# Transcript – Executive Dean’s Welcome

Hello and welcome to the Faculty of Health Sciences. I’m Professor Karen Dodd, the Executive Dean.

Congratulations on achieving a place in one of the many health sciences’ courses we offer. It is a wonderful achievement you should be proud of.

Our undergraduate courses are taught across all of our campuses. Our campuses are well-equipped to support you in your learning outcomes throughout your degree.

Orientation week heralds the commencement of your tertiary studies. We have devised a program for you which includes a balance of academic and social activities to get you on your way. A warm welcome to our international students. You too will find something to suit you in our orientation activities.

Be sure to take the opportunity to attend as many sessions as possible during Orientation, and soak in what La Trobe has to offer.

You are embarking on studies in the Faculty’s highly regarded and vocationally-relevant courses.

This will lead to you being future ready to pursue incredibly rewarding careers in the health and human services sectors in the years ahead.

Embedded throughout our curriculum are the La Trobe essentials. This means that not only will you learn the skills for your discipline, you will graduate equipped with knowledge to tackle critical issues in a real world context.

The learning design in our first year involves Enquiry Based Learning. This involves you working in teams to solve case scenarios applicable to your prospective role in the health profession.

Teamwork is an important method to learning – because not only does it allow you to meet new friends, it also models how you will work when in the field.

In the workforce, we work in multidisciplinary teams to assist our patients and clients achieve their full potential.

The students you meet in the classroom, will likely be those with whom you will forge a professional relationship with later in your working lives.

Most of the Faculty’s courses have a Core First Year where you are all undertaking the same subjects regardless as to the course you are studying.

Throughout the year, however, you will also have dedicated contact time with your discipline, to meet other students and staff in your course.

Our profession mentoring program provides this opportunity for you. It also assists in your transition from first to second year.

In the Faculty, there are many supportive staff who are here to help you. This includes the Faculty’s First Year Coordinator, Dr Suzane Vassallo

Your workshop facilitators, subject coordinators, profession mentors, and your student services officers to assist you with your enrolment matters.

Collectively, our staff are here to help you on your journey through University life.

Clinical placements are a feature of most of our programs in Health Sciences. For some courses, students will attend a clinical placement in the last years of their degree.

Many of you will be located in our Clinical Schools network. Studying in the field, alongside qualified and experienced staff, ensures that you will be work-ready upon graduation.

The Faculty of Health Sciences is focussed on providing our students with overseas clinical placement opportunities. Where possible, we can also facilitate a placement exchange with other countries.

We hope that the first degree you do with us will not be your last. There are many opportunities for further study at La Trobe following the completion of your undergraduate degree.

I wish you well with your studies and I look forward seeing you in the Faculty in the years ahead.