

## The climate change ambassadors for a day



Victoria University students representing 25 nations attempted to resolve the complex global issue of carbon emissions in a simulated United Nations conference.

Held last month at VU's City Flinders campus, the model conference offered students in areas such as law, business, social work, ecology, engineering and architecture the opportunity to write and present speeches, debate, and form

alliances in an authentic simulation of the debates and deliberations of the UN General Assembly.

The students – both graduate and undergraduate – were required to represent their own country's national interests during the debate 'Carbons Emissions Control: Tax or Trade?' which concluded with the formal adoption of a complex five-page resolution.

## Report finds more overseas students

Demand by international students for university places in Australia will almost double over the next two decades with universities struggling to meet demand, a key student recruitment agency has found.

New research by IDP Education has predicted there will be 291,000 international students wishing to study in Australia by 2025, but of Australia's 38 universities only half claim to have the capacity and future

capacity to cope with the increase in numbers.

However the findings have been disputed.

Research officer for International Students in Australia, Sharon Smith says the numbers for international education are actually evening out.

"There is still some small growth but some institutions are not really looking at increasing numbers now.

"Melbourne University has actually

stopped trying to increase numbers. I don't think that the universities would cope with such a growth, without a relatively similar growth in domestic students.

"I don't think universities want to be that full of international students. Examples of situations like the city CQU campuses are not what most institutions seem to want," she said.

**Chris Chincilla**

## Video honours

Here's a dream-come-true for Web addicts: Course credits for watching YouTube. Pitzer College in California is offering what may be the first course about the video-sharing site. Students meet in a classroom but work mostly online, where they view YouTube content and post their comments. Class lessons also are posted and students are encouraged to post videos.

## TAFE pathway to a degree

Swinburne University leads Victoria with the biggest intake of TAFE students into higher education, figures from the federal Department of Education, Science and Training show.

Almost one-quarter of undergraduate students at Swinburne are TAFE graduates who continued into degree programs, more than double the number since 2000.

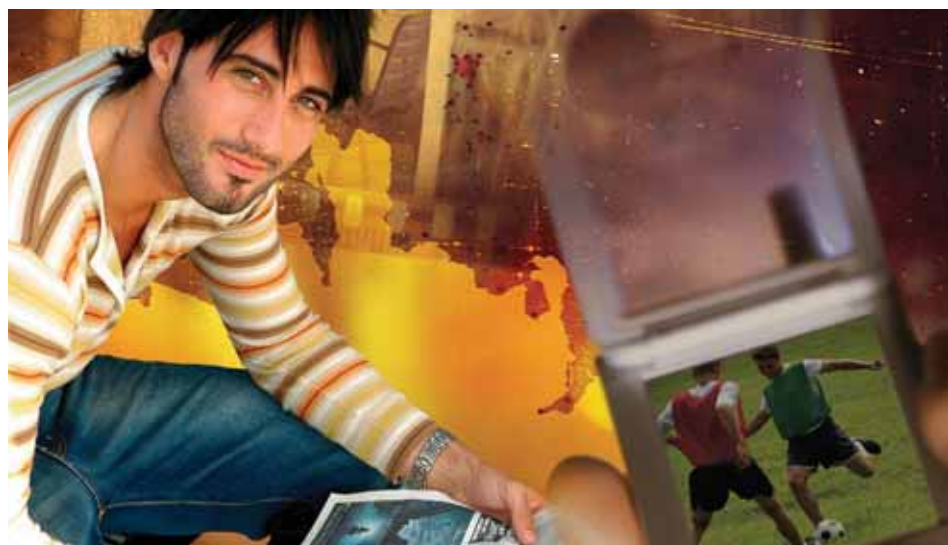
Swinburne's vice-chancellor Ian Young was reported calling on the federal government to switch some funding from universities to TAFE colleges to help

pay for the preparation of students who do not achieve sector-wide cut-off scores for university entry.

Professor Young proposed that school-leavers who did not get an equivalent national tertiary entrance rank score above 65 start a TAFE associate degree rather than go directly to university.

Deakin University's vice-chancellor Sally Walker was reported saying her university was looking to form a four-way partnership between Box Hill TAFE, the Gordon Institute, South Western TAFE and Deakin.

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