**Sod Turning La Trobe Melbourne – video transcript 7/6/12**

**Narrator:**

La Trobe University’s Vice-Chancellor Professor John Dewar turned the sod at the site of the new $45 million dollar building for international and domestic students. The building to be known as La Trobe Melbourne will bring together 1000 overseas and Australian students wanting a pathway into University education who would otherwise miss out.

**Liz Stinson:**

La Trobe Melbourne will serve as the University’s primary pathway partner, or pathway provider in courses that suit students to come into University, so they will be offering English language courses for students who don’t have sufficient English to meet the University’s entrance requirements and they will be also offering foundation studies and diploma courses. Those diplomas particularly have been developed to be pretty much the equivalent of La Trobe’s first year.

**Narrator:**

Walking over the new building site, Professor John Rosenberg said the University is the sole investor in the project, and the investment is debt funded with payback forecasted to be 2021.

**Professor John Rosenberg:**

This is a major investment for the University, it’s a $45 million dollar building, in fact the largest investment the university has made on a building for many years. But its so important because it will provide this pathway and the building will also house La Trobe International, which is our international marketing group along side La Trobe Melbourne so they can work together in a collaborative manner.

**Narrator:**

The building will be well connected into the University with a new entrance planned to connect the Research and Development Park and the AgriBiosciences Research Centre with the campus core.

**Liz Stinson:**

Included in the project is another bridge over the mote and that will link the La Trobe Melbourne premises with, and the rest of the University around it, with the Research precinct, with the residential colleges and with the Student Union a little bit more clearly as well.

**Narrator:**

Set over 5 levels, the building will draw on mote water for non-potable water use. It is anticipated that only 20 percent of the building’s water needs will be drawn from taps.

**Liz Stinson:**

By being in a brand new building, with the facilities its going to have right in the heart of the campus here in Melbourne will be a draw for students. It will be a draw not only for international students, but also for Australian students who want to use the pathway opportunity that it will provide.

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