

PARENTS' MAGAZINE

CURRENT STUDENTS 2013

JAIMIE McGLASHAN –
Bachelor of Science student,
with her parents Russel and Jan.

SEE PAGE 13



DEAKIN
UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA
Worldly

WELCOME

You've helped them with so many things in life. Now, watching your student find their feet at university can be a time of immense pride for many families.

For students, it's a time of learning to stand as an adult in the world – to be accountable for their own learning and experiences. Of course, we all want to support them as much as possible. We at Deakin will do everything we can to help your student not just adjust, but thrive on the challenges of university. Just as we know you will too.

But if university life is a distant memory, or possibly something you haven't experienced, it can be hard to know how best to guide your student. This Parents' Magazine is for you, the parents, guardians, partners and loved ones who will play such a critical role in every student's success. Through this magazine, we hope to give you an up-to-date perspective on the exciting journey on which your student is embarking.

The Deakin team

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LEARNING THE LINGO

Starting a university degree can seem like entering a different world – one with a language all of its own. Just when you'd gotten used to talking about ATARs, VTAC and study scores, you're now learning a whole new vocabulary. Here are some of the terms you're sure to get to know as your student goes through uni. For more, you can always visit our online glossary at: deakin.edu.au/glossary.

CLOUD DEAKIN

CloudDeakin is the University's online learning environment. It includes a range of online spaces and tools to help students interact with each other, their lecturers and tutors. Students can use this space to collect and share information about their learning and achievements and to access resources, such as audio and video.

CENSUS DATE

This is the date when enrolments in a unit are finalised. It is the last date your student can apply for HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP or SA-HELP or withdraw from a unit without being liable for certain fees or having the unit recorded on their academic transcript.

CREDIT POINT

Each unit of study (or subject) is worth a set number of credit points, usually, though not always, 1 credit point for each unit. A full-time study load is usually 4 credit points per trimester, for two trimesters a year (or 8 credit points in a year). However, your student can study as few as 3 credit points in a trimester and still be considered full time, or study across three trimesters and complete more than 8 credit points in a year.

FACULTY

An organisational division within a university (such as the Faculty of Arts and Education). Deakin has four faculties, each Faculty is divided into several Schools.

iLECTURE

A lecture streaming service that gives your student online access to recorded lectures via CloudDeakin.

MAJOR SEQUENCE

A group of units studied in sequence during your student's degree. A major sequence must include at least 6, and up to 8 credit points.

TRIMESTER

Deakin has three trimesters each year, and each trimester runs for 12 weeks. A full-time study load usually includes trimesters 1 and 2. Study in Trimester 3, over summer, is not compulsory, it just provides another option for students who want to spread out their study load or complete their studies sooner.

TUTORIAL

A class where a small group of students discuss study materials and ideas with a tutor.

UNIT

A Deakin subject or unit is normally one trimester long and most have a value of 1 or 2 credit points.

UNIT CHAIR

The person appointed by a Faculty Board to oversee (chair) the assessment panel for each unit.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Studying at university is different from studying at secondary school or TAFE. There are different expectations of students, different time commitments, and new ways of teaching and learning. For students, getting used to these changes is an important part of the first-year experience. For parents, guardians and partners, being aware of these new circumstances can help you understand and support your student in their new uni life.

Uni students are treated as independent adult learners. As such, we communicate directly with students. This might seem different from the secondary school experience. Although parents are welcomed into the Deakin community, it is up to each student to choose whether to share details of their enrolment (such as academic progress). However, parents, guardians and partners can access general information and resources about uni life on the Deakin website. A great place to start is deakin.edu.au/parents.

Tertiary study requires students to be self-motivated, to plan and complete their assignments on time, and to use a range of learning resources to further their knowledge. Students have the benefit of being taught by a range of experts and typically encounter at least two teaching staff for each unit (subject) they take. For example, a student might have a lecturer who presents weekly lectures in a lecture theatre filled with students and a different tutor who leads smaller weekly tutorials. There's also a CloudDeakin online space set up for each unit, through which students can interact with teaching staff and other students.

Although students might enrol in university full time, they don't necessarily attend the campus every day. More often, their contact hours are spread across the week or are compressed into a few full days. Many students also enrol off-campus, and others take advantage of Deakin's flexible learning options and take some units online. Typically, a full-time undergraduate student enrolls in up to four units per trimester. These usually require three to four contact hours on-campus (or online), during which time the student attends lectures, tutorials, 'pracs' or practicals, labs, workshops or seminars. For each unit, students are typically expected to complete at least 10 additional hours of work (outside of class time) each week. Some students take advantage of the learning spaces on campus to do this work. Others find it more productive to work at home. If your student seems to go to campus sporadically, or tends to study at home a lot, this may simply be a reflection of their timetable for this trimester.

Students are given a broad range of assessment tasks at uni. These include essays, exams, group assignments, quizzes, presentations, internships, research projects, reports and creative pieces. For one unit, they might have three assessment tasks scheduled across the trimester.

At Deakin, we recognise that the transition to tertiary study can be challenging at first. For this reason, there are Student Support Offices in each Faculty, where students can seek help from course advisers. There are also many other general support services and a wealth of helpful information online at deakin.edu.au/students.

ASSIGNMENT GRADES: WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

The Deakin University assignment grading system is not the same as the system used in secondary schools. For example, if your student gets a 'D' for an assignment at uni, they've done really well!

RESULT	DESCRIPTION	MEANING
HD	High Distinction	80 per cent and over
D	Distinction	70–79 per cent
C	Credit	60–69 per cent
P	Pass	50–59 per cent
N	Fail	Below 50 per cent

age and learn

Uni students are treated as independent adult learners. As such, we communicate directly with students. This might seem different from the secondary school experience.

For more information about university assessment, go to deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-information/exams-assessment/results-key.html.

MANAGING THE COSTS OF STUDY

Going to uni is a learning experience, not just because of the courses, but because of the personal growth that comes with what is, for many students, their first taste of financial independence.

Paying for fees, study materials and living expenses can seem a lot to juggle. But for those who need it, extra support is available.

At Deakin, we offer different types of support to students. Due to privacy issues and the sensitivity of financial information, we often request that we speak to students directly. However, we are more than happy to speak with a student's parents or guardians if requested and if we have written approval from the student.

In many cases, getting some advice and budgeting assistance can make a big difference. Our Student Financial Assistance office can help your student prepare a budget, and develop their financial literacy. For many, this is the best possible support, as these skills won't just help them at uni, but for life.

If your student needs a little extra to cover expenses, our interest-free student loans can help with the cost of study-related expenses, such as course-related equipment or text books. Eligible students may also be able

to use these loans to pay for a range of other expenses, so long as they can demonstrate that they are study-related, for example, the costs of travelling to take part in a work placement.

If your student does find themselves in financial need, they may be eligible for a student grant. These are limited and offered on the basis of need.

It's worth encouraging your student to keep an eye out for scholarship opportunities throughout the year too. We recommend students check out our scholarships website at least once a month, particularly during the first half of the year, deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/scholarships-and-awards.

Don't forget to consider other means of financial support outside of uni. Most students also work part time to support themselves while they study. Centrelink also offers support to eligible students through Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY and Student Start-Up Scholarships. You can find out more at studypassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/StudentIncomeSupport.

Information about financial assistance and services for students is online at deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/index.

WORKING DEVELOPS LIFE SKILLS



Stephanie Carter and her mum Michelle.

For Stephanie Carter, working part-time while she studies has not just been a way to make ends meet – it's helped her develop life-long skills in communication, teamwork and leadership.

Stephanie works as a Student Ambassador at Deakin University, attending expos and answering questions about her course (Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws) and life as a student. She also works as an academic mentor for first-year students living at the Geelong residences.

Stephanie applied for the ambassador position after it was advertised at Deakin University's jobshop, deakin.edu.au/jobshop.

Working on campus has been a huge advantage in terms of fitting in work around class times. But, Stephanie advises students to be open and up front about their need for flexibility, wherever they may work.

'Right from the outset, make sure that you tell your employer that you're a uni student and that you may need time off to study,' she says.

Having a part-time job has definitely helped, but part of the student experience is learning to manage your finances on what can be, at times, a tight budget. Stephanie advises students to plan their spending, including setting some aside for unexpected expenses.

'Work out your budget right from the word "go", at the start of each week or fortnight, work out what you have to pay and prioritise,' she says.

'Food is your number one priority, and it's more important than going out on a Thursday night!'

Like many students, Stephanie may have learnt this lesson the hard way. But she says her parents have helped teach her by not necessarily jumping in to give her extra cash whenever things get tight.

Stephanie's mother, Michelle Carter, says having worked a casual job since she was 15 gave Stephanie an advantage when it came to managing her money, but there was still a learning curve.

'It was particularly difficult during O week and the first trimester as she had trouble adjusting to having to pay for everything for herself,' says Michelle.

'I tried to advise Stephanie to pay for the necessities each week and then any money left over could be used for entertainment, clothing etc, and even though she knew I was always there as a back-up, the amount of times she needed my assistance was minimal.

'Making ends meet can be difficult but parents should encourage their student to devise a budget plan which allows them the flexibility to pay for necessities and to have excess money for their own personal spending.'



NEED MORE DETAIL?

We've got some great finance tools for parents and students. Our budget calculator can help you and your student balance their expenses and income:

deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/budget/index.

Or if you're after more detailed information about study costs and support services, you can download our Financial Planning for Tertiary Study brochure here:

deakin.edu.au/parents.

SOCIAL NETWORK

Your student's first year at university isn't just about making the grades – it's also about making social networks.

By joining a club or being part of the Deakin student community, your student will not only make new friends but also establish important connections that will help keep them engaged with university life.

There's a range of clubs, events and activities on offer through the Deakin University Student Association (DUSA) and, each year, the Student Services Carnival (held in Week 3 of Trimester 1) also provides valuable information about the services that can help Deakin students succeed.

Rebecca Lever, Team Leader, Transition, says university can be a daunting journey for some and even the best-prepared can sometimes struggle.

'However, we know that students who have strong social connections and support are far more likely to not only persist with their studies, but to enjoy their university experience.'

She adds that it's also 'extremely important' for students to establish a good study and life balance.

'They need to place enough importance on things that help them to cope academically like exercising, catching up with friends, doing some part-time work. All these social links are hugely important in maintaining a good balance and contribute to being a successful student.'

Each Deakin Faculty also offers other networking opportunities like mentoring, study tours, student societies, and work and overseas exchange experiences that are all aimed at enriching your student's university experience.

Deakin's online social networking sites – such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Google Plus – also provide students with a familiar and user-friendly platform through which students can engage and interact, says Rebecca.

'Most faculties and services try really hard to connect with students via the web and a range of social networking channels, including Facebook and Twitter, and Deakin has made its first official foray into mobile apps with the Wordly app launched in late 2012.'

To join the conversation on Twitter, follow us on Facebook or watch us on YouTube, visit deakin.edu.au/social-media.

WHAT DO OUR STUDENTS SAY?

MELISHA FERNANDO

Bachelor of Nursing – Melbourne Burwood Campus

'Meeting new friends and studying together can improve on your studies. My advice is immerse yourself in whatever Deakin has to offer, get involved today and when you look back you will be proud of the decisions you made.'

CLARA NG

Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) – Melbourne Burwood Campus

'Being part of DUSA has been the most rewarding experience in my university life. Not only do I learn many new skills, I also enjoy the company and working alongside fellow volunteers who are very friendly, funny and we share the same passion in volunteering and giving back to the community.'

BRONWYN MAWBEY

Bachelor of Nursing – Geelong Waterfront Campus

'The many friends met in classes through various group activities helped me ease into university life. I made further friends through volunteering at the Deakin University Student Association (DUSA). These are friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.'

CHRISTOPHER GRIENTI

Bachelor of Laws – Warrnambool Campus

'In second year I was selected to become a committee member of Deakin University Commerce and Law Society (DUCLS). Through this I developed great relationships with the committee members of the respective societies across the other Deakin campuses, and also the staff of the Business and Law faculty.'

MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Sometimes when you start something new, having someone you're comfortable with who can help answer your questions can make all the difference.

Deakin offers new and experienced students the chance to come together through a range of mentoring programs aimed at helping new students with specific subjects, as well as more general study skills and university knowledge.

There are subject-specific study groups, known as Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS), where students who have excelled in a subject help others who are studying the same unit. Deakin also runs Students helping Students Drop in Stations, which help new students to develop their study skills.

Or students can also take part in a range of faculty-specific mentoring programs, which partner new students with a more experienced mentor. Mentors like Ashlee Curtis, who helped 15 first-year students while she was completing the third year of her Bachelor of Psychology.

'When I started uni, it felt very different to high school – I had questions and didn't know who to ask,' explains Ashlee. 'Having a peer mentor provides you with someone for those questions.'

She says some of the challenges for new students include practical things like understanding the structure of university, how lectures and tutorials work, and finding classrooms, but also academic skills like correct referencing of assignments.

But peer mentoring doesn't only benefit the student.

'It helped me gain essential leadership skills,' says Ashlee, who has since gone on to complete her honours year and take on a PhD.

Find out more at deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-support/students-helping-students/peer-mentors.

'When I started uni, it felt very different to high school – I had questions and didn't know who to ask.'

Ashlee Curtis, psychology student and mentor.

LEARNING CLOUD

Thanks to new technologies and channels, higher education is now undergoing rapid change and some of the most prestigious universities in the world are delivering their course materials online.

Deakin University has always been a pioneer in new and improved ways of teaching and learning. When the University opened its doors to students in 1977, it soon became a flagship university for distance education. Since then, the world of communication and education has changed dramatically. We now connect in ways that would not have been imaginable in the 1970s. Whether it's banking, shopping, communicating or learning, much of our world is online.

With digital development sweeping change across 21st century life, learning in the cloud is fundamental to the student experience at Deakin. Whether your student is on or off campus, learning via the cloud will be an integral part of their undergraduate degree.

Available across many Deakin courses, learning via the cloud gives students the opportunity to learn in a more engaging way while also offering them flexibility for juggling study, work and social commitments. It complements, rather than replaces, the more traditional teaching methods such as lectures and printed materials.

In 2013, Deakin is looking at how to use these technologies to make the learning experience not only more effective and engaging, but to also prepare students for the jobs and skills of the future.

Work has now begun to prepare some of Deakin's high-demand programs to offer a 24/7, media-rich, interactive digital environment connecting students with staff, mentors and peers – even potential employers. It will also allow students to create personal achievements and participate in tasks that are professionally-targeted and recognised.

Explore some innovative examples of learning in the cloud at, deakin.edu.au/learning-futures/what-is-premium-cloud-and-located-learning/examples-of-premium-cloud-and-located-learning.

PLAYING POLITICS

For new students, tackling the study of Middle East politics can be tricky. After all, it's difficult enough for the best and brightest global diplomats to negotiate their way through this cluster of countries embedded in war, conflict and instability.

But in one of Deakin's most enduring online learning environments – the Middle East Politics Simulation (MEPS) – students can immerse themselves in the diplomacy and political tension of the Middle East, gaining an insight that would be hard to replicate through traditional lectures and learning.

Mat Hardy, Deakin lecturer in Middle East studies, says that in subjects like politics there are no definitive right or wrong answers and a lot of subjectivity is involved.

'Particularly with somewhere like the Middle East, it's very hard for students who have no prior knowledge of the region to appreciate the perspectives of the people who live there and the difficulties of diplomatic interaction,' he explains.

However, over two weeks in the intensive simulated online environment of the MEPS, students from international relations, politics and journalism disciplines gain a solid understanding of complex issues by playing characters in a simulated Middle East scenario.

'Basically, it's a closed email system where students take the role of the people and actors of the Middle East. They could be politicians, an NGO like the Red Cross, a terrorist group, the US Secretary of State, a president or a king. They work in small teams of two or three, with each team taking on a character,' says Mr Hardy.

Issues and characters are researched online and interactions occur via web-based chat and email, with the journalism students reporting events in daily online newspapers. And while the characters must react to certain events, Mr Hardy says, essentially, it's about diplomacy.

'By living that role for two weeks students gain a perspective on why this particular group acts the way it does. In the process they soon understand just how difficult it is to find peace or compromise.'

Associate Professor Sally Totman, convener of the Middle East Studies program at Deakin, says the MEPS allows students to explore the topic with a hands-on approach.

'We write a scenario that gives a background to what's been happening in the Middle East and the late breaking news stories are the jumping off points for the characters to actually start their role play.'

She says it's an effective way of learning because of the amount of research that goes into playing a character within a complex scenario.

'Students actually have to immerse themselves in another character's belief system and sometimes it makes it difficult for students because they're playing against their own beliefs. But this actually gives them a deeper appreciation and understanding of other points of view that they might not get otherwise.'

One of the key objectives is collaborative student learning, says Mr Hardy.

'It provides equity between the on campus and off campus experience – you get the same depth of learning experience. This is an example of how rich and engaging any form of teaching can be by using technology appropriately. We've been surveying students for the past few years and 97 per cent rate it as the best assessment exercise they've ever done at university.'

HOW DO STUDENTS RATE THE MEPS?

HERE ARE SOME RESPONSES FROM STUDENT SURVEYS:

- 'Excellent way of testing my learning. Very enjoyable and would highly recommend it to anyone in the future.'
- 'I hope when I am a teacher I can do something similar to a sim [simulation] with my students because it's a really great learning opportunity.'
- 'Great fun. Better than an essay by a long shot.'
- 'It allowed a real world understanding and was enjoyable and informative.'
- 'I loved the sim [simulation]. I will definitely be doing other Middle East Politics units.'

A background image showing two young women with long dark hair, looking down at a laptop screen. The image has a warm, orange-toned overlay. The woman on the right is more prominent, looking directly at the screen with a slight smile. The woman on the left is partially visible, also looking at the screen.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR STUDENT

We aim to support every student, to give them the best possible chance of success regardless of background, finances, or level of ability. We do this through services and facilities that cater for the needs of all students, as well as services catering for students with special needs. Here are just a few examples of the many types of support we offer. For more, visit [**deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/student-life-and-support**](https://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/student-life-and-support).

ACCOMMODATION

Having a student move away from home for the first time can be a daunting process. Our Off-Campus Housing Service helps students find safe, student-friendly accommodation. We strive to educate and inform students and their families about housing options as well as tenancy rights and responsibilities. We have an intimate knowledge of the local area, local landlords and the types of students in various properties. This means we can help students studying similar courses or coming from similar backgrounds to link in together, where possible. Visit deakin.edu.au/houseme.

‘Through the Off-Campus Housing Service I did get my home sooner than I had expected and considerably cheap.’

– Lawal Adams, engineering student.

DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Does your student have a health condition or disability that may affect their study? The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) provides information and services to help them succeed. The centre promotes inclusive practices across the University, as well as arranging adjustments to suit students’ needs, such as alternative assessment/exam arrangements; extra writing time or rest breaks; academic support workers, like note-takers; and sign interpreters. Visit deakin.edu.au/disability.

DUSA

DUSA is an independent student body that gives students access to free legal advice, student advocacy and representation, welfare, sport, more than 80 clubs and societies and lots of opportunities to meet people, develop leadership and teamwork skills, be involved in University decision making and to get involved in student life. Visit www.dusa.org.au.

FLEXIBLE LEARNING SPACES

What makes a learning space flexible? Sometimes students need somewhere to get together and work in groups, compare study notes over lunch, or use a computer – or perhaps they just want to catch up with friends. Featuring study pods and workshop rooms, our flexible learning spaces have different zones for different types of study-related and recreational activities. But they can also be adapted to suit the needs of particular students, with movable layout and furniture. Early opening times and late closing times mean that students can also access them when they need to, before or after class.

INSTITUTE OF KOORIE EDUCATION

The Institute of Koorie Education’s unique community-based learning model delivers Deakin degrees to Aboriginal students while they live in their communities and travel to campus six times per year for study intensives. This model gives students access to the intellectual life of the University while maintaining regular contact with their families and communities. Visit deakin.edu.au/ike.

MEDICAL CENTRES

We offer confidential, bulk-billed medical and nursing health care and advice to students across all campuses. Visit deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/health.

STUDY SKILLS

Despite past academic success, sometimes students need extra guidance developing the type of study skills that will help them do well at university. We offer study advice in a range of areas including time management, note-taking, avoiding plagiarism, critical thinking, writing essays and reports, referencing, class presentations, exam preparation, and more. Visit deakin.edu.au/study-success.

‘Study assistance has helped me to grow in complete confidence that I am capable of producing all kinds of academic writing styles if I put my mind to it. It’s also given me a sense of professional development that I can apply to all of my studies and future career.’

– Erzsebet Bodor Smith, Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communication) student

Like many of life's milestones, starting university is both a beginning and an end. While it's the end of a long journey that began when your student first started school, it's also the first serious steps toward their professional life and independence.

UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

At Deakin, career preparation begins from day one with advice and assistance available through the University's Jobshop. Mr David Essex, Manager for Careers and Employment, says a crucial first step is to ensure new students quickly engage with university life.

'This includes not only study but joining clubs, societies and making connections. Students who are engaged in this way are usually motivated to succeed,' he explains.

While research shows that most students attend university to boost their career prospects, Mr Essex says that, sometimes, the competing pressures of a student's time, money and social life get in the way.

'In terms of career preparation, it's important for students to have a good balance between study and work while keeping an eye on their goal. This is important because increasingly, employers are looking for "well-rounded graduates" who can demonstrate a range of personal skills and attributes beyond their degree.'

First year students are often keen to find out what career options their course is leading to but they also want to know what is realistic, says Mr Essex.

'Some students develop particular interests that they wish to pursue as a career, which may have nothing to do with the subjects they are studying. For other students, corporate responsibility, a sense of ethics or environmental issues may be the most important factors when choosing a potential career path or employer.'

He says it's the role of the Jobshop to know both the students and the employers.

'We clarify what is important to students in choosing their career path and we provide them with the tools and techniques to make a convincing job application based on their strengths and how they match the employer's requirements. With employers, we ensure we know when they are recruiting, what they are looking for and make sure this information is accessible to Deakin students via employer events and the Jobshop job portal.'

And for students who struggle to find their professional pathways, Deakin's career consultants are on hand.

'Usually we work with the student to build up a picture of their skills, attributes, aptitudes, preferences and values, or in layperson's terms "who are they and what is important to them". This provides a valid basis for looking at occupational areas or further study,' says Mr Essex.

Study at Deakin will also offer your student a range of work experience options that include internships, industry-based learning (IBL) and work-integrated-learning programs (WIL). These are forms of learning that take place with an employer and Mr Essex says they provide important advantage in securing a career.

'Usually the longer experience – IBL – is full time, paid and offers more credit points towards a degree but it's not available on all courses. Internships are usually around 100 hours in duration and can be spread over a trimester.

WIL is an umbrella term for any work-based learning and can include practicums, placements and industry projects. Usually students undertake this kind of study in their second or third year but it is not a bad idea to think about getting relevant voluntary or part-time work in their first year. This helps in understanding the workplace and competing for course-related vacation work programs.'

Mr Essex says it's important that parents point their students in the right direction for career advice.

'Please make sure the advice you give them is current and don't hesitate to refer them for free professional careers advice at the Deakin Jobshop.'

For more information please go to: deakin.edu.au/jobshop.



'Studying abroad is by far the most exciting and beneficial part of my studies so far.'

– Jaimie McGlashan,
Bachelor of Science
student

A TRULY WORLDLY EDUCATION

University education is all about broadening your horizons. One way your student can do this is through Deakin's overseas study opportunities – which can be study tours of just a few weeks or longer term study exchanges of one or two trimesters.

Bachelor of Science (Mathematical Modelling) student Jaimie McGlashan has studied abroad in Alaska, as part of a trimester-long exchange program, and in Chile as part of a shorter study tour.

'I studied on exchange at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, in the peak of their winter 2012,' she says. 'I completed four units so I didn't sacrifice anything of my degree and Alaska was absolutely amazing.'

Chile was part of a Deakin Study Tour where Jaimie took one subject. 'We studied eCommerce at Universidad del Desarrollo in Santiago, as well as visiting relevant industries and learning a bit of Spanish.'

The experience she gained from the two trips is priceless, she says. 'Studying abroad is by far the most exciting and beneficial part of my studies so far.'

'Experiencing new cultures and discovering new places to me is more than anything you can learn in a class – it changes your perspective and opens up so many opportunities.'

Jaimie advises other students to take as many opportunities as possible. 'There are so many study tours, internships and grants available. Keep your eyes open for them and don't be afraid to apply.'



Ross Parry

Likewise, Bachelor of Civil Engineering student Ross Parry encourages other students to embrace the opportunities available through Deakin's overseas study programs.

'I've been fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to take part in what was possibly the best two weeks of my life with the Delegation on Engineering in China and Hong Kong as part of the International Scholar Laureate Program in 2011. It was so awesome!'

But Ross had more adventures later in the same year, when he set off for what he says was 'the trip of a lifetime,' to study for a semester at Kansas State University in the USA.

'To live and study as an American College student was an absolute dream come true and something that I will never forget,' says Ross.

Not surprisingly, Ross has started 2013 with more travel, taking a three-week cultural exchange to Pukyong University in South Korea and in June he'll head to the Himalayas on a two-week volunteering expedition.

Find out more about exchange opportunities at Deakin: deakin.edu.au/current-students/student-exchange/exchange/index.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Our website for parents and partners is perfect for family and friends wanting to support students through their university studies. Here you'll find a range of resources tailored just for you.

Keep up to date with what's happening at Deakin University using our handy calendar. Not only does it have critical dates for things like trimesters and exams, it's also packed with tips for parents and partners to help you support your student.

Download the calendar and explore our other resources at deakin.edu.au/parents.

If you've still got questions, you can always email us at enquire@deakin.edu.au – we'd love to hear from you! You can also contact your student's campus directly.

MELBOURNE BURWOOD CAMPUS

03 9244 6100

221 Burwood Highway
Burwood Victoria

GEELONG WAURN PONDS CAMPUS

03 5227 1100

Pigdons Road
Waurn Ponds Victoria

GEELONG WATERFRONT CAMPUS

03 5227 1100

1 Gheringhap Street
Geelong Victoria

WARRNAMBOOL CAMPUS

03 5563 3100

Princes Highway
Warrnambool Victoria

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