Vision set for La Trobe Art Institute – video transcript 13/12/13

Narrator:

The creation of the La Trobe Art Institute in Bendigo marks a major cultural milestone for both the university and the region. The school will consolidate all arts focussed activity across La Trobe’s campuses, including teaching schools, under-graduate and post-graduate programs.

Its inaugural director is Neil Fettling, who’s charged with shaping vision, philosophy and curriculum of the centre.

Assoc. Professor Neil Fettling:

I think that the La Trobe Art Institute is a very important platform in allowing Bendigo to become a university city, a cultural active space is really important for a city’s growth and for the health and well-being and sense of kind of fulfilment of people within those communities.

Narrator:

New curriculum and course frameworks will include museum and curatorial studies; the La Trobe Art Institute will work with regional galleries across the state to enhance course work and the student experience. But the institute will also have a strong focus on building partnerships further afield.

Associate Professor Neil Fettling:

We’re also going to develop 6 or 8 really meaningful and close international partners, so we’re going to be talking to universities in the US, in Europe, in Asia, in England, in New Zealand and Canada, and we will be developing an arrangement where our students will be able to have some mobility, so they will go on student exchanges and then they will exchange with reciprocal students from those universities, so we’ll have this flow internationally of students coming in and out of our teaching programs.

Narrator:

Recognised artists will also support the institute’s teaching programs.

Assoc. Professor Neil Fettling:

We have the opportunity here to strike something really unique; if we are successful in shaping a place based art school that responds to the specificity of the regions here, but with connections to a global sense of place then I think it’s a pretty exciting kind of concept.

Narrator:

For more information on the institute visit the La Trobe web site at [www.latrobe.edu.au](http://www.latrobe.edu.au)

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