media release

Grants boost international research collaborations with Victorian universities and TAFEs

Fifteen research projects covering mining, advanced manufacturing, health and education, including the use of virtual reality to train remote health professionals, have received a total of $2.8 million from the Victorian Government - through the Study Melbourne Research Partnerships program delivered by **veski**.

veski is pleased to announce details of the 15 recipients of the Study Melbourne Research Partnerships supporting major research projects between 11 Victorian public institutions and international industry or institutional partners from 12 countries, including South Korea, Japan, Indonesia and Vietnam.
The successful projects are:

- Holmesglen Institute partnering with Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC), Canada on building an international nursing education and research partnership using digital technologies
- Bendigo Kangan Institute – VETASSESS partnering with Chinese Testing, Inspection and Certification Education Association (CTICEA), China to explore and inform cross-border qualification recognition opportunities by mapping Chinese vocational qualifications to Australian standards in select fields of study
- The University of Melbourne partnering with University of Bayreuth, Germany to develop multidimensional biomaterials for tissue repair
- Federation University partnering with Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee to assess potential for Victorian-Indian partnerships in critical-mineral processing from mining waste
- Deakin University partnering with Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia for multilingual COVID-19 Fake News Detection and Intervention
- Monash University partnering with Universitas Indonesia on Citarum Transformation: A Living Laboratory for International Research and Impact, addressing river pollution
- La Trobe University partnering with University of Haifa, Israel to enhance wellbeing and social inclusion of marginalised populations: a two country multi component project
- RMIT University partnering with International Institute for Carbon Neutral Energy Research, Kyushu University, Japan developing the proton battery and proton flow reactor systems for energy storage
- Victoria University partnering with CyberDyne, Japan to use machine learning to optimise HAL Exoskeleton Joint Control
- The University of Melbourne partnering with Research Institute for Electronic Science (RIES), The University of Hokkaido, Japan to develop new directions for the harvesting and manipulation of thermal energy
- Swinburne University of Technology partnering with Jeonbuk National University, South Korea to develop new technology using the sun to convert seawater to Hydrogen
- RMIT University partnering with Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden on rapid prototyping photonics for ultrafast communications, satellites, sensors and bionics
- Australian Catholic University partnering with Springbok Analytics, USA New technologies to model human locomotion: innovative and translational approaches with implications for human health
- Deakin University partnering with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Virginia Tech, USA to develop miniature solid-state 3D metal printing for space applications
- Monash University partnering with School of International Education, University of Da Nang, Vietnam to develop a low-cost, bimanual device for stroke neurorehabilitation

International education is a critical services export for Victoria, contributing $10.5 billion to the state's economy in 2020 and supporting around 79,000 Victorian jobs in 2018. Through its $33.4 million 2020-21 International Education Short-Term Recovery Plan announced late last year and a further $50.9 million commitment to the sector's longer-term recovery in the Victorian Budget 2021-22, the Victorian Government continues to support and invest in the international education sector.

Through this program, the Victorian Government is supporting ground-breaking research to enhance its connections to leading international institutions and industry, and attract global talent to Victoria.

"Global Victoria and Study Melbourne are proud to support Victorian researchers who are making a difference to their communities and the world - their innovation, ingenuity and collaboration in these projects is a reflection of Victoria's world-class reputation for research excellence," Gönül Serbest, Chief Executive Officer of Global Victoria said.

veski MD & chief executive Julia L Page added the 15 highly competitive funded projects will drive international research collaboration, deepen strategic offshore partnerships, and strengthen the prestigious global rankings and reputation of Victoria's public universities and TAFEs.

"This funding will not only deliver great research outcomes, enhanced by global partnerships, it will also raise awareness of Victoria's position in the global academic communities and demonstrate that the State is open for business when it comes to research collaboration."

#ENDS#

For media enquiries, please contact Jack Walden via jack@thecword.com.au or call 0428 300 090

Summary of key partners

Lead Researcher	Victorian Education Provider	International Partner	Country
Debra Kiegaldie	Holmesglen Institute	Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC)	Canada
Jenna Wong Kai Pun	Bendigo Kangan Institute	Chinese Testing, Inspect. & Cert. Edu. Ass. (CTICEA)	China
Andrea O'Connor	University of Melbourne	University of Bayreuth	Germany
Manoj Khandelwal	Federation University	Institute of Technology Roorkee	India
Xiao Liu	Deakin University	Gadjah Mada University	Indonesia
Diego Ramírez-Lovering	Monash University	Universitas Indonesia	Indonesia
Richard Gray	La Trobe University	University of Haifa	Israel
John Andrews	RMIT University	Int'l Inst. Carb. Neut. Energy R. Kyushu University	Japan
Rezaul Begg	Victoria University	CyberDyne	Japan
James Hutchison	University of Melbourne	R.I. Electr. Sci. (RIES), University of Hokkaido	Japan
Baohua Jia	Swinburne University	Jeonbuk National University	South Korea
Arnan Mitchell	RMIT University	Chalmers University of Technology	Sweden
David Opar	Australian Catholic Uni.	Springbok Analytics	USA
Daniel Fabijanic	Deakin University	Virginia Poly. Institute & State Uni. (Virginia Tech)	USA
Tim Scott	Monash University	University of Da Nang	Vietnam