**La Trobe celebrates Year of the Dragon – video transcript 31/1/12**

**Narrator:**

La Trobe University has welcomed the Year of the Dragon with style with a celebration hosted by University’s Centre for China Studies and the Confucius Institute. Staff and students gathered to take part in the festivities at the Eagle Bar of the Melbourne campus.

**Prof. John Rosenberg:**

One of the wonderful things about Universities and La Trobe in particular, is that they’re very multi-cultural. We have people from over 80 different countries at this University and I think its really important we celebrate that multi-cultural environment by celebrating the festivals of other countries. And Chinese New Year, the Spring Festival is such an important festival in China, and so last year for the first time we had a celebration, this year its an even bigger and better celebration and we’re all very excited about it.

**Narrator:**

La Trobe University’s Confucius Institute was established in 2011 and is a demonstration of the strong ties that La Trobe University has with the Chinese community.

**Prof. Pei Likun:**

The Confucius Institute at La Trobe University was newly established at the end of last year is to further the collaboration between La Trobe and its Chinese partners.

**Narrator:**

The celebration comes with the news that La Trobe University has experienced welcomed growth in international enrolments with more students coming from China than any other country.

**Prof. John Rosenberg:**

China is a very important source country for us and we’ve been working very hard building strong partnerships, an example, is our new Confucius Institute with Chongqing University one of the top University’s in China. The China Centre has relationships with Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University and we have a number of other relationships as a result we are seeing a very significant increase in the number of students from China choosing to study at La Trobe.

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