains a leader in the provision of high quality vocational education and training to businesses, communities and individuals.

More than 20,000 individuals participated in RMIT's VET programs during 2011. This included students training to become paraprofessionals through an associate degree, advanced diploma or diploma program; workers learning on-the-job to extend their skills base and build their careers; apprentices learning a trade; and young people expanding their options while still at secondary school. As Australia's largest tertiary institution, RMIT students have the advantage of flexible pathways from VET and VCE/VCAL into Higher Education.

2011 saw the continuation of large scale reform in the VET sector, with State and Federal Government policies further embedding a demand-driven training system. RMIT has continued to perform well in this increasingly competitive environment.

Industry Partnerships

RMIT has continued to develop its industry partnerships and provide tailored workforce development solutions to a diverse range of clients from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. The University has successfully worked with a wide range of enterprises, providing work-relevant, on-the-job training aligned to clients' business objectives. Employers value RMIT's VET programs for their capacity to engage employees in high quality vocational education and training with flexible pathways into higher education. Commercial activity in VET increased significantly in 2011, with VET programs exceeding targets for Australian fee-paying students.

RMIT's IT Cadetship program was re-launched during 2011, after being redesigned to incorporate the Certificate IV, Diploma and Associate Degree in Information Technology, and also to include vendor training from CISCO. The program has strong support from industry and the community due to its integration of national qualifications with globally-recognised training.

As RMIT's relationship with clothing manufacturer Billabong moved into its fourth year, enrolments expanded to include four new groups in Queensland and NSW. Employees are enrolled in a range of programs in business, management and transport and logistics from Certificate IV to Advanced Diploma level.

RMIT continues to be a major provider of vocational education and training in the Community Services sector. In 2011, existing partnerships were strengthened and new partnerships were formed with a wide range of organisations including the Salvation Army, HomeGround Services, Doutta Galla Community Health, Leadership Plus, Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative, The Torch, Guide Dogs Victoria, Villa Maria, Belden Australia, McArthur Management Services, the City of Whittlesea and the Department of Human Services.

A project based at the University's new Advanced Manufacturing Precinct investigated the skills needed for effective utilisation of the National Broadband Network within this sector, and introduced a pilot training program.



Printing and Graphic Arts student Nicolas Sharp examines his work.



Professional Writing teacher and RMIT graduate Cath Crowley won the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Young Adult Fiction, as well as the Ethel Turner Prize in the NSW Premier's Literary Awards, for her novel *Graffiti Moon*.



RMIT students Jeremiah Green, Matthew Hicks and Daniel Bartleson display their Master Plumbers and Mechanical Services Association awards.

Learning and Teaching

RMIT recognises the value of Associate Degrees as distinctive qualifications that provide strong vocational outcomes for graduates, a mechanism for students to articulate into higher degrees, and a means of addressing paraprofessional skill shortages.

In response to industry demand, RMIT has significantly increased its Associate Degree offerings. Their increasing popularity is a testament to the University's unique approach, which encompasses:

- » guaranteed pathways to Bachelor degrees (two years' advanced standing in directly-related degrees)
- » guaranteed credit into Diploma or Advanced Diploma programs in a similar field of study
- » integrated VET pathways that incorporate nationally-accredited vocational competencies, ensuring they are highly relevant to industry
- » industry recognition, by ensuring that programs are aligned with employers' needs and have professional accreditation where appropriate.

In 2011, RMIT extended its VCE program to students in the northern suburbs, offering a Year 11 program at Bundoora campus. RMIT now has 500 students enrolled in VCE, with the majority studying Year 12 at the City campus. RMIT VCE graduates have access to a variety of pathways into tertiary programs and the workforce.

The University's VET in Schools (VETiS) initiative continues to expand the range of programs available to students. The Certificate III in Allied Health was introduced in response to skill shortages, and Certificates II and III in Applied Languages, specifically in Asian languages, were included in the VETiS offerings. The language programs are delivered flexibly through school-based learning, university-based language immersion activities, social culture and workplace simulation, and online learning. The response from secondary schools has been exceptional, with many rural schools taking part.

After an extensive development process, RMIT launched a unique, custom-designed database that dramatically enhances the tracking of attendance and performance of apprentices and trainees. The Apprenticeship and Traineeship Logistical Administration System (ATLAS) simplifies compliance with government and industry quality requirements, and facilitates communication between teaching staff and employers by enabling access to individual students' data.

Strategic professional development programs were provided for 260 TAFE teachers and managers, ensuring that RMIT staff continue to provide high quality education and training. Nearly 200 teachers completed the Certificate IV in Training and Education, as part of a University-wide initiative to ensure that staff upgrade their qualification by June 2012.

A further 33 staff completed the Diploma of VET Practice. Seventeen program managers and VET directors participated in AQTF training, providing these senior managers with the skills and knowledge required in the changing VET environment.

International

RMIT has continued to train Minmetals Resources apprentices in a variety of trades including electrotechnology, refrigeration, air conditioning, carpentry and fabrication, at the company's copper and gold operations in Laos. Through the program, Minmetals is able to contribute to community development.

Public Relations students collaborated with students from Kirkwood Community College, US, as part of a transnational work-integrated learning project developed for VicRoads.

RMIT University was a partner in the Dusseldorp Foundation's *Modelling Vocational Excellence (MoVE)* international research program which investigated the development of vocational expertise and the pursuit of excellence in vocational practice. The research is informed by data collected from WorldSkills competitors and experts.

Student and Staff Achievements

Three RMIT students were among those recognised at the Master Plumbers and Mechanical Services Association of Australia's 104th Gold Medal and Training Awards. Daniel Bartleson was awarded the George Stone Pre-Apprenticeship Award for his pre-apprenticeship in plumbing, Matthew Hicks was awarded the Alfred Atherton Educational Award, and Jeremiah Green received the Indigenous Apprentice Award (above).

Nicolas Sharp (above left) was awarded a Medallion for Excellence in Graphic Design Technology at WorldSkills, the world's largest skills competition, involving 1,000 young people from more than 50 countries and regions. The event held in London attracted some 150,000 visitors to see competitors vie for success in 46 skill areas.

Community Development teacher Anne Fitzpatrick won an award from the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association, recognising her work in delivering the Diploma of Community Development in the Grampians region of Victoria. RMIT partnered with the Grampians Indigenous Family Violence Regional Action Group to deliver the program in a flexible way that enables indigenous students to participate in vocational education and training. The program has achieved excellent retention rates.

David McLean (School of Business TAFE) won the award for Best Early Career Researcher for his paper at the Australian Vocational Education and Training Research Association Conference. The paper, *A Victorian tale of two texts: Skills Reform and the Multi-Business Agreement*, is based on his doctoral research.

TAFE Enrolments (headcount) by Broad Program Level	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
AQF 5-6 (Dip, Adv Dip)	9,957	10,087	9,708	9,123	8,854
AQF 3-4 (Certs III & IV)	7,645	8,353	8,770	8,775	8,527
AQF 1-2 (Certs I & II)	2,603	2,765	1,194	1,453	1,099
VCE/VCAL	536	531	543	511	526
Other*	942	868	917	692	661
Total	21,683	22,604	21,132	20,554	19,976

*Non-award programs/programs not elsewhere classified.

Key Performance Indicators	2010	2011
Participation of 15–24 year-olds	10,366	10,001
Participation of 25–64 year-olds	7,410	6,849
Module load completion rate*	78.5%	81.3%
Student overall satisfaction	80.8%	85.4%
Student contact hours (SCH)	9,167,575	9,492,912
Total Cost per Student Contact Hour (SCH)	\$14.87	\$15.21
Working capital ratio**	0.93 : 1.0	0.87 : 1.0
Net operating margin	6.0%	5.9%
Fee for service revenue (as % of total TAFE revenue)	37.4%	43.1%
Revenue per EFT staff (TAFE teaching and non-teaching staff)**	\$127,351	\$130,560

* Calculated for total SCHs of all modules reported to Skills Victoria.

**After adjusting Current LSL Provision in accordance with International Accounting Standards restatement requirements.

Energy Consumption	2010	2011	% Change
Gas (MJ)	21,163,357	23,033,880	+8.84
Electricity (kWh)	13,204,206	13,607,038	+3.05
Green Power (kWh)	2,640,841	2,721,408	+3.05
Energy (MJ)	68,898,498	72,019,215	+4.83

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

In 2011, the University adopted a new Internationalisation Plan, Enabling RMIT's Global Aspirations, bringing international activity into alignment with key priorities as enunciated in the University's Strategic Plan 2011–2015.

Strategic Approach

The Internationalisation Plan addresses the means for creating a fully global university with presences in key cities around the world, within the overriding theme of growth offshore to achieve scale and capacity as a global university of technology and design. The Plan has eight priorities:

- » development of global campuses, partnerships and networks, supporting growth in student enrolments and student mobility
- » development of global education via a quality-assured globalised curriculum
- » ensuring the student experience is comparable across RMIT program locations
- » increasing opportunities for student mobility
- » contributing to the University's global research aspirations
- » building a globally-connected network of industry and alumni contacts
- » enabling and supporting staff to achieve RMIT's global objectives
- » continuing improvement of governance, policy frameworks and support systems that enable internationalisation as a key strategic imperative central to the core business activity and culture of the University.

Onshore International Education

The international education industry in Australia continued to experience a significant downturn in the number of international students choosing this country as a study destination. Factors contributing to a contraction of student flows into Australia have included the strong Australian dollar; tough student visa regulations; increased competition from the US, UK, Canada and other study destinations; uncertainty in global financial markets; and continued negative publicity in the international media with the collapse of private colleges.

In light of these challenges, RMIT implemented several strategies to address the downturn in student enquiries and applications, including a comprehensive review of marketing and student recruitment operations. The University engaged heavily with our network of overseas representatives and sponsoring bodies, and other stakeholders, to ensure that the decline from key source markets can be balanced by an increase in student numbers from new and developing markets.

International student commencements totalled 6,042 (excluding English language students). RMIT's onshore international student population (new and continuing) numbered 11,978 in 2011. The University attracted commencing students from 99 countries, with China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam and India forming the top five source markets.

International students enrolled in RMIT-funded and overseas Government scholarships totalled 1,046 (409 commencing and 637 returning students, excluding English language students), an increase of 5 per cent against 2010. Commencing sponsored students in 2011 came primarily from Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Kuwait.

Five Endeavour International Postgraduate Awards were provided to commencing students in PhD research programs. In all, scholarships were funded by more than 40 Australian and overseas government providers in 27 countries.

Pathway Programs

RMIT International College coordinates the onshore delivery of pathway programs to full fee-paying international students for the University. Programs managed include five discipline-based Foundation Studies programs and a higher education Diploma of Commerce. These programs provide alternative entry pathways to the University, and students are assisted to transition successfully into a wide range of RMIT undergraduate programs. The pathway programs are quality-assured by the University and taught by RMIT staff.

International Rankings

RMIT performed strongly in the 2011 QS World University Rankings. The University was ranked sixth world-wide for the international profile of its student cohort, and 21st world-wide for the international profile of its academic staff. We are ranked in the top 90 universities in the world for engineering and technology.

The QS Rankings also revealed that global employers have a strong preference for RMIT graduates. Some 5,000 global employers took part in the ranking exercise, indicating from which universities they would prefer to recruit graduates. RMIT was once again highly regarded, having leapt from 76th in the world in 2010 to 51st in 2011.

In the QS Stars evaluation system, RMIT received the maximum 5 Star rating for excellence in higher education, based on research and teaching quality, graduate employability, infrastructure, internationalisation and innovation.

The QS Best Student Cities ranking has named Melbourne as Australia's top city for students, and the fourth in the world, behind Paris, London and Boston.



Kristian Hahndel on site at BMW in Munich, Germany, as part of the RMIT International Industry Experience and Research Program.



Luke Thomas, who worked at Airbus in Toulouse, France, in an internship with the RMIT International Industry Experience and Research Program.



Rachel Holthouse, CEO of RMIT Training, at the launch of the English Academic Passport.

Student Mobility

Student mobility is integral to achieving one of the key priorities set out in RMIT's Internationalisation Plan. The University provides students with a global passport to work and learning internationally through a range of opportunities that include semester exchange, study tours, internships and fee-paying semesters of study.

In 2011, RMIT sent more than 1,000 students out on international mobility programs of various types and durations. On average, 15 per cent of RMIT undergraduates undertake an international study experience as part of their degree programs at RMIT. With a focus on mobility between Vietnam and Melbourne campuses, diversification of short-term programs, and the creation of strategic links with new international partners, it is anticipated that even greater numbers of students will undertake an international study experience in the coming years.

In addition to securing \$200,000 in DEEWR funding to support individual study experiences, RMIT won support for various short term mobility programs. These included a cultural and environmental study tour to the Fiji Islands; a language study tour to Japan; an internship in the Cook Islands for student teachers from disadvantaged backgrounds; and a project providing Fashion and Textile Merchandising students the opportunity to study and work in Asia.

RMIT International Industry Experience and Research Program

2011 marked the 20th year of RMIT's International Industry Experience and Research Program (RIERP), which provides opportunities for students to undertake international work experience and research with major organisations in 17 countries. Since 1991, the program has sent more than 1,700 students overseas for 6–12 month paid placements with leading international companies.

In 2011, 73 per cent of the participants in the program were undergraduate students in the final year of their studies. The remainder were graduate students, including PhD research students. Three placements were also provided for TAFE students at blue ribbon companies such as the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company in Germany, Dégremont in France and Alstom in Switzerland.

The overall number of internships increased from 2010 to 131, and the range of disciplines participating in the program was diversified.

RMIT English Worldwide

RMIT English Worldwide (REW) operates as one of three business units within RMIT Training Pty Ltd. The delivery of English language programs is the core activity of REW, with a focus on English for Academic Preparation (EAP) and English for industry, specifically the aviation industry.

EAP programs, delivered at the REW Language Centre in Melbourne and on the Vietnam campus, provide English preparation for students preparing to enter RMIT. The Melbourne program also supports students who are not planning to enter the University but are looking for high quality English academic programs delivered by an accredited ELICOS provider. These students often engage in IELTS preparation programs and sit an IELTS test.

RMIT English Worldwide officially launched its new English language curriculum, the *English Academic Passport*. Including 1,000 hours of print materials and 300 hours of e-learning activities, the program is more international and youth-oriented, with greater focus on the development of academic skills.

In 2011 REW continued to experience the Australia-wide impact of decreasing ELICOS numbers which has resulted in a significant decrease in international students enrolling in English language programs and University degrees. It is believed that implementation of some of the recommendations of the Knight Review will improve student enrolments in the coming year.

Revenue for ELICOS in 2011 reached more than \$10 million, reflecting the enrolment of 1,200 new students and the purchase of 23,000 student weeks. Revenue from IELTS testing, IELTS preparation and the Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA) program totalled \$2.6 million for the year.

The REW Language Centre in Melbourne also hosts several study tours each year from Japan, Korea, Italy and elsewhere. More than 200 students engaged in these programs in 2011, contributing revenue of \$500,000.

Internationally, REW continued to play an active role in providing EAP through partnerships in Shanghai, Bangkok and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as ongoing support for English learning at the Vietnam campus. EAP programs offshore contributed \$1.3 million in revenue.

Aviation English partnerships across the Middle East, Russia, Asia and Europe were active, with the number of candidates who have taken an RMIT English Language Test for Aviation since its release reaching 20,000. During the year, REW launched an online training package, *Beyond Level 4*, to allow international pilots and air traffic controllers to enhance and maintain language proficiency levels between tests while meeting busy work schedules.

REW's contribution to the aviation industry was reinforced by attendance at industry forums in France, Croatia, Argentina and Thailand, and contracts with partners in Russia, Brazil, Sweden, Netherlands, Macau and UAE were renewed. Revenue from Aviation English for the year was in excess of \$500,000.



Students from Singapore at RMIT's City campus.
Photo courtesy of Raymond Yeo, RMIT-SIM graduate.



Professor Guan Naijia, Nankai University, and Stephen Connelly, Deputy Vice-Chancellor International and Development, sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities.

Delegations

RMIT hosted 93 high level visits from international delegations, eight more than in 2010, with visiting delegates numbering 400. RMIT's global connectivity was demonstrated by the diverse range of countries from which these delegations originated: 35 countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, the sub-continent, Asia, North and South America and the Caribbean were represented. Delegations from China (21) continued to be the most frequent, followed by those from Europe (17) Malaysia (9) and Vietnam (6).

Of the Chinese delegations, many came with a focus on learning about RMIT's expertise in quality assurance. Latin America also made an impact. A visit from a delegation of Mexican universities led to the formalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding with the highly ranked Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

RMIT and Spain forged further links during a visit from representatives of the Spanish Government to mark the establishment of a Spanish Resource Centre in the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning. The visit was well attended by various Spanish and Latin American government representatives.

RMIT's global research linkages also benefited from a high level visit from the Czech Republic. A Czech research and development mission to Australia consisting of key government, university and industry stakeholders visited RMIT in June with the purpose of exploring collaborative opportunities in the field of automotive research. Reciprocal visits from RMIT staff to the Czech Republic have since highlighted considerable scope for future research collaboration.

Overall outcomes from delegations were significant. Opportunities for joint programs, collaborative research, student exchange, industry engagement and access to scholarship students from funding bodies are some of the potential outcomes from the year's delegations. Importantly, RMIT has continued to demonstrate its ability to forge strong global partnerships and profile its expertise to diverse international audiences.

International Engagement

During 2011 RMIT signed 35 international Memoranda of Understanding with institutions in Asia, Europe and the Americas. The MOUs formalise the commitment of both parties to the development of joint programs, research activities, industry linkages and student pathways. Disciplines covered include Media and Communication, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Health and Food Sciences, Fashion and Textiles, Space Research, Automotive and Business.

An agreement with the University of Indonesia, an institution with the highest ranking in that country, was concluded to develop programs in translation and interpreting. The collaboration aims to draw on RMIT's expertise in this discipline to ultimately establish a translation and interpreting accreditation system in Indonesia.

A number of MOUs were signed in Tianjin, building on RMIT's history of collaboration with Beijing's neighbouring city which is the home of the Binhai New Area, ranked as China's highest performing free trade zone. Early in 2011, RMIT was invited to participate in the first multiple MOU signing ceremony as part of the Tianjin Municipal Education Commission's strategy of internationalisation. MOUs were finalised with Nankai University and Tianjin University, both highly ranked institutions which lie under the central jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education.

MOUs were also signed during the year with Tianjin Institute of Urban Construction and Tianjin Medical University, allowing for collaboration in fields of research strength.

Reflecting the University's offerings in technology and design, other MOUs focus on research linkages between RMIT's Satellite Positioning for Atmosphere, Climate and Environment (SPACE) Research Centre and equivalent centres in Austria and Taiwan, as well as research and academic collaborations in the fields of digital media, games animation and communication design between RMIT's School of Media and Communication and institutions in Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and the US.

As well as its Melbourne campuses, RMIT University has campuses in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi in Vietnam, and offers programs through partners in Asia and Europe.



Professor Gill Palmer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, presents a PhD testamur.



Kuala Lumpur graduations: Smiles at a job well done.



Singapore graduations: Time to celebrate with the family.

Offshore Partnership Programs

2011 was a year of continuing success for RMIT's transnational education. With 11,000 students enrolled in RMIT Higher Education and TAFE programs offered through 16 partners in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, mainland China, Sri Lanka, Laos, Belgium and elsewhere, RMIT has consolidated its position as a leading provider of transnational education.

The strengthening and expansion of existing offshore partnerships was a strong focus for RMIT during 2011. Of particular note was the signing of new long-term agreements between RMIT and the Singapore Institute of Management, reaffirming SIM as RMIT's oldest and largest offshore partner.

2011 also saw considerable growth in our partnership with the Vocational Training Council's School for Higher and Professional Education (SHAPE) in Hong Kong. This includes commencement of the Bachelor of Engineering (Civil and Infrastructure), and scheduling of the Engineering (Mechanical Engineering) and Applied Science (Construction Management) degrees for 2012.

These new programs follow the success of RMIT's Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical Engineering) at SHAPE, which has obtained accreditation from both Engineers Australia and the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers.

A new agreement was finalised leading to commencement of the Master of Fine Art at the Hong Kong Arts School. This program provides students with a pathway in fine arts education from RMIT's Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art) program at the HK Arts School, with the possibility of continuing to Doctorate of Fine Art at RMIT by distance. Agreement to re-launch a new version of the long-standing Bachelor of Business (Management) program with the Hong Kong Management Association was also reached.

A new agreement was also signed with the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade (SIFT) during 2011, demonstrating the strength of this long-standing partnership and a bright future for the suite of Business programs collaboratively offered in Shanghai by RMIT and SIFT.

Graduation ceremonies were held for 3,016 RMIT students studying with offshore partners in Singapore, Malaysia, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

RMIT programs in Malaysia offer students hands-on experience in disciplines including Business, Accountancy, Management, IT and Computer Science. A genuine connection with industry in Malaysia means that the skills and knowledge taught in RMIT programs is up-to-date and in high demand.

In Singapore, RMIT works in partnership with SIM, Stansfield College, Sma Institute of Higher Learning and Air Transport Training College.

A total of 2,383 students received testamurs at ceremonies in Singapore in August and December, 158 students graduated in Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade graduating students totalled 82, and 342 students graduated in Hong Kong.

Offshore Higher Education Award Completions

Country	No.
Singapore	2,348
Vietnam	1,049
Hong Kong	541
Malaysia	134
Japan	70
China	45
Taiwan	9
Sri Lanka	2
Other	47
Total	4,245

Figures are for 2010. Data not available for VET.



Nguyen Thanh Huyen, Deputy Director of the Department of International Cooperation, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training, presents a Certificate of Merit to Professor Margaret Gardner AO.



RMIT Vietnam's Saigon South campus looks at its best for the visiting Minister.



Professor Marilyn Liddell AM, RMIT Vietnam President (second left), among Australia's top 50 women leaders in the Asia-Pacific region.

Research Partnerships

In 2011 – the International Year of Chemistry – RMIT opened a joint Research Centre with the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) in Hyderabad, India. Established to focus on environmental and industrial research, the Centre is the University's first collaborative research venture in India and an exemplar of cooperation in chemical research between the two nations. RMIT has committed more than \$400,000 to the initiative, \$150,000 of which has already been contributed towards the establishment of the facility and student scholarships.

Each year, Indian students will compete for PhD scholarship places at the Centre, and will be jointly supervised by RMIT and IICT researchers. The facility will also allow researchers to work collaboratively on projects, including catalysis for green chemistry, advanced materials and renewable energy, processes for water quality monitoring and waste water treatment, control of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and bio-nanotechnology.

RMIT and IICT researchers are already working together on projects in relation to nano-engineered materials, the removal of mercury from industrial air effluents, and environmentally sustainable design for industrial processing.

RMIT Vietnam

In 2001, RMIT University opened its first international campus in Ho Chi Minh City, and RMIT International University Vietnam was born.

2011 was a milestone year for RMIT Vietnam, marking the 10th anniversary of students first being enrolled in Vietnam. From small beginnings in converted premises in Ho Chi Minh City with just over 30 students, RMIT Vietnam has grown to become a major presence on the Vietnamese education scene.

By the end of 2011, RMIT Vietnam had around 6,000 students, spread across three campuses: a purpose-built campus at Saigon South, about 10 kilometres from the centre of Ho Chi Minh City (opened in 2005); a modern multi-storey campus at the edge of Ngoc Khanh Lake in Hanoi (relocated in 2010); and, in 2011, a return to the inner-city location in Ho Chi Minh City.

The original Pham Ngoch Thach campus was re-opened, after a six year absence, as a specialised language learning centre catering to the many people wishing to undertake pre-university language studies and short courses at a central city location.

The Vietnamese government honoured RMIT International University Vietnam on the anniversary of its creation, granting a Certificate of Merit for outstanding achievements in its development and operations over the past 10 years (above left).

RMIT Vietnam also received a special award from the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam for its decade of contribution to Vietnam-Australia business relationships.

Campus Developments

Notable developments were brought to fruition during 2011 – most significantly, a new \$15.2 million (VND310 billion) recreation and events complex and student accommodation building at the Saigon South campus.

The world-standard facilities were officially opened by Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kevin Rudd, in a major address on the Vietnam-Australia relationship in which he commended RMIT for its strong presence in Vietnam. The complex includes accommodation facilities as well as a sports field, gymnasium and multifunctional basketball court, enabling students to have a well-rounded university experience.

A new library and learning facility was also opened, with the aim of bringing the latest thinking in international library design to Vietnam. The library features a greatly expanded book collection and enhanced access to electronic databases from around the world, as well as a range of learning and discussion spaces to allow for different kinds of study.

As well, major investment was made in IT facilities and infrastructure, recognising the rapid development of online learning applications and increased student preference for wireless and mobile facilities to gain access to university information.

RMIT's leadership in Vietnam received recognition when the President of RMIT Vietnam, Professor Marilyn Liddell AM (above), was named as one of Australia's Top 50 women leaders in the Asia-Pacific region. Professor Liddell received the honour at a ceremony at the Sydney Opera House on the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, as part of the Advance Women's Leadership Summit backed by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



Moment of Passion, an event planning venture, won the Best Financial Plan award in the RMIT Business Plan Competition. (L-R) Team members Pham Thi Tuyet Trang, Ngo Dang Que and Pham Thi Tuyet Trang with Delia Taylor, Westpac Banking Corporation.



Centre, L-R: The Vietnamese Ambassador to Australia, Hoang Vinh Thanh; Michael Bryce, the Governor-General's husband; Professor Marilyn Liddell AM; the Governor-General; the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, Allaster Cox; the Australian Consul-General in Ho Chi Minh City, Graeme Swift; Dr Matthew Sukumaran, RMIT Vietnam; flanked by RMIT students wearing traditional "ao dai", during the Governor-General's visit to RMIT Vietnam.

Learning and Teaching

Students again participated in the RMIT Business Plan Competition, with teams from Vietnam campuses now accounting for more than a third of total entries. RMIT Vietnam students were among the overall winners for the third year in a row.

Two teams comprising Commerce students won \$5,000 awards, from the City of Melbourne for Best Social Enterprise and from Westpac Banking Corporation for Best Financial Plan. As the students were entering a demanding international competition in their second language, and competing with a large number of students including some at Masters level, it was a noteworthy achievement.

Students continued to involve themselves in worthwhile community activities, including a series of four community projects designed to provide practical contributions to Vietnam and to build local skills and knowledge:

- » Assistance to a shelter for visually impaired children and to a centre providing support to children affected by HIV/AIDS, with the development of online and printed information for donors and interested parties
- » A marketing and business plan for a charity café to provide vocational training to disabled teenagers
- » Support to a HIV/AIDS education program working with disadvantaged communities to improve their knowledge about environment issues, health, safety and hygiene
- » Support to the Danang Women's and Children's Hospital in establishing working systems in a new paediatric department.

RMIT Vietnam intensified efforts to encourage more research activity amongst its academics and greater cooperation with academics at other universities.

A two-day workshop on research career development at the Saigon South campus attracted 130 researchers from Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Hong Kong. The event, hosted in association with the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management and the Asia Academy of Management, made an important contribution to strengthening mutual awareness and cooperation in academic research development across the region.

Academic staff and students from Vietnam contributed to a major renewal of the English language teaching curriculum for RMIT University, announced in 2011. Around 150 people from education and industry gathered at Saigon South campus for a seminar staged in association with RMIT English Worldwide, to brief Vietnamese educators and industry on the reforms.

New academic programs in Economics and Finance, Marketing and Computer and Electronic Engineering at Masters level made solid progress in attracting new enrolments during 2011, demonstrating growing interest in these fields in Vietnam's fast-developing economy.

RMIT Vietnam celebrated its latest graduates at special 10th anniversary graduation ceremonies at the Hanoi Opera House and at the Saigon South campus. The ceremonies brought the cumulative total of RMIT Vietnam graduates to just over 3,600 for the period 2001-11.

The Australian Ambassador, Allaster Cox, spoke at the Hanoi ceremony of the important contribution RMIT and its Vietnamese graduates have made to building stronger relationships between Vietnam and Australia, for the benefit of both countries. Keynote speaker at the Ho Chi Minh City graduation was Ngo Quoc Dung, one of the first graduates from the campus who now owns a successful creative agency.

DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

RMIT's collaboration with industry and the community is integral to its leadership in applied research and education, and to the development of highly skilled, work-ready, globally focused graduates.



RMIT Health and Community Services Industry forum.



Stephen Connelly, DVC International and Development, with Gou Lijun, Secretary of the Tianjin Municipal Committee's Education Working Committee, at a research symposium in Tianjin.

Strategic Industry Engagement

In 2011, RMIT continued to build on its industry engagement strategy across the five broad sectors in which we have significant expertise:

- » aerospace and aviation
- » automotive
- » built environment, construction and infrastructure
- » health and community services
- » media and communications.

The aims of the strategy are:

- » to ensure high quality work-relevant education that leads to strong graduate outcomes
- » to build effective industry relationships supporting applied research and education
- » to establish strategic partnerships within key industries leading to effective dialogue on research and educational opportunities.

RMIT's industry forums are a central part of the University's industry engagement strategy. Hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, these annual forums bring together selected industry leaders from across the private and public sectors, providing an opportunity to discuss future perspectives and the critical issues affecting the sector. The forums also provide valuable advice to the University on industry priorities for research, professional education and graduate skills.

In 2011, forums were held for all of the five key industry sectors.

Global industry engagement progressed significantly during 2011. Thirty-five incoming international groups attended executive education programs at RMIT, including nine groups from Vietnam. These programs, of one week to 12 weeks' duration, are contextualised to meet specific professional development and cultural needs.

RMIT has a long history of engagement with Tianjin, with which the City of Melbourne has had a 30-year sister city relationship – the first established for any city in China. Some 300 alumni of RMIT professional development programs now work in positions of influence and authority in educational institutions and municipal administration in Tianjin.

As part of its focus on key partnership cities, RMIT held two significant events in Tianjin in 2011. In October the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor Robert Doyle, and the Mayor of Tianjin, Mr Huang Xingguo, joined the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO in celebrating 10 years of delivery by RMIT of the Tianjin Government Leaders Program. More than 180 Tianjin leaders celebrated and shared their experiences as alumni of RMIT at the garden party held at Prince Gong Mansion in Tianjin.

Later in the year, the DVC International and Development and DVC Research and Innovation led eight RMIT researchers to Tianjin to hold an inaugural research symposium (above). The two-day symposium, *Making Cities Work*, explored themes such as urban design, finance, health, clean water, renewable energy and smart grids. Each RMIT researcher co-presented with academics from partner universities in Tianjin. The symposium was supplemented by site visits to partner universities to discuss collaborative research opportunities.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Tianjin Government Leaders Training Program.



Judy Cope-Williams, daughter of Sir John Storey (who established the John Storey Junior Memorial Scholarships in memory of his son), with RMIT student and scholarship recipient Dylan Turnbull, at the Donor Reception in the RMIT Gallery.



Bharat Mitra, President of Organic India, with Professor Margaret Gardner AO.

University Development

In 2011 RMIT welcomed a new Development team commencing with the appointment of Melissa Smith as Director of Development. Ms Smith was named Global Fundraiser of the Year at the International Fundraising Congress in the Netherlands in October. The Development team is responsible for the University's fundraising strategy, which builds on RMIT's culture of giving that commenced with our philanthropic supporters 124 years ago, and aims to develop a sustainable fundraising base for the future.

Fundraising at RMIT focuses on fostering excellence in scholarships, research and capital projects. Total funds raised in 2011 increased by 50 per cent against the previous year. The Annual Appeal for scholarships to support disadvantaged and high-achieving students raised more money than any previous year. A significant number of donors committed to donate over multiple years, providing a sound foundation for the future.

Significant Gifts in 2011

A \$600,000 bequest from the trustees of the estate of Emeritus Professor John Jackson has supported the establishment of a new annual scholarship. Professor Jackson held a number of leading roles at the University, starting as Dean of Business in 1991 and finishing his career in 2003 as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources). This bequest supports one of the University's most significant philanthropic scholarships to date.

With the goal of encouraging creativity in business and a culture of entrepreneurship in Australia, alumnus and Chairman of BHP Billiton, Jacques Nasser, has donated over \$500,000 to RMIT since 2004 to support students undertaking the Bachelor of Business (Entrepreneurship).

In 2011, Mr Nasser gave an additional \$20,000, which was matched by BHP Billiton, to the Jacques Nasser Scholarship Fund. The Fund supports business start-up scholarships, rural and regional participation in higher education, and provides travel assistance to attend the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organisation conference in the US.

International entrepreneur Bharat Mitra (above), co-founder of Organic India, gave \$50,000 to fund research into the health properties of tulsī, a widely revered herb in India with strong antioxidant, antibacterial and immune-enhancing properties.

Copyright Agency Limited's Cultural Fund continued to build on its partnership with RMIT, which began in 2009 with the Writers in Residence program. CAL has committed \$100,000 to a new research project led by Dr Francesca Rendle-Short and Dr David Carlin (School of Media and Communication). The project comprises the StoriesNOW Creators in Residence program and upcoming NonFictionNow conference, which aim to provide opportunities for established and emerging writers to develop their work, and for the public to share in their discoveries.

The Trust Company, as trustee for the Fred P Archer Charitable Trust, donated \$50,000 to support a project in Papua New Guinea focused on long-term water, sanitation and healthcare provision. The remote community development project is coordinated by Dr Yaso Nadarajah (School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning).



Toni Jordan, Tim Ferguson, Fiona Wood and Cath Crowley at the RMIT alumni forum, *The Story of Us*.



RMIT alumni Jon Tay, Hanani Arshad, Josephine Gan and Michelle Lee at a function in Kuala Lumpur.



Amit Menghani with his Young Victoria of the Year award.

Major Events

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, hosted an inaugural reception to thank those who donated to RMIT in 2011, and to acknowledge the ongoing support of the University's many donors.

Guest speakers included RMIT 2010 Alumnus of the Year and Archibald Prize-winning artist, Sam Leach, and current student Dylan Turnbull, giving donors the opportunity to hear about the impact of scholarships and awards on individuals and the broader community. Mr Turnbull was awarded a John Storey scholarship and an RMIT Equity Travel Grant during his study, which led to his receiving both the 2011 Business Medal and University's Highest Prize for Student Achievement (TAFE).

Representatives from The Atlantic Philanthropies attended the formal opening by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kevin Rudd, of the new recreation and accommodation complex at Ho Chi Minh City Campus. Atlantic Philanthropies has given significant support to RMIT Vietnam over its first 10 years of operations, and provided \$6.5 million towards the total cost of the complex.

Alumni Engagement

RMIT University, together with its antecedent and partner institutions, has 280,000 alumni in over 130 countries. Active RMIT alumni networks exist in Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Vietnam, China and elsewhere.

Each month, 60,000 alumni receive *RMIT Connect*, an electronic newsletter outlining news, special events and benefits for alumni. RMIT's alumni Facebook page has grown rapidly and has more than 10,000 followers.

Seminars and forums throughout the year gave alumni the opportunity to remain connected with and contribute to RMIT, hear from high-profile graduates, and network with others in the alumni community.

Events included:

- » **The Story of Us:** This public forum featured a discussion between three prominent Melbourne writers and RMIT alumni Toni Jordan, Cath Crowley and Fiona Wood, chaired by comedian and RMIT lecturer Tim Ferguson (above left). The discussion explored how Melbourne, a UNESCO city of literature, has shaped their life and work.
- » **Survival of the Tech-Savvy:** This breakfast forum enabled alumni to hear from some of Australia's leading innovators on how they have adapted their careers in the face of a changing technological landscape. Speakers at the sold-out event in Storey Hall included Amanda Gome, founder of smartcompany.com.au, NASA scientist Dr James Waldie, and fashion blogger Phoebe Montague (aka Lady Melbourne).

- » **Luncheons:** A series of social luncheons offered senior alumni and retired staff the opportunity to remain connected to the University.

In 2011, RMIT established a Career Development Program enabling alumni to receive practical, professional advice in areas such as career planning and job seeking.

RMIT alumni events around the world included networking activities in Singapore and Tokyo, cocktail events in London and Hong Kong, a special forum hosted by RMIT academics in Shanghai, and an alumni event hosted by the Graduate School of Business and Law in Kuala Lumpur.

Alumni Accomplishments

Engineering graduate Amit Menghani (above) was named 2011 Young Victorian of the Year, recognising his commitment to supporting the Indian student community and reducing violence against international students and other groups.

RMIT graduate Dr Stuart Devlin AO CRM was named Australian of the Year in the UK in 2011. In announcing the award which honours Australians who have risen to prominence through their work in the UK, the Chairman of Australia Day Foundation described Dr Devlin as "the greatest living goldsmith of his generation".

Dr Devlin studied at RMIT in the 1950s, went on to create Australia's first decimal currency, and was appointed jeweller and goldsmith to the Queen. His work is displayed in the Victoria and Albert Museum.



In 2011, RMIT Council approved the Infrastructure Plan – Property 2012-2016, which details the University’s strategy for the upgrade and expansion of the built environment across all campuses.

The Infrastructure Plan is implemented through the Capital Development Program, and aligns with and supports the University’s goals and strategies as detailed in the Strategic Plan, *RMIT 2015: Transforming the Future*; Academic Plan, *Transforming the Student Experience*; and Research and Innovation Plan, *Impact through Innovation*.

Nine major projects in the current Capital Development Program were completed in 2011 across our onshore and offshore campuses, including innovative and leading-edge teaching and learning facilities and extensive landscaping. As well, a number of flagship construction projects are nearing completion.



Bundoora Lecture Theatre complex.



Student learning spaces in the new Pharmacy facilities at Bundoora campus.



The interior of RMIT's Advanced Manufacturing Precinct.

Completed Works – Bundoora Campus

RMIT's Bundoora campus has been significantly enhanced with the introduction of new facilities and landscaping.

A new lecture theatre complex, Building 224, was launched in July by the Federal Member for Scullin, Harry Jenkins. The striking complex is one of a suite of resources the University has developed to provide students and staff with facilities and systems that exemplify excellence in technology and design, and are a foundation for the highest educational outcomes.

The \$13 million project received Federal Government funding of \$9.18 million through the Better Universities Renewal Fund and \$1.15 million through the Capital Development Pool. The complex is available to the broader community for public lectures and conferences, in line with the University's ethos of connecting with the broader community through the provision of physical resources and educational services.

The auditorium has been equipped with sophisticated IT systems and audio-visual capabilities, which enable recording of lectures and enhanced interactive learning between lecturers and students. The complex contains informal study areas that can accommodate up to 200 people, with a video link from the auditorium enabling students to tune into lectures in progress.

With the capacity to accommodate up to 200 people, these areas will also be suitable for functions and other events.

The complex was designed to a high sustainable standard, in accordance with RMIT's undertaking to deliver services and operate facilities in a sustainable way and thus reduce resource consumption and the University's carbon footprint. As a result, the complex has been awarded a 4-Star Green Star rating, signifying Best Practice in Environmentally Sustainable Design.

Features include rooftop rainwater collection used for toilet flushing and irrigation; energy-efficient lighting and water fixtures; and low-VOC flooring, furnishing and parts. Landscaping provides courtyards with gardens and a covered verandah. The building's energy and water usage is monitored on a display screen inside the building.

As well, facilities to support the University's new Pharmacy degree and other programs were launched by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, together with the City of Whittlesea's Mayor, Cr Rex Griffin, and CEO, David Turnbull.

The design of this exceptional learning and teaching space in Building 205 is based on the principles of "technology-enabled active learning". The facilities, which can accommodate 108 students, have been equipped with state-of-the-art technological features to allow interactive teaching and student learning.

Future pharmacists can gain experience of actual working environments through a mock dispensing counter and consultation rooms. Audio-visual capabilities enable student participation to be captured and streamed live to interactive whiteboards. The technology built into the pharmacy facilities works in conjunction with the iPads that were given to each new Bachelor of Pharmacy student at the start of the year, to enhance their learning experience.

Sustainable building principles used to design the new facilities include high-efficiency lights controlled by motion detection, recyclable chairs and carpet, and low-VOC paint.

On a broader scale, RMIT's Bundoora campus underwent significant development in 2011 which has seen the campus transformed into a visually vibrant, engaging and sustainable environment that supports student and staff recreation and mobility.

A pedestrian spine and service corridor that connects the east and west wings of the campus has been completed. The pathway leads towards Plenty Road, enabling easy access to public transport and to all areas within the campus. To support students and staff with disabilities, a DDA-compliant link has been introduced between the student administration hub and the carpark.

Landscaping features include a broad lawn terrace, a generous promenade for pedestrian traffic, and a nestled amphitheatre. New lighting and way-finding provide security and ease of navigation.

Sustainable design features include low-maintenance planting, retention of significant existing trees and maximisation of water capture.

Completed Works – City Campus

On the City campus, comprehensive works were completed throughout 2011 that include refurbishments to heritage-listed buildings and extensive landscaping.

RMIT's Advanced Manufacturing Precinct was completed on schedule in 2011, following an extensive redevelopment of the George Thompson Building on the corner of Cardigan and Queensberry Streets, Carlton. The \$13.6 million Precinct was established to deliver skills training for the design, development, production, marketing and management processes of the advanced manufacturing sectors.

Practical training delivered at the Precinct will ultimately connect with research undertaken at the University's Design Hub (currently under construction), as well as mechanical, manufacturing and aerospace engineering at the Bundoora campus, and textile design and technology at the Brunswick campus.

The building underwent a substantial refurbishment to become a state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing facility. This included an extension with an additional rooftop level that provides more than 3,500 square metres of flexible spaces, allowing for the continuous evolution of manufacturing technologies and educational delivery.

The Precinct has been granted a 5-Star Green Star design rating. A major feature is Australia's first commercial hybrid solar lighting system, which tracks the sun and concentrates energy through fibre-optic cables. All lighting is timed to reduce unnecessary energy consumption. The building also includes natural ventilation, rainwater collection, thermal mass and high levels of insulation to the facade, and solar hot water heating and photovoltaic systems.

The Precinct was supported by \$7 million funding from the State Government.



The newly renovated Building 9.



An architect's impression of the Swanston Academic Building.



The new Academic Building currently in construction at RMIT Vietnam.

The refurbished and extended Building 9, home of the School of Media and Communication, was officially launched in August by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO. Two additional storeys have been added to the heritage-listed building, and the basement and first floor have been substantially refitted with innovative teaching, learning and office spaces to support the University's Journalism and Media programs.

Sustainable design features in Building 9 include rainwater collection tanks, natural ventilation, energy-efficient lighting, chilled beam technology and recycled or FSC-certified timber furnishings.

The rooftop extension by Peter Elliott Architecture and Urban Design won the John George Knight Award for Heritage in the Victorian Architecture Awards.

Also in 2011, the 81-year-old Kernot Building (Building 3) was transformed with the introduction of a double-layered glass curtain wall. The glass in this contemporary facade, which complements the building's original neo-grecian style, is toughened and laminated to ensure a high level of safety, longevity and shading. This wall wraps to the back of the building and provides shelter and sun control on the east facade, while also enhancing its aesthetic appeal.

The 52-year-old Building 21 has been upgraded through the installation of window shades and climbing plants to provide shading and insulation, as well as to integrate its appearance with the surrounding heritage buildings.

The renovations to these two buildings have further enhanced the appeal of the enclave surrounding Francis Ormond Building (Building 1) that encompasses the University lawn and courtyard.

The heritage-listed Emily McPherson Building, which was re-opened after extensive renovations in 2010, has been enhanced with landscape design work to complement the building and the neighbouring Old Melbourne Gaol. The new landscaping has been designed around the pre-existing sunken courtyard, a popular recreation space for the RMIT community, providing a contemporary interpretation of the Edwardian garden style and enhancing the amenity of the area.

Other landscaping works completed in 2011 included the installation of sophisticated lighting on four steel structures in Bowen Street. The illuminated pathway enhances security and has transformed the main thoroughfare on the City campus into a precinct of outdoor art. Drought-tolerant deciduous plants have also been introduced to the structures.

Works in progress – Melbourne

Throughout 2011, work continued on RMIT's highly anticipated Design Hub on the former Carlton United Brewery site at the corner of Victoria and Swanston Streets. This project embodies one of RMIT's strategic goals: to be renowned globally as an urban laboratory for excellence in design, creativity and sustainability.

The Design Hub, due for completion in 2012, will be a vibrant epicentre of postgraduate design research, education and industry engagement. The building will provide cutting-edge, environmentally sustainable learning and teaching facilities, and a collegial base for RMIT's diverse range of design initiatives, research groups and postgraduate design programs.

The building's unique facade of 16,000 semi-translucent, sandblasted glass cells has been completed. The internal facade of the building, which is designed by architect and RMIT alumnus Sean Godsell, will contain high performance double-glazed units with a low-emissivity film surface emitting low levels of radiant energy.

Construction of the Swanston Academic Building is well advanced, with the project due for completion several weeks ahead of schedule in 2012.

Together with the neighbouring Design Hub, the Swanston Academic Building will mark the RMIT quarter as one of the city's most vibrant and inspirational architectural precincts. The 11-storey, 35,000 square metre building on the corner of Swanston and A'Beckett Streets also features a complex and multi-faceted facade and distinctive design that is set to dominate the skyline of the northern end of the Melbourne CBD.

The building will house the 400 staff and 12,000 students of the College of Business – one of RMIT University's three academic colleges which is currently located in Bourke Street – and will also provide teaching and learning facilities for the broader University community.

The philosophy that underpins the design of the Swanston Academic Building by Lyons Architecture is closely aligned with RMIT's goal to be urban and to provide facilities and campuses that are permeable and integrated with the cities with which the University engages.

Students Michael Buckthought (Project Management) and Calum Friend (Construction Management) are contributing to the building's construction through a cadetship with contractor Brookfield Multiplex, in line with RMIT's approach to education which emphasises engagement with industry to ensure the provision of cutting-edge professional skills.

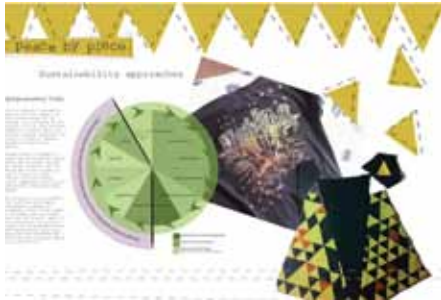
Works in Progress – Vietnam

RMIT's aim to strengthen its presence offshore with facilities that enable and support excellence in curriculum and pedagogy is being realised in the development of Academic Building 2, a new facility on RMIT Vietnam's Saigon South campus. The US\$15 million building is set to further enhance the reputation of RMIT as a leading education provider in Vietnam and the broader Asia-Pacific region.

In 2011, the construction of Academic Building 2 continued with significant progress being made. The five-level, 11,600 square metre building will accommodate up to 5,000 students. The building will provide a diverse range of facilities including general classrooms, staff accommodation, informal learning spaces and a 320-capacity auditorium.

The building, which is due for completion in early 2012, will also provide a series of specialised learning and teaching spaces for digital design, media and communication programs.

As a global university of technology and design, RMIT is committed to contributing to urban sustainability through research and education, and by modelling sustainable solutions and activities.



Peace by piece, a sustainable fashion project by a Textile Design student, recycles old t-shirts to create new garments.



Homepage of the Australian Greenhouse Calculator.

The University has established a Sustainability Committee to coordinate and promote the development and implementation of sustainability initiatives across all areas of the University. In 2011, the Committee continued to show leadership by preparing policy and action plans on sustainable futures and by overseeing the development process at RMIT.

Sustainability in Learning in Teaching

The environmental innovation and dedication of staff in RMIT's School of Fashion and Textiles was recognised in 2011 with the Premier's Sustainability Award for Tertiary Education.

The Bachelor of Arts (Textile Design) program won a further flagship award at the Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability's annual conference, receiving a Green Gown Award in the Learning and Teaching category.

The awards recognise the sustained effort of the University to embed sustainability principles and practice into its textile design studies. RMIT's Textile Design academics have creatively explored and re-examined textile design practice through the Curriculum Change to Embed Sustainability project, which began in 2009.

The project produced an innovative curriculum change model, with the aim of ensuring that learning outcomes provide students with increased awareness and empowerment to implement sustainability change within their careers.

Placing sustainability as a core principle of the discipline ensures that graduates are equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to practice sustainably, and to ensure the discipline of textile design is relevant and sustainable in the 21st century.

Australian Greenhouse Calculator

RMIT's Centre for Design, through a project managed by Education Services Australia, has developed a free, easy-to-use program that will enable households to measure the impact of simple lifestyle changes or investment in energy-efficient products in just 15 minutes.

The Australian Greenhouse Calculator, an Environment Protection Authority tool, was officially launched at RMIT in 2011 by Victoria's Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Professor Kate Auty. The program aims to empower individuals and households by offering accurate and relevant information to help them see how their activities contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.

The calculator shows families how they can live more sustainably and offset the increasing cost of carbon and energy, helping them make decisions that are good for both the environment and their budgets. It is also suitable for use in education, business and community engagement settings.

The calculator covers 11 lifestyle categories – transport, air travel, heating and cooling, hot water, clothes dryer, lighting, refrigeration, cooking, other appliances, food and shopping and waste – which can be completed in either a "quick" or "detailed" mode.



L-R: RMIT's Peter Fairbrother and Darryn Snell, with Val Prokopiv and John Parker of the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council. The RMIT Centre for Sustainable Organisations and Work is working closely with key stakeholders to support the Latrobe Valley region in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Thinking Green at RMIT

A recycling scheme that aims to reclaim 20 tonnes a year of bottles and cans was launched at the University's City campus in 2011.

The \$95,000 project, funded by RMIT and the Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council, has placed extra recycling bins and new Do the Right Thing, Use the Right Bin signage across campuses in the City, Brunswick and Bundoora.

Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, together with Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and Environment, Donna Petrovich, and General Manager of the Packaging Stewardship Forum, Jenny Pickles, launched the scheme which has already been widely accepted on campus.

In a further recycling initiative, students and staff can now protect notebooks and laptops with covers made from recycled vinyl banners. In a collaboration with Melbourne company Haul, RMIT is using outdated promotional banners to make eye-catching products.

Until now, the outdoor banners used to promote major events like Open Day or Orientation had gone to landfill. Every part of the banner is able to be reused in the innovative project.

Resource Usage

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Average Energy Consumption per EFTSL (GJ electricity and gas)	10.1	9.2	8.5	8.3	8.6
Water Consumption per EFTSL (kl)	5.7	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.7
Greenhouse Gas Emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	79,124	70,548	61,414	63,890	64,608
GreenPower Consumption (MWh)	1,072	8,648	11,329	11,953	11,852

RMIT achieved an 18 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to its baseline year of 2007. This is a saving of 14,517 tonnes of emissions, or the equivalent of taking 3,300 cars off the road based on 4.3 tonnes of CO₂ for the average car.

The University also achieved a 15 per cent reduction in energy consumption per student, or 59,634 GJ in total, against 2007 levels. This is equivalent to the energy use in 1,200 Australian residential households.

Water consumption was similarly reduced by 18 per cent per student compared to 2007 levels. Had consumption rates not been reduced, RMIT would have used an additional 40,239 kl of water in 2011, which is the equivalent of 16 Olympic swimming pools.

The upward trend in greenhouse gas emissions from 2009 to 2011 and energy consumption from 2010 to 2011 is due to an increase by 18,533 square metres of the University's Gross Floor Area between 2009 and 2011.



RMIT's ability to attract, develop and retain high-performing staff is central to the University's ability to deliver on its mission and vision, and to achieve its strategic objectives.

A five-year Human Resources Plan, aligned with the University's Strategic Plan 2011–2015, was launched in 2011.

The Human Resources Plan, titled *Realising strategy through high performing people*, outlines the people-related actions needed to achieve sustained organisational performance through the development of a capable, committed and responsive workforce. It provides a clear vision for seven HR practices that support RMIT's goals:

- » Recruitment
- » Payroll services and HR systems
- » Performance culture
- » Reward and recognition
- » Leadership and people development
- » Health, safety and wellbeing
- » Workforce design

Recruitment

It was a stable year for RMIT's workforce with a small increase in staff numbers. Approximately 550 new appointments, including several executive appointments, were made. This was consistent with previous years.

Recruitment was an important focus area across the University in 2011, with the aim of building a workforce for the future and becoming a magnet for highly talented staff. Specific projects included:

- » implementation of an e-recruitment system to support the efficiency of the hiring process for both candidates and the University
- » training of interview panel members to ensure they are skilled in conducting high quality interviews
- » implementation of a fellowship program targeting high-performing casual academic staff, to support the development of their academic career.

Efforts were made to increase the number of indigenous staff, with nine new appointments made in 2011. In support of the University's employment strategy, a new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff network was formed.



Female staff at RMIT enjoy flexible working lives.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, catches up with staff at the annual barbecue.

Performance Culture

RMIT aims to be a high performance work environment driven by accountability for producing results, and appropriate rewards. The focus in 2011 was on clearly defining and communicating behavioural expectations and standards of performance. This was achieved through the launch of the:

- » Code of Conduct, which defines how RMIT's values should be demonstrated in the day-to-day activities of the University, and establishes minimum standards of behaviour expected of all staff
- » Behavioural Capability Framework, which describes six principles that guide individual and organisational behaviour at all levels. The framework creates a shared understanding and language to support conversations between staff and managers.

The evolution of *MyPerformance MyCareer* – an online workplan system and framework for defining, promoting and supporting staff in the Performance Workplan cycle – was a particular highlight. In preparation for this significant step, a range of activities were completed:

- » *Conversation Ready* workshops, to enhance the skills of managers in conducting meaningful performance conversations
- » briefings for staff on the new system, as well as drop-in labs and e-learning simulations.

Leadership and People Development

RMIT aims to be recognised as a sector leader in skills and leadership development. Building on the successes of past years, 2011 saw the implementation of a range of new and refreshed initiatives that support individual and organisational development.

Introduction of the *developME* program signalled a new era for professional development at RMIT. Options available to staff in the former program were expanded, particularly through a new range of online modules as an alternative to traditional workshops. Participation grew substantially against previous years, with a total of 221 workshops and 2,961 attendances.

RMIT's commitment to supporting and developing its leaders continued with a number of activities under the banner of *leadRMIT*:

- » launch of the *leadRMIT* website, featuring videos, articles and developmental activities covering 50 leadership capabilities
- » participation by senior and mid-level leaders in individual leadership coaching and assessment activities
- » delivery of the Diploma of Management to 30 staff members
- » implementation of five senior leadership forums, at which the University's executives discussed strategic issues, including the Academic, Internationalisation and ICT Plans, program management, and the building of a strong research environment.

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

RMIT completed a range of initiatives in 2011 to support the health, safety and wellbeing of staff:

- » a new employee assistance program provider was appointed, with strong feedback received to date
- » more than a thousand health checks and 1,400 flu vaccinations were provided
- » twenty teams comprising 147 staff participated in the Global Corporate Challenge health initiative
- » early intervention strategies and active management of work-related incidents led to a reduction in the University's WorkCover levy
- » training was provided to develop skills in managing return-to-work cases at the local level
- » upcoming legislative changes were analysed and their anticipated impact built into forward planning.

Diversity

As part of the University's continued commitment to equity and diversity, an Equity and Inclusion Plan for 2011-2015 was finalised.

New, flexible work arrangements helped RMIT be recognised by the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency for the fifth successive year.

RMIT again hosted the annual Clare Burton Memorial Lecture, this year delivered by Dr Cordelia Fine on the subject of gender inequality and negative neuroscience.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Advisory Committee was established to oversee activities aimed at creating a culture that is inclusive and supportive of indigenous staff. Funding for the creation of additional positions was secured, and cultural awareness training was provided to managers of indigenous staff.

Employment Statistics

Staff Type	Total FTE*		Female FTE*		% Female	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Academic (HE)	1,161.7	1,175.9	447.4	461.2	38.9	39.2
Teaching (VET)	514.0	487.3	225.7	209.3	43.8	42.9
Professional	1,873.9	1,911.2	1,150.2	1,200.8	61.0	62.8
Executive	89.6	96.4	35.6	40.4	39.5	41.9
Total	3,639.2	3,670.8	1,858.9	1,911.65	51.0	52.1

*FTE – full-time equivalent (two people both working 0.5 time fraction = 1 FTE)

Staff-Initiated Turnover %	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Less than three years' service	12	13	10	13	11
More than three years' service	7	5	5	5	6
Total	9	8	7	8	7

New Staff Recruitments	Female	%	Male	%	Total
Academic (HE)	81	46	97	54	178
Teaching (VET)	36	50	36	50	72
Professional	208	72	82	28	290
Executive	3	25	9	75	12
Total	328	59	224	41	552

Figures have been rounded. Data as at 31 December 2011.



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UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

GOVERNANCE

RMIT University is governed by a Council that in 2011 consisted of:

- » the Chancellor
- » the Vice-Chancellor
- » the Chair of the Academic Board
- » one person elected by the Academic Board
- » three persons elected by and from the staff of the University as prescribed by the Statutes
- » two persons elected by and from the enrolled students of the University as prescribed by the Statutes
- » five persons appointed by the Governor in Council
- » one person appointed by the Minister
- » six persons appointed by Council



Front Row: Neil Robinson, Hovig Melkonian, Janet Latchford, Professor Margaret Gardner AO, Dr Ziggy Switkowski, Dr Jane Gilmour OAM, Rosemary Lever, Helmut Pekarek. Second Row: Dr Julie Wells (University Secretary), Professor John Nieuwenhuysen AM, Rhonda O'Donnell, Anne Dalton, Derek Young. Back Row: Amanda Way (Deputy University Secretary), Allan Ballagh, Moira Schulze, Peter Murphy, Dr Rodney Wulff, David Swan, Jeanette Pierce, Trevor Tappenden.
Absent: Dr Daryl D'Souza, Fran Thorn, Professor Julianne Reid.

Consistent with the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology Act 2010, as from time to time amended, the Council is the governing body of the University and has responsibility for the general direction and superintendence of the University.

Accordingly, Council members participate in approval of the University's strategic direction, annual budget and business plan, and in monitoring of the University's performance. The Council appoints the Vice-Chancellor and President.

Members of Council, as required by legislation, have duly completed declarations of director-related transactions. No members of Council hold shares as nominees or beneficially in any statutory authority or subsidiary related to the University. Members of Council do not hold shares in RMIT – no shares are distributed by RMIT – or in related companies. Independent and student-elected Council members may choose to receive remuneration for being members of Council. RMIT does not make loans to Councillors or related parties of Councillors.

As part of its commitment to good governance practices, in 2003 the University Council adopted a charter containing broad governance principles. This charter is reviewed annually and was amended in 2010 to take account of the introduction of the RMIT Act 2010 in September. It was subject to review in 2011.

Declarations received from Council members have indicated no conflict of interest or pecuniary interests other than remuneration disclosed in the financial statements.

Directors and Officers Liability insurance of up to \$30 million is provided for members of Council and senior officers under a policy issued by Zurich Australian Insurance Limited.

In accordance with its charter, the Council reviews its performance annually. In 2011, this was an external review conducted by a consultant using a questionnaire and individual interviews. Feedback was positive overall and Council will take account of comments in determining its focus and developing its 2012 work plan. As well as its regular meetings Council had two retreats, the first focusing on domestic and international student markets and government regulation and the second on government relations, student profile and an analysis of risk management.

The Nominations and Governance Committee oversaw nominations to Council, its committees and subsidiaries, as well as induction and professional development for Councillors. In line with Victorian Government guidelines, optional remuneration was available for independent members of Council and elected students.

Based on Council's governance charter, new members took part in an induction program and all members were able to participate in a professional development program which covered a range of areas including informing members about stakeholder issues and the activities of the University.

Most controlled entities reviewed their statements of governance principles and reported on changes to the skills, experience and qualifications of directors, and on their frameworks for risk management and internal audit.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN 2011

Mr Allan Ballagh

Elected by Academic Board, member since 10 February 2003. DipEd (Melb State College), BEng (Gordon), MEd (RMIT), GradCert Enterprise Mgmt (Swinburne). Director, RMIT TAFE.

Ms Anne Dalton

Appointed by Governor in Council, member since 15 April 2003. Deputy Chancellor, 1 January to 30 June 2011. BA, LLB, GradDip CommLaw (Monash), GradCert Public Sector Mgt (Griffith), GAICD. Other directorships: Metropolitan Waste Management Group, Victorian Government Purchasing Board.

Dr Daryl D'Souza

Elected by Academic Staff, member since 1 July 2011. BSc(Hons) (Imperial College), MSc (Monash), PhD (RMIT).

Professor Margaret Gardner AO

Vice-Chancellor and President (ex-officio), member since 4 April 2005. BEcon(Hons), PhD (Syd), DUniv (Griffith), FAIM, GAICD. Other directorships: Museums Board of Victoria (Chair), Open Universities Australia Board.

Dr Jane Gilmour OAM

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 1 January 2005. BA(Hons) (ANU), DUP (Sorbonne), FAICD. Other directorships: WaterEd Australia Pty Ltd (Deputy Chair), Orchestra Victoria (Director), William Buckland Foundation (Trustee), WWF-Australia (Governor).

Ms Janet Latchford

Appointed by Governor in Council, member since 1 January 2010. BCom (Melb), FCPA, GAICD. Other Directorships: Epworth Healthcare (President).

Ms Rosemary Lever

Appointed by Governor in Council, member since 1 March 2005. Deputy Chancellor from 29 August 2011. DipSocStudies, BSocWork(Hons) (Melb). Other directorships: Great Connections Ltd.

Mr Hovig Melkonian

Elected by Students of the University, member since 1 January 2011. BEng (Advanced Manufacturing and Mechatronics) (RMIT) – current studies.

Mr Peter Murphy

Elected by TAFE Staff, member since 1 January 2010. BA(Hons) (Adel), GradDip Ed (Melb), MEd (RMIT), CertIV in Training & Assessment. Program Manager, School of Education, RMIT.

Professor John Nieuwenhuysen AM

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 4 March 2002. MA (Natal), PhD (London), FASSA. Other directorships: Australian Multicultural Foundation.

Ms Rhonda O'Donnell

Appointed by Governor in Council, member since 23 September 2008. GradDip (InnovServMgt), MAppSc (InnovServMgt) (RMIT), FAIM, MAICD, MAHRI. Other directorships: Victorian Government Purchasing Board (Chair), ACMI, Victorian Women in ICT (Founding Chairman), Innovation Economy Advisory Board, Chief Executive Women.

Mr Helmut Pekarek

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 1 January 2005. MEng (AppPhys) (Tech Uni of Vienna).

Ms Jeanette Pierce

Elected by PACCT Staff, member since 1 January 2010. MEd (RMIT), CertIV in Training & Assessment. RMIT Office of the Director TAFE.

Professor Julianne Reid

Chair of the Academic Board (ex-officio), member since 7 February 2011. BPharm(Hons), PhD (QLD).

Mr Neil Robinson

Elected by Academic Staff, member 27 March 2003 to 30 June 2011. TTTC, Dip AppPhys (RMIT), BSc(Hons), MSc (LaTrobe). Senior lecturer Applied Sciences, RMIT.

Ms Moira Schulze

Appointed by Governor in Council, member since 1 January 2005. BA, DipEd (Admin), MEd (Melb), MAICD, FIPAA. Other directorships: Hanover Welfare Services, Victorian TAFE Development Centre, Victorian Adult, Community and Further Education Board.

Mr David Swan

Elected by Students of the University, member since 1 January 2011. BCom (Journalism) (RMIT) – current studies.

Dr Ziggy Switkowski

Chancellor (ex-officio), member since 1 January 2011. BSc(Hons), PhD (Melbourne), FAICD, FTSE. Other directorships: Suncorp Ltd, Tabcorp Holdings Ltd, Oil Search Ltd, Lynas Corporation Ltd, Opera Australia (Chair).

Mr Trevor Tappenden

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 8 August 2003. CA, FAICD. Deputy Chancellor from 29 August 2011. Other directorships: Advanced Manufacturing CRC, Bionomics Ltd, Metal Storm Ltd, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Buckfast Pty Ltd, John Heine Memorial Foundation (trustee), Ernest Heine Family Foundation (trustee), Dairy Food Safety Victoria.

Ms Fran Thorn

Appointed by the Minister, member since 18 February 2008. BA(Hons) (Monash), MA, MBA (Melb), GradDip Lib (RMIT). Secretary, Department of Health. Other directorships: National e-Health Transition Authority, CAE.

Dr Rodney Wulff

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 1 January 2007. BLA (Oregon), MLA (Harv), PhD (Cornell). Other directorships: Tract Consultants Pty Ltd.

Mr Derek Young

Appointed by RMIT Council, member since 10 November 2003. FACCA, CPA, MAICD. Other directorships: Melbourne Theatre Company (Chair), Australian Major Performing Arts Group (Chair), Accenture Australia Foundation (Chair).

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council has established committees to assist it in discharging its responsibilities. Each committee had a work plan of activity to exercise its responsibilities in 2011, and all committees reported to Council on their activities.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee acts on behalf of Council to monitor the audit controls and risk management of the University and associated processes. Its objectives are to assist Council in discharging its responsibilities to the University and its controlled entities with respect to:

- » the integrity of the annual financial statements and financial reporting
- » exposure to legal and business risk
- » the effectiveness of the external and internal audit functions
- » the adequacy and effectiveness of financial management, financial control systems and other internal controls
- » the process for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations
- » monitoring of compliance with the code of conduct.

Campus Development Committee

The Campus Development Committee acts on behalf of Council to:

- » consider and recommend to Council the physical infrastructure master plan for the University in accordance with the University's strategic plan
- » consider and review significant proposed developments on campus to ensure that they are consistent with the physical infrastructure master plan
- » consider and approve the design principles that inform the development of the University's physical infrastructure and the procedures for selection of design consultants.

Nominations and Governance Committee

The Nominations and Governance Committee acts on behalf of Council to ensure Council and the Boards of RMIT-controlled entities have an effective balance of skills and experience. The Committee meets to:

- » recommend candidates for Council vacancies to Council or to the Minister for Education as appropriate to ensure the Council has an effective balance of relevant skills, experience and knowledge
- » recommend to Council a person to be appointed or reappointed as Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor
- » recommend to Council membership of Council committees and oversee the appointment of directors to RMIT-controlled entities
- » ensure appropriate oversight of governance principles and conduct in the subsidiaries

- » develop high standards of corporate governance in RMIT Council including the form of performance evaluation, induction and professional development for Councillors
- » recommend to Council changes required to Statutes and Regulations
- » recommend candidates to Council for honorary awards.

Planning and Finance Committee

The Planning and Finance Committee acts on behalf of Council to:

- » review the annual budget and business plan and recommend their approval to Council
- » review an annual report on progress against the business plan and the strategic plan
- » monitor the University's financial performance and other performance indicators against the business plan
- » review policies with regard to investment funds and to monitor their effectiveness
- » review the capital program budget and recommend its adoption to Council
- » consider major initiatives and projects that involve significant commitment and/or risk to the University, to advise Council and monitor progress where appropriate

- » monitor the development and implementation of planning, quality and performance processes across the University
- » advise Council on the setting up and closing down of controlled entities, and on the University entering into material joint ventures and partnerships
- » monitor performance of controlled entities through quarterly reports against business plans and strategic plans.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee acts on behalf of Council to:

- » annually agree and monitor performance targets for the Vice-Chancellor
- » annually decide on the quantum of the Vice-Chancellor's performance bonus and total employment cost
- » consider, when required, issues relating to the Vice-Chancellor's contract and make recommendations to Council
- » review and set total remuneration cost ranges for all executive staff
- » review and approve the performance assessments and bonuses recommended by the Vice-Chancellor for the direct-report senior executives
- » provide advice to the Vice-Chancellor on executive performance appraisal mechanisms.

Attendance at Council and Committee Meetings 2011

Name	Council	Audit and Risk Management	Campus Development	Nominations and Governance	Planning and Finance	Remuneration
Allan Ballagh	4/6					
Anne Dalton	7/7					1/1
Daryl D'Souza	3/3					
Margaret Gardner	7/7		4/4	6/6	6/6	3/3
Jane Gilmour	6/7		4/4		5/6	
Janet Latchford	6/7	5/5		5/6		
Rosemary Lever	7/7			6/6		1/1
Hovig Melkonian	6/7				5/6	
Peter Murphy	7/7	1/1			5/5	
John Nieuwenhuysen	7/7			6/6		3/3
Rhonda O'Donnell	6/7					
Helmut Pekarek	4/7				4/6	
Jeanette Pierce	6/7			2/2		
Julianne Reid	4/7					
Neil Robinson	4/4			3/3		
Moira Schulze	7/7					2/3
David Swan	7/7		4/4			
Ziggy Switkowski	7/7		3/4	6/6	4/6	3/3
Trevor Tappenden	6/7	5/5			3/6	1/1
Fran Thorn	3/7	3/5				
Rodney Wulff	7/7		4/4	6/6		
Derek Young	6/7	3/5			6/6	

Notes

- » Allan Ballagh: resigned 9 November
- » Daryl D'Souza: term commenced 1 July
- » Neil Robinson: term concluded 30 June
- » Jeanette Pierce: commenced NGC 13 September
- » Peter Murphy: commenced ARMC 24 October, concluded PFC 24 October

COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT

Freedom of Information

During the reporting period, the University received 23 applications under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic):

Access granted in full:	1
Access granted in part:	13
Pending:	3
Lapsed:	0
Withdrawn:	0
Refused:	6
Other:	0

(Applications under Sections 34 and 39)

The University is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act and has in place procedures to ensure that it meets its compliance obligations. The University's Freedom of Information Officer for 2010 was employed in the University Secretariat.

Whistleblowers Act 2001

The University supports the aims and objectives of the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001 (the Act) to encourage and facilitate disclosures of improper conduct by public officers and public bodies and to protect whistleblowers from detrimental action.

The roles of protected disclosure coordinator and protected disclosure officer are carried out by the Deputy University Secretary and disclosures may be made to that officer. Alternatively, disclosures may be made directly to Ombudsman Victoria.

RMIT maintains procedures relating to the Act that were most recently reviewed in July 2009. The procedures outline how the University will respond to the requirements of the Act. The procedures are available online at: www.rmit.edu.au/legal/whistleblowers

Disclosures

1. Number and types of disclosures made to RMIT during the year: One protected disclosure
2. Number of disclosures referred during the year by the public body to the Ombudsman for determination as to whether they are public interest disclosures: Nil
3. Number and types of disclosed matters referred during the year to the public body by the Ombudsman: Two
4. Number and types of disclosed matters referred during the year by the public body to the Ombudsman to investigate: Nil
5. Number and types of investigations of disclosed matters taken over by the Ombudsman from the public body during the year: Nil
6. Number of requests made during the year to the Ombudsman to investigate disclosed matters under Section 74 of the Act: Nil
7. Number and types of disclosed matters that the public body has declined to investigate during the year: Nil

8. Number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated on investigation and action taken on completion of the investigation: One

9. Recommendations of the Ombudsman under the Act that relate to the public body: Nil

Complaints to Ombudsman's Office

In 2011 there were five complaints reviewed by Ombudsman Victoria where a formal response was requested from the University.

Grievance and Complaints Procedures

RMIT has a strong commitment to ensuring that student complaints are resolved in a fair and timely manner. The University recognises the rights of students to make complaints without recrimination or effect on their grades. When they are involved in the complaints process, students have the support of a number of services provided by the University through Student Services as well as the Student Union.

RMIT is also committed to ensuring fair and consistent treatment and prompt consideration of staff complaints. The University maintains comprehensive policies and procedures to ensure staff are given opportunities to resolve any complaints concerning matters about which they are aggrieved, in their capacity as employees of the University. The procedures are flexible and intended to encourage a constructive approach to resolving complaints in the best interest of all parties in a sensitive, impartial, timely and confidential manner.

In all cases, the University encourages the resolution of problems at the local level, although procedures allow for escalation and review. The University Ombuds reports directly to the RMIT Council and can assist in resolving staff and student complaints that are not able to be resolved through the normal processes and procedures. In addition, complaints about administrative actions and decisions of the University may be made to the Victorian Ombudsman.

Policies, procedures and guidelines on the handling of staff and student complaints are available online at: www.rmit.edu.au/policies/fairness

Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000

In 2011 the University complied with the ESOS Act 2000 and the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (National Code 2007). The University is a CRICOS-registered provider of education services to international students.

National Competition Policy

RMIT has developed costing and pricing models that apply all relevant University costs including overhead and other indirect costs and, where appropriate, adjust prices

to factor in any competitive advantage the University may have. The price adjustments offset any inequalities that may exist for the University and enable the University to co-exist with private businesses in a variety of commercial market activities. Most importantly, this also enables the University to comply with the National Competition Policy including the requirements of the Government policy statement *Competitive Neutrality: A Statement of Victorian Policy and subsequent reforms*.

Public Funding

All public funds allocated to the University have been allocated to the purposes specified by the government or other public funding body.

Fees and Charges

In 2011, there were no significant changes to the level of fees charged to students by the University.

Schedule of Fees and Charges

All fees charged to students at RMIT University are set and approved under the authority of Council. An Approved Schedule of Fees and Charges is published each year which lists all fees that may be charged to students. A copy of the schedules for 2004–12 is available on the RMIT website at: www.rmit.edu.au/fs/studentfees

Tuition Fees

In 2011, average domestic non-government funded fees increased by 5.9 per cent. International onshore student fees increased by 6.0 per cent on average.

Course Material and Administrative Fees

There were no significant changes to the level of fees charged as course material and administrative fees. The number of programs/courses for which material fees may be charged has decreased from 461 in 2010 to 413 in 2011. While 413 were proposed, only 308 of these fees were levied in 2011.

Additional Information

Consistent with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 1994, further information on the following items is available on request:

- » Declarations of pecuniary interests
- » Shares held by senior officers
- » Publications
- » Major external reviews
- » Overseas visits undertaken
- » Promotional, public relations and marketing activities

Enquiries should be directed to:

Deputy Director, Marketing
and Communications
RMIT University
GPO Box 2476, Melbourne VIC 3001
Tel. (03) 9925 2000

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT

The University has implemented a risk management framework that establishes a systematic process of identifying, managing and monitoring risk. The framework is supported by:

- » Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee, which regularly monitors and reports to Council on the adequacy of arrangements in place to ensure that risks are effectively managed, and on the outcomes of risk management activities across the group;
- » a risk management policy that clearly articulates and assigns roles and responsibilities;
- » the annual review and update of a University-wide risk profile using outcomes from risk assessments that are undertaken by all academic and administrative areas as an integral part of the business planning process;
- » active management and monitoring by all academic and administrative areas during the year to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are in place and that net risk exposures remain consistent with RMIT's objectives and risk appetite;
- » the provision of risk management support, advice, assessment tools and training to University staff;

- » execution of the annual internal audit plan which is primarily concerned with evaluating the effectiveness of internal controls; the plan is risk-based to place greater emphasis on those areas of high risk to the University;
- » crisis management planning across all University campuses based on a risk management approach; and
- » an insurance program that protects the University from financial loss as a result of physical loss of, or damage to, assets and activities and injuries to University staff, students and third parties.

The University considers that this risk management framework is consistent with the Australian Standard for Risk Management (AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009).

RMIT SUBSIDIARIES

All University subsidiaries are governed by a Board of Directors which includes a member or members of the RMIT University Council. Financial performance, operational highlights and risk management are reported quarterly to Council.

RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd

RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd is wholly owned by RMIT University and in turn owns RMIT International University Vietnam. It accepts and transfers funds destined for RMIT International University Vietnam and philanthropic projects in Vietnam.

RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd has been engaged in six separate philanthropic projects in Vietnam on behalf of and funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies. These projects principally entail the construction and development of four Learning Resource Centres, each of approximately 7500 square metres, at the Universities of Hue, Danang, Cantho and Thai Nguyen. Other appointments are to manage the translation of the Dewey Decimal System into Vietnamese, the National Task Force program to train staff in Vietnamese libraries, and the development of library resources in Vietnam.

RMIT Training Pty Ltd

RMIT Training Pty Ltd comprises three business units. The first of these, RMIT English Worldwide, provides English language programs for industry (such as Aviation English which is delivered globally through partnerships across Asia, Europe, Russia and the Middle East), and English for Academic Preparation programs, which are available in a range of domestic and international settings, including RMIT Vietnam.

A second unit is RMIT Publishing, encompassing the Informit Collections which support university libraries across Australia and New Zealand by providing access to Australian research material for academics. RMIT Publishing also manages RMIT University Press.

The third unit is RMIT Continuing Education Centre, which supports the University's delivery of single and short courses offered by schools across RMIT University. The company's strategic and business plans align with the University strategic plans and the company continues to be profitable.

RMIT Link

RMIT Link provides a range of cultural and sporting programs for the student and wider RMIT community. It also manages the City Fitness Centre under an arrangement with RMIT Property Services.

RMIT Link's programs offer a balanced university life in which the building of confidence and facilitation of social engagement are a significant factor. RMIT staff and alumni support many of these activities. RMIT Link's programs extend the student experience beyond the classroom in the provision of artistic, cultural, sporting and recreational experiences, and foster leadership skills that accompany success in many areas of life.

Students are involved at all levels of RMIT Link's operation, from governance through its Board of Management to leadership roles in its operations. Its Arts and Sports Councils offer opportunities for the development and sharing of skills, ideas and networks, and provide a representative voice for RMIT Link's art collectives and sporting clubs respectively.

A University grant provides RMIT Link with its operational budget which includes the operations of clubs and collectives, the delivery of exhibitions and performing arts programs, and participation in national and regional sporting events.

RMIT Foundation

The RMIT Foundation was established in 1994 to receive philanthropic gifts and donations made to RMIT University for both specified and unspecified purposes. RMIT Foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees whose actions are governed by a trust deed. The deed makes the trustees responsible for the prudent stewardship of the funds they invest and manage on behalf of RMIT University. The Board is also responsible for ensuring that donors' wishes in making their gifts are met.

Trustees are appointed by RMIT Council. The Board counts among its numbers higher education, business and community leaders, and financial and legal experts.

The RMIT Foundation Visiting Fellowship program is a critical support to internationally engaged research, enabling visiting scholars from around the world to spend time at RMIT within the research centres. Similarly, an International Research Exchange program provides support for international researchers at partner institutions overseas and at RMIT to make exchange visits in support of collaborative high quality research. The John Storey Junior Memorial Fund allows

undergraduate students each year to visit a sister institution overseas for a period of study. An industry placement program encourages closer links between RMIT and its industry partners.

The largest part of the Foundation's funds, and therefore the majority of its programs, is tied to specific scholarships, prizes, bursaries and grants. These funds support equity in access, overcoming individual financial hardship, excellence in many discipline areas, study and research overseas, presentation of high quality research, industry placements and community leadership.

Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd

Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd sells geospatial technology and services for use in environmental, land, asset, emergency and health management, to government and a growing range of private sector clients. In 2011 the business continued to expand its client base.

Integrating geographic and organisational data, Spatial Vision provides award-winning solutions including business systems, advanced spatial analyses, reliable planning systems and practical mapping applications to address some of the country's most pressing environmental, economic and resource issues.

Commissioned by publishers John Wiley and Sons, Spatial Vision produced all of the mapping and related figures for the recently released seventh edition of the *Jacaranda Atlas*. Building on 2010's award winning *HealthTracks – Spatially Enabling Health Intelligence* project, Spatial Vision received the 2011 Queensland Spatial Excellence Award (Research and Innovation category) for an online Health Decision Support System developed for Griffith University and the Logan-Beaudesert Health Coalition.

RMIT Drug Discovery Technologies Pty Ltd

RMIT Drug Discovery Technologies Pty Ltd (RDDT Laboratories) was incorporated in 2007 as a proprietary company limited by shares. Prior to its incorporation, its activities were conducted within the School of Medical Sciences at RMIT University.

RDDT Laboratories was established to provide pre-clinical safety and bio-analytical testing services that adhere to OECD Principals of Good Laboratory Practice. The company provides services to biotechnology, research, veterinary, agricultural and chemical institutions for the development of intellectual property from the research stage to human clinical trials.

RDDT Laboratories' revenue and number of clients continued to grow in 2011 compared to previous years, in direct response to increased marketing of services to potential clients in Australia and New Zealand.

In addition, RDDT Laboratories has continued to expand its range of services for clients. These new services include efficacy assays (e.g. inflammation, diabetes, sepsis), pharmacokinetic studies, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays, clinical trial laboratory testing and consulting advice.

Meltech Services Ltd

Meltech Services Ltd was established for RMIT Union in 1975 as a company limited by guarantee. It did not trade in 2011 and is in the process of being deregistered.

RMIT ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

RMIT's engagement with industry, professional, regional and community organisations and its investment in research and innovation through spin-off companies and partnerships in Cooperative Research Centres results in the University holding an interest in a small number of associated entities. This interest may be a share of ownership, or significant shared reputation or financial risk. RMIT's offshore award program partnerships are covered elsewhere in this report.

The following table outlines RMIT's associated entities* and provides information on their objectives and our assessment of the reputational and financial risks to RMIT.

*As per the Australian Accounting Standards' definition of "associates and ventures".

Associate/ Commercial Venture	Principal Objects	Level of Risk to RMIT	
		Financial	Reputational
Victorian Institute of Chemical Sciences Ltd	Incorporated in 2003 after receiving government funding to advance chemical sciences in Victoria. The government funding dissipated over time and the company was deregistered on 9 November 2011 after applying for voluntary deregistration.	Low	Low
Carbon Regen Pty Ltd	Deregistered on 17 January 2011 after applying for voluntary deregistration.	Low	Low

CONSULTANCIES 2011

Vendor Name	Order Amount (\$)	Invoiced Amount (\$)	Further Commitments (\$)	Description
Entity Solutions Pty Ltd	4,097,063	2,652,277	1,444,786	Various ITS projects
Insight Systems Pty Ltd	1,498,772	836,954	661,818	Onsite support for AV systems
Clicks Recruitment (Australia) Pty Ltd	1,099,509	844,431	255,078	Various ITS projects
Resource 23 Pty Ltd	1,087,962	843,842	244,120	Various ITS projects
Talent International (VIC) Pty Ltd	946,763	707,173	239,590	Windows 7 and other ITS projects
IMA Management and Technology	807,705	673,645	134,060	Various ITS projects
Presence of IT (VIC) Pty Ltd	805,540	785,940	19,600	Support and development, SAP HR module
Oracle Corporation Australia Pty Ltd	601,471	601,471	0	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Microsoft Pty Ltd	485,455	458,010	27,445	Windows 7 project
Raynd Pty Ltd	462,600	342,900	119,700	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Waller Consultancy Pty Ltd	429,549	117,664	311,885	Director, APEC Study Centre
EIC Growth Pty Ltd	402,518	249,418	153,100	Entrepreneur in residence
Madison Cross Australia Pty Ltd	376,975	356,975	20,000	AV project
Naviro Pty Ltd	376,320	237,300	139,020	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Hays Personnel Services	372,430	227,860	144,570	IS support for Property Services
Future Knowledge Pty Ltd	333,673	159,123	174,550	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Oxley International Pty Ltd	331,591	114,929	216,662	Chairman, APEC Study Centre
Global Five Pty Ltd	325,800	219,600	106,200	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Mexikon Pty Ltd	320,733	192,638	128,096	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Vaxacom Pty Ltd	305,455	305,455	0	Atlas apprentice and trainees project
Augusta Solutions Pty Ltd	298,775	205,675	93,100	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Ayers Management Pty Ltd	294,595	228,435	66,160	Campus Solutions upgrade project
TRC Group	293,550	224,200	69,350	Campus Solutions upgrade project
X2 Consulting	252,025	189,325	62,700	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Usability One	247,499	247,499	0	Web transformation project
Capital IT (Qld) Pty Ltd	245,104	177,179	67,925	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Aurec Pty Ltd	243,618	243,618	0	ITS project testing
Susan C Bolt	235,550	199,710	35,840	Business Plan projects
Reactive Media Pty Ltd	226,191	226,191	0	Web transformation project
Paragon Recruitment Services	212,000	177,600	34,400	Atlas apprentice and trainees project
Tom Parr Pty Ltd	198,037	183,367	14,670	Windows 7 project
Weava Pty Ltd	197,400	167,000	30,400	VOIP and energy metering
Tanui Pty Ltd	193,800	130,150	63,650	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Digital Silver Pty Ltd	191,713	191,713	0	Public administration training program, Vietnam
Dattner Grant Pty Ltd	189,663	189,663	0	Leadership program
Clarius Group Limited	185,210	100,892	84,318	Solutions architect (server specialist)
Southern Cross Computer System	183,466	183,466	0	SAP BW migration
Oxygen Business Solutions Pty Ltd	174,400	174,400	0	SAP basis
Counselling Appraisal Consultants	174,038	174,038	0	Employee assistance program
Symplicit Pty Ltd	169,940	169,940	0	Web transformation
Mark Gurry and Associates	169,600	115,840	53,760	Campus Solutions upgrade project
Dimension Data Australia Pty Ltd	167,463	167,463	0	Various ITS projects
Data #3 Limited	163,350	163,350	0	Windows 7 project
Command Recruitment Group VIC	150,610	150,610	0	Apply Direct project
Cisco Systems	150,000	150,000	0	Network architecture design
DRR Consulting Pty Ltd	147,300	147,300	0	Apply Direct project
Consulting and Implementation	142,508	142,508	0	R&I plan and Germany mode development
Technology Partners International	142,500	142,500	0	Sourcing strategy for ITS procurement
LSI Consulting Pty Ltd	140,000	140,000	0	Print optimisation project
Minifie Van Schaik Pty Ltd	139,283	139,283	0	Super Yacht City, China
Object Consulting Pty Ltd	135,303	135,303	0	Apply Direct project
Hexaware Technologies Limited	133,875	133,875	0	SAP upgrade testing
WSP Environmental Pty Ltd	129,250	129,250	0	Green loans project
Walker Films Pty Ltd	126,200	126,200	0	Design Hub documentary
Bruce Arthur Project Management	121,500	104,220	17,280	ITC Property Services project
Executive Central Group Pty Ltd	120,455	120,455		Executive mentoring
Terroir Pty Ltd	119,233	119,233	0	Super Yacht City, China
MVP Solutions Pty Ltd	116,500	116,500	0	Support and development, SAP finance modules
Trudy Willis	112,000	112,000	0	Associate Degree coaching and workshops
The Nous Group Pty Ltd	107,645	107,645	0	Facilitation of staff retreats
TOTAL	22,609,033	17,375,201	5,233,833	
1,349 Consultancies of less than \$100,000		11,553,342		

COMPLIANCE INDEX

The Annual Report of RMIT University is prepared in accordance with:

AAS	Australian Accounting Standards
AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
DEEWR	Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
ESOS	Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000
ETRA	Education and Training Reform Act 2006
FMA	Financial Management Act 1994
FRD	A-IFRS Financial Reporting Directions
PAEC	Decision of Public Accounts and Estimates Committee of Parliament
RUG	Victorian Government response to the Review of University Governance
SD	Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance issued under the Financial Management Act 1994

No.	Clause	Disclosure	Page(s)
STANDING DIRECTIONS OF THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE			
1	SD 4.2(g)	Report of Operations contains general information about the entity and its activities, highlights for reporting period and future initiatives, and is prepared on a basis consistent with financial statements pursuant to the Financial Management Act, 1994.	4–79
2	SD 4.2(h)	Report of Operations is prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Directions.	4–79
3	SD 4.2(j)	Report of Operations is signed and dated by Chancellor or equivalent and includes date of Council Meeting at which Annual Report was approved.	Inside front cover
4	SD 4.2(a)	Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Accounting Standards (AAS and AASB standards) and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; • Financial Reporting Directions; and • Business Rules. 	84–144
5	SD 4.2(b)	Financial Statements available, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position); • Statement of Recognised Income and Expense (Income Statement); • Statement of Comprehensive Income • Statement of Changes in Equity • Cash Flow Statement (Statement of Cash Flows); and • Notes to the financial statements. 	89 88 88 90 91 92–142
6	SD 4.2(c)	Signed and dated statement by Accountable Officer stating that financial statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present fairly the financial transactions during reporting period and the financial position at end of the period; • were prepared in accordance with Standing Direction 4.2 (c) and applicable Financial Reporting Directions; and • comply with applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AAS and AASB standards) and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. 	85 85 85, 93
7	SD 4.2(d)	Financial Statements are expressed in the nearest dollar except where the total assets, or revenue, or expenses of the institution are greater than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$1,000; and • \$1,000,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$100,000. 	84–144
8	SD 4.2(e)	The financial statements were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee or responsible body prior to finalisation and submission.	Inside front cover, 85–87
9	SD 4.5.5	Attestation on compliance with the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard	84
A-IFRS FINANCIAL REPORTING DIRECTIONS			
10	FRD 10	Disclosure index	80–81
11	FRD 11	Disclosure of ex-gratia payments	N/A
12	FRD 07A	Early adoption of authoritative accounting pronouncements	101
13	FRD 17A	Long service leave, wage inflation and discount rates	99
14	FRD 19	Private provision of public infrastructure	N/A
15	FRD 21A	Responsible person and executive officer disclosure in the financial report	135–137
16	FRD 22B	Standard disclosures in the report of operations	4–79
17	FRD 25	Victorian Industry Participation Policy in the report of operations	N/A
18	FRD 26A	Accounting for VicFleet motor vehicle lease arrangements on or after 1 February 2004	N/A
19	FRD 102	Inventories	96, 113

No.	Clause	Disclosure	Page(s)
A-IFRS FINANCIAL REPORTING DIRECTIONS (continued)			
20	FRD 104	Foreign currency	94
21	FRD 106	Impairment of assets	95
22	FRD 107	Investment properties	N/A
23	FRD 109	Intangible assets	98, 117
24	FRD 110	Cash flow statements	91, 104
25	FRD 112A	Defined benefit superannuation obligations	127–128
26	FRD 113	Investments in subsidiaries, jointly controlled associates and entities	77–78, 93
27	FRD 114	Financial investments	96–97, 113–114
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS			
28	FRD 22B DEEWR	Analysis of the achievement of the entity's operational and budget objectives for the financial year; should include comparative analysis of indicators such as enrolments, graduations, student performance and satisfaction, staff profile, research performance and performance position	14, 15, 24–27, 32–35, 53–55, 56–58, 60, 66, 67–69
29	DEEWR	Information with respect to the governance and administrative structure of the University, specifically council members and occupants of senior officers	10–11, 13, 72–74
30	DEEWR	Outline of student and staff grievance procedures and number of complaints made to and investigated by the Ombudsman	75
31	DEEWR	Details of information available on institution's website, including locations of current and previous Annual Reports	Inside front cover
32	DEEWR	Compliance of financial statements with the Financial Statement Guidelines for Australian Higher Education Providers for 2008 Reporting Period issued by DEEWR	84–144
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ACT 1994			
		Financial Statements:	
33	FMA 49 (a)	• contain such information as required by the Minister;	84–144
34	FMA 49 (b)	• are prepared in a manner and form approved by the Minister;	84–144
35	FMA 49 (c)	• present fairly the financial transactions of the department or public body during the relevant financial year to which they relate;	84–144
36	FMA 49 (d)	• present fairly the financial position of the department or public body as at the end of that year; and	84–144
37	FMA 49 (e)	• are certified by the accountable officer in the manner approved by the Minister.	85
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE			
38	RUG	Statement outlining that public funds allocated to the University have been allocated to the purposes specified by the Government or other public funding body. Statement is audited by the Auditor-General.	75
39	RUG	University Council's risk management strategy	76
40	RUG	Summary of financial performance of Associates and Commercial Ventures	78
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS ACT 2000 (National Code 2007, Sections C & D)			
41	ESOS	Statement indicating compliance with ESOS Act 2000 and the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (National Code 2007)	75
EDUCATION AND TRAINING REFORM ACT 2006 (ETRA)			
42	ETRA, s. 3.2.8	Statement on compulsory non-academic fees, subscriptions and charges payable in the preceding financial year	75, 106
DECISION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND ESTIMATES COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT (December 1997)			
43	PAEC	Financial and other information relating to institution's international operations	53–58, 84–144





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

TAFE Key Performance Indicators 2010 and 2011

Indicator	2010	2011
Participation of 15–24 year-olds	10,366	10,001
Participation of 25–64 year-olds	7,410	6,849
Module load completion rate*	78.5%	81.3%
Student overall satisfaction	80.8%	85.4%
Student contact hours (SCH)	9,167,575	9,492,912
Total Cost per Student Contact Hour (SCH)	\$14.87	\$15.21
Working capital ratio**	0.93 : 1.0	0.87 : 1.0
Net operating margin	6.0%	5.9%
Fee for service revenue (as % of total TAFE revenue)	37.4%	43.1%
Revenue per EFT staff (TAFE teaching & non-teaching staff)	\$127,351	\$130,560

* Calculated for total SCHs of all modules reported to Skills Victoria

**After adjusting Current LSL Provision in accordance with International Accounting Standards restatement requirements.

Energy Consumption	2010	2011	% Change
Gas (MJ)	21,163,357	23,033,880	+8.84
Electricity (kWh)	13,204,206	13,607,038	+3.05
Green Power (kWh)	2,640,841	2,721,408	+3.05
Energy (MJ)	68,898,498	72,019,215	+4.83

In my opinion the above tables present fairly the data for Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for the years ended 31 December 2010 and 31 December 2011.



Professor Margaret Gardner AO
Vice-Chancellor and President




Stuart Donaldson
Executive Director, Financial Services

Dated at Melbourne this 27 day of February 2012.

Attestation on compliance with the International Standard for Risk Management

I, Professor Margaret Gardner, certify that RMIT University has risk management processes in place consistent with the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard, and an internal control system is in place that enables the executive to understand, manage and satisfactorily control risk exposures. RMIT Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee verifies this assurance and that the risk profile of RMIT has been critically reviewed within the last 12 months.



Professor Margaret Gardner AO
Vice-Chancellor and President
RMIT University

Date: 15 February 2012

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and Subsidiaries

COUNCILLORS' DECLARATION YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011

In our opinion:

The consolidated financial statements of Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) consisting of the Income Statement, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and the accompanying notes thereto, present fairly the financial position of the University and its subsidiaries as at 31 December 2011 and their financial performance represented by the results of their operations for the year ended on that date.

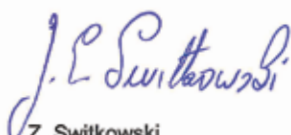
In the Councillors' opinion, as at the date of this declaration, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

The attached financial statements of RMIT and the consolidated entity have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management Act 1994, applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

All public funds allocated to RMIT have been expended for the purposes specified by the Government or other public funding bodies, and RMIT has complied with applicable legislation, contracts, agreements and program expenditure.

We are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Council of RMIT.



Z. Switkowski
Chancellor



M.E. Gardner
Vice-Chancellor and President

STATEMENT BY PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER

In my opinion:

The financial statements of RMIT present fairly the financial transactions of RMIT and the consolidated entity during the financial year ended 31 December 2011 and the financial position of its operations for the year ended on that date;

Commonwealth financial assistance expected during the financial year ended 31 December 2011 was expended for the purposes for which it was provided;

RMIT has complied in full with applicable legislation, contracts, agreements and the requirements of various program guidelines that apply to the Commonwealth financial assistance identified in these financial statements; and

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the Financial Management Act 1994 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

In addition, I am not aware at the date of signing these statements of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the statements to be misleading or inaccurate and there are reasonable grounds to believe that RMIT will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



S. Donaldson
Chief Finance and Accounting Officer

Dated at Melbourne
This 27 day of February 2012

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Council Members, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

The Financial Report

The accompanying financial report for the year ended 31 December 2011 of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology which comprises of the income statement, statement of comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, the councillors' declaration and statement by principal accounting officer has been audited. The financial report includes the consolidated financial statements of the economic entity, comprising the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year as disclosed in note 40 to the financial statements.

The Council Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council Members of Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology are responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, including Australian Accounting Interpretations, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994* and for such internal control as the Council Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The audit procedures selected depend on judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the consolidated entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used, and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council Members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the economic entity as at 31 December 2011 and of their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, including the Australian Accounting Interpretations, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994*.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Report

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for the year ended 31 December 2011 included both in the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's annual report and on the website. The Council Members of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology are responsible for the integrity of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's website. I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information contained in the website version of the financial report.

MELBOURNE
29 February 2012


For D D R Pearson
Auditor-General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Council Members, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

The Statement of Performance

The accompanying statement of performance for the year ended 31 December 2011 of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology which comprises the statement, the related notes and the declaration has been audited.

The Council Members' Responsibility for the Statement of Performance

The Council Members of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* and for such internal control as the Council Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the statement of performance based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of performance is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the statement of performance. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the statement of performance, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the overall presentation of the statement of performance.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.


Opinion

In my opinion, the statement of performance of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in respect of the 31 December 2011 financial year presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994*.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Performance Statement

This auditor's report relates to the performance statement of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for the year ended 31 December 2011 included both in the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's annual report and on the website. The Council Members of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology are responsible for the integrity of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's website. I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of the performance statement are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited performance statement to confirm the information contained in the website version of the performance statement.

MELBOURNE
29 February 2012


D D R Pearson
Auditor-General

Income Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Income from continuing operations					
Australian Government financial assistance					
Australian Government grants	3	246,216	242,397	246,216	242,397
HECS-HELP – Australian Government payments	3	94,091	83,407	94,091	83,407
FEE-HELP	3	25,706	22,815	25,706	22,815
VET FEE-HELP	3	6,943	5,376	6,943	5,376
State and Local Government financial assistance	4	64,728	86,615	64,728	86,615
HECS-HELP – Student Payments		16,991	16,629	16,991	16,629
Fees and charges	5	348,347	336,688	298,583	283,812
Investment revenue and income	6	7,889	7,230	5,002	6,158
Consultancy and contracts	7	41,275	37,971	34,980	31,837
Other revenue and income	8	30,605	30,301	24,016	27,599
Total income from continuing operations excluding deferred government superannuation contributions		882,791	869,428	817,256	806,646
Deferred government superannuation contributions		1,298	45,536	1,298	45,536
Total income from continuing operations		884,089	914,964	818,554	852,182
Expenses from continuing operations					
Employee related expenses	9	515,786	490,513	472,868	450,694
Depreciation and amortisation	10	62,713	49,044	56,803	45,183
Repairs and maintenance	11	14,148	20,941	14,074	20,876
Borrowing costs	12	3,909	2	4,731	964
Impairment of assets	13	792	5,394	1,505	5,798
Investment losses	6	1,654	287	–	–
Other expenses	14	229,157	222,749	211,237	205,694
Total expenses from continuing operations excluding deferred government superannuation contributions		828,159	788,930	761,218	729,209
Deferred employee benefits for superannuation		1,298	45,536	1,298	45,536
Total expenses from continuing operations		829,457	834,466	762,516	774,745
Operating result before income tax		54,632	80,498	56,038	77,437
Income tax expense	17	1,270	1,744	765	993
Operating result after income tax for the period		53,362	78,754	55,273	76,444
Operating result attributable to minority interest	32	(96)	(170)	–	–
Operating result attributed to RMIT entity		53,266	78,584	55,273	76,444

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Operating result after income tax for the period		53,362	78,754	55,273	76,444
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	30	7,436	51,430	7,436	51,430
Gain/(loss) on value of available for sale financial assets, net of tax	30	(1,117)	657	–	–
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	30	(128)	(4,729)	–	–
Realised gains/(losses) through revaluation surplus	30	–	(1,730)	–	–
Dividends paid	32	(30)	–	–	–
Other adjustments	31	(11)	(7)	–	–
Total comprehensive income		59,512	124,376	62,709	127,874
Total comprehensive income attributable to minority interest	32	(66)	(170)	–	–
Total comprehensive income attributable to RMIT entity		59,446	124,206	62,709	127,874

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	18	72,162	82,276	41,677	47,333
Receivables	19	57,029	59,402	59,320	63,062
Inventories	20	720	658	–	–
Other financial assets	22	4,300	–	–	–
Other non-financial assets	25	8,774	8,653	7,148	6,983
Total current assets		142,985	150,989	108,145	117,378
Non-current assets					
Receivables	19	339,833	339,134	339,781	339,082
Available for sale financial assets	21	17,665	20,896	–	–
Property, plant and equipment	23	1,699,222	1,566,691	1,657,989	1,529,682
Deferred tax asset	17	231	183	–	–
Intangible assets	24	648	616	–	–
Other financial assets	22	2,468	164	2,494	2,494
Total non-current assets		2,060,067	1,927,685	2,000,264	1,871,258
Total assets		2,203,052	2,078,674	2,108,409	1,988,636
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	26	83,841	105,975	59,585	86,923
Borrowings	27	–	–	17,289	19,549
Provisions	28	113,326	104,010	111,874	102,635
Current tax liabilities	17	4,015	4,120	3,930	4,120
Other liabilities	29	57,638	71,038	44,178	57,772
Total current liabilities		258,820	285,142	236,856	270,999
Non-current liabilities					
Borrowings	27	90,000	–	90,000	–
Provisions	28	350,611	349,428	349,907	348,700
Deferred tax liabilities	17	11	6	–	–
Other liabilities	29	–	–	–	–
Total non-current liabilities		440,622	349,433	439,907	348,700
Total liabilities		699,442	634,576	676,763	619,699
Net assets		1,503,610	1,444,098	1,431,646	1,368,937
EQUITY					
RMIT entity interest					
Reserves	30	628,246	623,663	607,419	599,983
Retained earnings	31	874,666	819,803	824,227	768,954
Total RMIT entity interest		1,502,912	1,443,466	1,431,646	1,368,937
Minority interest	32	698	632	–	–
Total equity		1,503,610	1,444,098	1,431,646	1,368,937

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Reserves	Retained Earnings	Minority Interest	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
RMIT CONSOLIDATED ENTITY				
Balance at 1 January 2010	589,606	729,655	462	1,319,723
Profit or loss	–	78,584	170	78,754
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	51,430	–	–	51,430
Gain/(loss) on value of available for sale financial assets, net of tax	657	–	–	657
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	(4,729)	–	–	(4,729)
Realised gains/(losses) through revaluation surplus	(1,730)	–	–	(1,730)
Transfer from reserves to retained earnings	(11,571)	11,571	–	–
Other adjustments	–	(7)	–	(7)
Balance at 31 December 2010	623,663	819,803	632	1,444,098
Balance at 1 January 2011	623,663	819,803	632	1,444,098
Profit or loss	–	53,266	96	53,362
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	7,436	–	–	7,436
Gain/(loss) on value of available for sale financial assets, net of tax	(1,117)	–	–	(1,117)
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	(128)	–	–	(128)
Transfer from reserves to retained earnings	(1,608)	1,608	–	–
Dividends paid	–	–	(30)	(30)
Other adjustments	–	(11)	–	(11)
Balance at 31 December 2011	628,246	874,666	698	1,503,610
PARENT ENTITY				
Balance at 1 January 2010	548,554	692,510	–	1,241,064
Profit or loss	–	76,444	–	76,444
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	51,430	–	–	51,430
Other adjustments	(1)	–	–	(1)
Balance at 31 December 2010	599,983	768,954	–	1,368,937
Balance at 1 January 2011	599,983	768,954	–	1,368,937
Profit or loss	–	55,273	–	55,273
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	7,436	–	–	7,436
Balance at 31 December 2011	607,419	824,227	–	1,431,646

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Australian Government Grants received	3	362,543	331,292	362,543	331,292
OS-HELP (net)		60	193	60	193
Superannuation Supplementation		21,608	27,152	21,608	27,152
State Government Grants received		64,788	86,615	64,788	86,615
HECS-HELP – Student payments		16,991	16,629	16,991	16,629
Receipts from student fees and other customers		416,569	419,986	347,525	344,426
Dividends received		211	209	–	–
Interest received		6,400	6,945	5,400	6,041
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(798,747)	(756,344)	(740,504)	(698,782)
Interest and other costs of finance		(4,731)	(2)	(4,731)	–
GST recovered/(paid)		27,943	27,620	28,660	28,280
Income tax paid		(1,522)	(1,122)	(955)	(481)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<i>35(b)</i>	112,112	159,173	101,385	141,365
Cash flows from investing activities					
Proceeds from sale of financial assets		6,657	8,077	–	–
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		662	767	662	756
Realised gain on investments		–	314	–	314
Payments for financial assets		(11,600)	(19,779)	–	–
Payments for intangible assets		(344)	(12)	–	–
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(207,640)	(191,671)	(197,703)	(177,418)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(212,265)	(202,304)	(197,041)	(176,348)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Proceeds from borrowings		127,000	–	127,000	–
Repayment of borrowings		(37,000)	–	(37,000)	(2,900)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		90,000	–	90,000	(2,900)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(10,153)	(43,131)	(5,656)	(37,883)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		82,276	127,570	47,333	85,216
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		39	(2,163)	–	–
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<i>35(a)</i>	72,162	82,276	41,677	47,333

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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1 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years reported, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements include statements for Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) as the parent entity and the consolidated entity consisting of RMIT and its subsidiaries.

The principal address of RMIT is Building 1, 124 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

1.01 Basis of preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which has been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, AASB Interpretations, the requirements of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the *Financial Management Act 1994* requirements.

Compliance with IFRS

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). The financial statements and notes comply with Australian Accounting Standards, some of which contain requirements specific to not-for-profit entities that are inconsistent with IFRS requirements.

Date of authorisation for issue

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Council members of RMIT on 27 February 2012.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets, financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and certain classes of property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. They also require management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying RMIT's accounting policies. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement, complexity or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed below:

Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the group.

Key Estimates

Depreciation

Management uses external independent valuers to establish the useful life of buildings. Useful lives of other property, plant and equipment are established according to the guidelines provided by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations, the Australian Taxation Office and Australian Accounting Standards.

Impairment

RMIT assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the group that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

Long Service Leave Provision

In calculating long service leave provisions, management uses a combination of the bond rates issued by the Reserve Bank of Australia, the salary increases in accordance with the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement and the probability factors based on staff retention rates. The methodology is consistent with the Department of Treasury and Finance's long service leave model.

Key Judgements – Provision for impaired receivables

Included in consolidated Accounts Receivable at 31 December 2011 are amounts receivable from customers and students amounting to \$21.502m (2010 – \$25.306m). The full amount of the debt is not recoverable and as such a doubtful debts provision amounting to \$1.459m (2010 – \$7.187m) has been set aside.

Comparative amounts

Where the presentation or reclassification of items in the financial statements is amended, comparable amounts shall be reclassified unless reclassification is impracticable. When comparable amounts are reclassified, RMIT discloses:

- (a) the nature of the reclassification;
- (b) the amount of each item or class of items that is reclassified; and
- (c) the reason for the reclassification.

When it is impracticable to reclassify comparative amounts, RMIT discloses:

- (a) the reason for not reclassifying the amounts; and
- (b) the nature of the adjustments that would have been made, if the amounts had been reclassified.

1.02 Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of RMIT as at 31 December 2011 and the results of all subsidiaries for the year then ended. RMIT and its subsidiaries together are referred to in the financial statements as the Group or the consolidated entity.

Subsidiaries are all those entities (including special purpose entities) over which the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies, generally accompanying a shareholding of more than one half of the voting rights. The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are considered when assessing whether the Group controls another entity.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.02 Principles of consolidation (continued)**

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group companies are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of the impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group.

Minority interests in the results and equity of subsidiaries are shown separately in the consolidated income statement and statement of financial position respectively.

1.03 Foreign currency translation**(i) Functional and presentation currency**

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entities operate ('the functional currency'). The consolidated financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is RMIT's functional and presentation currency.

(ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement.

Translation differences on non-monetary financial assets and liabilities are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss. Translation differences on non-monetary financial assets and liabilities, such as equities held at fair value, are recognised through the profit or loss as part of the fair value gain or loss. Translation differences on non-monetary financial assets, such as equities classified as available-for-sale financial assets, are included in the fair value reserve in equity.

(iii) Group companies

The results and financial position of all the Group entities (none of which has the currency of a hyperinflationary economy) that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

- assets and liabilities for each statement of financial position presented are translated at the closing rate at the date of that statement of financial position.
- income and expenses for each income statement are translated at average exchange rates (unless this is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions); and
- all resulting exchange differences are recognised as a separate component of equity.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of any net investment in foreign entities, and of borrowings and other financial instruments designated as hedges of such investments, are accounted for by recognising the effective portion in other comprehensive income and the ineffective portion in the income statement. When a foreign operation is sold or any borrowings forming part of the net investment are repaid, the gain or loss relating to the effective portion of the hedge that has been recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to the income statement as a reclassification adjustment.

1.04 Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of returns, trade allowances, rebates and amounts collected on behalf of third parties.

The Group recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Group and specific criteria have been met for each of the Group's activities as described below. The amount of revenue is not considered to be reliably measurable until all contingencies relating to the sale have been resolved. The group bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

(i) Government financial assistance

The Group treats operating grants received from Australian Government entities as income in the year of receipt. Grants from the government are recognised at their fair value where the Group obtains control of the right to receive the grant, it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Group and it can be reliably measured.

(ii) Fees and Charges

Fees and charges are recognised as income in the year of receipt, except to the extent that fees and charges relate to courses to be held in future periods. Such income is treated as income in advance in the statement of financial position. Conversely, fees and charges relating to current year courses are recognised as revenue in the income statement.

(iii) Investment income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

(iv) Fee for Service/Consulting

Contract revenue is recognised in accordance with the percentage of completion method. The stage of completion is measured by reference to labour hours incurred to date as a percentage of estimated total labour hours for each contract.

(v) Sale of non-current assets

The net profit or loss of non-current asset sales are included as revenue or expense at the date control of the asset passes to the purchaser, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed.

The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

(vi) Property rental (lease) income

Rental income from operating leases is recognised as income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(vii) Contribution of assets and donations

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised as revenue at the fair value of the asset received when the RMIT Consolidated Group gains control of the contribution.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.05 Income tax**

The income tax expense or revenue for the period is the tax payable on the current period's taxable income based on the national income tax rate for each jurisdiction adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements, and to unused tax losses.

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. However, the deferred income tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences and unused tax losses only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

Deferred tax liabilities and assets are not recognised for temporary differences between the carrying amount and tax bases of investments in controlled entities where the parent entity is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that the differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Current and deferred tax assets and liabilities relating to the same taxation authority are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and they are intended to be either settled on a net basis, or the asset is to be realised and the liability settled simultaneously.

Current and deferred tax balances attributable to amounts recognised directly in equity are also recognised directly in equity.

1.06 Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases - note 34b. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Lease income from operating leases is recognised as income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.07 Business combinations

The acquisition method is used to account for each business combination; this does not include a combination of entities or businesses under common control, the formation of a joint venture, or the acquisition of an asset or a group of assets. Identifiable assets acquired, liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest are recognised separately from goodwill as of the acquisition date. Intangible assets acquired in a business combination are recognised separately from goodwill if they are separable, but only together with a related contract, identifiable asset or liability. Acquisition related costs are expensed in the periods in which they are incurred with the exception of costs to issue debt or equity securities, which are recognised in accordance with AASB132 and AASB139. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date. Measurement of any non-controlling interest is recorded at fair value or the present ownership instruments' proportionate share in the recognised amounts of the identifiable net assets. All other components of non-controlling interests are measured at their acquisition-date fair values. Contingent liabilities assumed are recognised as part of the acquisition if there is a present obligation arising from past events and the fair value can be reliably measured. The excess at the acquisition date of the aggregate of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest and any previously held equity interest over the net amounts of identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed is recognised as goodwill. If the cost of acquisition is less than the fair value of the identifiable net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised directly in the income statement, but only after a reassessment of the identification and measurement of the net assets acquired.

Consideration transferred in a business combination is measured at fair value. Where the business combination is achieved in stages, previously held equity interest is remeasured at its acquisition date fair value and the resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss.

1.08 Impairment of assets

Goodwill and intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Other assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows which are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash generating units). Non-financial assets other than goodwill that were previously impaired are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

1.09 Cash and cash equivalents

For statement of cash flows presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.10 Receivables**

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Trade receivables are due for settlement no more than 120 days from the date of recognition, and no more than 30 days for other debtors.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 30 days overdue for trade and 45 days overdue for student related debt) are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. Cash flows relating to short-term receivable are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial. The amount of the provision is recognised in the income statement.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognised in the income statement within 'Bad and doubtful debts'. When a receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for trade / students receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against 'Bad and doubtful debts' in the income statement.

The percentage provided for by aged trade receivable category is as follows:

	2011	2010
181 to 270 days	40%	40%
271 to 365 days	50%	50%
over 366 days	100%	100%

Student related debts that are 90 days overdue are reviewed on an individual basis, and the provision is recorded based on the assessment of the individual debt and the possibility of the debt recovery.

No provision is made for receivables from government and education sectors.

1.11 Inventories**Stock**

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises direct materials, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead expenditure, the latter being allocated on the basis of normal operating capacity. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Work in Progress**Services:**

Valuation of Work in Progress - Services is based on the number of hours charged to project milestones in respect of incomplete and unbilled milestones. These hours are calculated at the average labour cost per billable hour, including on-costs, for the final quarter of the year. An allowance of 10% has been deducted for potential project overruns.

Products:

Valuation of Work in Progress - Products is based on the number of hours charged to project milestones net of budget overruns. These hours are valued at the average direct cost per billable hour.

1.12 Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) are classified as held for sale and stated at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

An impairment loss is recognised for any initial or subsequent write down of the asset (or disposal group) to fair value less costs to sell. A gain is recognised for any subsequent increases in fair value less costs to sell of an asset (or disposal group), but not in excess of any cumulative impairment loss previously recognised. A gain or loss not previously taken up by the date of the sale of the non current asset (or disposal group) is recognised at the date of de-recognition.

Non-current assets (including those that are part of a disposal group) are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale. Interest and other expenses attributable to the liabilities of a disposal group classified as held for sale continue to be recognised.

Non-current assets classified as held for sale and the assets of a disposal group classified as held for sale are presented separately from the other assets in the statement of financial position. The liabilities of a disposal group classified as held for sale are presented separately from other liabilities in the statement of financial position.

1.13 Investments and other financial assets**Classification**

The Group classifies its investments in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments, and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and, in the case of assets classified as held-to-maturity, re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss include financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Derivatives are classified as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the balance date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in receivables in the statement of financial position.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.13 Investments and other financial assets (continued)****(iii) Held-to-maturity investments**

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Group's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity.

(iv) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets, comprising principally marketable equity securities, are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date - the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs for all financial assets not carried at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are expensed in the income statement. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in equity are included in the income statement as gains and losses from investment securities.

Subsequent measurement

Available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit and loss are subsequently carried at fair value. Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' category are included in the income statement within other income or other expenses in the period in which they arise.

Changes in the fair value of monetary security denominated in a foreign currency and classified as available-for-sale are analysed between translation differences resulting from changes in amortised cost of the security and other changes in the carrying amount of the security. The translation differences related to changes in the amortised cost are recognised in profit or loss, and other changes in carrying amount are recognised in equity. Changes in the fair value of other monetary and non-monetary securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in equity.

Fair Value

The fair values of quoted investments are based on current bid prices. If the market for a financial asset is not active (and for unlisted securities), the Group establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. These include reference to the fair values of recent arm's length transactions, involving the same instruments or other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models refined to reflect the issuer's specific circumstances.

Impairment

The Group assesses at each balance date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of a security below its cost is considered in determining whether the security is impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss - measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit and loss - is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement. Impairment losses recognised in the income statement on equity instruments are not reversed through the income statement. In applying AASB 139, two tests have been considered in determining whether the impairment entries are to be taken to equity: i. the decline is "substantial" (more than 20% below investment cost) and ii. "prolonged" (more than 12 months in that state). Failure to meet either test would require the impairment to be charged to the income statement.

1.14 Fair value estimation

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives, and trading and available-for-sale securities) is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Group is the current bid price.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, over-the-counter derivatives) is determined using valuation techniques. The Group uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long-term debt instruments held. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments. The fair value of interest-rate swaps is calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows. The fair value of forward exchange contracts is determined using forward exchange market rates at the balance sheet date.

The carrying values less impairment provisions of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Group for similar financial instruments.

1.15 Property, plant and equipment

Land and buildings are shown at fair value, based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

The last revaluation of land and buildings was performed at the end of 2011. The total amount was \$7.4 M consisting of a revaluation of land of \$30.4 M and a devaluation of buildings of \$23.0 M (2010 \$55.3 M land related only). The next full revaluation is due at the end of 2014.

All other property, plant and equipment is relatively low in value, but represents a large proportion of the total volume of assets. Such assets are acquired and disposed of frequently, have short depreciable lives and subject to impairment tests as applicable. There is no such evidence to indicate a fair value significantly different from depreciated cost and depreciated cost represents a reasonable approximation of fair value. An assessment is to be documented, and reconfirmed in the five-year cycle with the next revaluation due to occur in 2012.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.15 Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised, net of tax, in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of revaluation surplus. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognised in profit or loss, the increase is first recognised in profit and loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset are also firstly recognised in other comprehensive income before reducing the balance of revaluation surpluses in equity, to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset; all other decreases are charged to the income statement. Upon disposal, any revaluation surplus relating to the particular asset being sold is transferred out to retained earnings.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amounts. These are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, it is Group policy to transfer the amounts included in other reserves in respect of those assets to retained earnings.

Land and works of art are not depreciated. Depreciation of other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

	2011	2010
	Years	Years
Buildings	25 - 100	25 - 100
Plant, equipment, furniture and fitting and motor vehicles	3 - 20	3 - 20
Leasehold improvements	2 - 51	2 - 51
Computer equipment	4	4
Library collections	10	10

The capitalisation threshold for plant, equipment, computers, motor vehicles and furniture and fittings to be recognised as an asset is \$2,000 (2010 – \$2,000). The library collections are capitalised on an individual unit basis as they are considered to be significant in value as a collective group.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

1.16 Leasehold improvements

The cost of improvements to or on leasehold properties is amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvement to the RMIT Consolidated Group, whichever is the shorter.

1.17 Intangible assets**(i) Research and development**

Expenditure on research activities is recognised in the income statement as an expense, when it is incurred.

Expenditure on development activities, relating to the design and testing of new or improved products, are recognised as intangible assets when it is probable that the project will, after considering its commercial and technical feasibility, be completed and generate future economic benefits and its costs can be measured reliably. The expenditure capitalised comprises all directly attributable costs, including costs of materials, services, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of overheads. Other development expenditure is recognised in the income statement as an expense as incurred. Development costs previously recognised as an expense are not recognised as an asset in a subsequent period. Capitalised development expenditure is recorded as an intangible asset and amortised from the point at which the asset is ready for use. Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate the cost over the period of the expected benefit, which varies from 4 to 20 years (2010: 4 to 20 years).

(ii) Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the Group's share of the net identifiable assets of the acquired subsidiary/associate at the date of acquisition. Goodwill on acquisitions of subsidiaries is included in intangible assets. Goodwill on acquisitions of associates is included in investments in associates. Goodwill is not amortised. Instead, goodwill is tested for impairment annually, and is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Gains and losses on the disposal of an entity include the carrying amount of goodwill relating to the entity sold.

Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units for the purposes of impairment testing. Each of those cash-generating units represents the Group's investment in each country of operation by each primary reporting segment.

(iii) Intellectual property, trademarks and licences

Trademarks and licences have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate the cost of trademarks and licences over their estimated useful lives, which vary from 4 to 20 years (2010: 4 to 20 years).

1.18 Unfunded superannuation

In accordance with the 1998 instructions issued by the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA) now known as the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), the effects of the unfunded superannuation liabilities of RMIT and its subsidiaries were recorded in the income statement and the statement of financial position for the first time in 1998. The prior years' practice had been to disclose liabilities by way of a note to the financial statements.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.18 Unfunded superannuation (continued)**

The unfunded liabilities recorded in the balance sheet under provisions have been determined by actuary of the Victorian Government Superannuation Office and relate to the estimates of net liabilities at 30 June 2011. The methodology of measurement of the net liabilities is based on the following actuarial assumptions:

Economic	2011	2010
Discount Rate	5.20% pa	5.10% pa
Salary increase rate	4% pa	4% pa
Pension Indexation	2.5% pa	2.5% pa
Investment Return on Fund Assets Supporting Pension Liabilities (net of fees and gross of investment income tax)	8.0% pa	8.0% pa

An arrangement exists between the Australian Government and the State Government to meet the unfunded liability for RMIT's beneficiaries of the State Superannuation Scheme on an emerging cost basis. This arrangement is evidenced by the *State Grants (General Revenue) Amendment Act 1987*, *Higher Education Funding Act 1988* and subsequent amending legislation. Accordingly, the unfunded liabilities have been recognised in the Statement of Financial Position under Provisions with a corresponding asset recognised under Receivables. The recognition of both the asset and the liability consequently does not affect the year end net asset position of RMIT.

1.19 Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

1.20 Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are removed from the balance sheet when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or other expenses.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date and does not expect to settle the liability for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date.

1.21 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are expensed as incurred in accordance with Financial Reporting Directive 105. All other borrowing costs are also expensed.

1.22 Provisions

Provisions for legal claims are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the balance date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

1.23 Employee benefits

Provision is made for employee benefits and on-costs accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave.

(i) Wages and salaries

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits including wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and profit-sharing bonuses due to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period are measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled and recognised in other payables. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable.

(ii) Annual leave and sick leave

The liability for long-term employee benefits such as annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in current provisions for employee benefits as it is not due to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period. It is measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Regardless of the expected timing of settlements, provisions made in respect of employee benefits are classified as a current liability, unless there is an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date, in which case it would be classified as a non-current liability.

(iii) Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.23 Employee benefits (continued)****(iv) Retirement benefit obligations**

All employees of the Group are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death from the Group's superannuation plans. The Group plans are either a defined benefit scheme or a defined contribution scheme. The defined benefit scheme provides defined lump sum benefits based on years of service and final average salary. The defined contribution scheme receives fixed contributions from Group and the Group's legal or constructive obligation is limited to these contributions.

A liability or asset in respect of defined benefit superannuation plans is recognised in the balance sheet, and is measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date and any unrecognised past service cost. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments which arise from membership of the fund to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Actuarial gains and losses arising from experience and adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are recognised in the period in which they occur, outside the income statement directly in the statement of changes in equity.

Past service costs are recognised immediately in income, unless the changes to the superannuation fund are conditional on the employees remaining in service for a specified period of time (the vesting period). In this case, the past service costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

Contributions to the defined contribution fund are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Further details are provided in Note 38.

(iv) Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. The Group recognises termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after balance date are discounted to present value.

(v) Employee benefit on-costs

Employee benefit on-costs, including payroll tax and workcover, are recognised and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which they relate are recognised as liabilities.

1.24 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

1.25 Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the statement of financial position, but are disclosed by way of a note (refer note 33) and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of the GST receivable or payable respectively.

1.26 Commitments

Commitments include those operating, capital and other outsourcing commitments arising from non-cancellable contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value and inclusive of the GST payable.

1.27 Insurance

The RMIT Consolidated Group specifically carries the following types of insurance:

- property;
- fidelity (crime);
- professional indemnity;
- general liability;
- travel/personal accident;
- directors and officers;
- workers' compensation; and
- other insurance from time to time.

For those risks where RMIT Consolidated Group has no insurance, any losses are charged to the income statement in the year in which the loss is reported.

1.28 Rounding of amounts

The Group is of a kind referred to in Class order 98/0100 as amended by Class order 04/667, issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to the "rounding off" of amounts in the financial report. Amounts in the financial report have been rounded off in accordance with that Class Order to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases, the nearest dollar.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**1.29 New Accounting Standards and Interpretations**

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were issued but not yet effective.

Initial application of the following Standards and Interpretations is not expected to have any material impact on the financial report of the Group and the Company:

Standard/Interpretation	Application date	Impact on financial reports
AASB 9 and AASB 2009-11 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 10 & 12]	1 January 2013	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 1053 Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards	1 July 2013	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 2010-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from reduced disclosure requirements	1 July 2013	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 2010-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosures on Transfers of Financial Assets [AASB 1 & AASB 7]	1 July 2011	Amendments are not expected to impact the Group.
AASB 2010-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 & 127]	1 January 2013	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 2010-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Deferred Tax: Recovery of underlying assets	1 January 2012	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 2011-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Trans-Tasman Convergence Project - alignment to IFRSs and harmonisation between Australian and New Zealand Standards	1 July 2011	Amendments are not expected to impact the Group.
AASB 2011-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Trans-Tasman Convergence Project - reduced disclosure requirements	1 July 2013	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.
AASB 2011-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Orderly Adoption of Changes to the ABS GFS Manual and Related Amendments [AASB 1049]	1 July 2012	The Group has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statement

2 Disaggregation information

(a) Industries

Operating revenue and expenses for the Higher Education and TAFE divisions of the university are shown in the following tables. The figures refer only to RMIT University – consolidated totals are not included.

	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT
	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(i) Income Statement						
Income from continuing operations						
Australian Government financial assistance						
Australian Government grants	234,926	11,290	246,216	236,921	5,476	242,397
HECS-HELP – Australian Government payments	94,091	–	94,091	83,407	–	83,407
FEE-HELP	25,706	–	25,706	22,815	–	22,815
VET FEE-HELP	–	6,943	6,943	–	5,376	5,376
State and Local Government financial assistance	66	64,662	64,728	31	86,584	86,615
HECS-HELP – Student Payments	16,991	–	16,991	16,629	–	16,629
Fees and charges	245,792	52,791	298,583	235,241	48,571	283,812
Investment revenue and income	4,386	616	5,002	4,989	1,169	6,158
Consultancy and contracts	29,923	5,057	34,980	27,581	4,256	31,837
Other revenue and income	21,048	2,968	24,016	24,208	3,391	27,599
Total income from continuing operations excluding deferred government superannuation contributions	672,929	144,327	817,256	651,823	154,823	806,646
Deferred government superannuation contributions	1,298	–	1,298	45,536	–	45,536
Total income from continuing operations	674,227	144,327	818,554	697,359	154,823	852,182
Expenses from continuing operations						
Employee related expenses	376,376	96,492	472,868	358,120	92,574	450,694
Depreciation and amortisation	46,839	9,964	56,803	38,621	6,562	45,183
Repairs and maintenance	11,470	2,604	14,074	18,406	2,470	20,876
Borrowing costs	4,340	391	4,731	926	38	964
Impairment of assets	1,324	181	1,505	5,014	784	5,798
Other expenses	175,563	35,674	211,237	171,144	34,550	205,694
Total expenses from continuing operations excluding deferred government superannuation contributions	615,912	145,306	761,218	592,231	136,978	729,209
Deferred employee benefits for superannuation	1,298	–	1,298	45,536	–	45,536
Total expenses from continuing operations	617,210	145,306	762,516	637,767	136,978	774,745
Operating result before income tax	57,017	(979)	56,038	59,592	17,845	77,437
Income tax expense	742	23	765	775	218	993
Operating result after income tax for the period	56,275	(1,002)	55,273	58,817	17,627	76,444
(ii) Statement of Comprehensive Income						
Operating result after income tax for the period	56,275	(1,002)	55,273	58,817	17,627	76,444
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land, net of tax	(3,108)	10,544	7,436	39,225	12,205	51,430
Total comprehensive income	53,167	9,542	62,709	98,042	29,832	127,874

2 Disaggregation information (continued)

	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT
	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(iii) Balance sheet						
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	32,847	8,830	41,677	35,074	12,259	47,333
Receivables	51,089	8,231	59,320	53,422	9,640	63,062
Other non-financial assets	5,963	1,185	7,148	6,167	816	6,983
Total current assets	89,899	18,246	108,145	94,663	22,715	117,378
Non-current assets						
Receivables	339,781	–	339,781	339,082	–	339,082
Property, plant and equipment	1,332,954	325,035	1,657,989	1,226,138	303,544	1,529,682
Other financial assets	2,494	–	2,494	2,494	–	2,494
Total non-current assets	1,675,229	325,035	2,000,264	1,567,714	303,544	1,871,258
Total assets	1,765,128	343,281	2,108,409	1,662,377	326,259	1,988,636
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables	47,402	12,183	59,585	75,872	11,051	86,923
Borrowings	17,289	–	17,289	19,549	–	19,549
Provisions	96,376	15,498	111,874	88,790	13,845	102,635
Current tax liabilities	3,789	141	3,930	3,976	144	4,120
Other liabilities	39,884	4,294	44,178	49,309	8,463	57,772
Total current liabilities	204,740	32,116	236,856	237,496	33,503	270,999
Non-current liabilities						
Borrowings	81,000	9,000	90,000	–	–	–
Provisions	347,878	2,029	349,907	346,538	2,162	348,700
Total non-current liabilities	428,878	11,029	439,907	346,538	2,162	348,700
Total liabilities	633,618	43,145	676,763	584,034	35,665	619,699
Net assets	1,131,510	300,136	1,431,646	1,078,343	290,594	1,368,937
EQUITY						
RMIT entity interest						
Reserves	428,143	179,276	607,419	431,251	168,732	599,983
Retained earnings	703,367	120,860	824,227	647,092	121,862	768,954
Total equity	1,131,510	300,136	1,431,646	1,078,343	290,594	1,368,937

The allocation of assets and liabilities to the Higher Education or TAFE Divisions is made on the following basis:

Cash and cash equivalents

Bank accounts specifically established for either the Higher Education or TAFE Division have been allocated to that Division, with all other account balances allocated on a proportional basis.

Receivables

Receivables directly attributable to either Higher Education or TAFE Division have been applied and all other trade debtors have been allocated on a proportional basis.

Other financial assets

These are allocated between the Higher Education and TAFE Division based on their direct relationship to the Division established at the time of acquisition of the asset.

Other assets

These are allocated to either the Higher Education or TAFE Division based on the nature of the asset and its relevance to the Division.

Property, plant and equipment

These are attributed to either the Higher Education or TAFE Division based on RMIT's fixed asset register and their direct relationship to the Division established at the time of acquisition.

Trade and other payables

Trade payable directly attributable to either Higher Education or TAFE Division have been applied. Other payable have been allocated on a proportional basis.

Borrowings

The current interest bearing loan facility solely relates to the Higher Education Division and is directly attributed to intercompany loans between RMIT and its subsidiaries. The non-current interest bearing loan facility represents RMIT's loan with the CBA and is allocated on a proportional basis between the Higher Education and TAFE Division based on the usability of assets.

Provisions

Provisions have been attributed to either the Higher Education or TAFE Division as follows:

- directly to the appropriate Division in relation to the teaching and administrative staff operating within each Division;
- administrative support staff not directly operating within the teaching departments have been allocated on a proportional basis; and
- a small number of teaching and administrative staff who operate across the two divisions within the teaching departments have been solely allocated to the area in which they predominantly operate, as it is impractical to determine their proportional contribution to each division.

Other liabilities

Revenue in advance included in other liabilities is directly attributable to either Higher Education or TAFE Division has been so applied, while all other revenue in advance has been allocated on a proportional basis.

2 Disaggregation information (continued)

	Higher Education			TAFE			RMIT
	Reserves	Retained earnings	Total	Reserves	Retained earnings	Total	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(iv) Statement of Changes in Equity							
Balance at 1 January 2010	392,025	588,275	980,300	156,529	104,235	260,764	1,241,064
Profit or loss	–	58,817	58,817	–	17,627	17,627	76,444
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	39,225	–	39,225	12,205	–	12,205	51,430
Other adjustments	1	–	1	(2)	–	(2)	(1)
Balance at 31 December 2010	431,251	647,092	1,078,343	168,732	121,862	290,594	1,368,937
Balance at 1 January 2011	431,251	647,092	1,078,343	168,732	121,862	290,594	1,368,937
Profit or loss	–	56,275	56,275	–	(1,002)	(1,002)	55,273
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of land and buildings, net of tax	(3,108)	–	(3,108)	10,544	–	10,544	7,436
Balance at 31 December 2011	428,143	703,367	1,131,510	179,276	120,860	300,136	1,431,646
	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT	Higher Education	TAFE	Total RMIT	
	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
(v) Statement of Cash Flows							
Cash flows from operating activities							
Australian Government Grants received	351,253	11,290	362,543	325,816	5,476	331,292	
OS-HELP (net)	60	–	60	193	–	193	
Superannuation Supplementation	21,608	–	21,608	27,152	–	27,152	
State Government Grants received	66	64,722	64,788	31	86,584	86,615	
HECS-HELP – Student payments	16,991	–	16,991	16,629	–	16,629	
Receipts from student fees and other customers	286,828	60,697	347,525	288,315	56,111	344,426	
Dividends received	(26)	26	–	–	–	–	
Interest received	4,880	520	5,400	5,012	1,029	6,041	
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(605,582)	(134,922)	(740,504)	(557,913)	(140,869)	(698,782)	
Interest and other costs of finance	(4,340)	(391)	(4,731)	–	–	–	
GST recovered/(paid)	23,658	5,002	28,660	23,522	4,758	28,280	
Income tax paid	(791)	(164)	(955)	(119)	(362)	(481)	
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	94,605	6,780	101,385	128,638	12,727	141,365	
Cash flows from investing activities							
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	538	124	662	488	268	756	
Realised gain on investments	–	–	–	314	–	314	
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(178,370)	(19,333)	(197,703)	(159,733)	(17,685)	(177,418)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(177,832)	(19,209)	(197,041)	(158,931)	(17,417)	(176,348)	
Cash flows from financing activities							
Proceeds from borrowings	114,300	12,700	127,000	–	–	–	
Repayment of borrowings	(33,300)	(3,700)	(37,000)	(2,900)	–	(2,900)	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	81,000	9,000	90,000	(2,900)	–	(2,900)	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(2,227)	(3,429)	(5,656)	(33,193)	(4,690)	(37,883)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	35,074	12,259	47,333	68,267	16,949	85,216	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	32,847	8,830	41,677	35,074	12,259	47,333	
(b) RMIT Consolidated Entity							
Geographical	Total Revenue		Net Operating Results		Total Assets		
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Australia	842,063	875,567	50,826	73,438	2,145,411	2,027,775	
South East Asia	42,026	39,397	2,440	5,146	57,642	50,899	
	884,089	914,964	53,266	78,584	2,203,053	2,078,674	

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
3					
Australian Government financial assistance including HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP					
(a) Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants 44.1					
		168,831	163,435	168,831	163,435
		341	363	341	363
		3,218	1,793	3,218	1,793
		113	139	113	139
		–	767	–	767
		94	326	94	326
		172,597	166,823	172,597	166,823
(b) Higher Education Loan Programs 44.2					
		94,091	83,407	94,091	83,407
		25,706	22,815	25,706	22,815
		6,943	5,376	6,943	5,376
		126,740	111,598	126,740	111,598
(c) Scholarships 44.3					
		4,229	3,921	4,229	3,921
		441	459	441	459
		252	1,348	252	1,348
		446	1,325	446	1,325
		52	60	52	60
		5,420	7,113	5,420	7,113
(d) DIISR – Research 44.4					
		5,554	5,369	5,554	5,369
		13,744	14,240	13,744	14,240
		1,802	1,729	1,802	1,729
		–	72	–	72
		117	134	117	134
		1,187	913	1,187	913
		22,404	22,457	22,404	22,457
(e) Australian Research Council 44.5					
(i) Discovery 44.5(a)					
		3,679	3,248	3,679	3,248
		1,062	927	1,062	927
		4,741	4,175	4,741	4,175
(ii) Linkages 44.5(b)					
		3,206	3,747	3,206	3,747
		3,206	3,747	3,206	3,747

3 Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
(f) Other Australian Government financial assistance					
Superannuation Supplementation		23,311	23,944	23,311	23,944
Other		14,537	14,137	14,537	14,137
Total other Australian Government financial assistance		37,848	38,081	37,848	38,081
Total Australian Government financial assistance		372,956	353,995	372,956	353,995
Reconciliation					
Australian Government grants [a + c + d + e + f]		246,216	242,397	246,216	242,397
HECS-HELP – Australian Government payments		94,091	83,407	94,091	83,407
FEE-HELP payments		25,706	22,815	25,706	22,815
VET FEE-HELP payments		6,943	5,376	6,943	5,376
Total Australian Government financial assistance		372,956	353,995	372,956	353,995
(i) Australian Government Grants received – cash basis					
CGS and Other DEEWR Grants		172,597	171,565	172,597	171,565
Higher Education Loan Programs		132,712	108,245	132,712	108,245
Scholarships		5,950	7,113	5,950	7,113
DIISR research		22,404	22,457	22,404	22,457
ARC grants – Discovery		4,732	4,175	4,732	4,175
ARC grants – Linkages		3,206	3,747	3,206	3,747
Other Australian Government Grants		20,942	13,990	20,942	13,990
Total Australian Government Grants received – cash basis		362,543	331,292	362,543	331,292
OS-Help (Net)	44.6	60	193	60	193
Superannuation Supplementation	44.7	21,608	27,152	21,608	27,152
Total Australian Government funding received – cash basis		384,211	358,637	384,211	358,637
4 State and Local Government financial assistance					
Recurrent grants		60,629	63,809	60,629	63,809
Capital grants		2,608	17,927	2,608	17,927
Other grants		1,491	4,879	1,491	4,879
Total State and Local Government financial assistance		64,728	86,615	64,728	86,615
5 Fees and charges					
Course fees and charges					
Fee paying overseas students		296,023	285,862	247,411	233,543
Continuing education		16,062	15,364	16,074	15,364
Fee paying domestic postgraduate students		11,610	11,090	11,610	11,090
Fee paying domestic undergraduate students		2,974	5,095	2,974	5,095
Fee paying domestic non-award students		2,376	2,242	2,376	2,242
Other domestic course fees and charges		3,914	4,536	3,159	3,738
Total course fees and charges		332,959	324,189	283,604	271,072
Other non-course fees and charges					
Amenities and service fees		12,315	9,498	11,452	9,123
Late fees		106	137	106	137
Library fines		4	57	4	57
Registration fees		93	160	93	160
Other fees and charges		2,870	2,647	3,324	3,263
Total other fees and charges		15,388	12,499	14,979	12,740
Total fees and charges		348,347	336,688	298,583	283,812

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
6		Investment revenue and income				
		Interest	5,415	6,747	3,190	5,844
		Dividends	2,474	169	1,812	-
		Realised gain from investment	-	314	-	314
		Total investment revenue	7,889	7,230	5,002	6,158
		Unrealised loss on available-for-sale financial assets	1,654	287	-	-
		Total other investment losses	1,654	287	-	-
		Net investment income	6,235	6,943	5,002	6,158
7		Consultancy and contracts				
		Consultancy	13,860	14,672	9,324	10,002
		Contract research				
		Commonwealth Government	9,199	9,288	9,199	9,288
		Victorian State Government	3,668	2,938	3,668	2,931
		Local Government	68	212	68	212
		Industry and other	12,612	9,530	11,262	8,453
		Total contract research	25,547	21,968	24,197	20,884
		Other contract revenue				
		Seminar and conference fees	1,346	832	1,347	832
		Service fees	522	499	112	119
		Total other contract revenue	1,868	1,331	1,459	951
		Total consultancy and contracts	41,275	37,971	34,980	31,837
8		Other revenue and income				
		Donations and bequests	3,271	1,081	6,155	5,543
		Scholarships and prizes	2,983	2,092	2,983	2,108
		Product sales	14,503	14,587	4,389	4,545
		Property rental	5,699	6,202	6,724	7,270
		Foreign exchange gains	145	143	138	140
		Net realised gain on sale of available-for-sale financial assets	-	1,955	-	-
	16	Net gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	47	-	49	-
		Supplier rebate	1,163	142	1,158	136
		Other	2,794	4,099	2,420	7,857
		Total other revenue and income	30,605	30,301	24,016	27,599
9		Employee related expenses				
		Academic				
		Salaries	213,002	206,989	185,323	182,155
		Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes:				
	38 (i)	Emerging cost	16,330	16,881	16,330	16,881
		Funded	27,020	25,779	26,867	25,543
		Payroll tax	11,481	11,216	11,299	10,980
		Workers compensation	1,461	1,265	1,413	1,202
		Long service leave expense	5,974	4,686	5,960	4,672
		Annual leave expense	21,125	17,793	21,103	17,768
		Total academic	296,393	284,609	268,295	259,201

9 Employee related expenses (continued)

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Non-academic					
Salaries		152,273	144,365	140,000	132,470
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes:					
Emerging cost	38 (i)	6,981	7,216	6,981	7,216
Funded		24,975	23,434	23,586	22,026
Payroll tax		10,749	9,156	10,064	8,464
Workers' compensation		1,068	1,825	984	1,716
Long service leave expense		4,053	3,704	3,811	3,513
Annual leave expense		19,294	16,204	19,147	16,088
Total non-academic		219,393	205,903	204,573	191,493
Total employee related expenses		515,786	490,513	472,868	450,694
10 Depreciation and amortisation					
Depreciation					
Buildings		20,427	16,835	19,426	16,420
Building plant and improvements		5,537	3,194	4,952	2,700
Equipment, motor vehicles and furniture and fittings		30,360	23,538	27,197	21,387
Library collection		5,974	5,098	5,228	4,676
Total depreciation	23	62,298	48,665	56,803	45,183
Amortisation					
Intellectual property		415	379	–	–
Total amortisation	24	415	379	–	–
Total depreciation and amortisation		62,713	49,044	56,803	45,183
11 Repairs and maintenance					
Buildings		12,554	19,634	12,547	19,626
Equipment		1,594	1,307	1,527	1,250
Total repairs and maintenance		14,148	20,941	14,074	20,876
12 Borrowing costs					
Interest to related corporations		–	–	822	964
Interest to other corporations		3,909	2	3,909	–
Total borrowing costs		3,909	2	4,731	964
13 Impairment of assets					
Amounts set aside for impaired receivables					
Trade debtors		(267)	–	(267)	–
Student debtors		(5,461)	3,000	(5,461)	3,000
Subsidiaries		–	–	729	566
Other debtors		(152)	(38)	(152)	(38)
		(5,880)	2,962	(5,151)	3,528
Bad debts written off in the Income Statement					
Trade debtors		107	198	91	36
Student debtors		6,565	610	6,565	610
Subsidiaries		–	–	–	–
		6,672	808	6,656	646
Amounts set aside for impaired investment					
Subsidiaries		–	–	–	–
Non-related companies		–	1,624	–	1,624
		–	1,624	–	1,624
Total impairment of assets		792	5,394	1,505	5,798

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
14		Other expenses				
		Scholarships, grants and prizes	32,321	35,466	32,651	37,705
		Non-capitalised equipment	9,168	10,652	9,088	10,622
		Advertising, marketing and promotional expenses	15,600	14,465	11,744	10,443
		General consumables	10,132	10,753	9,653	10,097
		Printing and stationery	5,217	5,624	5,067	5,450
		Minimum lease payments on operating leases	28,958	28,962	25,745	25,448
		Telecommunications	6,239	6,159	5,651	5,565
		Travel, staff development and entertainment	19,671	19,456	18,093	17,961
	16	Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	–	476	–	470
		Net loss on sale of available-for-sale financial assets	591	–	–	–
		Foreign exchange losses	703	1,385	326	225
		Occupancy expenses	24,529	22,917	22,761	21,093
		Audit fees, bank charges, legal costs, insurance and taxes	6,895	5,405	6,332	5,075
		Contractors and consultancy fees	38,071	29,810	36,225	28,035
		Patents, copyright and licences	11,120	11,460	10,082	10,102
		Memberships and subscription fees	2,858	2,998	2,800	2,960
		Computer software support and maintenance	11,769	10,873	11,407	10,571
		Other expenses	5,315	5,887	3,612	3,872
		Total other expenses	229,157	222,749	211,237	205,694
15		Significant items of revenue and expenditure				
		Revenue				
		Donation from related party	–	–	5,000	5,000
		Expenditure				
		Staff separation payments	4,146	5,417	3,767	5,315
		Impairment of receivables	(5,880)	2,962	(5,151)	3,528
		Bad debt written off	6,672	808	6,656	646
		Amortisation or diminution of investments	–	1,324	–	1,624
		Impairment in respect of financial assets	1,654	287	–	–
		Donation to related entity	–	–	2,039	8,500
16		Sales of assets				
		Proceeds from disposal of assets				
		Property, plant and equipment	624	767	623	756
		Total proceeds from sale of assets	624	767	623	756
		Carrying amount of assets disposed				
		Property, plant and equipment	577	1,243	574	1,226
		Total carrying amount of assets sold	577	1,243	574	1,226
		Net gain/(loss) on sale of assets	47	(476)	49	(470)

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
17					
Income tax					
(a) Income tax expense					
		2,048	2,151	1,500	1,600
		(43)	219	–	–
		(735)	(627)	(735)	(607)
		1,270	1,744	765	993
Income tax expense is attributable to:					
		1,270	1,744	765	993
		1,270	1,744	765	993
(b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable					
		11,452	12,886	8,333	6,683
		3,436	3,866	2,500	2,005
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable) in calculating taxable income:					
		1	1	–	–
		48	8	–	–
		20	–	–	–
		(138)	(260)	–	–
		48	–	–	–
		(1,410)	(1,436)	(1,000)	(405)
		(735)	(627)	(735)	(607)
		–	(9)	–	–
		1,270	1,544	765	993
		–	198	–	–
		–	3	–	–
		1,270	1,744	765	993
(c) Deferred tax					
Deferred tax assets					
		231	183	–	–
		231	183	–	–
Deferred tax liabilities					
		11	6	–	–
		11	6	–	–
		220	178	–	–
(d) Current tax liabilities					
		4,015	4,120	3,930	4,120
The following subsidiaries are subject to income tax in Australia:					
Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd					
RMIT Drug Discovery Technologies Pty Ltd					
In addition, RMIT's foreign operations are subject to income tax in the following jurisdictions: Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.					

	<i>Note</i>	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
18					
Cash and cash equivalents					
Cash at bank and on hand		10,629	18,295	8,101	5,660
Deposits at call		39,269	46,319	33,576	41,673
Foreign currency bank accounts		22,264	17,662	–	–
Total cash and cash equivalents		72,162	82,276	41,677	47,333

(a) Cash at bank

The cash at bank is bearing floating interest rates between 0% and 3% (2010 - 0% and 3.50%).

(b) Deposits at call

The deposits are bearing floating interest rates between 4.15% and 5.78% (2010 – 4.65% and 6.28%). These deposits have an average maturity of 45 days.

	<i>Note</i>	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
19					
Receivables					
Current					
Trade receivables		11,148	11,176	8,332	8,017
Less provision for impaired receivables		(159)	(426)	(159)	(426)
		10,989	10,750	8,173	7,591
Student loans and student receivables		10,354	14,130	10,354	14,130
Less provision for impaired receivables		(1,300)	(6,761)	(1,300)	(6,761)
		9,054	7,369	9,054	7,369
Government grants receivable		1,658	7,553	1,658	7,553
Deferred government contributions for superannuation *		23,622	23,033	23,622	23,033
Interest receivable		463	704	300	698
Other debtors and accrued income		11,243	9,993	11,577	9,856
Related parties receivable:					
Amounts receivable from subsidiaries		–	–	6,230	7,527
Less Provision for impairment		–	–	(1,294)	(565)
		36,986	41,283	42,093	48,102
Total current receivables		57,029	59,402	59,320	63,062
Non-current					
Other debtors		1,146	1,308	1,146	1,308
Less Provision for impairment		(31)	(183)	(31)	(183)
Deferred government contributions for superannuation *		338,666	337,957	338,666	337,957
Related parties receivable:					
Other related parties		52	52	–	–
Total non-current receivables		339,833	339,134	339,781	339,082
Total receivables		396,862	398,536	399,101	402,144

* RMIT recognises a receivable for the amount expected to be received from the Commonwealth Government in respect of unfunded superannuation schemes operated by the State Government. The total consolidated amount owing in respect of these at 30 June 2011 amounted to \$362.288m (2010 – \$360.990m). Refer Note 28.

19 Receivables (continued)

	Consolidated		RMIT	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Impaired receivables				
Nominal value of impaired receivables				
Trade receivables	159	426	159	426
Student loans and student receivables	1,300	6,761	1,300	6,761
Amounts receivable from subsidiaries	–	–	1,294	565
Other debtors	31	183	31	183
	1,490	7,370	2,784	7,935
Amount of provision for impaired receivable set aside				
Trade receivables	159	426	159	426
Student loans and student receivables	1,300	6,761	1,300	6,761
Amounts receivable from subsidiaries	–	–	1,294	565
Other debtors	31	183	31	183
	1,490	7,370	2,784	7,935
The ageing of these receivables is as follows:				
3 to 6 months	–	–	1,289	565
Over 6 months	1,490	7,370	1,495	7,370
	1,490	7,370	2,784	7,935
Receivables which were past due but not impaired				
These relate to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. The ageing analysis of these receivables is as follows:				
3 to 6 months	608	2,864	446	2,680
Over 6 months	225	84	–	–
	833	2,948	446	2,680
No provision is made for receivables from government, education and training sectors.				
Movements in the provision for impaired receivables are as follows:				
At 1 January	7,370	4,408	7,935	4,408
Provision for impairment recognised during the year	3,713	3,550	3,729	3,527
Write back of provision for impairment	(9,593)	(588)	(8,613)	–
At 31 December	1,490	7,370	2,784	7,935

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables has been included in Bad and doubtful debts in the income statement. Amounts charged to the provision are generally written off when there is no expectation of recovering further cash flows.

The other amounts within receivables do not contain impaired assets and are not past due. Based on credit history, it is expected that these amounts will be received when due.

19 Receivables (continued)

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
(b) Foreign exchange and interest rate risk					
The carrying amounts of current and non-current receivables are denominated in the following currencies:					
Australian dollar		395,125	396,673	398,239	401,652
American dollar		883	906	792	452
British pound		–	4	–	4
Euro		109	123	67	25
New Zealand dollar		1	–	1	–
Norwegian Krone		2	–	2	–
Saudi Riyal		–	51	–	–
South African rand		–	11	–	11
Vietnam dong		742	768	–	–
Total receivables		396,862	398,536	399,101	402,144
Current receivables		57,029	59,402	59,320	63,062
Non-current receivables		339,833	339,134	339,781	339,082
Total receivables		396,862	398,536	399,101	402,144
A summarised analysis of the sensitivity of receivables to foreign exchange and interest rate risk can be found in note 39.					
20 Inventories					
Current					
Trading stock		458	452	–	–
Work in progress		262	207	–	–
Total inventories		720	658	–	–
21 Available for sale financial assets					
Non-current					
Investments in managed trust funds - at fair value		17,665	20,896	–	–
Total available for sale financial assets		17,665	20,896	–	–
Balance 1 January		20,896	8,604	–	–
Additions		6,790	19,779	–	–
Disposals (sale and redemption)		(7,251)	(8,604)	–	–
Revaluation		(2,770)	1,117	–	–
Balance 31 December		17,665	20,896	–	–
Represented by:					
Financial assets under funds management - pooled equity holdings		17,665	20,896	–	–
		17,665	20,896	–	–

Impairment and risk exposure

None of the financial assets are either past due or impaired.

All available-for-sale financial assets are denominated in Australian currency. For an analysis of the sensitivity of available-for-sale financial assets to price and interest rate risk refer to note 39.

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
22						
		Other financial assets				
		Current				
		Held-to-maturity				
		Term deposits	4,300	-	-	-
			4,300	-	-	-
		Non-current				
		Held-to-maturity				
		Term deposits	2,300	-	-	-
		Unlisted shares in subsidiaries	-	-	7,644	7,644
		Less Provision for diminution in value of investment	-	-	(5,271)	(5,271)
		Unlisted shares in non-related companies	6,688	6,684	6,641	6,641
		Less Provision for diminution in value of investment	(6,520)	(6,520)	(6,520)	(6,520)
			2,468	164	2,494	2,494
		Total other financial assets	6,768	164	2,494	2,494

		Land	Buildings	Construction in progress	Leasehold improvements	Equipment, motor vehicles, furniture and fittings	Library collection	Artworks	Total
	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
23	Property, plant and equipment								
	RMIT Consolidated Entity								
	1 January 2010								
	Cost	–	9,872	120,326	–	–	59,855	–	190,053
	Valuation	287,440	834,842	–	20,760	165,026	–	1,279	1,309,347
	Accumulated depreciation	–	(1,547)	–	(7,377)	(98,728)	(31,592)	–	(139,244)
	Net book amount	287,440	843,167	120,326	13,383	66,298	28,263	1,279	1,360,156
	Year ended 31 December 2010								
	Opening net book amount	287,440	843,167	120,326	13,383	66,298	28,263	1,279	1,360,156
	Revaluation	51,430	–	–	–	–	–	–	51,430
	Additions	–	–	181,656	760	18,594	7,827	8	208,845
	Transfer out of capital works in progress	3,276	133,231	(181,077)	9,332	33,958	1,280	–	–
	Disposals	–	–	(408)	–	(842)	–	–	(1,249)
	Depreciation	–	(16,835)	–	(3,237)	(23,495)	(5,098)	–	(48,665)
	Reclassification	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Foreign currency translation gain/(loss)	–	(1,703)	(1,003)	(18)	(977)	(125)	–	(3,826)
	Closing net book amount	342,147	957,860	119,494	20,220	93,537	32,147	1,287	1,566,691
	31 December 2010								
	Cost	–	20,936	119,494	–	–	1,862	–	142,292
	Valuation	342,147	969,551	–	30,802	192,764	66,941	1,287	1,603,492
	Accumulated depreciation	–	(32,628)	–	(10,582)	(99,227)	(36,656)	–	(179,093)
	Net book amount	342,147	957,859	119,494	20,220	93,537	32,147	1,287	1,566,691
	Year ended 31 December 2011								
	Opening net book amount	342,147	957,859	119,494	20,220	93,537	32,147	1,287	1,566,691
	Revaluation	30,420	(22,984)	–	–	–	–	–	7,436
	Additions	–	–	166,009	–	15,910	6,227	–	188,146
	Transfer out of capital works in progress	5,945	40,581	(60,716)	177	13,537	–	415	(61)
	Disposals	–	–	–	–	(581)	–	–	(581)
	Depreciation	–	(20,427)	–	(5,537)	(30,360)	(5,974)	–	(62,298)
	Reclassification	(56)	52	–	(2)	9	(2)	–	1
	Foreign currency translation gain/(loss)	–	(59)	(19)	–	(30)	(4)	–	(112)
	Closing net book amount	378,456	955,022	224,768	14,858	92,022	32,394	1,702	1,699,222
	31 December 2011								
	Cost	–	21,304	224,768	31,044	19,996	2,648	–	299,760
	Valuation	378,456	936,471	–	–	197,888	72,374	1,702	1,586,891
	Accumulated depreciation	–	(2,753)	–	(16,186)	(125,862)	(42,628)	–	(187,429)
	Net book amount	378,456	955,022	224,768	14,858	92,022	32,394	1,702	1,699,222
	Parent entity								
	1 January 2010								
	Cost	–	–	106,017	–	–	59,111	–	165,128
	Valuation	287,440	834,842	–	18,512	153,294	–	1,279	1,295,367
	Accumulated depreciation	–	–	–	(5,990)	(92,932)	(31,510)	–	(130,432)
	Net book amount	287,440	834,842	106,017	12,522	60,362	27,601	1,279	1,330,063

23 Property, plant and equipment (*continued*)

	Land	Buildings	Construction in progress	Leasehold improvements	Equipment, motor vehicles, furniture and fittings	Library collection	Artworks	Total
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Year ended 31 December 2010								
Opening net book amount	287,440	834,842	106,017	12,522	60,362	27,601	1,279	1,330,063
Revaluation	51,430	–	–	–	–	–	–	51,430
Additions	–	–	169,073	–	17,690	7,827	8	194,598
Transfer out of capital works in progress	3,220	120,317	(158,049)	8,350	26,162	–	–	–
Disposals	–	–	(408)	–	(818)	–	–	(1,226)
Depreciation	–	(16,426)	–	(2,699)	(21,383)	(4,675)	–	(45,183)
Closing net book amount	342,090	938,733	116,633	18,173	82,013	30,753	1,287	1,529,682
31 December 2010								
Cost	–	–	116,633	–	–	66,939	–	183,572
Valuation	342,090	969,609	–	26,860	174,552	–	1,287	1,514,398
Accumulated depreciation	–	(30,876)	–	(8,687)	(92,539)	(36,186)	–	(168,288)
Net book amount	342,090	938,733	116,633	18,173	82,013	30,753	1,287	1,529,682
Year ended 31 December 2011								
Opening net book amount	342,090	938,733	116,633	18,173	82,013	30,753	1,287	1,529,682
Revaluation	30,420	(22,984)	–	–	–	–	–	7,436
Additions	–	–	158,246	–	14,570	5,433	–	178,249
Transfer out of capital works in progress	5,945	40,148	(59,695)	177	13,010	–	415	–
Disposals	–	–	–	–	(575)	–	–	(575)
Depreciation	–	(19,426)	–	(4,952)	(27,197)	(5,228)	–	(56,803)
Closing net book amount	378,455	936,471	215,184	13,398	81,821	30,958	1,702	1,657,989
31 December 2011								
Cost	–	–	215,184	–	–	–	–	215,184
Valuation	378,455	936,471	–	27,038	197,888	72,372	1,702	1,613,926
Accumulated depreciation	–	–	–	(13,640)	(116,067)	(41,414)	–	(171,121)
Net book amount	378,455	936,471	215,184	13,398	81,821	30,958	1,702	1,657,989

(a) Valuation of land and buildings

An independent valuation of land and buildings was carried out as at 31 Dec 2011 by Cunningham Property Consultants Pty Ltd. The valuation has been determined on the following basis: Land at market value and Buildings at market value or depreciated replacement cost.

(b) Assets held in the name of the Minister

Land and buildings valued at \$334.580m (2010 – \$303.864m) is held by RMIT on behalf of the Minister. Upon disposal of any such properties, the application of the proceeds will be directed by the Minister.

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		Intellectual property	Total	Intellectual property	Total	
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
24						
		Intangible assets				
		1 January 2010				
		Cost	1,875	1,875	–	–
		Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(873)	(873)	–	–
		Net book amount	1,002	1,002	–	–
		Year Ended 31 December 2010				
		Opening net book amount	1,002	1,002	–	–
		Additions	12	12	–	–
	10	Amortisation charge	(398)	(398)	–	–
		Closing net book amount	616	616	–	–
		31 December 2010				
		Cost	1,840	1,840	–	–
		Accumulated amortisation	(1,224)	(1,224)	–	–
		Net book amount	616	616	–	–
		Year Ended 31 December 2011				
		Opening net book amount	616	616	–	–
		Additions	386	386	–	–
		Transfer from equipment under construction	61	61	–	–
		Disposals	–	–	–	–
	10	Amortisation charge	(415)	(415)	–	–
		Net book amount	648	648	–	–
		31 December 2011				
		Cost	2,286	2,286	–	–
		Accumulated amortisation	(1,638)	(1,638)	–	–
		Net book amount	648	648	–	–

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
25		Other non-financial assets				
		Current				
		Library subscriptions prepaid	2,106	1,638	2,106	1,638
		Other prepayments	6,668	7,015	5,042	5,345
		Total other non-financial assets	8,774	8,653	7,148	6,983
26		Trade and other payables				
		Current				
		Trade creditors	37,985	53,263	35,104	52,379
		Sundry creditor and operating accruals	45,533	52,449	24,158	34,281
		OS-HELP Liability to Australian Government	323	263	323	263
		Amounts payable to subsidiaries	-	-	-	-
		Total current trade and other payables	83,841	105,975	59,585	86,923
		Foreign currency risk				
		The carrying amounts of the Group's and parent entity's trade and other payables are denominated in the following currencies:				
		Australian dollar	69,504	95,832	57,691	86,282
		American dollar	1,118	289	1,118	289
		British pound	265	39	265	39
		Canadian dollar	-	-	-	-
		Chinese renminbi	10	-	10	-
		Euro	452	150	452	150
		Hong Kong dollar	-	1	-	1
		Indian rupee	12	89	12	89
		Japanese yen	2	-	2	3
		Malaysian Ringgit	14	-	14	-
		New Zealand dollar	1	-	1	-
		Singapore dollar	20	10	20	10
		Thailand bhat	-	60	-	60
		Vietnam dong	12,443	9,506	-	-
		Total current trade and other payables	83,841	105,975	59,585	86,923
		For an analysis of the sensitivity of trade and other payables to foreign currency risk refer to Note 39.				
27		Borrowings				
		Current – unsecured				
		Amounts payable to subsidiaries	-	-	17,289	19,549
		Total current borrowings	-	-	17,289	19,549
		Non-current - unsecured				
		Bank loan	90,000	-	90,000	-
		Total non-current borrowings	90,000	-	90,000	-
		Total borrowings	90,000	-	107,289	19,549
		(a) Financing arrangements				
		Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:				
		Credit standby arrangements				
		Fixed term debt facility	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
		Working capital redraw facility	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
		Bank overdraft facility	250	250	-	-
		Total facilities	40,250	40,250	40,000	40,000
		Amount utilised	(87)	(87)	-	-
		Unused credit facility	40,163	40,163	40,000	40,000

27 Borrowings (continued)

	Consolidated		RMIT	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Bank loan facilities				
Facilities available	225,000	–	225,000	–
Amount utilised	(90,000)	–	(90,000)	–
Unused credit facility	135,000	–	135,000	–
Technology finance operating lease facility				
Lease facility available	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Amount utilised	(12,391)	(12,111)	(12,391)	(12,111)
Unused credit facility	12,609	12,889	12,609	12,889
Business credit card facility				
Business credit facility available	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Amount utilised	(1,044)	(1,224)	(1,044)	(1,224)
Unused credit facility	6,456	6,276	6,456	6,276
Travel credit card facility				
Travel credit facility available	–	750	–	750
Amount utilised	–	(422)	–	(422)
Unused credit facility	–	328	–	328

(b) Details of borrowings

Credit standby arrangements

The fixed term debt facility of \$30m and working capital redraw facility of \$10m expires on 23 November 2012. The working capital redraw facility is subject to biennial review.

Bank loan facility

On 24 December 2010 RMIT University signed an agreement with the Commonwealth Bank for the provision of a \$225m loan facility for a period of 14 years.

Credit card facilities

RMIT has entered into an arrangement with its bankers for the provision of a corporate credit card facility and a travel credit card facility. No interest has been paid during the year as all outstanding balances have been paid by the due dates.

(c) Fair value

The carrying amounts and fair values of borrowings at balance date are:

	2011		2010	
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
On-balance sheet				
Bank loan	90,000	90,000	–	–
Business credit card borrowings	1,044	1,044	1,224	1,224
Travel credit card borrowings	–	–	422	422
	91,044	91,044	1,646	1,646

The fair value of current borrowings equals their carrying amount, as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
28						
Provisions						
Current provisions expected to be settled within 12 months						
		Provision for restructuring costs	1,437	2,103	1,437	2,103
		Employee benefits and oncosts				
		Annual leave – at nominal value	22,153	20,132	21,936	19,896
		Long service leave – at nominal value	9,429	6,297	9,420	6,206
		Deferred benefits for superannuation #	23,622	23,033	23,622	23,033
			55,204	49,461	54,978	49,135
Current provisions expected to be settled later than 12 months						
		Employee benefits and oncosts				
		Annual leave – at net present value	7,334	6,246	6,688	5,649
		Long service leave – at net present value	49,351	46,200	48,771	45,748
			56,685	52,446	55,459	51,397
		Total current provisions	113,326	104,010	111,874	102,635
Non-current						
		Employee benefits and oncosts				
		Long service leave – at net present value	11,945	11,471	11,241	10,743
		Deferred benefits for superannuation #	338,666	337,957	338,666	337,957
		Total non-current provisions	350,611	349,428	349,907	348,700
		Total provisions	463,937	453,437	461,781	451,335
Movements in provisions						
Movements in each class of provision during the financial year, other than employee benefits, are set out below:						
		Carrying amount at start of year	2,103	1,976	2,103	1,976
		Additional provisions recognised	(666)	127	(666)	127
		Carrying amount at end of year	1,437	2,103	1,437	2,103
Employee benefits						
		Provision for employee benefits and oncosts – current	111,889	101,907	110,437	100,532
		Provision for employee benefits and oncosts – non-current	350,611	349,428	349,907	348,700
		Aggregate employee benefits	462,500	451,334	460,344	449,232

28 Provisions (continued)	Restructuring costs	Annual leave	Long service leave	Deferred benefits for superannuation	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
RMIT Consolidated Entity					
2010					
Carrying amount at start of year	1,976	24,393	59,014	315,453	400,837
Net additional provisions recognised/(used)	127	1,984	4,953	45,537	52,601
Carrying amount at end of year	2,103	26,377	63,967	360,990	453,437
2011					
Carrying amount at start of year	2,103	26,377	63,967	360,990	453,437
Net additional provisions recognised/(used)	(666)	3,110	6,758	1,298	10,500
Carrying amount at end of year	1,437	29,487	70,725	362,288	463,937
Parent entity					
2010					
Carrying amount at start of year	1,976	23,521	57,742	315,453	398,692
Net additional provisions recognised/(used)	127	2,024	4,955	45,537	52,643
Carrying amount at end of year	2,103	25,545	62,697	360,990	451,335
2011					
Carrying amount at start of year	2,103	25,545	62,697	360,990	451,335
Net additional provisions recognised/(used)	(666)	3,079	6,735	1,298	10,446
Carrying amount at end of year	1,437	28,624	69,432	362,288	461,781

A total consolidated unfunded liability for retirement benefits of \$362.288m (2010 – \$360.990m) accruing to beneficiaries of the State Superannuation Scheme has been recorded in the Balance Sheet as a liability. Refer Notes 1.18 and 38.

29	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Other liabilities					
Current					
	Australian Government unspent financial assistance	2,326	4,719	2,326	4,719
	Monies held in trust	1,076	1,080	–	–
	Research grants	10,069	8,701	10,069	8,701
	Student fees	41,844	53,114	29,727	41,193
	Project fees	267	265	–	–
	Other	2,056	3,159	2,056	3,159
	Total current other liabilities	57,638	71,038	44,178	57,772
Non-current					
	Total non-current other liabilities	–	–	–	–
	Total other liabilities	57,638	71,038	44,178	57,772

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
30					
Reserves					
Consolidated reserves					
Balance at beginning of year		623,663	589,606	599,983	548,554
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings		(1,608)	(11,571)	–	–
Revaluation of land and buildings		7,436	51,430	7,436	51,429
Foreign exchange gains/(losses)		(128)	(4,729)	–	–
Realised (gains)/losses transferred to income statement		–	(1,730)	–	–
Unrealised valuation gain/(losses) taken to equity		(1,117)	657	–	–
Balance at end of year		628,246	623,663	607,419	599,983
Represented by:					
Asset revaluation surplus		644,212	636,776	607,419	599,983
Fixed asset replacement reserve		–	119	–	–
Capital projects reserve		–	1,489	–	–
Foreign currency translation reserve		(15,990)	(15,862)	–	–
Share premium reserve		24	24	–	–
Available for sale revaluation surplus		–	1,117	–	–
		628,246	623,663	607,419	599,983
Movements in reserves during the year were:					
Asset revaluation surplus					
Balance at beginning of year		636,776	588,406	599,983	548,554
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings		–	(3,060)	–	–
Revaluation of land and buildings		7,436	51,430	7,436	51,429
Balance at end of year		644,212	636,776	607,419	599,983
Fixed asset replacement reserve					
Balance at beginning of year		119	119	–	–
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings	31	(119)	–	–	–
Balance at end of year		–	119	–	–
Capital projects reserve					
Balance at beginning of year		1,489	10,000	–	–
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings		(1,489)	(8,511)	–	–
Balance at end of year		–	1,489	–	–
Foreign currency translation reserve					
Balance at beginning of year		(15,862)	(11,133)	–	–
Foreign currency translation gains/(losses)		(128)	(4,729)	–	–
Balance at end of year		(15,990)	(15,862)	–	–
Share premium reserve					
Balance at beginning of year		24	24	–	–
Balance at end of year		24	24	–	–
Available for sale revaluation surplus					
Balance at beginning of year		1,117	2,190	–	–
Realised (gains)/losses transferred to income statement		–	(1,730)	–	–
Unrealised valuation gains/(losses) taken to equity		(1,117)	657	–	–
Balance at end of year		–	1,117	–	–

30 Reserves (continued)

Nature and purpose of reserves

Asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record asset revaluation increments and decrements in the value of non-current physical assets.

Fixed asset replacement reserve

The fixed asset replacement reserve sets aside retained earnings to be used for replacing assets that exist on the asset register.

Capital projects reserve

The capital projects reserve sets aside retained earnings to be used for major projects over \$10,000.

Foreign currency translation reserve

Exchange differences arising on translation of the foreign controlled entity are taken to the foreign currency translation reserve. The reserve is recognised in the profit and loss when the net investment is disposed of.

Share premium reserve

Amount paid by shareholders for shares in excess of their nominal value.

Available for sale revaluation surplus

Changes in fair value are taken to available for sale revaluation surplus, as described in note 1.13.

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
31		Retained surplus			
		819,803	729,655	768,954	692,510
		Retained surplus at beginning of year			
		Operating result attributable to RMIT entity	53,266	78,584	55,273
	30	Transfers from/(to) reserves	1,608	11,570	-
		Other adjustments	(11)	(6)	-
		Retained surplus at end of year	874,666	819,803	824,227
32		Minority interest			
		Outside equity interest in subsidiaries comprises:			
		Interest in accumulated funds at the beginning of the year	484	314	-
		Interest in net operating result	96	170	-
		Dividends received	(30)	-	-
		Other adjustments	-	-	-
		Interest in accumulated funds at the end of the year	550	484	-
		Interest in share capital	120	120	-
		Interest in reserves	28	28	-
		Total outside equity interests in controlled entities	698	632	-

34 Commitments (continued)

	Consolidated		RMIT	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(c) Other expenditure commitments				
Commitments relate to CRC research and other non capital expenditure				
Due within one year	14,148	7,355	14,067	7,298
Due after one year but within five years	660	3,131	660	3,131
	14,808	10,486	14,727	10,429
GST reclaimable on the above	1,129	406	1,121	401
Net Commitment	13,679	10,080	13,606	10,028
The University has entered into research contracts with the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Research Council, the revenues from which are recognised in the year of receipt. Under these contracts and as at balance date the University is committed to further expenditure to complete the relevant research and satisfy those commitments.				
	5,082	5,215	5,082	5,215
(d) Remuneration commitments				
Commitments for the payment of salaries and other remuneration under long-term employment contracts in existence at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities.				
Due within one year	60,102	57,376	60,102	57,376
Due after one year but within five years	53,827	41,238	53,827	41,238
Due after five years	–	20	–	20
	113,929	98,634	113,929	98,634

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
35					
Notes to statement of cash flows					
(a) Reconciliation of cash					
For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash represents:					
Cash on hand, at bank, short term money market deposits, short dated bills of exchange and outstanding bank overdrafts.					
Cash at the end of the reporting period is shown in the Statement of Cash Flows and is reconciled to the related items in the financial statements as follows:					
Cash at the beginning of year					
		18,295	3,793	5,660	354
		46,319	98,636	41,673	84,862
		17,662	25,142	–	–
		82,276	127,570	47,333	85,216
Cash at the end of year					
		10,629	18,295	8,101	5,660
		39,269	46,319	33,576	41,673
		22,264	17,662	–	–
		72,162	82,276	41,677	47,333
Cash movement for the year		(10,114)	(45,295)	(5,656)	(37,883)
(b) Reconciliation of operating result after income tax to net cash inflow from operating activities					
		53,362	78,754	55,273	76,444
	8	(47)	476	(49)	470
	14	591	(1,955)	–	–
	13	1,654	287	–	–
		(1,791)	–	–	–
	10	62,299	48,665	56,803	45,183
	10	414	379	–	–
	13	–	1,624	–	1,624
	13	6,672	808	6,656	646
	13	(5,880)	2,962	(5,151)	3,528
		(56)	(143)	–	–
Change in assets and liabilities					
		3,329	3,673	1,685	3,524
		(61)	130	–	–
		(237)	(1,167)	(165)	(993)
		(6,549)	12,225	(8,069)	7,219
		–	–	(2,260)	(9,150)
		(12,097)	4,647	(12,296)	5,252
		551	744	(190)	512
		9,958	7,063	9,148	7,106
Net cash flows from operating activities		112,112	159,172	101,385	141,365

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
36		Economic dependency				
		The RMIT Consolidated Entity is reliant on a significant volume of its revenue being derived from:				
		Commonwealth Government financial assistance	383,453	408,819	383,453	408,819
		Victorian State Government financial assistance	68,396	89,546	68,396	89,546
			451,849	498,365	451,849	498,365
		The percentage of the RMIT consolidated entity revenue was sourced from:				
		Commonwealth Government financial assistance	43.45%	44.68%	46.85%	47.97%
		Victorian State Government financial assistance	7.75%	9.79%	8.36%	10.51%
37		Events occurring after the balance sheet date				
		No matters or circumstances, other than the contingent liability mentioned in Note 33, have arisen since the end of the reporting period which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the RMIT consolidated entity or parent entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the RMIT consolidated entity or parent entity in future financial years.				
38		Superannuation				
		Funds to which RMIT or any controlled entity contributed during the financial year:				
		(a) Defined benefit schemes				
	9	ESSSUPER – State Superannuation Fund - closed	23,311	22,909	23,311	22,909
		(b) Defined contribution schemes				
		Victorian Superannuation Fund	2,491	2,492	2,355	2,388
		UniSuper	34,123	32,054	33,991	31,807
		Other Superannuation Funds	15,381	14,667	14,107	13,374
			75,306	72,122	73,764	70,478

ESSSUPER

ESSSuper is the dedicated super fund for emergency services employees and state employees. RMIT has in its staffing profile a number of employees who are members of ESSSuper (formerly called the Victorian State Superannuation Fund or the State Employees Retirement Benefit Scheme) and in respect of whom defined benefits are payable on termination of employment.

As at 30 June 2011, ESSSuper were carrying total liabilities for member benefits in excess of the value of the fund's assets. Hence, unfunded superannuation liabilities exist which are recognised in the financial statements of the funds.

The notional share of this public sector employee superannuation funds unfunded liabilities attributable to RMIT, as assessed by the funds as at 30 June 2011, amounted to \$362.288m (2010 - \$360.990m). Unfunded liabilities are met by the Australian Government.

There was no other unfunded superannuation liability for any other scheme.

(i) Defined benefit schemes**ESSSUPER – State Superannuation Fund**

RMIT is required to contribute as and when the Higher Education Sector contributors become beneficiaries under the scheme (Emerging cost). The employer's contribution is that which is required to meet the defined benefit.

RMIT is required to contribute on a fortnightly basis for TAFE employees in respect of:

- Revised Scheme 17.6%
- New Scheme 7.3%, 8.6%, 9.4% or 10.3% based on members election.

ESSSUPER – State Employees Retirement Benefit Scheme

RMIT contributes 100% of pensions paid in respect of former employees.

38 Superannuation (*continued*)

(ii) Defined contribution schemes

Victorian Superannuation Fund

RMIT is required to contribute on account of members of the fund at the rate required to meet the "Superannuation Guarantee" - currently 9%.

UniSuper Plans

UniSuper is a multi employer superannuation fund operated by UniSuper Limited as the Corporate Trustee and administered by UniSuper Management Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of UniSuper Limited. The operations of UniSuper are regulated by the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*.

(i) UniSuper offers eligible members the choice of two schemes known as the Defined Benefit Division (DBD) (previously referred to as Defined Benefit Plan) or Accumulation Super (2) (previously referred to as Investment Choice Plan). The contribution rate to the scheme is 21% of member's salary of which the member contributes 7% and the University 14%. From 1 July 2006, members can elect to reduce the level of member contributions with corresponding reductions in benefits.

In 2005, UniSuper advised that the Defined Benefits Plan should be disclosed under the multi employer provisions of AASB 119 Employee Benefits which allowed for defined benefit obligations to be reported on a defined contribution basis with some additional information. AASB 119 Employee Benefits states that this is an appropriate solution for a Defined Benefit Plan where the employer does not have access to the information required and there is no reliable basis for allocating the benefits, liabilities, assets and costs between employers.

As a consequence of changes to the UniSuper Trust deed in December 2006, UniSuper has advised that the foregoing no longer applies and that both the Defined Benefit Division and Accumulation Super (2) plans are defined as Multi Employer Defined Contribution Schemes in accordance with AASB 119 Employee Benefits.

(ii) UniSuper also offers a cash accumulation productivity scheme known as Accumulation Super (1) (previously referred to as the Award Plus Plan (APP)). University employees have no requirement to contribute to the scheme. The University contributes the equivalent of 3% of the base salary in respect of those employees who were members of the Defined Benefits Division or the Accumulation Super (2) Plan. Employees who do not qualify for membership of the Defined Benefits Division or the Accumulation Super (2) Plan will have a minimum contribution 9% of their annual salary contributed by the University to Accumulation Super (1) prescribed under the *Superannuation Guarantee Charges Act 1992*.

Casual and non-permanent employees who do not qualify for membership of the Defined Benefit Division or Accumulation Super (2) are eligible for Accumulation Super (1).

The employer is required to contribute on account of eligible employees at a minimum rate of 9% to all superannuation funds.

No contribution remained unpaid at the end of the year except to the extent of normal and current terms of payment. The amount payable at 31 December 2011 was \$1.704m (2010 - \$4.405m).

39 Financial risk management

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in note 1 of the financial statements.

(i) Financial risk management objectives

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest rate risk, cash flow interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Group's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Group by adhering to principles on foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, the use of financial derivatives and non-derivative financial instruments, and the investment of excess liquidity. Compliance with policies and exposure limits is reviewed by management on a continuous basis. The Consolidated Entity does not enter into or trade financial instruments, including derivative financial instruments, for speculative purposes.

The Group uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include sensitivity analysis in the case of interest rate, foreign exchange and other price risks, ageing analysis for credit risk and data analysis in respect of investment portfolios to determine market risk.

(ii) Foreign currency risk

The RMIT Consolidated Entity undertakes certain transactions denominated in foreign currencies. Hence, exposures to exchange rate fluctuations arise. Exchange rate exposures are managed within approved policy parameters so as to minimise the total exposure to exchange rate risk.

The group is mainly exposed to the currencies of the United States of America, Vietnam and Singapore.

The following table details the group's sensitivity to a 15% increase or decrease in the Australian Dollar (AUD) against the relevant foreign currencies. 15% is the sensitivity rate used when reporting foreign currency risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the possible change in foreign exchange rates. The sensitivity analysis includes only outstanding foreign currency denominated monetary items and adjusts their translation at the period end for a 15% change in foreign currency rates.

39 Financial risk management (*continued*)

31 December 2011

Consolidated	Carrying Amount \$'000	Currency rate risk			
		-15.0%		15.0%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	22,263	(3,339)	(3,339)	3,339	3,339
Receivables	1,738	(261)	(261)	261	261
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	14,336	(2,150)	(2,150)	2,150	2,150

31 December 2010

Consolidated	Carrying Amount \$'000	Currency rate risk			
		-15.0%		15.0%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	17,662	(2,649)	(2,649)	2,649	2,649
Receivables	1,095	(164)	(164)	164	164
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	10,143	(1,521)	(1,521)	1,521	1,521

(iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate exposures arise predominantly from assets bearing variable interest rates. The group's exposure to interest rates on financial assets is detailed in the liquidity risk management section of this note.

The sensitivity analysis below have been determined based on the exposure to price adjustments at the reporting date and the stipulated change taking place at the beginning of the financial year and held constant throughout the reporting period. A 100 basis point increase or 100 basis point decrease is used when reporting interest rate risk as this represents management's assessment of the possible change in interest rates:

31 December 2011

Consolidated	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate risk			
		-1.0%		1.0%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	72,162	(722)	(722)	722	722
Receivables	396,862	-	-	-	-
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	83,841	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	90,000	(900)	(900)	900	900

31 December 2010

Consolidated	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate risk			
		-1.0%		2.0%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	82,276	(823)	(823)	1,646	1,646
Receivables	398,537	-	-	-	-
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	105,975	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-

39 Financial risk management (*continued*)

(iv) Price Risk

The sensitivity analysis below have been determined based on the exposure to interest rates at the reporting date and the stipulated change taking place at the beginning of the financial year and held constant throughout the reporting period. A 10% increase or decrease is used when reporting on price risk as this represents management's assessment of the possible change in prices:

31 December 2011		Price risk				
		-10.0%		10.0%		
Consolidated	Carrying Amount	Result	Equity	Result	Equity	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Financial Assets						
	Available for sale financial assets – equity	17,665	(1,767)	(1,767)	1,654	1,767
31 December 2010		Price risk				
		-10.0%		10.0%		
Consolidated	Carrying Amount	Result	Equity	Result	Equity	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Financial Assets						
	Available for sale financial assets – equity	20,896	(973)	(2,090)	–	2,090

(v) Liquidity risk

Ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management rests with the entity's governing body, which has built an appropriate liquidity risk management framework for the management of the group's short, medium and long-term funding and liquidity management requirements. The entity manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves and banking facilities by continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash flows and matching the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities.

The entity does not have any significant credit risk exposure to any single counterparty or any group of counterparties having similar characteristics. The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The Entity has also established a standby facility of \$10 million to provide short-term cash should the need arise. Exposure to liquidity risk and the effective weighted average interest rate for each class of financial assets and financial liabilities is set out in the following table.

39 Financial risk management (continued)

Consolidated	Note	Floating interest rate \$'000	Fixed Interest Maturing			Non Interest Bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
			1 year or less \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000		
31 December 2011							
Assets							
Cash at bank and on hand	18	10,629	–	–	–	–	10,629
Deposits at call	18	–	39,269	–	–	–	39,269
Foreign currency bank accounts	18	22,264	–	–	–	–	22,264
Receivables	19	–	–	–	–	396,862	396,862
Available for sale financial assets	21	–	–	–	–	17,665	17,665
Deferred tax asset	17	–	–	–	–	231	231
Term deposits	22	–	4,300	2,300	–	–	6,600
Shares in non-related companies	22	–	–	–	–	168	168
		32,893	43,569	2,300	–	414,926	493,688
Weighted average interest rate		2.23%	5.35%				
Liabilities							
Trade and other payables	26	–	–	–	–	83,841	83,841
Borrowings	27	90,000	–	–	–	–	90,000
Current tax liabilities	17	–	–	–	–	4,015	4,015
Deferred tax liabilities	17	–	–	–	–	11	11
		90,000	–	–	–	87,867	177,867
Net financial assets (liabilities)		(57,107)	43,569	2,300	–	327,059	315,822
31 December 2010							
Assets							
Cash at bank and on hand	18	18,295	–	–	–	–	18,295
Deposits at call	18	–	46,319	–	–	–	46,319
Foreign currency bank accounts	18	17,662	–	–	–	–	17,662
Receivables	19	–	–	–	–	398,536	398,536
Available for sale financial assets	21	–	–	–	–	20,896	20,896
Deferred tax assets	17	–	–	–	–	183	183
Shares in non-related companies	22	–	–	–	–	164	164
		35,957	46,319	–	–	419,779	502,055
Weighted average interest rate		2.66%	5.85%				
Liabilities							
Trade and other payables	26	–	–	–	–	105,975	105,975
Current tax liabilities	17	–	–	–	–	4,120	4,120
Deferred tax liabilities	17	–	–	–	–	6	6
		–	–	–	–	110,101	110,101
Net financial assets (liabilities)		35,957	46,319	–	–	309,678	391,954

(vi) Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the entity. The entity has adopted a policy of only dealing with creditworthy counterparties, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults. The entity's exposure and the credit ratings of its counterparties are continuously monitored and the aggregate value of transactions concluded is spread amongst approved counterparty limits that are reviewed and approved by management regularly. The carrying amount of financial assets (as contained in the table in subnote (ix) below) represents the groups maximum exposure to credit risk.

The entity minimises concentrations of credit risk by undertaking transactions with a large number of customers and counterparties, spread across diverse industries and geographical areas and by performing extensive due diligence procedures on major new customers. Ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of accounts receivable.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, grossed up for any allowances for losses, represents the entity's maximum exposure to credit without taking account of the value of any collateral obtained.

The Entity has not obtained any collateral or other security for its financial assets.

(vii) Market risk

RMIT Consolidated Entity's exposure to market risk is borne by the borrowings placed in bank accepted commercial bills and bank short term deposits.

39 Financial risk management (continued)

(viii) Fair value estimation

The aggregate net fair values and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities at balance date are as follows:

	Note	2011		2010	
		Carrying Amount \$'000	Fair Value \$'000	Carrying Amount \$'000	Fair Value \$'000
Financial assets					
Cash at bank and on hand	18	10,629	10,629	18,295	18,295
Deposits at call	18	39,269	39,269	46,319	46,319
Foreign currency bank accounts	18	22,264	22,264	17,662	17,662
Receivables	19	396,862	396,862	398,537	398,537
Available for sale financial assets	21	17,665	17,665	20,896	20,896
Term deposits	22	6,600	6,600	–	–
Unlisted shares in non-related companies	22	168	168	164	164
Deferred tax assets	17	231	231	183	183
		493,688	493,688	502,056	502,056
Financial liabilities					
Trade and other payables	26	83,841	83,841	105,975	105,975
Borrowings	27	90,000	90,000	–	–
Current tax liabilities	17	4,015	4,015	4,120	4,120
Deferred tax liabilities	17	11	11	6	6
		177,867	177,867	110,101	110,101

The net fair value of cash and cash equivalents and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets and financial liabilities of the consolidated entity approximates their carrying amounts.

Due to the short-term nature of the current receivables, their carrying value is assumed to approximate their fair value and based on credit history it is expected that the receivables that are neither past due nor impaired will be received when due.

The net fair value of other monetary financial assets and financial liabilities is based upon market prices where a market exists or by discounting the expected future cash flows by the current interest rates for assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles.

The following tables provides an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable.

Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).

Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

	2011	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	2010	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets								
Cash at bank and on hand	10,629	10,629	–	–	18,295	18,295	–	–
Deposits at call	39,269	39,269	–	–	46,319	46,319	–	–
Foreign currency bank accounts	22,264	22,264	–	–	17,662	17,662	–	–
Receivables	396,862	396,862	–	–	398,537	398,537	–	–
Available for sale financial assets	17,665	17,665	–	–	20,896	20,896	–	–
Term deposits	6,600	6,600	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unlisted shares in non-related companies	168	–	10	158	164	–	6	158
Deferred tax assets	231	231	–	–	183	183	–	–
	493,688	493,521	10	158	502,056	501,892	6	158
Financial liabilities								
Trade and other payables	83,841	83,841	–	–	105,975	105,975	–	–
Borrowings	90,000	90,000	–	–	–	–	–	–
Current tax liabilities	4,015	4,015	–	–	4,120	4,120	–	–
Deferred tax liabilities	11	11	–	–	6	6	–	–
	177,867	177,867	–	–	110,101	110,101	–	–

39 Financial risk management (*continued*)Reconciliation of Financial Assets
categorised as level 3:

Note	2011		2010	
	Other Financial Assets	Total	Other Financial Assets	Total
Opening Balance	158	158	158	158
Acquisition of shares in unlisted company	–	–	1,624	1,624
Provision for diminution in value of investment	–	–	(1,624)	(1,624)
Closing Balance	158	158	158	158

40 Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following controlled entities in accordance with the accounting policy described in note 1.02:

Note	Class of Shares	Place of Incorporation	Ownership		Shares Held		Net equity		
			2011 %	2010 %	2011 No.	2010 No.	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
Controlled entities – corporate									
RMIT Training Pty Ltd	(a)	Ordinary	Australia	100	100	502,000	502,000	6,874	10,804
Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd	(b)	Ordinary	Australia	45.90	45.90	102,000	102,000	1,179	1,057
RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd	(c)	Ordinary	Australia	100	100	1,225,373	1,225,373	26,172	26,208
RMIT International University Vietnam	(d)	Licence	Vietnam	100	100	–	–	43,063	40,753
Meltech Services Ltd	(e)	Limited by guarantee	Australia	100	100	–	–	–	–
RMIT Drug Discovery Technologies Pty Ltd	(f)	Ordinary	Australia	100	100	5,270,563	5,270,563	–	258
Controlled entities – other									
RMIT Link	(g)	Unincorporated body						1,860	2,117
RMIT Foundation	(h)	Unincorporated body						25,934	26,969
								105,082	108,166

(a) RMIT Training Pty Ltd is a company incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* with share capital of 502,000 ordinary shares of \$1 each.

(b) Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd is a company incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* with ordinary shares of 222,222 (2010 - 222,222) of \$1 each. The company is a subsidiary of RMIT by virtue of its financial control and the power to appoint the board.

(c) RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd (RVH) is a wholly owned entity of RMIT. The company's principal activity is holding RMIT's investment in RMIT International University Vietnam (RIUV) and to hold funds for distribution to operations at the RIUV Campus and RMIT's investment in RIUV. Each year the RVH results will be affected by a timing difference between receipt of grants and the subsequent payment of those grants to RIUV.

(d) RMIT International University Vietnam is a wholly owned entity of RMIT Vietnam Holdings Pty Ltd. Its purpose is to provide advanced education to the Vietnamese community in Vietnam.

(e) Meltech Services Ltd is a company incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001*, limited by guarantee and without share capital. The liability of members at balance date was limited to \$120, being six members with a liability limited to \$20 each. The sole director is a nominee of RMIT. Accordingly, Meltech Services Ltd is a controlled entity of RMIT. This entity did not trade in 2011 and is in the process of being deregistered.

(f) RMIT Drug Discovery Technologies Pty Ltd was incorporated on 9 January 2007 and is wholly owned by RMIT. The company's principal activity is to develop and provide OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice preclinical toxicology and bio-analytical testing services for national and global biotechnology, pharmaceutical and chemical industry clients progressing products for human health care through development.

(g) RMIT Link is an unincorporated body. Its principal purpose is to provide support services to RMIT students. This entity changed its name from RMIT Union to RMIT Link on 1 January 2011.

(h) RMIT Foundation is a trust. Its principal purpose is to raise funds, provide grants to RMIT for the conduct of research, provide for scholarships and student awards and to engage visiting scholars.

41 Related parties

The following related party transactions occurred during the financial year and were conducted on normal terms and conditions unless otherwise stated:

(a) Responsible persons and specified executives

The names, remuneration and retirement benefits of persons who were Councillors of RMIT and specified executives at any time during the financial year are set out in Note 43.

(b) Controlled entities

Interests in subsidiaries is set out in Note 40.

(c) Transactions with related parties

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

Aggregate amounts included in the determination of operating result from ordinary activities that resulted from transactions with each class of other related parties within the group:

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Sale of services					
Fees and charges		-	-	5,750	4,219
Donations and bequests		-	-	6,782	5,454
Rental income		-	-	1,247	1,282
Purchase of services					
Expenditure in relation to delivery of programs		-	-	309	-
Grants, scholarships and prizes		-	-	2,039	10,129
Expenditure incurred on behalf of related parties					
Audit fees		-	-	9	8
Investment of capital					
Loans advanced to/(repaid by) subsidiaries		-	-	(1,297)	377
Interest expense					
		-	-	822	964
(d) Outstanding balances					
The following balances are outstanding at the reporting date in relation to transactions with related parties:					
Current Receivables					
		-	-	6,230	7,527
Provision for impairment		-	-	(1,294)	(565)
Current Payables					
		-	-	-	-
Interest bearing liabilities					
		-	-	17,289	19,549

(e) Terms and conditions

All transactions were made on normal commercial terms and conditions and at market rates, except that there are no fixed terms for repayment of loans between the parties. The average interest rate on loans during the year was 4.68% (2010 - 4.34%).

Outstanding balances are unsecured and are repayable in cash.

Certain administrative services are provided by RMIT to a number of entities within the wholly owned group at no charge.

	Note	Consolidated		RMIT		
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	
42		Remuneration of auditors				
		Auditing or reviewing the financial reports of the entity or any entity in the consolidated entity				
		Auditor-General of Victoria	357	346	251	244
		Total auditing services	357	346	251	244

43 Key management personnel disclosures

(a) Responsible persons related disclosures

In accordance with the directions of the Minister for Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, the following disclosures are made for the responsible Ministers and responsible Members of Council.

(i) Minister

The responsible Minister was the Hon. Peter Hall, MLC, Minister for Higher Education and Skills.

Remuneration of these Ministers is disclosed in the financial statements of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Other relevant interests are declared in the Register of Members interests which is completed by each member of Parliament.

(ii) Names of responsible persons and executive officers

The following persons were responsible persons and executive officers of RMIT during the year:

Council Members

Ballagh, A. (term concluded on 9 November 2011)	Pekarek, H.
Dalton, A.	Pierce, J.
D'Souza, D. (term commenced on 1 July 2011)	Reid, J. (term commenced on 7 February 2011)
Gardner, M.	Robinson, N. (term concluded on 30 June 2011)
Gilmour, J.	Schulze, M.
Latchford, J.	Swan, D.
Lever, R.	Switkowski, Z.
Melkonian, H.	Tappenden, T.
Murphy, P.	Thorn, F.
Nieuwenhuysen, J.	Wulff, R.
O'Donnell, R.	Young, D.

All council members have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise noted above.

43 Key management personnel disclosures (continued)

Executive Officers

Alcorn, D.	Liddell, M.
Coloe, P.	Palmer, G.
Connelly, S.	Palmer, I.
Fudge, C.	Somogyi, S.
Hoodbhoy, M.	Wells, J.
Kirk, J. (term concluded on 31 May 2011)	

All executive officers have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise noted above.

(b) Remuneration of responsible persons

Income paid or payable, or otherwise made available, to Councillors and/or directors by entities in the RMIT consolidated entity and related parties in connection with the management of affairs of the RMIT entity or its subsidiaries:

Consolidated		RMIT	
2011	2010	2011	2010
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
3,919	3,272	2,041	1,828

Number of RMIT Councillors and directors whose total remuneration from RMIT and any related bodies corporate was within the following bands:

	2011	2010	2011	2010
	No.	No.	No.	No.
\$ 0	4	4	2	2
Less than \$10,000	3	3	–	–
\$ 10,000 - \$ 19,999	12	9	12	9
\$ 20,000 - \$ 29,999	–	3	–	3
\$ 50,000 - \$ 59,999	–	1	–	1
\$ 60,000 - \$ 69,999	1	–	1	–
\$ 70,000 - \$ 79,999	1	–	1	–
\$ 90,000 - \$ 99,999	1	1	1	1
\$100,000 - \$109,999	–	1	–	1
\$110,000 - \$119,999	1	1	1	1
\$120,000 - \$129,999	2	1	1	–
\$180,000 - \$189,999	1	1	–	–
\$210,000 - \$219,999	1	–	–	–
\$230,000 - \$239,999	1	–	1	–
\$250,000 - \$259,999	–	1	–	1
\$270,000 - \$279,999	–	1	–	1
\$280,000 - \$289,999	–	1	–	–
\$290,000 - \$299,999	1	–	1	–
\$400,000 - \$409,999	–	1	–	–
\$420,000 - \$429,999	1	1	–	–
\$430,000 - \$439,999	1	–	–	–
\$460,000 - \$469,999	1	–	–	–
\$710,000 - \$719,999	–	1	–	1
\$840,000 - \$849,999	1	–	1	–
	33	31	22	21

43 Key management personnel disclosures (continued)

(c) Remuneration of executive officers

Income received or due and receivable from entities in the consolidated entity and related parties by Australian-based executive officers occupying a senior management role except for responsible persons whose remuneration was at least \$100,000.

In addition to the senior executive officers reported under Note 43 (a)(ii) for RMIT, the Consolidated disclosures below include executives of controlled entities.

Note	Consolidated		RMIT	
	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Base remuneration of executive officers	4,353	4,698	3,903	3,749
Total remuneration of executive officers#	4,854	5,138	4,368	4,093

The number of executive officers whose total remuneration was within the following bands:

	2011 No.	2010 No.	2011 No.	2010 No.
\$150,000 - \$159,999	–	1	–	–
\$170,000 - \$179,999	1	1	1	–
\$210,000 - \$219,999	–	2	–	1
\$220,000 - \$229,999	1	–	–	–
\$230,000 - \$239,999	–	1	–	–
\$240,000 - \$249,999	1	–	1	–
\$250,000 - \$259,999	–	1	–	1
\$260,000 - \$269,999	1	1	–	–
\$270,000 - \$279,999	1	–	1	–
\$280,000 - \$289,999	–	1	–	1
\$330,000 - \$339,999	–	1	–	1
\$360,000 - \$369,999	–	2	–	2
\$370,000 - \$379,999	–	1	–	1
\$390,000 - \$399,999	1	–	1	–
\$400,000 - \$409,999	1	1	1	1
\$410,000 - \$419,999	1	–	1	–
\$420,000 - \$429,999	1	1	1	1
\$430,000 - \$439,999	1	–	1	–
\$440,000 - \$449,999	–	1	–	1
\$460,000 - \$469,999	1	–	1	–
\$470,000 - \$479,999	1	–	1	–
\$620,000 - \$629,999	–	1	–	1
\$640,000 - \$649,999	1	–	1	–
	13	16	11	11

Total remuneration of executive officers includes basic salary, bonus, annual leave, long service leave, termination payments, motor vehicle and other non-monetary benefits received or due and receivable by executive officers.

43 Key management personnel disclosures (*continued*)

(d) Related party transactions

The following transactions were entered into by RMIT University with related entities of members of Council and Executive Officers:

Council member/Executive officer	External position held	Nature of transaction	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Janet Latchford	President and Board member, Epworth Healthcare	Provision of clinical health placements to RMIT students.	(16)	(12)
Daine Alcorn	Director, Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing	Provision of consultancy service in R&I projects and co-investment in HPC System	(225)	414
		Rental income and related bills charge back	362	–
	Director, Museum Board of Victoria	Involvement at RMIT exhibitions and career expos.	(21)	(46)
		Rental income from venue hire	2	–
		Provision of clinical health placements and lectures to RMIT students.	(46)	18
Director, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	Provision of research programs by RMIT.	67	–	
	Director, Spatial Vision Innovations Pty Ltd	Charge back by RMIT for annual insurance premium.	8	7
		Provision of consultancy services by Spatial to RMIT.	(41)	(26)
Stephen Connelly	President, International Education Association of Australia (IEAA)	Charge back by RMIT for reimbursement of expenses	266	74
		Charges for attendance at conferences	(1)	–
Margaret Gardner	Director, Open Universities Australia	Provision of student tuition and charges for RMIT Board nominee	9,865	7,411
		Reimbursement of funding charged to RMIT	(3)	(8)
	Chair, Museum Board of Victoria	Involvement at RMIT exhibitions and career expos	(21)	(46)
		Rental income from venue hire	2	–
Director, Australian Learning and Teaching Council	Charge back by RMIT for reimbursement of expenses	14	3	
	Gill Palmer	Board Member, The Cranlana Programme	Charges for attendance at conferences	(5)
Joyce Kirk	Eltham College Melbourne City School	Provision of placements to RMIT students.	(7)	–
David Swan	RMIT University Student Union	Provision of training programs to Eltham	7	–
		Provision of grants	(1,733)	–
Fran Thorn	Department of Health	Charge back by RMIT for reimbursement of expenses	47	–
		Receipt of grants for research projects	8	–
Steve Somogyi	Director, Vernet Pty Ltd	Annual operating subscription	(557)	(540)

All transactions disclosed above were on normal commercial terms and conditions.

44 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance

44.1 DEEWR – CGS and Other DEEWR Grants

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Commonwealth Grants Scheme #1		Indigenous Support Program		Partnership and Participation Program #2		Disability Support Program	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		168,831	168,177	341	363	3,218	1,793	113	139
Net accrual adjustments		–	(4,742)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revenue for the period	3(a)	168,831	163,435	341	363	3,218	1,793	113	139
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		–	–	(11)	(28)	691	(193)	(54)	24
Total revenue including accrued revenue		168,831	163,435	330	335	3,909	1,600	59	163
Less expenses including accrued expenses		168,831	163,435	330	346	3,675	909	164	217
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		–	–	–	(11)	234	691	(105)	(54)

#1 Includes the basic CGS grant amount, CGS – Regional Loading, CGS – Enabling Loading, Maths and Science Transition Loading and Full Fee Places Transition Loading

#2 Includes Equity Support Program

44 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

44.1 DEEWR – CGS and Other DEEWR Grants (continued)

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Workplace Reform Program		Workplace Productivity Program		Learning and Teaching Performance Fund		Capital Development Pool	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		-	767	-	-	-	-	94	326
Revenue for the period	3(a)	-	767	-	-	-	-	94	326
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		245	25	355	569	10	17	-	-
Total revenue including accrued revenue		245	792	355	569	10	17	94	326
Less expenses including accrued expenses		245	547	226	214	-	7	94	326
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	245	129	355	10	10	-	-

#3 includes Collaboration and Structural Adjustment Program

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY	
		Total	
		2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		172,597	171,565
Net accrual adjustments		-	(4,742)
Revenue for the period	3(a)	172,597	166,823
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		1,236	414
Total revenue including accrued revenue		173,833	167,237
Less expenses including accrued expenses		173,565	166,001
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		268	1,236

44.2 Higher Education Loan Programs (excl OS-HELP)

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		HECS-HELP (Australian Government payments only)		FEE-HELP		VET FEE-HELP		Total	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		94,091	83,407	28,005	24,236	10,616	602	132,712	108,245
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	(2,299)	(1,421)	(3,673)	4,774	(5,972)	3,353
Revenue for the period	3(b)	94,091	83,407	25,706	22,815	6,943	5,376	126,740	111,598
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		-	-	(337)	-	51	-	(286)	-
Total revenue including accrued revenue		94,091	83,407	25,369	22,815	6,994	5,376	126,454	111,598
Less expenses including accrued expenses		94,091	83,407	25,047	23,152	6,987	5,325	126,125	111,884
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	-	322	(337)	7	51	329	(286)

#4 Program is in respect of FEE-HELP for Higher Education only and excluded funds received in respect of VET FEE-HELP

44 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

44.3 Scholarships

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Australian Postgraduate Awards		International Postgraduate Research Scholarships		Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships		Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		4,229	3,921	441	459	692	1,348	536	1,325
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	-	-	(440)	-	(90)	-
Revenue for the period	3(c)	4,229	3,921	441	459	252	1,348	446	1,325
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		-	-	(174)	(177)	40	40	34	38
Total revenue including accrued revenue		4,229	3,921	267	282	292	1,388	480	1,363
Less expenses including accrued expenses		3,757	3,921	428	456	245	1,348	437	1,329
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		472	-	(161)	(174)	47	40	43	34

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY			
		Indigenous Access Scholarships		Total	
		2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		52	60	5,950	7,113
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	(530)	-
Revenue for the period	3(c)	52	60	5,420	7,113
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		-	-	(100)	(99)
Total revenue including accrued revenue		52	60	5,320	7,014
Less expenses including accrued expenses		52	60	4,919	7,114
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	-	401	(100)

#5 Includes Granfathered Scholarships, National Priority and National Accommodation Priority Scholarship respectively.

44.4 DIISR Research

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Joint Research Engagement		Research Training Scheme		Research Infrastructure Block Grants		Implementation Assistance Program	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		5,554	5,369	13,744	14,240	1,802	1,729	-	72
Revenue for the period	3(d)	5,554	5,369	13,744	14,240	1,802	1,729	-	72
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	(1)
Total revenue including accrued revenue		5,554	5,369	13,744	14,240	1,802	1,729	(2)	71
Less expenses including accrued expenses		5,554	5,369	13,744	14,240	1,802	1,729	-	73
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)

44 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

44.4 DIISR Research (continued)

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Australian Scheme for Higher Education Repositories		Commercialisation Training Scheme		Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities		Total	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		-	-	117	134	1,187	913	22,404	22,457
Revenue for the period	3(d)	-	-	117	134	1,187	913	22,404	22,457
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		36	193	(37)	(35)	104	-	101	157
Total revenue including accrued revenue		36	193	80	99	1,291	913	22,505	22,614
Less expenses including accrued expenses		-	157	353	136	1,292	809	22,745	22,513
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		36	36	(273)	(37)	(1)	104	(240)	101

44.5 Australian Research Council Grants

(a) Discovery

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY					
		Projects		Fellowships		Total	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		3,670	3,248	1,062	927	4,732	4,175
Net Accrual adjustments		9	-	-	-	9	-
Revenue for the period	3(e)(i)	3,679	3,248	1,062	927	4,741	4,175
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		1,572	1,620	743	469	2,315	2,089
Total revenue including accrued revenue		5,251	4,868	1,805	1,396	7,056	6,264
Less expenses including accrued expenses		3,333	3,296	942	653	4,275	3,949
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		1,918	1,572	863	743	2,781	2,315

(b) Linkages

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY							
		Infrastructure		International		Projects		Total	
		2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)		-	-	-	-	3,206	3,747	3,206	3,747
Revenue for the period	3(e)(ii)	-	-	-	-	3,206	3,747	3,206	3,747
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year		(253)	(253)	(2)	(2)	1,941	1,925	1,686	1,670
Total revenue including accrued revenue		(253)	(253)	(2)	(2)	5,147	5,672	4,892	5,417
Less expenses including accrued expenses		-	-	-	-	3,296	3,731	3,296	3,731
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		(253)	(253)	(2)	(2)	1,851	1,941	1,596	1,686

44 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

44.6 OS-HELP

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Cash Received during the reporting period	3(i)	788	911
Cash Spent during the reporting period		728	718
Cash available		60	193
Cash Surplus/(deficit) from the previous period		263	70
Cash Surplus/(deficit) for reporting period		323	263

44.7 Superannuation Supplementation

	Note	Parent entity (RMIT) ONLY	
		2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Cash Received during the reporting period	3(i)	21,608	27,152
University contribution in respect of current employees		(22,846)	(22,909)
Cash available		(1,238)	4,243
Cash Surplus / (deficit) from previous period		1,035	(3,208)
Cash available for current period		22,644	23,944
Contribution to specified defined benefit funds		22,846	22,909
Cash surplus / (deficit) this period		(202)	1,035

Balance Sheet for the years 2011 to 2007 inclusive

	Consolidated					RMIT				
	AIFRS					AIFRS				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ASSETS										
Current assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	72,162	82,276	127,570	162,952	116,222	41,677	47,333	85,216	102,685	70,205
Receivables	57,029	59,402	62,914	59,329	98,516	59,320	63,062	65,658	62,685	104,631
Inventories	720	658	788	812	688	–	–	–	–	–
Other non-financial assets	8,774	8,653	7,486	7,739	4,180	7,148	6,983	5,990	6,707	3,333
Total current assets	138,685	150,989	198,758	230,832	219,606	108,145	117,378	156,864	172,077	178,169
Non-current assets										
Receivables	339,833	339,134	298,052	257,447	243,534	339,781	339,082	298,000	257,395	243,482
Available for sale financial assets through equity	17,665	20,896	8,604	5,690	10,909	–	–	–	–	–
Other financial assets	2,468	164	172	182	176	2,494	2,494	2,494	2,694	2,694
Property, plant and equipment	1,699,222	1,566,691	1,360,156	1,250,306	1,091,805	1,657,989	1,529,682	1,330,063	1,228,628	1,077,502
Deferred tax asset	231	183	416	159	126	–	–	–	–	–
Intangible assets	648	616	1,002	1,225	1,381	–	–	–	–	–
Total non-current assets	2,060,067	1,927,685	1,668,402	1,515,009	1,347,931	2,000,264	1,871,258	1,630,557	1,488,717	1,323,678
Total assets	2,198,752	2,078,674	1,867,160	1,745,841	1,567,537	2,108,409	1,988,636	1,787,421	1,660,794	1,501,847
LIABILITIES										
Current liabilities										
Trade and other payables	83,841	105,975	76,570	91,168	71,891	59,585	86,923	62,838	78,911	67,550
Borrowings	–	–	–	657	–	17,289	19,549	28,699	27,208	19,121
Provisions	113,326	104,010	97,648	93,239	93,295	111,874	102,635	96,225	91,609	91,921
Current tax liabilities	4,015	4,120	3,608	3,738	3,249	3,930	4,120	3,608	3,738	3,155
Other liabilities	57,638	71,038	66,391	47,209	37,796	44,178	57,772	52,520	30,748	22,679
Total current liabilities	258,820	285,142	244,217	236,011	206,231	236,856	270,999	243,890	232,214	204,426
Non-current liabilities										
Borrowings	90,000	–	–	4,395	7,940	90,000	–	–	–	–
Provisions	350,611	349,428	306,645	268,002	248,282	349,907	348,700	305,923	267,784	248,063
Deferred tax liabilities	11	6	6	33	42	–	–	–	–	–
Other liabilities	–	–	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total non-current liabilities	440,622	349,433	306,676	272,430	256,264	439,907	348,700	305,923	267,784	248,063
Total liabilities	699,442	634,576	550,893	508,441	462,495	676,763	619,699	549,813	499,998	452,489
Net assets	1,499,310	1,444,098	1,316,267	1,237,400	1,105,042	1,431,646	1,368,937	1,237,608	1,160,796	1,049,358
Equity										
RMIT entity interest										
Reserves	628,246	623,663	589,606	595,572	534,707	607,419	599,983	548,554	548,554	491,655
Retained Earnings	874,666	819,803	726,199	641,320	569,875	824,227	768,954	689,054	612,242	557,703
Total RMIT entity interest	1,502,912	1,443,466	1,315,805	1,236,892	1,104,582	1,431,646	1,368,937	1,237,608	1,160,796	1,049,358
Outside equity interest in controlled entities	698	632	462	508	460	–	–	–	–	–
Total equity	1,503,610	1,444,098	1,316,267	1,237,400	1,105,042	1,431,646	1,368,937	1,237,608	1,160,796	1,049,358

Income Statement for the years 2011 to 2007 inclusive

	Consolidated					RMIT				
	AIFRS					AIFRS				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income from continuing operations										
Australian Government financial assistance										
Australian Government grants	246,216	242,397	238,417	209,833	182,807	246,216	242,397	238,417	209,833	182,807
HECS-HELP – Australian Government payments	94,091	83,407	80,340	75,686	69,721	94,091	83,407	80,340	75,686	69,721
FEE-HELP	25,706	22,815	21,604	19,068	16,373	25,706	22,815	21,604	19,068	16,373
VET FEE-HELP	6,943	5,376	113	–	–	6,943	5,376	113	–	–
State and Local Government financial assistance	64,728	86,615	72,301	68,436	66,588	64,728	86,615	72,301	68,348	66,588
HECS-HELP – Student Payments	16,991	16,629	14,914	14,432	12,750	16,991	16,629	14,914	14,432	12,750
Fees and charges	348,347	336,688	310,226	274,670	236,371	298,583	283,812	254,764	225,474	201,907
Investment income	7,889	7,230	8,147	12,963	8,046	5,002	6,158	6,496	8,741	6,038
Consultancy and contracts	41,275	37,971	36,961	35,926	33,875	34,980	31,837	32,152	31,078	25,654
Other revenue and income	30,605	30,301	30,095	24,556	24,664	24,016	27,599	25,813	13,878	12,703
	882,791	869,428	813,118	735,570	651,195	817,256	806,646	746,914	666,538	594,541
Deferred government superannuation contributions	1,298	45,536	38,642	11,971	(22,777)	1,298	45,536	38,642	11,971	(22,777)
Total revenue from continuing operations	884,089	914,964	851,760	747,541	628,418	818,554	852,182	785,556	678,509	571,764
Expenses from continuing operations										
Employee related expenses	515,786	490,513	461,756	419,183	379,428	472,868	450,694	421,880	388,054	355,060
Depreciation and amortisation	62,713	49,044	40,192	33,342	28,423	56,803	45,183	37,484	30,957	26,544
Repairs and maintenance	14,148	20,941	10,580	21,244	16,235	14,074	20,876	10,523	20,966	16,063
Finance costs	3,909	2	88	390	1	4,731	964	821	1,323	1,347
Impairment of assets	792	5,681	5,724	3,380	4,222	1,505	5,798	5,998	3,315	8,738
Investment losses	1,654	287	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Other expenses	229,157	222,749	209,202	184,796	165,334	211,237	205,694	192,725	165,261	147,822
	828,159	788,930	727,543	662,335	593,643	761,218	729,209	669,431	609,876	555,574
Deferred employee benefits for superannuation	1,298	45,536	38,642	11,971	(22,777)	1,298	45,536	38,642	11,971	(22,777)
Total expenses from continuing operations	829,457	834,466	766,185	674,306	570,866	762,516	774,745	708,073	621,847	532,797
Operating result before income tax	54,632	80,498	85,575	73,235	57,552	56,038	77,437	77,483	56,662	38,967
Income tax expense	1,270	1,744	597	2,201	3,882	765	993	671	2,124	3,762
Operating result from continuing operations	53,362	78,754	84,978	71,034	53,670	55,273	76,444	76,812	54,538	35,205
Operating result attributable to minority interest	(96)	(170)	47	(107)	(149)	–	–	–	–	–
Operating result attributed to RMIT entity	53,266	78,584	85,025	70,927	53,521	55,273	76,444	76,812	54,538	35,205

OBJECTS OF RMIT UNIVERSITY

Extract from the RMIT Act 2010

The objects of the University include:

- (a) to provide and maintain a teaching and learning environment of excellent quality offering higher education at an international standard;
- (b) to provide vocational education and training, further education and other forms of education determined by the University to support and complement the provision of higher education by the University;
- (c) to undertake scholarship, pure and applied research, invention, innovation, education and consultancy of international standing and to apply those matters to the advancement of knowledge and to the benefit of the well-being of the Victorian, Australian and international communities;
- (d) to equip graduates of the University to excel in their chosen careers and to contribute to the life of the community;
- (e) to serve the Victorian, Australian and international communities and the public interest by:
 - (i) enriching cultural and community life
 - (ii) elevating public awareness of educational, scientific and artistic developments
 - (iii) promoting critical and free enquiry, informed intellectual discourse and public debate within the University and in the wider society;
- (f) to use its expertise and resources to involve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia in its teaching, learning, research and advancement of knowledge activities and thereby contribute to:
 - (i) realising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aspirations
 - (ii) the safeguarding of the ancient and rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage;
- (g) to provide programs and services in a way that reflects principles of equity and social justice;
- (h) to confer degrees and grant diplomas, certificates, licences and other awards;
- (i) to utilise or exploit its expertise and resources, whether commercially or otherwise.

GLOSSARY

AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
AIA	Advertising Institute of Australasia
ALTC	Australian Learning and Teaching Council
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
AQTF	Australian Quality Training Framework
ARC	Australian Research Council
ATAR	Australian Tertiary Admission Rank
CELTA	Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults
CEQ	Course Experience Questionnaire
CRC	Cooperative Research Centre
CRICOS	Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
DEEWR	Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
DSC	RMIT College of Design and Social Context
DVC	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
EFT	Equivalent full-time
EFTSL	Equivalent full-time study load
ELICOS	English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students
ESOS	Education Services for Overseas Students
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GCA	Graduate Careers Australia
GDS	Graduate Destination Survey
GFC	Global Financial Crisis
HDR	Higher Degree by Research
HE	Higher Education
HECS	Higher Education Contribution Scheme
HR	Human Resources
IELTS	International English Language Testing System
ICT	Information communications technology
IT	Information technology
LSL	Long service leave
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCVER	National Centre for Vocational Education Research
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OHS	Occupational health and safety
PD	Professional development
Program	A collection of courses leading to a University award
PVC	Pro Vice-Chancellor
QS	Quacquarelli Symonds international rankings
RMIT	RMIT University
SCH	Student contact hour
SEH	RMIT College of Science, Engineering and Health
SNAP	RMIT Schools Network Access Program
SOS	Student Outcomes Survey
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UG	Undergraduate
VCAL	Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
VCE	Victorian Certificate of Education
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VOC	Volatile Organic Chemicals
VP	Vice-President

