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The Report of Operations and the Financial Statements are contained in the booklet inserted in the back page of this Executive Summary.
RMIT is renowned for its quality education and training programs, innovative consultancy and research and its close links with industry and employers.

In 2000 RMIT’s emphasis on education for employment and research using technology to solve real-world problems ensured that the university was once again the most popular choice of prospective students in Victoria.
As part of its commitment to being a good neighbour, RMIT will seek to ensure that its activities are consistent with best environmental practice specifically RMIT with the efficient and effective design and operation of its campus.

- Minimize consumption of water, energy, paper and other resources and manufactured products.
- Promote the maximum recycling and reuse of goods and materials used by and within the university.
- Design and manage buildings to maximize the use of natural sources of heating and lighting and to promote the use in buildings of materials that are environmentally friendly.
- Recognize and protect the heritage value of its buildings.
- Where generation of waste is unavoidable, ensure that it is disposed of by the most environmentally friendly means.
- Promote the planting and protection of indigenous vegetation.
- Promote the efficient use of vehicles and development of alternative vehicles that are energy efficient.
**Vision**

RMIT’s vision is to:

- be a recognised world leader amongst universities that are multi-level, globally focused, diverse, student-centred, industry relevant and client and community responsive;
- deliver programs ranging from certificate level vocational programs through to tailored programs for industry and community clients, in Australia and off-shore, to diploma, bachelor, masters degree (course work and research) and doctoral research programs;
- have graduates with excellent employment opportunities in areas relevant to the sophisticated global society of the new century, who provide leadership in a rapidly changing global community, have a desire for lifelong learning, and a strong affinity for RMIT;
- have an international reputation for the quality and practical orientation of its courseware, the outcomes of its applied research and development activities, and its contributions to community development;
- be the Australian leader in international education, with students from many countries studying at RMIT in Melbourne, and in the university’s developing campuses throughout Asia;
- be renowned for forming innovative, creative and flexible partnerships with industry, the community and other educational institutions in teaching and learning; applied and interdisciplinary research programs (especially through the university’s research institutes and centres), international education, and community development;
- be the Australian leader in the use of information and communications technology in the design and flexible delivery of innovative education, training and research programs, and in the provision of quality client-focused management, learning support, administrative and student services;
- be a community of some 55,000 students, including 15,000 off-shore, and 3000 staff drawn from an enormous variety of cultural, racial, linguistic and religious backgrounds who study or work in an environment which:
  - creates challenging learning opportunities that enable students to realise their full potential;
  - supports lifelong learning, creativity, practicality, a global imagination and on-going professional development;
  - encourages participation in decision making and openness and cooperation in university relations;
  - celebrates diversity, and is stimulating, cooperative, and safe;
  - has clearly defined responsibilities and accountabilities for staff and rewards excellent performance;
  - comprises a number of local and international campuses, known for their distinctive areas of excellence in teaching and research, and interaction with the environment and the community.

**Mission**

RMIT exists to:

- provide technical and professional education that develops people for leadership and employment; and
- undertake research programs that address real world issues; within an international and community context.

**Values**

The values that will characterise RMIT as an organisation, and will be embraced by both staff and students of the university, are:

- client focus;
- quality;
- practicality and relevance;
- global imagination;
- cultural diversity;
- fairness to all;
- innovation and enterprise;
- environmental care;
- learning and personal growth;
- ethical behaviour and responsibility;
- technological/professional orientation.
2000 was a significant year for RMIT.

In April it was my pleasure to announce the appointment of the university’s new Vice-Chancellor and President, Ruth Dunkin. Professor Dunkin was unanimously appointed by RMIT Council after an exhaustive national and international search. She is committed to the values and traditions of RMIT and understands the challenges universities face today. Professor Dunkin brings a strong focus to supporting the needs of students and staff at RMIT and has the leadership qualities and ideas to ensure our ongoing success. Professor Dunkin’s appointment commenced upon the retirement of Professor David Beanland in October. Professor Beanland devoted over 30 years of his career to RMIT and as founding Vice-Chancellor, led RMIT from an Institute of Technology to an internationally distinguished university.

The year 2000 also saw an increased focus on Research and Development; the launch of the Teaching and Learning Strategy 2000–2002; increased involvement with communities, industry, schools and local government in the regions in which we operate; the historic granting of an investment licence by the Vietnamese Government to develop RMIT International University Vietnam; and RMIT joined a group of leading universities from around the world to found the Global University Alliance which will provide quality education in Asia using on-line learning.

I look forward to even greater achievements by RMIT in 2001.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors and all RMIT staff for their dedication and commitment to ensuring RMIT remains an innovative organisation and a first class university.

Don Mercer
Chancellor
vice-chancellor’s statement

It was with great excitement and enthusiasm for the challenges ahead that I took over as Vice-Chancellor of RMIT in October 2000. We are living in times of enormous change and RMIT is a knowledge organisation at a time when knowledge and access to knowledge have never been more important.

The age of the last decade of the twentieth century was one characterised by the rise of the corporatised education provider operating within an increasingly deregulated and global education and research market. To be successful, institutions had to be entrepreneurial and RMIT has been just that.

Under the leadership of Professor David Beanland, RMIT was transformed from a Melbourne-based college to an international university renowned for its relevance, quality of vocational and professional education and its applied research.

To build on our strengths and commitment and to respond to the world we live in now, we need to embark on a transition from the entrepreneurial university to the innovative university.

RMIT’s commitment to innovation is to support the generation of new ideas and their application to new contexts through our research and consultancy activities and by nurturing and incubating the ideas of our staff and students; as well as the take up of those new ideas through our education and training activities for all segments of our population. By doing so we will assist the future well-being of Victoria, Australia and all the regions in which we operate and we will ensure that RMIT’s contribution continues and grows.

In this way RMIT will not only respond to the age we live in but will be an important shaper of it. As Vice-Chancellor I hope to both respond to and help shape the thinking of those with whom I work. However it is the staff, students and partners of RMIT, the people of Melbourne, Hamilton and East Gippsland and the many international communities in which we operate who will determine what RMIT becomes.

My obligations and commitments to the students of RMIT are quality learning outcomes and the skills and confidence that will enable all the people who come to us to achieve their professional and personal aspirations.

To the staff of RMIT, my commitment is to match your dedication and passion to making our university a better and more satisfying place to work, a place in which you are respected, where your contribution and development is valued, and where you can reach our ideal of the reflective practitioner.

My commitment to our industry partners is to help release the creativity, knowledge and innovation needed to make your businesses and organisations successful.

To the people of northern Melbourne, Hamilton, Gippsland and the other local and international communities of which we are a part, my commitment is to be part of your journey toward achieving economic and social well being in the knowledge economy.

RMIT will be making a difference in the twenty first century and I look forward to the opportunity to be part of that journey and to be part of that difference.

Ruth Dunkin
Vice-Chancellor
executives

Professor David Beanland
Vice-Chancellor and President (1992 – September 2000)
Professor David Beanland was the founding Vice-Chancellor of RMIT University. As Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Beanland was the university’s chief executive officer. He held this position from 1992, when RMIT was granted university status, until his retirement at the end of September 2000.

Professor Leon van Schaik
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor Leon van Schaik, Dean of the Faculty of the Constructed Environment, was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in October 2000. As Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor van Schaik is responsible for the seven faculties and integrating the university’s education and training, research and development and community service activities in Australia and internationally.

Professor Ruth Dunkin
Vice-Chancellor and President (October 2000)
Professor Ruth Dunkin was appointed Vice-Chancellor and President by Council in April 2000. Her five-year appointment took effect from October 2000 on the retirement of Professor David Beanland. Professor Dunkin is the first female Vice-Chancellor of a Victorian university.

Professor John Jackson
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources)
Professor John Jackson is responsible for strategic advice and overall management of RMIT’s resources and services. Professor Jackson’s role includes responsibility for development and submission of the annual budget to the University Council and for the management of Human Resources, Financial Services, Property Services and Corporate Affairs. He has overall responsibility for Student Affairs, Learning Technology Services, Information Technology Services and the University Library. The operations of the university solicitor and the university secretary also fall within his portfolio of responsibilities.
Professor Neil Furlong  
**Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development)**  
Professor Neil Furlong is responsible for providing strategic leadership to RMIT’s research activities and to the university’s community, regional and industry partnerships. The Research and Development section is supported in research commercialisation and business development by RMIT Innovation Ltd.

Associate Professor Bob Gray  
**Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic Services and Equity)**  
Associate Professor Bob Gray is responsible for providing university infrastructure services including the University Library, Student Services and Academic Administration, and Learning Technology Services including the implementation of the Academic Management System.

Professor Fazal Rizvi  
**Pro Vice-Chancellor (International)**  
Professor Fazal Rizvi is responsible for developing the strategic framework within which RMIT’s international activities, both in Australia and overseas, are carried out. The commercial arm of this section is RMIT International Pty Ltd.

Professor David Wilmoth  
**Executive Director, Major Projects**  
Professor David Wilmoth leads the development of specific major new initiatives, domestically and internationally. In 2000 the work of the Major Projects Unit focused on the development of RMIT International University Vietnam which has started operations in Ho Chi Minh City and implements projects in other parts of Vietnam.

Professor Helen Praetz  
**Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) and Director, TAFE**  
Professor Helen Praetz is responsible for the development, implementation, quality assurance and review of the university’s teaching and learning programs, and for strategies and policies supporting these activities.
RMIT companies

RMIT Innovation Ltd

RMIT Innovation Ltd provides services that enable the university to package research and development solutions, enhancing its competence and competitiveness in commercial dealings with industry. This involves developing multi-disciplinary projects to assist industry make effective use of the university’s extensive capabilities.

Highlights for RMIT Innovation Ltd in 2000

In 2000, RMIT Innovation Ltd recorded a record turnover of $4.9 million compared with $830,000 in 1998. The value of projects to the university was about $11 million across a diverse range of research fields.

The company operates an independent IT Test Laboratory for evaluating computer hardware, software and peripherals. The laboratory has increased its client base and revenue by over 100 per cent since 1999.

RMIT Innovation Ltd assisted companies win two major Commonwealth Government research and development START grants. The biggest project supported by a START grant is the SpectruCell project with Advanced Communications Technologies Pty Ltd (ACT). RMIT will undertake commercially orientated research and development valued at more than $8 million for this company.

The company established the university’s first start-up company—Spatial Vision Innovation Ltd. The company is directed towards land and water management using the latest geospatial IT technologies. Chief Executive Officer, Dr Elizabeth Monger represents RMIT Innovation Ltd on the board of Spatial Vision Innovation Ltd.

RMIT International P/L

RMIT International P/L is responsible for the promotion and development of RMIT’s global business through the recruitment of on-shore international students and through international business development, consultancy, training, research and project management services.

Highlights for RMIT International P/L in 2000

The enrolment of 4050 new international students from over 85 countries. This represents a growth of nine per cent growth compared with 1999.

Strong growth continued in training and consultancy services in the aviation sector.

Strong growth in international development projects that focused on capacity building in developing countries. Twenty-two projects were implemented and twenty-six projects commenced during the year in sectors including vocational education and training, health, governance, finance and trade.

New online initiatives to improve client services including on-line international student applications and payments and automatic email response facilities.

Improved international market research services for the university were introduced through the establishment of a market research group.

Dr Elizabeth Monger
Chief Executive Officer, RMIT Innovation Ltd

As Chief Executive Officer of RMIT Innovation Ltd, Dr Elizabeth Monger is responsible to the Board of Directors for leading and managing the company. Dr Monger has developed the company operations towards increased profitability through effective delivery of new services.

Dr Madeline Reeve
Managing Director, RMIT International P/L

Dr Madeleine Reeve is Managing Director of RMIT International Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary company of the University. As Managing Director she is responsible to the Board of RMIT International P/L. Her leadership of RMIT International P/L and its strategy development and business plans have seen increased growth across the company.
RMIT Training P/L works creatively with its partners to deliver innovative knowledge and people management solutions to improve the performance of individuals and organisations.

Highlights for RMIT Training P/L in 2000

The company established new businesses that operate in the global environment, showcasing innovative solutions to current and emerging problems, whilst building relationships with firms and individuals that will benefit the university. The company traded profitably with a growth in profit of 31 per cent on the previous year.

RMIT Training P/L is quickly responding to the upsurge in on-line consumer buying with its growing range of on-line services reflecting our customers’ changing buying preferences.

RMIT Publishing has launched the largest on-line database of Australian full text journal articles ever assembled: Australian Public Affairs—Full Text. The next product ‘Meditext’—a full content online medical database will be launched in April 2001 followed by ‘Auslaw’ in August 2001.

The RMIT Assessment Centre and Technikon South Africa have developed a new approach to training for indigenous front-line and operational managers in both South Africa and Australia. It facilitates individual skill development across a range of activities including, teamwork; workplace leadership; managing workplace relations; quality customer service; coaching and empowering others; financial acumen; innovation; quality and safety in the workplace.

BGP International, a Chinese petroleum service company with operations across the world, selected the Centre for English Language Learning (CELL) at RMIT Training to deliver English language training in the workplace. CELL will be offering further staff training for BGP, a reflection of the growing demand in China and other countries for improved workplace English, and CELL’s success in delivering it.

CELL is now the largest test centre in Victoria for the International English Learning Technology Services (IELTS). In 2000 alone, some 1500 candidates sat for the IELTS exam.

New Career Connections (NCC), a unique site devoted to facilitating new apprenticeship and traineeship employment placements, was successfully launched in 2000. NCC is jointly sponsored by RMIT Priority Employment, RMIT University, MAS National Apprenticeship Services, Inner Northern Group Training Limited and Workplaceconnect.

RMIT Priority Employment has developed an integrated service for employers and jobseekers, the RMIT Employment Portal, that will be launched in 2001.

Ms Maria Tarrant

General Manager, RMIT Training P/L

Maria Tarrant is the General Manager of RMIT Training P/L and is responsible to the Board of RMIT Training P/L for the setting of the strategic directions and business growth models for the company. With the other members of the senior management team in the company she is implementing change management strategies to foster a work environment that is commercially driven, team-oriented, customer-focused and creative and recognises and supports these attributes in its people.
Operating result

The operating result is down 50 per cent to $23 million, but in line with earlier years

- Conscious decision to invest in people to improve our service.
- While revenue has increased by $25 million, costs have increased by $48 million, mainly in salaries and related expenses.
- Major 3 year program started to upgrade computer facilities for students and staff.
- The 1999 result was unusual as the revenue included a $10 million grant from the State Government for capital expenditure which flowed straight to the operating result.
- Investment in people and IT will continue in 2001.

Revenue

Revenue is growing and diversifying

- Revenue has grown by 6 per cent, consistent with previous years.
- Government grants represent 58 per cent of revenue compared to 59 per cent in 1999.
- Overseas student revenue increased by 9 per cent to more than $93 million.
- Fees and charges increased $5 million for services provided by RMIT Training and RMIT International.
- Research revenue increased by 11 per cent to $18 million, with major increases planned for 2001.
- Total revenue in 2000 is expected to increase by 6 per cent, despite Government funding remaining constant.
Capital expenditure on IT and ‘leading-edge’ facilities

**Significant investments are being made for the future**

- Three thousand new computers were provided as part of a three year renewal program.
- More than $11 million was spent on developing our online learning environment.
- One million dollars was spent on providing students and staff with library access to digital databases, including the prestigious ISI Web of Science.
- Implementation of the Peoplesoft Academic Management System was initiated to improve the interface with students for admissions, student records, academic advisement and financials. Total cost will exceed $12 million.
- Eight million dollars has been spent upgrading science facilities in the city, and $32 million on a state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities for Life Sciences at Bundoora.

Balance sheet

**RMIT has a strong balance sheet**

- Total assets grew by $45 million to $1.2 billion.
- The cash position is strong with a current ratio of 1:1 and liquid assets equal to more than 29 per cent of Commonwealth Operating Grant (target >20 per cent).
- While receivables have increased by more than $20 million, the Commonwealth Government’s commitment to meet the cost of unfunded superannuation liabilities accounts for the majority.
- Total equity of $858 million represents 70 per cent of total assets.
January
• RMIT begins 2000 in first place by retaining the number one position in Victoria for the number of first preferences for HECS places.
• Paul Dunn, 1997 industrial design graduate, wins the Melbourne International Motor Show “2020 Vision” contest to design a family car for the year 2020.
• The university improves access to the latest technologies as part of a multi-million dollar upgrade of computer facilities by opening a 24 hour computer lab and 200 extra general access computers at the university’s city and Bundoora campuses.
• RMIT welcomes the announcement of the Ministerial review of education and training pathways in the final years of school aimed at improving access and flexibility of post-compulsory education and training for young people in Victoria.

February
• RMIT Graduate Collections parade at the Plaza Ballroom as part of the 2000 Woolmark Melbourne Fashion Festival.
• The university receives a grant from the City of Melbourne for improved access to childcare services which are offered by the university to students, staff and the city’s workers, residents and visitors.
• RMIT joins forces with the City of Whittlesea, local TAFE institutes, secondary schools and community organisations to form the Whittlesea Youth Commitment (WYC). The WYC aims to become a model for helping youth across Australia by ensuring that every young person leaving school in the City of Whittlesea has a clear path from education to training and employment.
• The RMIT Careers Expo, “IT and Business Careers for the 21st Century” is held at the Royal Exhibition Buildings in Carlton with over 50 leading employers and government organisations present ready to recruit RMIT graduates.
• RMIT opens the Horological Centre for Watch Design and Repair, making RMIT one of only 20 institutions in the world accredited to provide the Watchmakers of Switzerland Training and Education Program.
• Dr Parlo Zegna, Co-CEO and President of the textiles division of the exclusive Italian menswear label Ermenegildo Zegna speaks to students at the Brunswick Campus on luxury textile, clothing and retailing.
• The Waste Minimalisation and Recycling Project is piloted by RMIT and the Master Builders’ Association in Maribyrnong.
• Dr Roberta Sykes addresses RMIT on ”overcoming adversity and creating the future” as part of the Women and Leadership Program’s International Women’s Day celebrations.
• Mr Nick Mourtzakis, Lecturer, is awarded the prestigious 2000 Dobell Prize for Drawing.

March
• RMIT signs an accord with UNITEC Institute of Technology in Auckland to define ways in which RMIT and UNITEC can formally work together, offering students and staff opportunities for an international educational experience as well as collaborating on research and development projects.
• The RMIT Careers Expo, “IT and Business Careers for the 21st Century” is held at the Royal Exhibition Buildings in Carlton with over 50 leading employers and government organisations present ready to recruit RMIT graduates.
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April
• RMIT Chancellor Mr Don Mercer announces the unanimous decision by the RMIT Council to appoint Dr Ruth Dunkin as the university’s new Vice-Chancellor and President and award her the title of Professor.
• The Department of School and Early Childhood Education designs an innovative program, “Professional Practice” which is a collaborative partnership with schools and early childhood centres to equip new teachers with industry recognised practical teaching skills. The program is piloted in 70 Victorian schools.
• Ian Raines, Commercial Manager of dairy company Bonlac Foods, joins RMIT to lead its Financial Services group. He previously managed Bonlac Foods’ Ingredients and Bioscience Division and has more than a decade’s experience in senior management positions. He will use his extensive finance knowledge and commercial experience to build RMIT’s Financial Services group into a world-class unit.
• World renowned goldsmith and silversmith, Stuart Devlin, AO, CMG is awarded an Honorary Doctorate.
• The Aboriginal Development Unit of RMIT School of Fashion and Textiles is awarded $100,000 from the state...
government for the design and construction of a glass sculpture to be installed on two floors in the new textile and design building at Brunswick.

Karen Vella joins RMIT as Executive Consultant (Organisation Development). She is responsible for strategic human resources management and long term planning, management training and development, and leadership development.

The Southern Grampians Region Shire Business Achievement Award for education and training goes to RMIT for the International Community Exchange program.

May

- Three full tuition scholarships for East Timorese students are announced by RMIT at the launch of Xanana Gusmao’s autobiography, To Resist Is To Win.
- “Life In Space”, a five day program to encourage secondary school students to pursue studies and careers in science and technology, is launched by Theo Theophanous, Parliamentary Secretary for Education, Employment and Training.
- At a ceremony in Ho Chi Minh City, the Vietnamese Government grants RMIT an investment licence to establish an international university in Vietnam in the presence of Alexander Downer, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Based near the centre of Ho Chi Minh City, RMIT International University Vietnam will be the first foreign-owned private university in Vietnam and an accredited campus of RMIT.
- The Department of Education, Employment and Training, RMIT and Albert Park Secondary College join forces to allow Chinese high school students to study at the secondary college with the option of pursuing their tertiary education at RMIT.
- The RMIT Bachelor of Nursing commences at Hamilton.
- The Hon Peter McGauran MP, Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation launches the Siemens Fine Arts Partnership—a corporate arts partnership between Siemens Ltd and the university.
- Jo Hutton, 1993 Social Science graduate and Senior Projects Officer with CARE Australia, is awarded a Chevening Scholarship by the British Government’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office to study for a master’s degree at any British university. The Chevening Scholarship is intended to bring present and future leaders, decision makers and opinion-formers’ to Britain.
- ABC Radio broadcaster, Terry Laidler, joins RMIT as the Director of the Centre for International Research on Communication and Information Technologies (CIRCIT). His broadcasting career and extensive background in community issues will enhance CIRCIT’s interdisciplinary research examining the economic and social implications of communication and information technology.

June

- Professor Ruth Dunkin launches the university’s Teaching and Learning Strategy 2000–2002.
- The foundation of the Global University Alliance is announced by a group of leading universities from around the world including RMIT. Online education and training company, NextEd will partner the member universities to provide a range of courses via the internet to individuals and organisations in Asia.
- The Department of Applied Biology and Biotechnology in the Faculty of Life Sciences, receives almost half a million dollars under the Federal Government’s Science Lectureships Initiative to work with industry partners to develop undergraduate and postgraduate programs which will combine biotechnology training with business management.
- Lindsay Cox, graduate student wins the Cinemedia Best Tertiary Animation Award for ‘Whispers’ at the Australian Teachers of Media Awards.
- 3Com, computer networking product provider and RMIT form a strategic alliance to deliver “NetPrep”, a train the trainer program that prepares secondary school students for IT and telecommunications careers.
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Support and Liaison Unit releases two posters “Imagine the Future” to encourage people from ATSI backgrounds to consider tertiary studies at the university.
- The Centre for Management Quality Research hosts a three day international conference on quality in higher education.
- “Australian Silver”, an exhibition of work by RMIT gold and silversmithing graduates is opened by Steve Bracks, Premier of Victoria, at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.
- RMIT wins three design prizes at the Royal Australian Institute of Architects Victoria awards: the best urban design prize for Urban Spaces Project Stage One by Peter Elliott Architects, which is part of the university’s strategy to restore and redevelop the City Campus; the best building prize for the RMIT Printing Building at the...
Brunswick Campus by John Wardle Architects and Demaine Partnership; and the Lord Mayor’s Prize for leadership and outstanding contribution for the Visionary Design Strategy for the University’s City campus by Vice-Chancellor Professor David Beanland and the university.

- The Chief Commissioner of the Victoria Police, Neil Comrie APM, who completed an Associate Diploma in Criminal Justice Administration at RMIT in 1980, is made an Officer (General Division) in the Order of Australia in the Queen’s Birthday awards.

July

- Lynne Kosky, Minister for Post Compulsory Education, Training and Employment opens the award winning Printing Building and Textiles, Clothing, Footwear and Leather Building at Brunswick.
- Aerospace Engineering and Business Administration graduate, James Waldie is invited to work with NASA in the USA on his new space suit design.
- Jo Hutton, 1993 social science graduate continues to be recognised for her outstanding achievements and receives the 2000 Sir Edward ‘Weary’ Dunlop award for her humanitarian aid and development work. This award recognises outstanding character, dedication to the betterment of the community and significant professional achievement.
- RMIT signs an agreement with PeopleSoft to buy and implement the PeopleSoft Student Administration system as the university’s academic management system across higher education and TAFE programs.
- Australian Public Affairs—Full Text—an online research tool and a collaborative project of RMIT Publishing, Copyright Agency Limited and the National Library of Australia is launched by Ms Frances Awcock, State Librarian and CEO of the State Library of Victoria.
- $8 million of a $12 million grant from the Commonwealth Government’s Industry Research and Development Board to Advanced Communications Technologies Pty Ltd will benefit researchers in the Faculty of Engineering who will work on developing the next generation in mobile communications base stations.

August

- Around 40,000 people visit RMIT’s Open Day.
- “Asia Pacific Visualisation Summit 2000” is hosted by the university and SGI to canvass the latest in virtual reality technology.
- RMIT hosts RoboCup 2000, at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.
- The third annual RMIT Career Index Survey conducted by Morgan and Banks shows RMIT graduates work across a range of industries, have rewarding careers, are generally in full-time employment, enjoy higher incomes than average Australians and work in government, large corporate or multinational sectors.
- Degrees are awarded to the first group of students to complete their RMIT Bachelor of Business (Business Administration) at the Hong Kong Management Association.

September

- The “Helen and Geoff Handbury Building” is named in a ceremony at the RMIT Flexible Learning Centre at Hamilton to recognise the Handburys’ support for RMIT activities in the region.
- The Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing, a consortium of six Victorian universities is launched by the Minister for State and Regional Development, John Brumby, at RMIT.
- Dr Jocelynne Scutt, Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner gives the Australian Technology Network’s Clare Burton Memorial Lecture at RMIT.
- RMIT students compete at the Sydney Olympics.
- $3 million is granted by the Victorian Government to develop the RMIT Flexible Learning Centre and RMIT Centre for Regional and Rural Development in Hamilton.
- Koori women from the Weerimul community in Horsham begin using the RMIT textiles facility in Hamilton.
- RMIT farewells founding Vice-Chancellor Professor David Beanland who began his career at RMIT in 1968.
2000 at RMIT

October
• Professor Ruth Dunkin commences as Vice-Chancellor. Her Inaugural Address “From Entrepreneurial University to Innovative University” is presented at the Capitol Theatre.
• RMIT is the winner of the 2000 Governor of Victoria Export Award for Education for the third consecutive year.
• RMIT students compete at the Sydney Paralympics in Handball, Rowing, Volleyball and Wheelchair Basketball and industrial design student Brad Marmion’s high tech wheelchair designed for record-breaking distances races around Stadium Australia.
• Professor Alexandra Radloff joins RMIT as the Associate Dean (Academic) of Life Sciences. She has extensive experience in academic staff development and her research has focused on the self-regulation of learning in university students; the development of student academic writing and the professional development of academic staff.
• Staff from the Metropolitan Ambulance Service (MAS) commence the Masters by Project, to develop a research and development culture within the MAS while helping staff to build skills and improve performance.
• Professor Olga Kanitsaki AM is appointed head of Nursing and Midwifery in the Faculty of Life Sciences. She has extensive experience in cross-cultural health and nursing, history and philosophy of nursing and health promotion. Her research interests include cross-cultural healing and therapeutic care processes and the access of people of non-English speaking background to public health services in Victoria.
• Jac Nasser, RMIT Business Alumnus and President and CEO of the Ford Motor Car Company is among “Overseas Trading” magazine’s list of the top 50 most beautiful things Australia has given the world.
• Tricia Caswell joins RMIT as Executive Director of the newly created Centre for Global Sustainability. The centre will promote the university’s commitment to environmental and sustainability-related teaching and research, and will advise industry and government both locally and internationally.

November
• The Indian Minister for Textiles, the On Kashi Ram Rana, inspects the Fashion and Textiles facilities at Brunswick.
• RMIT Multimedia Database Systems enters into a distribution agreement with Science Applications International Corporation to distribute its Structured Information Manager (SIM) in North America.
• The International Web Accessibility Summit is hosted by RMIT.
• Students and staff from the Department of Building and Construction Economics cycle from Melbourne to Bendigo where they assist members of Habitat for Humanity to erect a home for a family in need.
• Primelife Corporation Ltd in partnership with RMIT and the Melbourne Community Television Consortium unveil Renaissance Television, a new television station targeted at Victoria’s senior citizens.
• RMIT Textiles and Jockey Australia, a division of Pacific Dunlop, win the Business-Higher Education Round Table (BHERT) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Education and Training, for the Young Essentials Project (YEP) 2000. The Interactive Information Institute (I-Cubed) at RMIT wins the BHERT Award for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Education and Training, for their Telstra Home Team Project.
• RMIT’s staff, students and their families walk together for reconciliation.

December
• Attorney-General Rob Hulls and the Minister for Tourism, John Pandazopoulos announce the development of a new tourism precinct around the Melbourne Magistrates Court and the Old Melbourne Gaol.
• RMIT is joint winner in the Australian Awards for University Teaching, Institutional Services to Students section for the support provided to D/deaf students by the Disability Liaison Unit.
• South West Institute of TAFE and RMIT sign a memorandum of understanding to collaborate in Hamilton and the south-west region and RMIT launches a new research program (Masters and PhD by Project) in East Gippsland.
• About 4,500 students graduate together at Melbourne’s Colonial Stadium.
The Teaching and Learning Strategy 2000–2002 was launched in June 2000 at RMIT’s Capitol Theatre. The strategy gives substance to the university’s core business of teaching and learning and the goal of the Strategic Plan to graduate students of world-class standing who demonstrate leadership by contributing creatively, critically and responsibly to their profession and vocations, and to the community. Equally significant is the key role it plays in driving the development of teaching and learning within the university and the maintenance of quality.


Quality learning

Enabling students to:

• develop a framework for understanding validated knowledge and cultural achievements;
• contribute to their further development and to the well-being of society;
• engage with the processes of innovation and global change and to deal with new challenges;
• develop sustaining values, including a commitment to their own learning;
• maximised in learning environments which focus on:
  • knowledge—contemporary content, clear goals, deep learning focus, global focus;
  • learners—adequate preparation, interactive engagement, adaptation to individual learning styles;
  • assessment—specific standards, range of assessments, progressive feedback;
  • community—application and transfer focused, cross-disciplinary, problem-solving, vocationally recognised, socially inclusive orientation, internationally relevant, within available resources.

Tailored for students and clients

Packaged learning: packages tailored to suit individuals and enterprises; electives for all; credit transfer; acceleration.

Distributed learning: convenience for students; student choice maximised in content, assessment, attendance modes and pace; appropriate technologies; time and location independent.

Inclusive of geographically distant, disadvantaged, mature aged, second chance; direct entry; student support services; transfer and articulation.

For employment, leadership and career-long learning

Positive graduate outcomes: employment in a related area; self-employment and entrepreneurial activity; enrolment in research programs; transfer across sectors.

Recurrent learning throughout a career: successful completion of career-related education over a working lifetime.

Leadership: in education and training, work, research and in the wider community, locally and internationally.

Profile of programs aligned to growth: enterprises and industry engaged as key stakeholders; programs designed to meet industry, enterprise and individual needs and aspirations.

www.teaching.rmit.edu.au
Academic Programs 2000

Apprenticeship / Traineeship Courses
(A) Apprenticeship (T) Traineeship
- Administration (T)
- Aircraft Mechanical Maintenance (A)
- Business Equipment Maintenance (T)
- Cabinet Making (A)
- Call Centre Operations (T)
- Civil Construction (Plant) (T)
- Clothing Production (T) (A)
- Computer Assembly (T)
- Dental Assisting (T)
- Dental Technology (A)
- Domestic Appliance Servicing (T)
- Electrical (Electrician) (A)
- Electrical (Electronics Tradesperson Stream) (A)
- Electrical (Instrument and Control Stream) (A)
- Electrical (Instrument Stream) (A)
- Electrical (Pre-Apprenticeship)
- Electrical Wholesaling (T)
- Electro Trades Traineeship (T)
- Electronic Equipment (Sales and Repair) (T)
- Electronic / Electrical Communication (T)
- Electrotechnology Manufacturing (T)
- Fabrication (A)
- Footwear Production and Repair (T) (A)
- Graphic Pre-press (A)
- Information Technology (T)
- Mail House Operations (T)
- Mechanical (A)
- Metal Founding (A)
- Multimedia (T)
- Nursing (T)
- Office Administration (T)
- Optical Dispensing (T)
- Packaging, Fibreboard and Carton Manufacturing (T)
- Patternmaking (A)
- Plumbing (A)
- Plumbing (Pre-Apprenticeship)
- Print Design (T) – Certificate
- Print Finishing (A)
- Print Machining – Trade (A)
- Print Production Support (T)
- Refrigeration (A)
- Retail Operations (T)
- Screen Printing (A)
- Security (Crowd Control) (T)
- Security Operations (T)
- Security Systems Installation (T)
- Small Offset Printing (T)
- Sprinkler Fitting (A)
- Telecommunications Cabling (T)
- Television Antenna Installation (T)
- Textile Production (T)
- Textile, Clothing, Footwear and Allied Industries (A)
- Textiles Care (Drycleaning) (T)/(A)
- Waste Management (T)
- Watchmaking (A)

Certificates
- Accounting
- Administration
- Advertising
- Aged Care Work
- Air Conditioning Courses
- Applied Design
- Applied Language
- Applied Photography
- Audiovisual Technology
- Banking
- Building
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clothing Industry Studies
- Community Services (Disability Work)
- Community Services (Youth Work)
- Computer Systems
- Conveyancing Practice
- Dental Assisting
- Electrical
- Electronic Publishing
- Electronics
- English for Vocational Education and Further Study
- English Language
- Estate Agency Practice
- First Aid
- Furniture Production
- Further Education
- General Education for Adults
- General Insurance
- Human Resource Operations
- Interior Decoration
- International Logistics
- International Trading
- Justice
- Koori Art and Design
- Language Consolidation for Profession
- Interpreting / Translating
- Mechanical / Manufacturing Engineering
- Merchandising / Marketing
- Nursing
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Pathology Collection
- Plastics Fundamentals
- Plumbing / Sanitary
- Polymer Processing
- Polymer Technology
- Preparatory Mathematics / Science
- Printing – Pre-Vocational
- Printing Technology
- Professional Writing and Editing
- Public Relations
- Refrigeration Courses
- Small Business Management
- Sound Production
- Textile Design and Production
- Textiles (Manufacturing Technology)
- VCE for Adults
- Visual Merchandising
- Vocational Skills and Language for Migrant Nurses
- Welding Courses
- Work Education
- Works Management – Municipal and Roads

Diplomas
- Accountancy
- Administration
- Administrative Management
- Advertising
- Aerospace
- Refrigeration / Air Conditioning
- Airline Pilot
- Applied Photography
- Applied Screen Printing
- Banker and Finance
- Biotechnology
- Building
- Building Design and Drafting
- Building Surveying
- Built Environment
- Civil Engineering
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clothing Industry Studies
- Communication and Media
- Computer Science
- Computer Systems
- Conservation Ecology
- Electrical
- Electronic Design and Interactive Media
- Electronics
- Food Technology
- Furniture Design
- Furniture Technology
- Further Education
- General Insurance
- General Practice
- Graphic Arts
- Information Technology
- Interior Decoration and Design
- International Trade
- Interpreting
- Interpreting and Translating
- Justice
- Laboratory Technology (Pathology Testing)
- Legal Practice
- Management
- Marketing
- Mechanical / Manufacturing Engineering
- Merchandising / Marketing
- Myotherapy
- Natural Resource Management
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Polymer Technology
- Principal Technical Officer
- Printing Administration and Technology
- Product Design
- Professional Screenwriting (Film, Television and Digital Media)
- Professional Writing and Editing
- Public Relations
- Screen Print Design
- Security Management
- Spatial Information
- Telecommunications
- Textile (Manufacturing Technology)
- Textile Design and Production
- Video Production
- Visual Arts
- Visual Merchandising

Quality learning tailored for students and clients for employment, leadership and career-long learning
Bachelor Degrees
- Accountancy
- Advertising
- Aerospace Engineering
- Applied Biology / Biotechnology
- Applied Chemistry
- Applied Geology
- Applied Physics
- Applied Science
- Architecture
- Automotive
- Aviation
- Business
- Business Administration
- Business Information Systems
- Chemical Engineering
- Chinese Medicine
- Civil Engineering
- Communication, Computer, Electronic and Software Systems Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computing and Digital Technology
- Computing and Internet Technology
- Construction Management
- Consumer Science
- Criminal Justice Administration
- Economics and Finance
- Education
- Electrical Engineering
- Environment
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Fashion
- Financial Planning
- Fine Art – Ceramics
- Fine Art – Drawing
- Fine Art – Glass
- Fine Art – Gold and Silversmithing
- Fine Art – Painting
- Fine Art – Printmaking
- Fine Art – Sculpture
- Food Engineering
- Food Science and Technology
- Geological Engineering
- Geomatics
- Graphic Design
- Hospitality Management
- Hospitality Studies
- Human Biology
- Human Movement
- Industrial Design
- Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management
- Information Management
- Intellectual Disability
- Interior Design
- International Business
- International Studies
- Journalism
- Landscape Architecture
- Manufacturing and Engineering Management
- Marketing
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Media Arts
- Media Studies
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Medical Radiations
- Multimedia
- Multimedia Cartography
- Music Industry
- Nursing
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Photography (Applied Science) / (Art)
- Physical Education
- Planning
- Professional Communication
- Property
- Psychology (Applied Science)
- Psychology (Social Science)
- Public Relations
- Social Science
- Social Work
- Software Engineering
- Surveying
- Textile Design
- Textile Technology
- Tourism
- Tourism Management
- Transport and Logistics Management
- Youth Affairs

Dual Awards
- Applied Physics / Applied Language
- Applied Physics / Professional Writing and Editing
- Computer Science / Management
- Mathematics / Information Technology

Double Degrees
- Aerospace Engineering / Aviation
- Aerospace Engineering / Business Administration
- Chemical Engineering / Business Administration
- Chiropactic Science / Clinical Science
- Civil Engineering / Business Administration
- Communication Engineering / Applied Physics
- Communication Engineering / Computer Science
- Computer Systems Engineering / Business Administration
- Computer Systems Engineering / Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering / Business Administration
- Electronic Engineering / Applied Physics
- Electronic Engineering / Computer Science
- Geomatics / Computer Science
- Manufacturing and Engineering Management / Business Administration
- Manufacturing and Engineering Management / Computer Science
- Mechanical Engineering / Business Administration
- Mechanical Engineering / Computer Science
- Osteopathic Science / Clinical Science

Postgraduate Coursework programs:
honours, conversion, graduate certificate, graduate diploma, master degree
Research programs:
master degree, doctoral degree

- Accountancy
- Accounting
- Acupuncture
- Advertising
- Aerospace Engineering
- Analytical Chemistry
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Animal Chiropractic
- Animation and Interactive Media
- Applied Biology and Biotechnology
- Applied Chemistry
- Applied Geology
- Applied Information Systems
- Applied Linguistics
- Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology
- Applied Physics
- Applied Toxicology
- Architecture
- Art in Public Space
- Arts Administration
- Assurance, Compliance and Risk Management
- Aviation Management
- Behavioural Science
- Building
- Building and Construction Economics
- Business Administration
- Business Computing
- Business Leadership
- Business Systems
- Careers Counselling
- Careers Education and Development
- Chemical Engineering
- Chinese Medicine
- Chiropactic Paediatrics
- Chiropactic Science
- Chiropactic, Osteopathy, Complementary Medicine
- Civil Engineering
- Cleaner Production
- Clinical Osteopathy
- Communication and Electronic Engineering
- Communication Studies
- Communications
- Computed Tomography
- Computer
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Systems Engineering
- Computing
- Computing Studies
- Consumer Science
- Corporate Governance
- Corporate Law
- Creative Arts Therapy
- Development Legislation Management
- Disability Studies
- Document Management
- Early Childhood Teaching
- E-Business
- Economics and Finance
- Editing and Publishing
- Education
- Educational Leadership and Management
- Educational Studies
- Electrical Engineering
- Electronic Engineering
- Engineering Management
- Environment
- Environment and Planning
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Facilities Management
- Facility Management
- Fashion
- Fashion and Textile Design
- Finance
- Financial Planning
- Fine Art
- Food Science
- Food Technology
- Geological Engineering
- Geology
- Geospatial Information
- Graphic Design
- Health Science
• Hospitality
• Human Biology
• Human Movement
• Human Services Research
• Industrial Design
• Industrial Education and Training
• Industrial Relations / Human Resource Management
• Information Innovation
• Information Management
• Information Security
• Information Technology
• Innovation and Service Management
• Integrated Logistics Management
• Intellectual Disability
• Interior Design
• International Development
• International Urban and Environmental Management
• Internet and Web Computing
• Journalism
• Justice and Youth Studies
• Land Information
• Landscape Architecture
• Language and Cultural Studies
• Logistics
• Logistics Management
• Magnetic Resonance Imaging
• Management
• Manufacturing
• Manufacturing Management
• Manufacturing Systems
• Marketing
• Mathematics
• Mechanical Engineering
• Media Arts
• Media Studies
• Medical Acupuncture
• Medical Laboratory Science
• Medical Radiations Science
• Mental Health
• Metallurgical Engineering
• Midwifery
• Musculoskeletal Management
• Nursing
• Occupational Health and Safety
• Oncology Imaging
• Organisation Change and Development
• Organisational Change and Consulting
• Organisational Psychology
• Osteopathic Paediatrics
• Osteopathy
• Photography Planning
• Policy and Management
• Professional Accounting
• Professional Communication
• Professional Development
• Project Management
• Property
• Property Management
• Psychiatric Nursing
• Psychology
• Public Relations
• Publishing
• Purchasing and Materials Management
• Quality Management
• Radiation Therapy
• Rehabilitation
• Security Management
• School and Early Childhood Education
• Simulation Technology
• Social Science
• Social Work
• Software Engineering
• Sports Chiropractic
• Statistics and Operations Research
• Systems
• Systems Engineering
• Teaching
• Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
• Technology
• Telecommunication Engineering
• Tertiary Teaching and Learning
• Textile Design
• Tourism
• Toxicology
• Transport and Distribution
• Transport and Distribution Management
• Transport Research Centre
• Ultrasonography
• Urban Development
• Valuation of Plant and Equipment
• Valuations
• Visual and Performing Arts
• Visual Communication
• Youth Development Education
research and development

RMIT is one of Australia’s leading technological universities. The university’s goal is to undertake world-class, outcome-related research and development, and to support innovation to underpin future economic and social development in the communities in which the university operates.

The university’s research planning and investment are tailored to significantly enhance the impact of research under the following research themes:

- information technology and e-commerce;
- advanced manufacturing and materials;
- improvement of health through biotechnology and drug technology development;
- environmental sustainability;
- social (urban and regional) development, including design;
- globalisation and cultural identity and diversity;
- entrepreneurship and innovation.

Research Highlights for 2000

$8 million contract to develop wireless mobile phone technology

RMIT and Melbourne telecommunications company Advanced Communications Technology (Australia) Pty Ltd have signed a $8 million contract to develop new innovative technologies to be used with SpectruCell, a leading-edge mobile telecommunications base station that is expected to put Australia at the forefront of wireless communications network technology.

Alumina processing

RMIT Faculty of Applied Science and Alcoa are collaborating to improve alumina quality which is restricted by organic contaminants. RMIT is developing the catalyst systems, and Alcoa testing the RMIT research outcomes on an industrial scale. The research will lead to a cheaper, greener and more efficient processing of alumina. Australia is the world’s largest producer of bauxite and refiner of alumina.

Satellite tethering systems

A new design that improves the maneuverability of satellites has resulted in an international award for Chris Blanksby, a PhD researcher in the Department of Aerospace Engineering. A tethered satellite system is created when one satellite such as a space shuttle or station is connected to another satellite by a thin tether up to 100km in length. Tethered satellite systems are being designed for a number of applications including lifting new satellites into orbit. Chris Blanksby’s research proposed a new technique for controlling the movement of one end of the tether relative to the other.

Microprocessor research

RMIT staff conducted research, under contract for the Asia Design Corporation, to design hardware which supports the development of the extendable instruction set computer (EISC). The EISC instruction set addresses issues of memory size and performance in embedded microprocessor systems. This makes EISC a suitable candidate for the next generation of embedded computer systems.

Seasonal allergic rhinitis (hay fever) and Chinese medicine

Dr Changli (Charlie) Xue is the first person to graduate from an Australian university with a PhD in Chinese medicine and in doing so can provide an alternative and effective treatment to one of Australia’s most common ailments—hay fever. Three randomised controlled clinical trials conducted by Dr Xue demonstrated that either acupuncture or Chinese herbal medicine alone produces statistically significant improvements in the symptoms of seasonal allergic rhinitis.

Olympic paddles

The Australian Institute of Sport and RMIT’s Faculty of Engineering developed an improved canoe paddle for commercial manufacture and use in the 2000 Olympics. Enhanced performance was achieved by hydrodynamic design and advanced manufacturing technology using graphite fibre composites.

Aircraft ground collision prevention

Fighter aircraft typically conduct low level flight operations in poor visibility and adverse weather conditions. To reduce on-system workloads, an automatic
research and development

recovery system is being assessed that will generate flight control commands to avoid ground collision.

Master of Engineering students are investigating the application of a predictive Ground Collision Avoidance System on combat aircraft. The project addresses issues such as flight trajectory prediction, terrain elevation, terrain-flight path conflict and automatic flight control commands.

Sustainable furniture

Researchers at the RMIT Centre for Design, Faculty of Constructed Environment, have been involved in the development of a new range of eco-designed lounges created with the support of EcoRecycle Victoria. The lounges, designed by MID Commercial Furniture, use recycled resin as a key part of their structure. The result balances commercialisation, innovation and environmental concerns.

Solving salt problems

RMIT’s Energy CARE group in the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering in partnership with Geo Eng Australia Pty Ltd and Pyramid Salt Pty Ltd have recently won a $550,000 grant to demonstrate and commercialise the use of solar ponds for industrial process heating applications.

Solar ponds are shallow bodies of saline water. The salt concentrates towards the bottom, and solar radiation entering the pond is stored as heat used to dry the commercial high-grade salt. This replaces the conventional electric heating elements and reduces power usage and greenhouse emissions.

‘Green’ housing project saves money on waste removal costs

Construction and demolition waste account for up to a third of all waste going to landfill in Victoria each year. Yet less than half of the solid construction and demolition waste in Australia is reused and recycled.

The ‘Waste Minimalisation and Recycling Project’ is being piloted by RMIT and the Master Builder’s Association. The three-month study will see builders working on 12 of the 650 homes in the estate sorting building waste into several bins, for collection and recycling by material manufacturers. RMIT will conduct research to gauge the pilot’s success.

RMIT research confirms bullying problem

New research by RMIT has found that high school bullying may be much more common than previously thought and most students have no confidence in the ability of teachers to help them.

The survey of 415 students at a state high school by postgraduate psychology student Deanna Brouwer has serious implications for what can be done to protect students from harassment. Mrs Brouwer has just completed her Graduate Diploma in Psychology within RMIT University’s Department of Psychology and Intellectual Disability Studies.

New Zealand wool researchers join RMIT

The Wool Research Organisation of New Zealand (WRONZ), operating in Australia as Linclab Australia, has entered into a joint venture with RMIT Innovation Limited, to facilitate providing services for their clients. Linclab’s Australia offices are co-located with RMIT Textiles at RMIT’s Brunswick Campus.

RMIT/UCLA environmental workshop

Professor Michael Stenstrom from UCLA’s Institute of the Environment joined RMIT researchers in a workshop on environmental sustainability held on RMIT’s city campus. The workshop focussed on the participants’ environmental research activities and explored opportunities for collaboration between the two universities. This recent exchange continues an agreement of academic cooperation entered into by RMIT and UCLA ten years ago.

New facilities

A $32 million building and facilities project, to be completed in 2001, will house Life Sciences on RMIT’s Bundoora campus. The new building will include both teaching and high level research space with core facilities in molecular and cellular biology and pharmacology.

RMIT allocated $12.5 million to the refurbishment of Building Three on RMIT’s city campus. The new facilities provide state-of-the-art equipment and research facilities for undergraduate and postgraduate science students.

New Cooperative Research Centres

RMIT will share in a $325 million Federal Government funding package through the establishment of two new Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs): the Centre for Smart Internet Technology and the Centre for Construction Innovation. The CRC for Water Quality and Treatment, of which RMIT is a participant, has also received renewed funding from the Federal Government. RMIT is now partner to a total of nine CRCs in a range of research areas.
research and development
New Australian Research Council funding for industry projects

RMIT and its industry partners received Australian Research Council funding for 11 new projects under the Strategic Partnerships with Industry-Research and Training Scheme.

Grants for infrastructure

In November the Victorian Government announced funding under the Science, Technology and Innovation Initiative (Round One) Competitive Grants for Infrastructure.

Two of the applications with which RMIT was involved were successful: the Bundoora plant biosciences facility ($78 million over two years, led by La Trobe) and the Victorian microtechnology and micromanufacturing facility ($100,000, led by RMIT’s Professor David Mainwaring).

Increase in research publications

The collection of 1999 research publications, conducted in early 2000, showed a substantial (23 per cent unweighted, 29 per cent weighted) increase in research output over that of 1998. RMIT’s research output has maintained an increasing trend since 1997 and we now have just over two per cent of all research output in Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs categories from Australian universities.

Survey of major research facilities

A survey commissioned by the Department of Industry Sciences and Resources has identified a list of 109 medium and larger-scale research facilities in Australia, each with a replacement value of over $5 million.

The survey report noted that other countries now publish directories of their major research facilities, and proposed that Australia should produce a comprehensive directory similar to that of the European Commission. RMIT facilities listed in the survey include the:
- Interactive Information Institute;
- Sir Lawrence Wackett Centre for Aerospace Design Technology;
- Polymer Technology Centre (now part of the Rheology and Materials Processing Centre);
- Microelectronics and Materials Technology Centre.

Microscope a first

A new state-of-the-art electron microscope to be purchased by RMIT will enable researchers to quickly distinguish various chemical elements in biological and other samples for the first time.

The microscope, one of two to be purchased with about $1.5 million funding from the Federal Government and other Victorian universities, will be housed at RMIT’s Microscopy and Microanalysis Facility in the University’s city campus and shared by researchers from Monash and Deakin Universities and the Universities of Melbourne, Wollongong, Sydney and New South Wales. It will be the first time such a research tool has been available to Victorian universities.

RMIT Research Centres

- Centre for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications (CATT)
- Centre for Applied Social Research
- Centre for Design
- Centre for International Research on Communication and Information Technologies (CIRCIT)
- Centre for Management Quality Research
- Microelectronics and Materials Technology Centre
- Rheology and Materials Processing Centre
- RMIT Multimedia Database Systems
- Sir Lawrence Wackett Centre for Aerospace Design Technology
- Transport Research Centre
- Centre for Workplace Culture Change
- Centre for Youth Affairs Research and Development

Cooperative Research Centres

- Advanced Composite Structures
- Australian Photonics
- Australian Telecommunications
- Construction Innovation
- Intelligent Manufacturing Systems and Technologies
- Microtechnology
- Polymers
- Smart Internet Technology
- Water Quality and Treatment
RMIT aims to be an active and valued member of the communities in which we operate. This includes extending our involvement with communities, industry, schools and local government in regions where RMIT has a presence and establishing cooperative projects and programs with community groups in areas of community service activity that articulate to learning, research and innovation.

2000 Highlights

Inner Melbourne

- RMIT cooperative activities have continued with schools in inner Melbourne through City Interactive Education Coordinated Area Program (CIECAP).
- ‘Melbourne Youth Learning Opportunities’ was generated by RMIT staff and community partner organisations seeking to open education and training opportunities to disaffected young people.
- ‘whereveruni’ is a project to provide technology-facilitated access to education and training for people affected by drug abuse.

Northern metropolitan region of Melbourne

The Northern Partnerships program focuses on developing links with industry, partnerships with schools, research in the region and alliances with local government. One of the most significant projects is the cooperative activities with schools in inner Melbourne through Northern Interactive Education Coordinated Area Program (NIECAP).

In 2000 NIECAP obtained State Science Partnerships funding to work with a group of six primary schools who have responded enthusiastically. Involvement increased with the stainless steel industry through a skill shortages project and with the community service and cabinet-making industries through the Linking Young People and Industry Project. Involvement with schools in the City of Darebin was extended through the Darebin Youth Consortium and expansion of support was offered to secondary colleges via the Northern School Industry Network. The Whittlesea Youth Commitment continued to develop strongly as a partnership with Whittlesea City Council, schools and community agencies. This project is gaining state and national attention as an example of a whole-of-community approach to supporting local young people. NIECAP was invited to be part of the planning process for forming local learning and employment networks in Darebin, Moreland, Yarra, Banyule and Nillumbik as well as providing leadership in Whittlesea and Hume.

RMIT also continues to contribute strongly to the boards and projects of NORTH Link, Northern Industry, Education and Training Link (NIETL) and the Northern Area Consultative Committee. NIETL is a proactive network of industry and education in the region; in addition to a program of breakfast meetings which provide information and networking opportunities, there are other activities and projects including:

- work with automotive industry quality standards;
- innovation in small and medium enterprises, supply chain management and e-commerce;
- the Commonwealth Greenhouse Allies program.

The university is a member of the NIETL executive and sponsors the breakfast program. RMIT staff and students are active participants in these activities, providing expertise and support for the 3000 industries involved and contributing to other NIETL programs, activities and projects.

Hamilton region

The Victorian Government approved a Capital Development Grant through the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) of $3.135 million to develop a Flexible Learning Centre and a Centre for Regional and Rural Development at the RMIT Hamilton site. The RMIT Flexible Learning Centre will play a major role in developing RMIT’s quality education and training systems and will focus on preparing learners to live in a global economy by providing them with knowledge, skills and expertise in their local environment. The RMIT Centre for Regional and Rural Development will develop an intensive approach to issues facing rural and regional communities and build on RMIT’s expertise and experience to provide creative solutions that are sustainable locally and transferable globally.
named the Handbury Building in September 2000 in recognition of a major donation from Geoff and Helen Handbury which proved critical in commencing operations and in securing government support for this project.

The first students began their studies in garment construction and in nursing at this new site in 2000 and approximately 40 students in the region enrolled in the Master of Education by project.

A partnership agreement was signed with the Western District Health Service and memorandums of understanding were signed with Deakin University and South West Institute of TAFE.

**East Gippsland**

A significant achievement in East Gippsland is the increase in research activity developing from RMIT research scholarships focused on the environmental issues of the Lakes system. Students and staff disseminated their work and findings through papers and conferences, locally, nationally and internationally, across areas as varied as the Australasian Natural Resource Law and Policy Conference, the Envirotox Conference and the Ecological Society of Australia Conference.

New project developments and new collaborations are developing around aquaculture and the dairy industry and with organisations such as the Coastal Board, Marine and Freshwater Resources Institute (MAFRI) and Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) through the development of student projects, at postgraduate and undergraduate level, as well as through new research grant applications and additional research work.

A highlight is the new state-of-the-art Aquaculture Research Facility at Lakes Entrance which will permit RMIT to undertake work with black bream including the study of the ecotoxicology of blue-green algal toxin, mercury and other metals, and the effects of stress on the growth of fish. RMIT and East Gippsland Institute of TAFE propose to jointly establish a Research and Education Centre at Lakes Entrance.

Master degrees by research (project) at the East Gippsland Institute of TAFE were commenced by 18 students. They will address issues in education and be supported through a framework for innovation and the development of professional practice in the workplace. The projects, based in the students’ workplaces, will have tangible outcomes for participants, their organisation, their profession and their community.

In 2000 RMIT continued to receive recognition for its leadership in international education by being awarded the 2000 Governor of Victoria Export Award for Education for the third consecutive year.

Export services provided by RMIT include:
- educational programs to on-shore international students and off-shore students;
- research and consultancy services;
- training programs;
- project management and delivery.

Almost 25 per cent of RMIT University’s full time staff are involved in export related activities and almost five percent of staff travel regularly to provide off-shore programs.

Internationalising the curriculum is of vital importance to the university’s international strategy. It is a process which aims to integrate an international dimension into teaching, research and student support functions. Several key projects were implemented in 2000.

University-wide events:
- a year-long lecture series about ‘Information Technology and Internationalising the Curriculum’;
- a successful one-day symposium, ‘The Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning at RMIT’.

Examples of faculty-based projects:
- Strengthening the Chinese medicine program (Faculty of Life Sciences) with professional and cultural links to regulatory bodies in China, the Victorian Chinese Medicine Registration Board, Hong Kong Baptist University and Nanjing University of Traditional Medicine. It is intended that the structure developed for the maintenance and management of these relationships will provide a model for other programs with off-shore partners.
- Developing innovative models of delivering English language and learning skills to international students in the RMIT Business faculty, both in Australia and overseas. This project aimed to provide commencing students with greater understanding of, and competence in using, appropriate language and learning skills.
- The Faculty of Applied Science aimed to increase the number of its students who complete part of their learning overseas. The ’Broadening Education Horizons by Studying Abroad’ project developed a network within the faculty for information exchange. It actively encouraged and supported students to travel abroad and enhance their learning experiences.

RMIT International University Vietnam

In an historic opportunity RMIT was granted an investment licence by the Vietnamese Government in 2000 to establish and operate a one hundred per cent foreign owned international university in Vietnam. RMIT is the first university to be issued with such a licence, which was officially handed over by the Minister for Planning and Investment, Dr Tran Xuan Gia at a ceremony in May that was held in Ho Chi Minh City. The ceremony was also attended by the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Alexander Downer MP and the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, His Excellency Mr Michael Mann.

East Timor

RMIT has been involved in a number of projects which illustrate its willingness to engage in issues of both social value and social development. In 2000 the university provided support, in the form of one hundred per cent tuition fee scholarships, for three East Timorese students to undertake degree or postgraduate programs at RMIT. This is a joint initiative with the Australian Government, which will provide the students’ living allowances.
Global University Alliance

In June 2000 RMIT announced it had joined forces with a number of leading universities from around the world and NextEd Ltd, an online education and training infrastructure company, to found the Global University Alliance (GUA).

The GUA will provide quality education to individuals and enterprises using online learning. The mainly postgraduate programs will be characterised by accessibility, quality, flexibility and interactivity and the GUA will make full use of the Internet as a powerful channel for delivering its products and as a means for enhancing its students’ learning experiences. The GUA’s educational offerings currently include existing awards and courses from its individual shareholders and other associated universities.

RMIT’s participation in GUA is in accordance with our internationalisation strategy and provides the university with an exciting opportunity to provide greater access to our innovative programs. RMIT will initially provide undergraduate and postgraduate programs through the GUA in Information Technology, Web Development, Multimedia, E-Business, Education, Systems Engineering and Engineering Management.

The member universities are George Washington University (USA), Rochester Institute of Technology (USA), University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (USA), Athabasca University (Canada), RMIT University (Australia), University of South Australia (Australia), Auckland University of Technology (New Zealand), International Business School (Hogeschool Brabant) (The Netherlands), University of Derby (UK) and University of Glamorgan (UK).

More information about the GUA can be found at <http://www.gua.com>.

International students at RMIT in 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total New</th>
<th>Total Returning</th>
<th>Total New and Returning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>1622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia*</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>1126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macau</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>4050</td>
<td>3636</td>
<td>7686</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes students at Metropolitan College in Kuala Lumpur.
# Current RMIT offshore programs

## China
- Nanjing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine: Bachelor of Applied Science (Human Biology) / Bachelor of Applied Science (Chinese Medicine) — 5th year
- Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade: Bachelor of Business (Transport and Logistics Management) / Diploma of Business (International Trade)
- Wuhan University of Science and Technology: Advanced Diploma of Business (Banking and Finance) / Advanced Diploma of Business (International Trade) / CELP Preparatory English program

## Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Arts Centre: Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art)
- Hong Kong Baptist University: Bachelor of Health Science (Chinese Medicine) / Doctor of Fine Arts (by Coursework)
- Hong Kong Management Association: Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Business Administration) / Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance) / Master of Accountancy / Master of Business (E-Commerce) / Master of Business (International Management) / Master of Finance / Bachelor of Business (Transport and Logistics Mgmt) / Master of Business (Logistics Management)
- Superguide Consulting: Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Banking and Finance)

## Indonesia
- International Education Programs: Advanced Diploma in Computer Science / Foundation Studies
- Metropolitan College: Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance)

## Japan
- Japanese Chiropractic Association: Bachelor of Applied Science (Clinical Science) / Bachelor of Chiropractic Science / Bachelor of Chiropractic Science (Conversion)
- Metropolitan College: Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance)

## Malaysia
- Limkokwing Institute of Creative Technology: Advanced Diploma in Electronic Design and Multimedia / Bachelor of Business (Business Administration) / Master of Business (International Management) / Master of Finance
- Malaysian Institute of Management: Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance)
- Metropolitan College: Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance)
- RIIAM / KLSE: RIIAM Diploma

## New Zealand
- Auckland City Art Gallery: Master of Fine Art
- NZ Military: Master of Integrated Logistics Management
- UNITEC: Graduate Diploma of Clinical Osteopathy

## Singapore
- Alberton Management Centre: Bachelor of Business Transport and Logistics Mgmt
- IMC: Bachelor of Business (Logistics Management) (2001 on) / Bachelor of Engineering (Communication and Electronics) / Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) / Bachelor of Engineering (Communication and Electronic) / Master of Engineering programs / Advanced Diploma in Information Technology
- Informatics: Bachelor of Applied Science (Information Technology) / Bachelor of Business (Computing)
- LaSalle-SIA College of the Arts: Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art) / Bachelor of Arts (Fashion) / Bachelor of Hospitality Management (Hospitality Studies)
- SHATEC: Bachelor of Applied Science (Construction Management) / Bachelor of Applied Science (Construction and Management) / Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communication) / Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) / Bachelor of Business (Business Administration) / Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance) / Bachelor of Business (Financial Planning) / Bachelor of Business (International Management) / Bachelor of Business (Information Management) / Bachelor of Finance / Bachelor of Business (Banking and Finance) / Bachelor of Business (International Trade)

## South Africa
- Technikon SA: Master of Education (Leadership and Management)

## Vietnam
- RIUV with CSD-VNU: Master of Engineering (Systems Engineering)
environmental sustainability

Sustainability is economic, social and environmental development “that meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

(Rbruntland Report, 1987)

RMIT adopted an environmental policy in 1994 and subsequently developed policies and strategies on greening the curriculum, waste management and energy management.

In 1995 the university became a signatory to the international Talloires Declaration on integrating environmental principles into the curriculum and university operations. In 1999 EcoRecycle accredited RMIT as a Waste Wise organisation and in 2000 the university became a signatory to the Commonwealth Greenhouse Challenge. The Greening RMIT initiative involves students and staff in recycling programs, energy management and other initiatives.

Today we are exploring ways to move to a broader definition of sustainable development—the ‘triple bottom line’ of social, environmental and economic sustainability.

Social sustainability
- High-quality outcomes in teaching, research and innovation.
- Satisfaction surveys of students and staff.
- Monitoring and improvement of occupational health and safety performance.
- Procedures for resolving grievances.
- Sustainability policies and indicators integrated into existing frameworks for activities and performance.
- Code of ethical conduct for staff.

Environmental sustainability
- Sustainability coordinator employed in the Property Services group.
- Bioclimatic design guidelines and design brief standards for new and renovated buildings.
- Continued work on integration of environmental literacy into curriculum.

In 2000, for the first time, RMIT has included in its annual report the indicators that will be used to measure the progress of its environmental improvement strategies. These data will form the basis of monitoring and planning for improved sustainability.

Economic sustainability
RMIT is building its economic base in order to enhance its delivery of teaching, research and innovation services to communities in Australia and other countries. Strategies for achieving this include:
- being an innovative university where there is development and commercialisation of new intellectual property and technologies. This should lead to greater income, new spin-off companies, industrial patents and increased credibility;
- reducing costs related to the use of energy, water, waste and other resources;
- effective expansion into new markets and partnerships for teaching, research and innovation.

The Centre for Global Sustainability was established in 2000, initially as a special project of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor’s office, to work with RMIT staff, students and others. The centre will help make RMIT a working model of environmental sustainability by integrating the concept into its mission, vision, values, and all its day-to-day work: academic, research and operations.

During 2001 means of measuring our progress against sustainability goals will be put in place. This will become part of established procedures and frameworks.
“Issues of sustainability are fast becoming one of the drivers for education and research around the world. RMIT has a history of being practical, of getting things done, moving with the times. As a university of innovation we will be developing better ways and means of analysing and researching our own sustainability and our contribution to global sustainability. We will be reporting on some of these in 2001. The challenge is to turn our commitments into realities, make RMIT a walking talking model of sustainability.”

Ruth Dunkin
Vice-Chancellor
2000 @ RMIT Gallery

• Telstra presents the 15th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award

• Unpublished: Contemporary New Zealand and Australian Fashion Photography

• Bringing the House Down: 12 Months of Australian Political Cartoons

• Fluxus in Germany 1962 – 1994: A Long Story with Many Knots

• Marlene Dietrich (B. 1901, D. 1992): A Legend in Photographs

• The Patient Planet: A World History in 255 Photos 1941–95
• Tall Tales (But True): Peter Lyssiotis

• 1,000 Years of Sexual Play: Lyndal Jones

• China, China: A Series of Works in Porcelain: Ah Xian

• Korea Australia Printmaking Exchange Exhibition

• Art Fair Murders: Peter Hill

• Absolute Zero, A Ganzfeld Perceptual Environment: William Seeto

• Liberty

• Wolfgang Sievers: A Life
Honours

Honorary Degrees
An honorary degree recognises the recipient’s distinguished contribution to learning, the arts or public service.

• Stuart Devlin Honorary Doctor of Arts (Hon. DArts)
• Graham Pizzey Honorary Doctor of Applied Science (Hon. DAppSci)
• Norman Day Honorary Doctor of Architecture (Hon. DArch)

Francis Ormond Medallist 2000
The Francis Ormond Medal recognises distinguished service by a staff member who has not been awarded an honorary degree or appointed to a senior management position.

• Lyn Keller and Campbell Gray (joint winners)

Emeritus Professors appointed

• Professor David Beanland Vice-Chancellor
• Professor David Pugh Research and Development
• Professor Terrence (Terry) Roberts Applied Science

Adjunct Professors appointed
An Adjunct Professor is recognised as a person of eminence in a profession or industry.

• Mr David Boymal Business
• Mr Alan Pears Constructed Environment
• Mr Peter Darling Art, Design and Communication
• Mr Garry Emery Art, Design and Communication
• Professor Martin Bennett Applied Science
• Mr John Van Groningen Education, Language and Community Services
• Mr Wesley McMaster Business
• Dr Harry Blutstein Applied Science

Visiting Professor
• Professor Paul Bowen Constructed Environment

Visiting Fellow
• Dr Hubert Roginski Life Sciences

Professorial Fellows appointed

• Associate Professor Janet Medd Art, Design and Communication
• Mr John Warren Business

Professors appointed

• Associate Professor Alexandra (Alex) Radloff Life Sciences
• Dr Olga Kanitsaki AM Life Sciences
• Associate Professor Clive Morley Business

Associate Professors appointed

• Mr Kevin Adams Business
• Dr Rhett Walker Business
• Mr Terrence (Terry) Laidler Art, Design and Communication
• Dr Linda Briskman Constructed Environment
• Mr Christopher Selvarajah Business
• Dr Hadi Winarto Engineering
• Dr Adrian Mouritz Engineering