



Head Office: 40 Market Street Melbourne Victoria
For all media enquiries contact our 24-Hour Media Service: Ph: (03) 9683 4342



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INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME TO CONNECT STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA AND THE ASIA PACIFIC

The Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Scholarship Programme will congratulate its 2008 round of scholarship winners with a gala ceremony at Parliament House on Wednesday, 24 September 2008.

The prestigious, \$7.5 million dollar student exchange programme helps to strengthen cross cultural relationships by supporting educational exchange between students in Australia and the Asia Pacific.

Victorian Premier, Hon John Brumby MP, will formally recognise this year's scholarship recipients along with Group Managing Director of Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited, Mr HL Kam.

Since its inception in 2005, the Cheung Kong Endeavour Australia Scholarships have enabled 985 undergraduate and post graduate students to take up placements with universities in Australia and abroad.

This year, an additional 221 Australian undergraduate and postgraduate students will enhance their academic development while experiencing different societies and cultures. Students from Victorian Universities account for 20 per cent of this year's program.

These scholarships are the first jointly private and Federal Government funded of their kind in Australia.

The Cheung Kong Group is one of Australia's largest foreign investors with local interests including CitiPower and Powercor Australia who jointly distribute electricity to almost 40 per cent of Victorians.

Mr Kam said the Cheung Kong Group was extremely pleased to join the Australian Federal Government in supporting the programme for another year.

"We believe the programme can be summed up by an old Chinese Proverb that says 'learning has no boundaries'." Mr Kam said

"Through such exchanges between young Asian and Australian university students comes greater understanding and appreciation, which is vital for the future development of both regions.

"The scholarships offer a great channel for nurturing exchange between Australia and Asia, and we are delighted to contribute towards their design, funding and establishment," Mr Kam said.

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