

## **COPHE welcomes Torrens University Australia's Vice Chancellor to its Board**

The Council of Private Higher Education (COPHE) has appointed Professor Justin Beilby, Vice Chancellor of Torrens University, to its Board.

"COPHE is delighted to welcome Professor Beilby to our governance board," said COPHE CEO, Mr Simon Finn. "Professor Beilby brings a wealth of experience in the higher education sector and will make an important contribution to COPHE and our advancement of independent higher education.

"COPHE membership is a badge of quality in Australia's independent higher education sector. Professor Beilby's membership of the COPHE Board will advance that badge of quality with high-calibre leadership at board level," Mr Finn said.

Professor Beilby was appointed Vice Chancellor at Torrens University Australia in 2015. Prior to this, he held senior positions at the University of Adelaide over a ten-year period, where he was involved in managing extensive change within the University.

"I am pleased to join the COPHE Board and to have attended my very first meeting last week," Professor Beilby said. "It is an exciting time for the sector and I look forward to working with Simon and the COPHE Board to advocate for the very best independent higher education opportunities for Australian students."

COPHE was established in 2001 and is unique in the higher education sector as a peak body solely representing independent providers. Members are located across Australia and include independent universities, colleges and professional associations, teaching disciplines including law, engineering, agricultural science, business, theology, design, photography and hospitality management.

10 percent of Australian students are enrolled at an independent higher education institution, the equivalent to 4.45 public universities or over 150,000 students.

Torrens University Australia is part of Laureate Education, Inc., the largest global network of degree-granting higher education institutions, with more than one million students enrolled at 60 institutions in nearly 20 countries, at campuses and online.

Professor Beilby is also a qualified practicing General Practitioner and has 20 years' experience in primary/general practice reform. He is currently chairing the establishment of a new global research health service partnership with academic colleagues in South America, Spain, the United States and Mexico.

### **ENDS**

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