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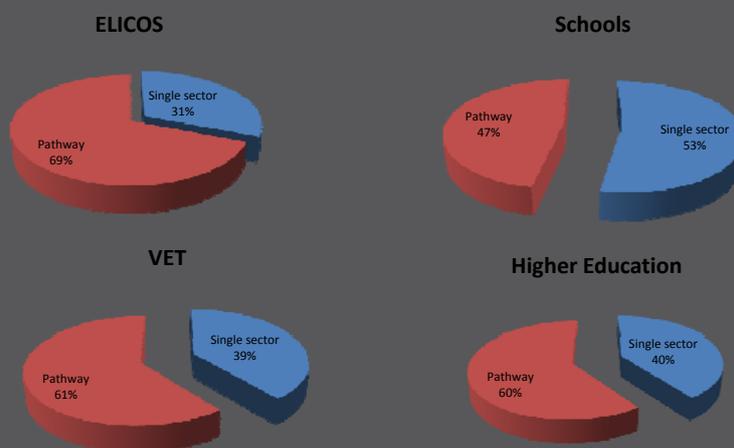
The International Student Experience Survey: Where to from here?

Christopher Lawson

International Students Strategy for Australia

- Developed by COAG in 2010
 - To support a high-quality experience for international students, in order to ensure a sustainable future for quality international education in Australia
- Five elements, including provision of better information
 - to better understand international students' experience of living and studying in Australia

The importance of pathways



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2010 International student survey

- More than 60,000 international students surveyed
 - More than 36,000 higher education responses from 34 universities
 - ~25% response rate
 - Around 15,500 VET responses (public and private) from 74 VET institutes
 - ~30% response rate (TAFE only)
 - Nearly 11,000 ELICOS responses from 57 ELICOS institutions
 - ~30% response rate

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Overall results are good...

	Universities	VET	ELICOS
Overall satisfaction with living	86%	87%	86%
Overall satisfaction with studying	84%	86%	86%

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... but some students are unaware of key support services available to them ...

Proportion of students thinking a service might be useful to them but not knowing where to find that service

	Universities	VET institutions
Accommodation office	23%	32%
Counselling services	31%	32%
Careers/job services	34%	41%
Student advisory information services	22%	27%

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... or unhappy with opportunities to make friends, develop contacts or gain work experience.

	ELICOS	Universities	VET institutes
Dissatisfied with opportunities to make Australian friends	31%	33%	24%
Dissatisfied with opportunities to make good contacts for the future	Not asked	31%	18%
Dissatisfied with opportunities for relevant work experience	33%	40%	27%

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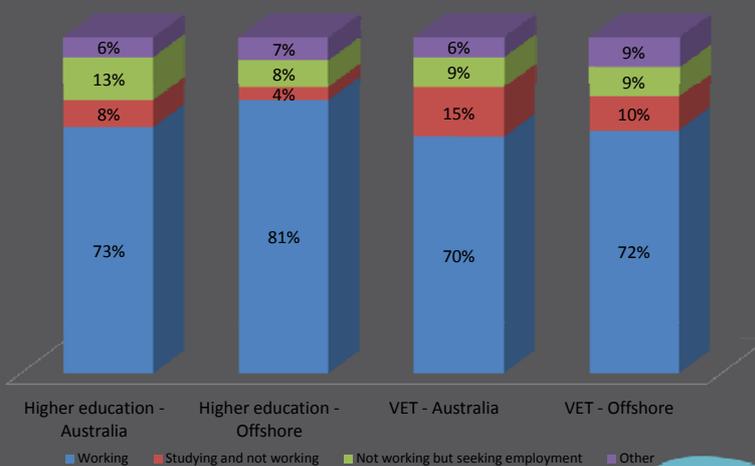
International graduate outcomes research

- 3,937 international higher education graduates
- 631 international VET graduates
- 48% of higher education graduates living in Australia
- 68% of VET graduates living in Australia



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The majority of international graduates are in employment



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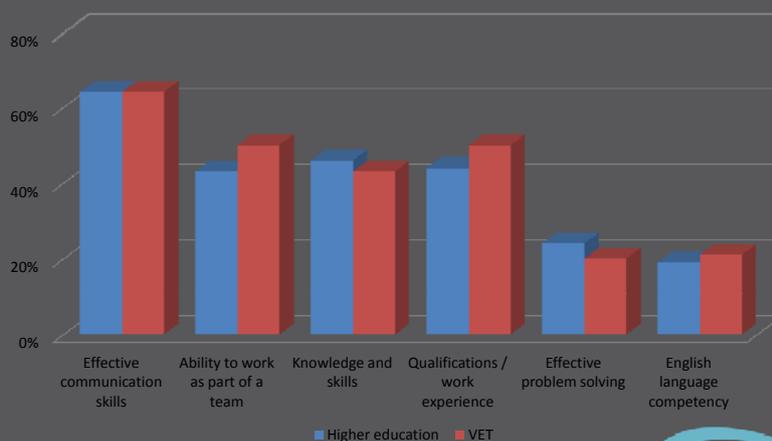
Employer perceptions

“If you are going to be a global company, international education and experience has to be high on the list”

Stanley Roth, Vice President for Asia,
Boeing Company

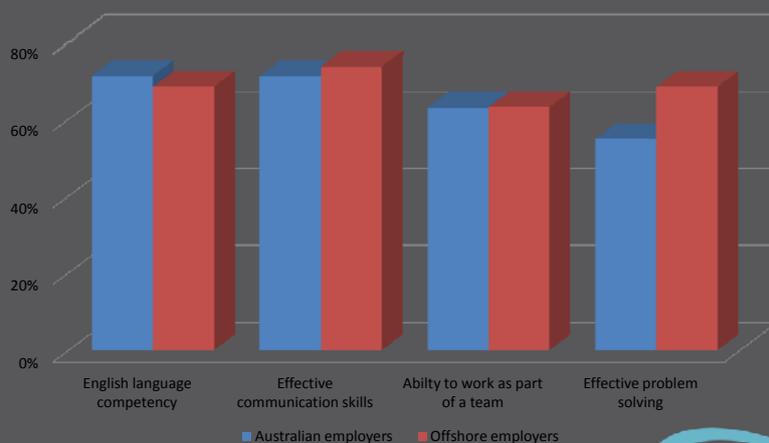
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Graduates' views of key skills...



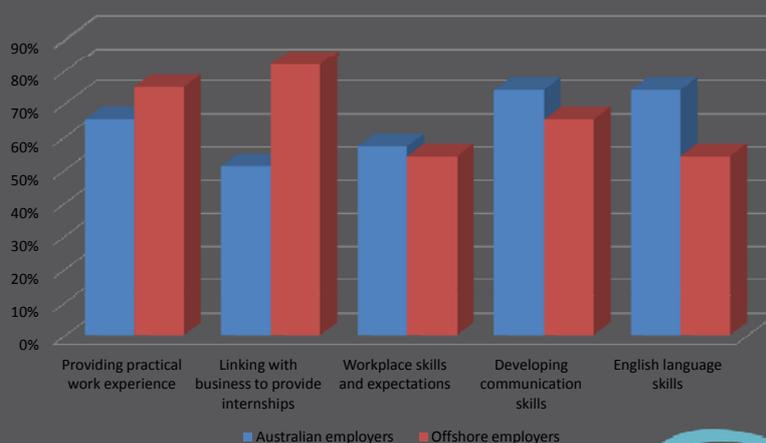
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...are not necessarily the same as employers



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Areas requiring more emphasis



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2011 focus group research

- More than 40 focus groups, conducted with more than 300 international students, domestic students and education providers
- Held in Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Sydney and Melbourne
- Three key areas of focus:
 - Opportunities for interaction
 - Awareness of and utilisation of support services
 - Opportunities for relevant work experience

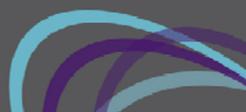
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Information

Pre departure and orientation information is vital

- Many international students are young, on their first overseas trip and without existing support networks

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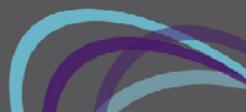


Support services

Many education institutions have innovative and comprehensive support services

- But not all institutions have the same level of services
- And not all students are aware of these services where they exist
- Communication is key.

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Work experience

Some institutions work closely with employers and volunteer associations

- But there are opportunities for more involvement with employers:
 - international student career expos, mentoring etc.

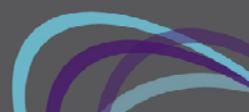
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AEI 2012 International Student Survey

- An international student symposium was held on 25 August 2011 to inform planning and preparation.
- ELICOS survey currently underway
- VET and university surveys in first semester 2012
- Schools survey under discussion

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Thank you

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