INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

In a show of Victoria’s reputation as a top destination for international education, 28 students from 18 countries have been named as finalists in the 2016 Victorian International Education Awards.

The awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Victoria’s 175,000 international students as well as the leading education providers that support them.

The student finalists were nominated across seven different categories including two that are new this year, ‘International Student of the Year – Regional’ and ‘International Alumnus of the Year’.

The overall winners of International Student Awards, with the exception of the International Alumnus of the Year, will receive up to $10,000 to be contributed towards their studies in Victoria.

The official ceremony will be held in November at Government House.

International Education is Victoria’s largest services based export, generating $5.8 billion for the local economy and supporting more than 30,000 jobs throughout the state.

Quotes attributable to the Minister for International Education Steve Herbert

“The International Education sector in Victoria keeps growing, and with this growth come more local jobs and more opportunities for international students to reach their full potential.”

“These awards are an important part of the Andrews Labor Government’s recognition of the hard work of Victoria’s international students and the education institutions that support them.”
2016 Student Awards Finalists

**International Student of the Year – Vocational Education and Training**
Freddy Mata Mendoza – Holmesglen (Venezuela)
Edgar Flores – SuniTAFE (Philippines)
Wittawat Busrachumwong – Holmesglen (Thailand)
Felycia Viffany – Academia (Indonesia)

**International Student of the Year – English Language Training**
Maria Victoria Gonzalez – Swinburne College (Argentina)
Sheyne de Vasconcelos Tanaka – Hawthorn English (Brazil)
Safi Sarah Mugenga – Hawthorn English (Congoese)

**International Student of the Year – Higher Education**
Sandar Bredal – University of Melbourne (Norway)
Yuliana Sari – Swinburne University (Indonesia)
Amit Sarwai – Federation University (India)
Sahil Puri – Victoria University (India)
Naufal Aliy Andra Putra – Victoria University (Indonesia)
Jingqi Wang – University of Melbourne (China)

**International Student of the Year – Regional**
Balaji Trichy Narayanaswamy – Deakin University (India)
Andreas Kupke – Deakin University (Germany)
Zheng Jie Lim – Monash University (Singapore)
Alonso Navarro Mendoza – La Trobe University (Mexico)

**International Alumnus of the Year**
Kashif Bouns – Victoria University (Pakistan)
Bart Kolodziejczyk – Monash University (Poland)
Huong Dang – Swinburne University (Vietnam)
Vincent Bicudo de Castro – Deakin University (Brazil)

**International Student of the Year – Research**
Jessica Pandohee – RMIT University (Mauritius)
Chenkai Ma – University of Melbourne (China)
Francois-Marie Allioux – Deakin University (France)
Michael Lim – Monash University (Philippines)

**Victorian Student of the Year – Internationalisation**
Wesa Chau – Swinburne University
Elena Adams – Deakin University
Jemma McLeod – Victoria University

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