**New Colombo Plan Scholarship – Kara Menzies – video transcript 24/6/14**

Narrator:

La Trobe University’s Kara Menzies has been awarded a New Colombo Plan scholarship, which she will use to travel to Indonesia to further her studies.

Kara Menzies:

Hi my name is Kara, I’m from Romsey Victoria and I’ve been working in childcare for the past four years and now I’m studying education in my third year at La Trobe in Bendigo. I’m doing a Prep to twelve stream, so within that I get an elective subject I can major in, so I’m majoring in Indonesian.

Narrator:

Kara is just one of 40 Australians to receive the scholarship.

Kara Menzies:

The idea of the scholarship is to help build relationships between Australia and the Indo Pacific Region. I’m doing exchange at Sanata Dharma University in Yogyakarta, to earn ACICIS program. So this program is designed all about teaching Indonesian and it will prepare me with resources and materials I can bring back to Australia and teach with.

Narrator:

As part of her scholarship Kara will return to Indonesia on a volunteer program where she hopes to teach English to Indonesian students.

Kara Menzies:

So to be able to go over there and experience it and be immersed in that culture for six months, it’s just going to be a massive eye-opener for me and just benefit me greatly. The exchange program will just help me. It’s going to help me become a better educator here because I’m going to have authentic materials and resources that I can teach with and that will set my classroom apart from others.

Narrator:

Kara says she would encourage other students to apply for the New Colombo Plan scholarship when applications open again next year.

Kara Menzies:

The scholarship just opened up my career opportunities and it’s just going to help me become better at Indonesian myself.

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