



A break from tradition

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY AND KONICA MINOLTA

Konica Minolta has traditionally been a supplier of office equipment to Macquarie University. However, in 2014, Konica Minolta’s local management invited the University’s Office of Corporate Engagement to meet with several of its executives who were visiting from Japan. The organisations have now created a diverse, holistic and interesting partnership.

TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

The most significant aspect of the partnership is Konica Minolta’s support for the PACE (Professional and Community Engagement) program. Konica is a champion of the program, both internally and externally, and now numerous managers from within the business are eager to take on Macquarie’s PACE trainees.



Konica Minolta’s PACE intern intake began in 2015 with seven students, progressed to 35 students in 2016 and in 2017 it has taken 23 students.



A special feature of Konica Minolta’s engagement with the PACE program is the opportunity for Macquarie students to shadow its senior executives, including the director people and culture and the managing director. This is a mutually beneficial aspect of the placement where the students receive a learning experience that is deeply enriching to their academic program, while the executives receive fresh perspectives on business issues and challenges.



Konica Minolta Australia’s MD has been a regular speaker at PACE events and attends a number of functions as a Macquarie guest, including a Fulbright dinner in Parliament House, Canberra, in March 2017.



Other placement opportunities for Macquarie students at Konica Minolta are spread across its departments including Client Services, CSR and Ethical Sourcing, Sales and Marketing, eLearning and Finance.

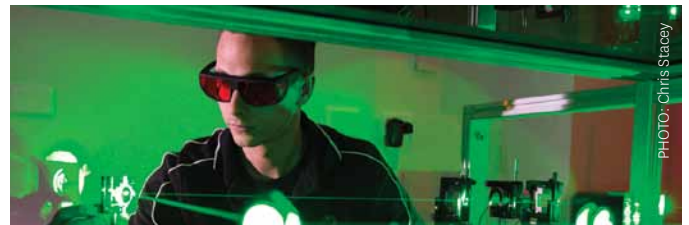


PHOTO: Chris Stacey

GROUNDBREAKING FOUNDATIONS

Launched in August 2016, the University-led Macquarie Park Innovation District (MPID) is a facilitated ecosystem where researchers, entrepreneurs and some of the world’s most recognised businesses have joined forces to leverage the significant innovation and collaboration potential of Macquarie Park.

As a founding partner and contributor to MPID, Konica Minolta continues to play a significant role in the district’s development and ongoing strategic direction.

To facilitate this, Konica Minolta Australia’s managing director is leading the MPID Social Enterprise Group, which is seeking to extend MPID’s agenda into this area.

ART WITH A CAUSE

In 2016, the University hosted a Konica Minolta photographic exhibition: ‘Out of the Shadows: Portraiture of Domestic Workers in Nepal’. The exhibition featured photographs of female domestic workers in Nepal to raise awareness of gender parity issues. It aimed to encourage viewers to recognise the importance of gender parity for all women, no matter where in the world they live and work. This project demonstrates the depth and diversity of the partnership, and highlights the strong alignment of values.

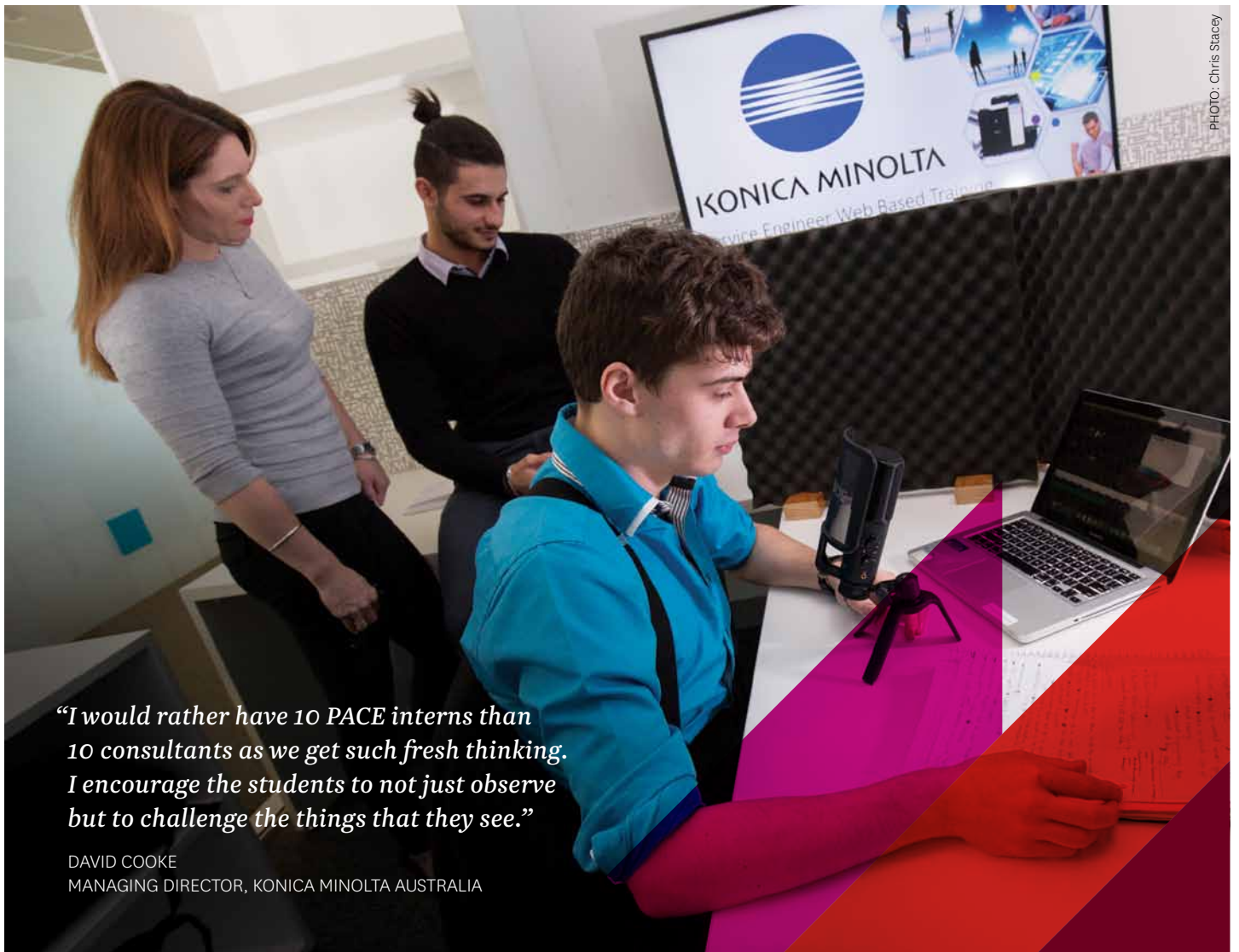


PHOTO: Chris Stacy

“I would rather have 10 PACE interns than 10 consultants as we get such fresh thinking. I encourage the students to not just observe but to challenge the things that they see.”

DAVID COOKE
MANAGING DIRECTOR, KONICA MINOLTA AUSTRALIA

HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

Demonstrating the depth and diversity of the relationship, Konica Minolta has also engaged the services provided by the Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre. Konica Minolta employees have joined the University’s sport centre, and the University personal trainers and professionals conduct four small group exercise sessions per week at Konica Minolta’s office in Macquarie Park. These sessions include cross-training, stretch and stability classes, and high-intensity sessions, and are conducted at convenient times for Konica Minolta employees.



PHOTO: Alex Craig

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Macquarie University provides a number of services, both in Macquarie Park and further afield, that are not necessarily the traditional offerings of universities. These services range from primary and specialised health services, health and fitness services, and business and economics consulting.

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