

# **INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY**

## **STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 - 2021**

### **Introduction**

The International Institute of Business and Technology (IIBT) Strategic Plan sets out the overall strategic direction of the Institute as it moves forward under new ownership. IIBT is pleased to announce that it has been acquired by Times Education under a newly formed entity, IIBT Holdings. This acquisition promises a new and exciting chapter for IIBT as a provider of higher education programs in Australia.

Importantly, this Plan recognises the strategic importance of operating as a dual sector education provider, building on the provision of both higher education and vocational education programs to strengthen its pathway provider role and international reputation within and across the sectors.

The strategic direction of the Institute under new ownership is framed around a vision to have IIBT recognised for its professional and academic integrity, its quality outcomes, its values, its commitment to academic learning excellence and its continual improvement and inclusivity. This vision is reflected in its focus on being known as a quality provider of tertiary, vocational and English language courses that excel in every aspect of Australia's rigorous education and training standards and function under a governance structure that ensures achievement to the highest learning levels.

Central to IIBT's business philosophy, are the critical alignment of our Vision, Culture, Objectives and ongoing Strategies. This plan intends to link and fuse these essential elements together whilst building IIBT's rich history, its recent acquisition and the many strengths that set the course for its actions and advancement.

### **Vision**

IIBT is an international school that is focussed on specialised business and technology higher education pathway programs with applied learning directed towards the professional services sector.

### **Values**

IIBT core values strategically align with all parts of its planning process to guide, prepare and produce results that bridge education expectations with learning outcomes. These values include: :

1. Excellence and innovation in teaching
2. A culture that encourages leadership, academic freedom, enquiry, accountability and achievement
3. A focus on student support through meeting AQF level 5 learning outcomes
4. Recognition of the importance of academic articulation, workforce engagement, adaption to change and a futures orientation.
5. Robust governance and compliance provisions
6. An inclusive and rewarding student experience

To achieve these outcomes, IIBT is now confident that with the Times Education engagement, it can look forward to a positive outlook.

### Mission

IIBT's mission is to provide high-quality, value-added education to its students that are drawn from diverse cultures and backgrounds to study in a caring and supportive purpose focussed student learning environment on campus in Perth, Western Australia. IIBT is well recognised for its supportive, quality focussed and innovative orientation that is aimed at preparing its students for the 21st century. It does this through recognition of the importance of life-long learning and development of aspirations and skills to explore, understand and capitalise on the importance of education.

IIBT also recognises that significant investment and resources are required to continue to maintain such outcomes. IIBT Holdings, through its parent, Times Education, are therefore acknowledged to be an important contributor who will support the Institute without requiring changes to the structure or strategy.

### Objective

At the strategic level, IIBT's core objective is to provide a pathway of teaching and learning that produces an education experience that can open doors to amazing future opportunities.

Such a strategic objective is founded on the following elements that shape and direct the IIBT Vision.

- Prioritise the importance of meeting the student learning outcomes
- Create an engaging student experience
- Continually strengthen the IIBT teaching model
- Ensure that IIBT graduate are well prepared for future studies and employment
- Develop an inspiring learning environment
- Ensure a sustainable model of teaching and learning that the sector can be proud of.

### Direction

IIBT's entry into the higher education sector in 2014 brought with it exciting opportunities to provide pathway courses that met a real need for both international and domestic students

wishing to study at undergraduate level but not meeting stringent and often diverse University entry requirements. Today IIBT has established itself as a tertiary education pathway provider of merit with seven formal university partner articulation arrangements that enable IIBT graduates to progress with full credit for prior study in to second year of the partner undergraduate degree course in a related study discipline.

IIBT already stands out as a quality driven private higher education provider in this highly competitive education sector. Such a claim can be supported by consistent cross-sector education engagement along with attention to onshore and offshore industry needs, and compliance with regulatory requirements. This focus is reflected in the IIBT policies and procedures that inform and shape its strategy, curriculum, resources and marketing.

### **Diversity**

A particular strength of the IIBT teaching and learning is that it is specifically designed to cater to a diverse group of students drawn from different backgrounds, different cultures, different ages, and sometimes at varying stages of their careers. IIBT has over the years, developed an inclusive student experience that affords a particularly valuable aspect to the study experience.

### **Continual Improvement**

Through IIBT's governance arrangements and operational procedures, the Institute demonstrates quality oversight at all levels of operation. This is clearly seen in the academic expertise, the education sector experience and in the quality of the governance board membership who jointly provide oversight, management and administration of the learning experience across all IIBT's education provisions and programs. IIBT promotes inclusion and diversity through its hiring practices, admission processes, teaching and working environments, and formal procedures. The Institute also prides itself on its admission and articulation pathways that are designed to make its programs realistically accessible to those seeking to undertake further education. It is such provisions that enable IIBT to manage risk and map strategies that best ensure the Institute will continue to improve, develop and succeed in the higher education sector.

### **Futures**

IIBT's governance is crucial to its operation as a successful higher education provider. An effective quality assurance framework and processes for continual improvement hinge on the ability of governance arrangements to facilitate them. Under such guidance, the IIBT Business Plan provides the corporate direction and operational guidance with separation of robust functional roles that address corporate and academic decision-making. IIBT sees that over the next strategic planning period, it will continue to strengthen its relationship with its Regulator (TEQSA). It will strengthen its current course offerings by:

- extending the size of the reference library;

- increasing the number of permanent and sessional teaching staff;
- acquiring Fee Help registration;
- increasing the number of domestic and international students through targeted approaches to better reflect demand for Western Australian education;
- Expanding industry partnerships with the aim of implementing work-integrated learning programs;
- provision of comprehensive English language support for international students;
- monitoring the performance of IIBT's education agents;
- ensuring that international students are provided with all necessary support and care whilst studying at IIBT;
- launching the accredited Diploma of Information Technology;
- initiating regular reviews and course development initiatives;
- implementing wider measures to assess staff performance, learning resources, facilities and services, together with the use of technology in course delivery;
- expanding its third-party activities interstate and overseas in line with Regulator requirements;
- encouraging and strengthening scholarship and professional development;
- monitoring and updating student services as required;
- cyclical processes of systematic monitoring and review framed around a cycle of continual improvement to identify and mitigate risk and ensure ongoing viability of the Institute;
- ensuring that every student can access a rewarding, challenging, and valuable student experience;
- providing regular assurance to students, staff, and other stakeholders that the Institute's education activities and continuity are secure.

### Enablers

All IIBT programs require annual or other set times for review to assess benefit to the student, relevance to the industry sector, compatibility with pathway partners programs and compliance with regulatory standards. To achieve such enablers, IIBT will continue to provide campus facilities and infrastructure that encourages achievement of sought learning outcomes in a safe, interactive and well-resourced learning environment. It will monitor student outcomes and ensure that the teaching body is responsive to the various stakeholder expectations and it will manage the entity in a manner that is ethical, professional and financially viable.