I wanted to join the government because it meant that I could influence public policy, and make a large-scale impact on society. La Trobe gave me the confidence to speak up, and have my opinion heard.

When I was 15 and I came to the conclusion I wanted to be a public servant, I thought maybe I’d work in New York or in London or in Paris, I never really thought I would end up in Canberra. But I think since being here its not really about the architecture and how big the population is and that sort of thing it’s about the people that are here and the kind of work that we’re all involved in.

Everyone’s so interesting, everyone has international connections even though we’re in such a little place and the work you do is so exciting and it resonates with the whole country.

I got an ATAR that could have got me into any university in Australia. I chose La Trobe because I knew it would give me the education I needed to get to where I wanted to go in the future.

The lecturers that we had were so engaged with all the students, they really put a lot of emphasis on teaching, and respecting the fact that we were there to study what they’d devoted their lives to.