

RGIT STUDENT MAGAZINE

February 2018 | Vol 08 | Issue 28





Editor's Note



Welcome to our first EVOLVE issue for 2018. If you are new to RGIT Australia, I extent to you a very warm welcome on behalf of the entire RGIT team. To our current students, I trust you enjoyed your break and we welcome you back on campus.

This issue, we are proud to bring you inspirational stories of two RGIT graduates, Denison and Sandra, who have gone on to achieve their dream careers following their studies here at RGIT.

It's exciting times here at RGIT. Our range of Short Courses are as popular as ever, our PTE classes are steadily gaining momentum as new students continue to enrol, and excitement is brewing with RGIT putting the final touches on its Diploma of Nursing courses as we continue to receive applications students.

With the start of a fresh, new year, we look forward to hearing more of your stories in the coming weeks. You can speak with our friendly Student Administration team on Level 2 at Main campus, or you can come up and say hi to the Communications team on Level 8. We'd love to hear from you!

With love,

Zeb Pinder







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03 **Inside RGIT**

07 **RGIT Achiever**

80 **Student Welfare**

09 **Social Corner**

10 **Special Feature**

Trainer Profile 12

13 Lifestyle

14 **Student Feature**



What's new at RGIT?

Diploma of Nursing

Inrolled nursing students are ready to hit the ground running with Melbourne's Diploma of Nursing program set to be rolled out next month. Our Marketing team was been busy over the Christmas break chatting with students and agents who are keen to take advantage of RGIT's special introductory.

Our Facilities

Students are excited to set foot in our state-of-the-art simulated Nursing Lab, located at our Victoria House campus in the heart of Melbourne's CBD, offer practical training in a realistic setting making students confident in their knowledge.

Professional Experience Placement

The Diploma of Nursing's minimum 480 hours of Professional Experience Placement (PEP), supervised a clinical teacher, will give students



the skills and confidence to look after the community in a variety of clinical settings, such as aged care, rehabilitation, sub-acute and acute settings in public and private hospitals, nursing and community health care facilities. Give yourself a break from it, and start creating your own adventure.

ASQA's prompt approval for RGIT to deliver the program was a welcome demonstration our provider's faith in RGIT as a quality education provider. RGIT was approved to deliver HLT54115 Diploma of Nursing by Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) in both RTO and CRICOS Scopes late last year.

For more information or to enrol in any of our Nursing, Childcare or Community Services, visit rgit.edu.au/courses/nursing-childcare-community-services or email our friendly Marketing team at marketing@rgit.edu.au.



Graduation Ceremony 2017

Graduates celebrate

RGIT Melbourne graduates celebrated at a grand ceremony held at Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne on Wednesday, 6 December 2017.

59 graduates, along with 68 family and friends, dedicated staff and trainers, agents, as well as

Special Guest, Director of Public Relationships, Specialist Advisory Board Member and Adjunct Professor, Damon Thomas, were in attendance for the milestone event. Official proceedings commenced with the MC's opening address, followed by a slide

presentation of previous years' ceremonies. Vocational Training Manager, Irene Mendoza, was invited on stage to deliver a motivational speech before each graduate was invited on stage to receive their testamurs.



RGIT CEO, founder and Director, Chandra Yonzon, and Specialist Advisory Board

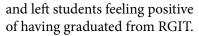
Member, Damon Thomas, were invited on stage to personally thank RGIT's agents on behalf



of the institute, presenting them with certificates and gifts as tokens of appreciation for their efforts. Advisor to CEO, Mr Thomas, delivered a speech in which he commended Mr Yonzon's work and spoke of the developments underway aimed at ensuring RGIT's robust, strategic and secure future. Mr Thomas said that the newly established Specialist Advisory Board will ensure RGIT's long-term viability as a quality education provider, and that RGIT will become one of the country's leading vocational institutes within the next two years. Mr Thomas wished all graduates the very best in their future endeavours







CEO, Mr Yonzon, concluded official proceedings with an inspirational speech in which he spoke of his own journey and time in the hospitality industry. Mr Yonzon said that he is very fortunate to be where he is today, and that graduates in the audience never know what their futures may hold. "One things is for sure," he said. "You can expect great things."



Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) graduate, Sandra Vega, told event organisers in a later interview that during Mr Yonzon's speech, she reflected on her own journey as a student at RGIT, and on

how far she has come. "Yes," she remembers telling herself in the audience. "I can make a difference."

Following closing remarks, all graduates and trainers were invited back on stage for group photos. The ceremony closed with light refreshments, beverages, many more photos and celebrations.

Five Outstanding Student Award recipients, as selected by their faculty cohorts, had their time in the spotlight when they were invited on stage to receive their awards and deliver speeches. Invited on stage were outstand-





ing students, Certificate IV in Hospitality graduate, Anthrisa Anthonisamy, Certificate IV in Business graduate, Denison Tarsitano Carvalho Días, Certificate II in Information, Digital Media and Technology graduate, Hiu Ying Khoo, Certificate III in Patisserie graduate, Swee Feng Lam, and Certificate IV in Commercial Cookery graduate, Cheryl Robert. Student speeches were certainly a highlight of the ceremony, with students' humourous, motivational and emotional speeches delighting attendees.

Cheryl delivered a distinctively heart-warming and humourous speech, giving all in attendance the opportunity to reflect on our own paths, and how lucky we are to have support in our lives.



Where to from here? The answer to that question is as varied as the students who make up this year's graduating class. Many of us know (or claim to know) exactly the next step to take, whether that step is an internship, a full-time job, or even a backpacking trip through Europe. Others, like me, will tell you that we have no idea. The main thing about studying here at RGIT is learning about yourself, and many of us will leave our majors with some vague idea of the job we'd like to get or the

business we'd like to get into, but nothing more.

Whatever we decide, most of us will agree that RGIT was a perfect place to foster our minds and bodies in this critical learning phase. Besides the echidna infestation, which, frankly, I thought was a little overblown, Melbourne has been nothing but accommodating. The same can be said of our wonderful institute.

I'm a totally different person than who I was arriving at RGIT two years ago, and I hope I'm also a better one. I've learned so much about so much about my field, my interests and myself. I can only hope this passion for learning carries over when I have to search out the info myself instead of taking public transport to class and taking notes. I suppose real-life experience will teach all of us a lot either way.

The biggest thing I learned – and again, I'm probably speaking for

a lot of us here – is that we only get one trip around this rock, so we might as well enjoy it. You have to find a balance between work, school and fun.

To everyone who made an impact in my life, I say thank you. To teachers who tried to instil in us a passion for learning; to administrators who wanted to make our experiences at RGIT as amazing as possible; to advisors who helped us decide which paths to take; to friends who were there for pizza parties, study sessions, and everything in between; and to all those we depend on, without you - without each other - there would be no purpose to being here. Life, like society, is exactly what we make of it. Thank you to all the loving, kind people I've met during my time at RGIT. My concerns about life and society are now minimal. Sincerely, and from the bottom of my heart, thank you all.





RGIT Australia Trainers Find Students Jobs

RGIT Australia has a cohort two-thousand of mostly international students. With most student living and studying away from home, this means an additional duty on behalf of staff and trainers. This, coupled with RGIT Australia's priority on student well-being and welfare, means that all staff have their part to play in assisting students with all aspects of living abroad.

RGIT Trainers Have Your Back

Communications Department heard word of a student who was able to find work in Melbourne's CBD thanks to his trainers. We were invited to Ashwin's class to speak with Hail Yuk, an international student from Korea studying a Certificate IV in Hospitality. Hail recently found a job in Melbourne CBD thanks to his trainer, Ashwin.

"I had applied for many jobs, but I was unsuccessful," says Hail. "Then, one day, Ashwin recommended that I try for a job at Krimper Café. I love it, because it's a great work environment in a popular area, and it's in the hospitality industry which is where I want to establish my career."

"It was such a good opportunity for Hail," says trainer, Ashwin. "I always try to keep an ear out for jobs for my students, and I knew how much Hail wanted to work at this particular cafe."

Industry Experienced Trainers

It's all part-in-parcel of RGIT Australia's industry experienced trainers. We asked Hail what he thought of his trainer, Ashwin.

"Ashwin is a really funny guy," he says. "He's very approachable and friendly. There are many



international students here at RGIT, and Ashwin takes his time to explain concepts and practices. He teaches information simply and concisely. He repeats and using different examples. Everyone has a great time."

A Proven Track Record

RGIT Australia's strong track record of helping students find work in the industry is renowned. **RGIT** Australia, as one of Australia's leading vocational education providers, enhances students' employability by providing the latest industry information while assisting them with interviewing skills and applying for jobs. Alongside the college's designated Work Placement Department, stand everyday trainers such Ashwin. Ashwin is just one example of RGIT Australia staff who go above and beyond to help their students. Hats off to Ashwin, and best of luck to student, Hail!



Be Aware of your Rights as a Tenant

Tens of thousands of excited students will walk through the international terminal at Melbourne Airport this summer. Eager and nervous, they make up the 175,000 strong group of international students calling Victoria home as they complete their studies.

Before seeing a kangaroo and hugging a koala, students will try to settle in their new home town, opening a bank account, setting up a new mobile number, enrolling in studies, and perhaps most importantly - finding a great local cafe.

Relocating to a new city will naturally include tracking down a place to stay, somewhere close to their place of study with convenient transport links. With many options available, students have a variety of different accommodation types on offer to suit individual needs and budgets.

Renting in a brand new city can have its challenges. One international student reported not understanding the rental laws, resulting in his first landlord keeping the bond, which the student was entitled to have returned to him. Another said they paid for accommodation upfront online, which turned out to look a lot different in real life than it did online.

Reports of landlords taking advantage of

international students are not common, however it is important that international students know that they have rights, and are aware of how to exercise them.

Consumer Affairs Victoria, the state's authority that provides information to consumers on renting, has a few handy tips to newly arrived students looking for accommodation:

- Yes, you are an international student – but you have the same renting rights as all Victorians
- You have travelled to Victoria to study, so why not learn more about your renting rights and responsibilities at consumer.vic.gov.au/ internationalstudents
- Renting videos in 12 languages on Youtube (youtube.com/consumervic)

Understanding of renting rights and responsibilities are key to ensuring a smooth transition to life in Victoria and finding a suitable place to live.

Once the accommodation is arranged, it is time to study hard, meet some friends, explore new surroundings and finally find that cute koala to hug.





Social Corner





Students having fun at ELICOS General English





Graduates celebrate





Student success in the making



ECEC students celebrated Chinese New Year in a beautiful shared lunch bringing together flavours of the world.





Patisserie students' delightful treat to Melbourne campuses





Front of House (FOH) Basic Task Workshop at RGIT Australia Main Campus

RGIT Main campus: a history buff's delight

By: Denison Dias

Student Administration Officer, Denison Dias, walks the corridors and offices of RGIT's main campus building every weekday. Although seemingly knowing these walls like the back of his hand, for the young history buff, Denison knew that the building had its own stories to tell. The walls and decorations, for one, intrigued Denison, and encouraged him to find out more.

Build in 1939, the campus was the head office of Australian Natives' Association (ANA). "Natives", in this context, meant Australian-born white men; as opposed to their Britain-born forbearers. It was indeed to this generation of Australian-born men and strong advocates of Federation, that ANA membership was restricted.

ANA was founded in Melbourne, Colony of Victoria, in April 1871,



with their restricted membership to Australian-born, white men coming at a time when "Australian-born" men of European decent were rising to power in place of an older, Britain-born

generation. Come the 1890s, these individuals had become the majority of the Australian population. A year later, in 1872, ANA voted to extend membership to men born in other Australian colonies and changed its name at the same time.

Architecturally, ANA building's façade sees Art Deco spandrels composed of architectural terracotta with reliefs emblazoning native Australian fauna and flora. The coat of arms features the three-mast ship of the Enterprise in the top left-hand quadrant; a fleece hanging from a ring symbolising grazing in the top right-hand quadrant; wheat symbolising farming in the bottom lefthand quadrant; and a pick and shovel in the bottom right-hand



corner, symbolising mining. The kangaroo and emu, not dissimilar to the coat of Arms of Australia, are included for their inability to walk or hop backwards - symbolic of the nation's forever moving forward and progressiveness. A keen eye will also be able to spot kookaburras on the stair banisters, and cheeky koalas on the lift frames.

ANA played a leading role in the movement for Australian federation in the last 20 years of the 19th century, allowing for the federated state we see today. In 1900 the Association had a membership of 17,000, mainly in Victoria.

ANA provided sickness, medical and funeral cover. The ANA consisted mainly of energetic



middle-class men aged under 50 - a perfect base for a forwardlooking, idealistic movement such as Federation. In 1952, the ANA overcame opposition to secure 26 January as the Australia Day holiday. In the

late twentieth century, political and social causes were gradually abandoned, and the ANA concentrated on paying benefits to its members.

PTE classes in session

e were very excited to re-launch our PTE Course Melbourne training classes in December last year, and our PTE marketing campaign continued over the Christmas break with our dedicated team and agents continuing to enrol and speak with interested students. PTE classes have now resumed for 2018 and are in full swing. Classes resumed in the second week of January and student numbers are expected to increase steadily as more students sign up.

One of the drawcards for students enroling in PTE Academic is the fact that it is computer assessed. Following training in our computer labs, students receive their results very quickly - in about 5 days.

Learn at your own pace with a customised teaching plan to suit your proficiency and require-

ments. Regular Mock tests, provided by Pearson, under Examination conditions to identify weaknesses and increase confidence.

Our trainers are experts in their fields and are passionate about student success. Our trainers devise individual plans to suit students' personal levels and requirements.

PTE Course Melbourne is conveniently located in Melbourne's CBD, with easy access to public transport.

Visit the team on Level 8, 28-32 Elizabeth Street and have a chat about how you can achieve your target PTE Academic score at PTE Course Melbourne.



Call: 1800 744 828 | **E**: info@ptecoursemelbourne.com.au **W**: www.ptecoursemelbourne.com.au

Barista Course Melbourne: meet our trainer

By: Eugenio Giannotta

sk anyone - they'll tell you that Melbourne is the coffee capital of the world. And if you ask me, it's no wonder Melbourne has been named the world's most livable city.

Melbourne coffee culture is a vibrant and passionate industry dating back well before the influence of post-World War II European migration and the wonderful coffee that New Australians brought with them. In fact, believe it or not, coffee in Australia dates back to the early coffee palaces of the 1800s – the pubs of the era. But enough of the history lesson.

Today, in the heart of Melbourne's CBD, you can learn the tricks of the barista trade from one of our experienced Barista Trainers.

Let's start our coffee journey with an introduction to one of our most colourful and personable trainers, Eugenio.

Eugenio's story

Coffee and Eugenio came together as a baby. As Italian tradition has it, Eugenio's father, who was working in hospitality at the time, wet his forehead as a newborn baby and gave his son his very first taste of espresso coffee. When in Rome! After all, it's in Italy that coffee and hospitality come together to form the fabric of Italian life, underpinning the nation's passions for what is a veritable cultural norm.

Eugenio began his career as an



Apprendista Barista at a very young age, where he was told to "watch, clean and work hard". Eugenio came to work in some of the most esteemed bars in Rome including the famous five-star Hotel Regina Baglioni in Via Veneto, where Eugenio became chef de rang.

Eugenio's skills did not go unnoticed in Melbourne's leading cafés and restaurants. Caffé e Cucina in South Yarra pioneered café design and style and café culture's influence in Melbourne. Cafe Latte in Toorak, too, was a leader in the coffee scene, and capitalised on Eugenio's natural talent where he headed as Maître d'. Both Caffé e Cucina and Cafe Latte were hot spots for the who's who of Melbourne.

It wasn't long before Eugenio traveled to London to learn English. There, he worked in the famed Hampshire Hotel as a qualified chef de rang. London will always be a special place for Eugenio, for that it was here that Eugenio fell in love with his Australian wife before coming with Australia with her to Melbourne.

Before long, Eugenio decided to expand on his knowledge, obtaining a Diploma in Hospitality Management. It was at this point that Eugenio had the privilege to demonstrate his talent and conduct his first classes. Eugenio's qualifications also include an Advanced Diploma of Hospitality (Catering Operations) and various training and assessment qualifications.

Today, Eugenio is one of RGIT's most dedicated and enthusiastic Hospitality and Barista and Latte Short Course Trainers, happy to share his in-depth knowledge of 32 years in the industry. So, get ready to enhance your palette and appreciation of quality coffee as you venture with us to explore the world's perfect coffee. For more information on our Barista Short Courses visit rgit. edu.au/courses, and to book visit baristacoursemelbourne.com/ register.



Discover Melbourne's charming trams By: Denison Dias

How big?

You might be surprised to learn that Melbourne's tramway network is the largest of its kind in the world. That's more rail than the tram networks of some of the world's major cities such as St Petersburg (205 km), Upper Silesia (200 km), Berlin (190 km), Moscow (181 km) and Vienna (172 km). As of May 2017, the Melbourne tramway network consisted of 250 kilometres of track, 493 trams, 24 routes, and 1,763 tram stops. The ease of public transportation in Melbourne is just one of the reasons that the city has taken the title of "world's most livable city" seven years running.

A brief history

Trams have been one of Melbourne's iconic charms since 1884, with the opening of a horse tram line in Fairfield. Melbourne's cable tram system opened in 1885, and expanded to one of the largest in the world with 75 kilometres of double track. The first electric tram line opened in 1889, but closed only a few years later in 1894. In 1906, electric tram systems were opened in St Kilda and Essendon, marking the start of continuous operation of Melbourne's electric trams. Since 1884, then, trams in Melbourne - whether horse powered, cable-hauled or electric - have played a distinctive role in Melbourne's character, and have done wonders for the city's tourism and advertising industries.

Exploring Melbourne

Students and visitors to
Melbourne can learn and take
in the sights for free on the City
Circle Tram. Information leaflets,
including an 'easy to understand'
map of the city are available on
board each of these City Circle
Trams. The tram can be used
as a 'hop on - hop off' service,

allowing tourists to enjoy each of Melbourne's sites with the added bonus of traditional Melbourne transportation. In the centre of the city, there is a free zone, where you can use them trams free of charge through streets where only they have access.

Audio commentary provides details of city landmarks and major attractions such as the City Museum, Parliament House, Docklands, Federation Square, Melbourne Aquarium and the Princess Theatre. The City Circle route is serviced by heritage W class trams decorated in special maroon and green with yellow and gold trimmings - old school Melbourne! To catch the free City Circle Tram service (route number 35), simply board the tram at any of the specially marked stops on the route. This makes it much easier to take a tour of Melbourne without having to worry in the slightest.

RGIT graduate shares her story



andra Marcela Vega Días recently celebrated graduation at RGIT Graduation Ceremony in Melbourne on Wednesday, 6 December 2017. We sat down with Sandra, an international student from Colombia who has been in Australia for three years, to talk about her experiences at RGIT and her plans for the future.

Sandra fulfilled her dream of moving to Australia from Colombia to improve her English three years ago. She brought with her over ten years of experience as a preschool and primary teacher, however, her qualifications were not recognised in Australia. After some months of unskilled work in Melbourne's CBD, Sandra decided that she wanted to not only live in Australia, but she wanted to work in Australia doing what she loves – education.

Sandra took a tour of RGIT Melbourne campuses with Colombian RGIT staff member, Andres. "RGIT is a young college, dynamic college," Sandra remembers Andres telling her. "Maybe one day you could even become a trainer here."

While working, Sandra decided to complete a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) at RGIT. It wasn't an easy task, however, Sandra says it was all worth it in the end.

Gaining her certificate at RGIT has allowed Sandra to prove her study in the field and is now working in childcare.

After a lot of hard work, Sandra completing her Certificate at RGIT and has been able to move up in the world. Today, she tells me, she is very happy where she is.

Sandra celebrated at her graduation ceremony last week. A

poignant moment for Sandra was the final speech by RGIT CEO, Chandra Yonzon. Mr Yonzon spoke of his own beginnings working in hospitality. He spoke of people's positions in society, and that you can become anything if you put your mind to it. Mr Yonzon's spoke of graduation as indeed a celebration, but not a conclusive in terms of where students' achievements. He said that you can continue to become anything you want in life, and that you never know where you may end up. It was at this moment that Sandra said, "Yes," reflecting on her own journey at RGIT, "I can make a difference."

Sandra tells me When Sandra first moved to Australia, she was working in the building opposite RGIT Victoria House campus. One day in class on Level 4, she remembers looking out the window at her former workplace. She felt happy, as had she not started her studies at RGIT, she would be where she is now. She would be in the other building. Gaining her certificate at RGIT has allowed Sandra to prove her study in the field and is now working in childcare, and is looking forward to what the future may hold. She looks forward to new opportunities, a higher salary, and new positions in life. Sandra hopes to continue her studies at RGIT with a Diploma. She is looking forward to the challenge, and knows that it will open more doors for her, opening new job prospects, and new positions in Australia.

Graduate Stories

Outstanding student shares his story

enison Tarsitano Carvalho Días is an RGIT 2017 international graduate, Outstanding Student Award recipient, former RGIT Intern, and is today a much loved and valued member of the RGIT team working as a Student Administration Officer at Melbourne Main campus. We sat down with Denison to ask him a few questions about his experiences at RGIT.

What made you want to come and study in Australia?

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, my wife and I started to think about the possibility of an exchange at the end of 2015. Our decision was made in the pursuit of education. At the time, I was in the middle of my MBA in Project Management, and my wife had just completed a postgraduate degree in Human Recourses. We were both looking to the future and how we continue to learn. We initially decided to go to Vancouver, Canada. By January 2016, we had already decided on the neighborhood where we would live, the dates we would travel, and had paid for the courses we would study. In June, we realised that we didn't have enough funds to last the length of our visa. Then, in less last than a week, we decided to change everything, request a refund from the college in Canada, and we applied for studies in Australia.

We chose RGIT because of the short duration of the Certificate IV Business course (6 months), and because we believed we would be more easily granted a visa to Australia. I finished my MBA in December 2016, and in January 2017, we boarded our plane and arrived in beautiful Melbourne.

Why did you decide to study at RGIT?

I had heard good things about studying at RGIT. As I mentioned, I give huge importance to studies and education, and even before boarding my flight, I already had a great affection for RGIT. RGIT allowed me to achieve my desire to complete overseas study, and because of this point

"I saw how knowledgeable my business trainer was, and the support staff gave to myself and others adapting to the Australian education system."

alone, it allowed me to have great admiration and pride for the college, even before my arrival in Melbourne. When I arrived in Melbourne, I was very warmly welcomed. I knew that I had made the right choice when I saw how knowledgeable my business trainer was, and the support staff gave to myself and others adapting to the Australian education system.

What made you decide to intern at RGIT?

I used to check RGIT's website every day, until finally, I saw



an opportunity as a Marketing Administration Intern. I didn't think twice, and I applied for the vacancy. From then, I spent three months working agents' files together with the marketing team. I really enjoyed my internship at RGIT, as I had the opportunity to interact with staff and students from all over the world, as well as getting the "Australian experience". It was a great opportunity to spend time at a great company in a fast-paced, dynamic education industry. And, of course, I was making lots of new friends!

Did you experience any difficulties during this time?

Of course, nothing was easy. My internship, as is the case for everybody, was unpaid. I was working three jobs as well as my internship in order to support myself and my wife here in Australia. Of course, my wife was also working, however, it is quite expensive being an international student in Australia. I believe it was my persistence that helped me to continue during times of difficulty, and I wanted to make the most of every opportunity.

What's it like to work at RGIT?

I'm really enjoying working at RGIT. Most of all, I love being a part of a company surrounded by great friends who are always available to support me.



International Students Work Rights Legal Service

To make an appointment:

- **1800 056 449 (free call from landlines)**



STUDY MELBOURNE