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RUN WELCOMES GOVERNMENT'S ASIABOUND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) has welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator Chris Evans, that under the AsiaBound scheme more than 10,000 Australian students will receive grants to study in Asia and thousands more will have access to student loans.

The Chair of RUN, Professor David Battersby, said that RUN universities would encourage their students to undertake part of their study in Asia.

"It is important that regional Australian students participate and broaden the diversity and cultural enrichment of our communities," Professor Battersby said.

"We welcome the additional funding provided by the Government, including the new grants and the access to increased loan amounts through OS-HELP. I hope that students from a range of disciplines at RUN universities will take up the option of undertaking some of their studies in Asia.

"Our universities are working together to boost language training across the network," Professor Battersby said.

"Grants and loans for intensive language training in Asia will further encourage our efforts."

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