MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, April 11, 2013

HOLMESGLEN CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO RETIRE

Holmesglen Chief Executive Bruce Mackenzie today announced his intention to retire from full-time employment.

Mr Mackenzie has been the Chief Executive of Holmesglen for 31 years, and is a widely-respected leader in the tertiary sector, both in Australia and overseas.

His leadership has seen Holmesglen grow from a small VET provider to become the largest TAFE institution in Victoria.

During his time at Holmesglen, Mr Mackenzie has pioneered international education in TAFE, championed the introduction of Commonwealth-funded degrees, developed unique access programs such as pre-apprenticeships and the vocational college and built a resource base unmatched by any TAFE institute in the country.

Mr Mackenzie today said he had intended to announce his retirement in October last year, but agreed to stay on to guide Holmesglen through a transition strategy in response to the extraordinary challenges facing the institute at the time.

“This review has now been completed and thanks to the incredible efforts of staff and the unique culture of this institution, we have made amazing progress,” he said.

The Holmesglen Board will commence a process to appoint a new Chief Executive and Mr Mackenzie will remain in the position until a new appointment is finalised.

Mr Mackenzie said it had been a great privilege to serve the staff and students of Holmesglen over three decades.

“Holmesglen is an outstanding tertiary institution, with achievements unmatched by others in Australia,” he said.

“Despite the policy vacuum creating enormous uncertainty in the TAFE sector, I’m confident Holmesglen will maintain its pre-eminent position and continue to be innovative, enterprising and committed to the welfare of students.

“An interconnected tertiary sector is essential for the future of Australian students and their future work opportunities. That can only happen when tertiary education is placed under one jurisdiction - the current disconnect between State and Commonwealth is failing Australia.

“TAFE institutions are an incredible community asset, with the power to transform people’s lives – and I am proud to have been a part of that.”
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Media inquiries:

Carla Danaher
0422 008 814

About Holmesglen

Renowned as a centre of excellence for the design and delivery of education and training services, Holmesglen is one of the largest providers of vocational and higher education in Victoria, with over 50,000 enrolments across four campuses at Chadstone, Moorabbin, Waverley and St Kilda Road. Holmesglen offers over 600 programs across eleven study areas, including degrees, graduate certificates advanced diplomas, diplomas, certificates, pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, short courses and the VCAL programs, offering an alternative to VCE.