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Brief: JCU

# JCU on board to sponsor Study Cairns

JAMES Cook University has become the first sponsor of Study Cairns, the industry cluster that brings together the region's educational institutions and student support companies.

The move follows the continued growth in international enrolments at the Cairns campus over recent years with a 21 per cent rise in 2007 backing a 55 per cent jump the year before.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Scott Bowman said he was particularly pleased to see an increasing number of students were coming to study in Cairns long-term, rather than visiting as part of the short-term study abroad program.

"We have also worked closely with Study Cairns to develop Papua New Guinea as a source of students for Cairns," Prof Bowman said.

Now in its 11th year, the Study Cairns network also includes schools, English language colleges, TNQ TAFE and other vocational colleges.

"The growth of university commencements is reflected

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at every level," Study Cairns president Janine Bowmaker said.

"Cairns is now Queensland's largest and most popular study tour destination.

"Many of our members have seen growth of up to 40 per cent in student visas for 2007."

Ms Bowmaker said the organisation had doubled its membership in 2007.

"Our network now includes support businesses such as accommodation and home-stay providers, migration agents and employment agencies. Any businesses that deal with international students are welcome to join."

With State Government support to expand its international marketing this year, Study Cairns expects to achieve further growth.

"Thanks to assistance from Queensland Education and Training International, we will also launch a new-look website later this month," Ms Bowmaker said.