



Melbourne Declaration

October 10, 2018, Melbourne

As member delegates, following the discussions and engagement at the ninth Congress of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) in Melbourne, Australia focused on the future of work, we approve the following WFCP Melbourne Declaration. We intend to submit the Declaration to our respective national authorities and to international organizations.

Our global and national economies are in a period of unprecedented change and stand to be disrupted by new and emerging technologies, new industries, as well as globalised markets and workers. In this context, the institutes training our citizens and future workers and retraining our current ones face major challenges, both to ensure learners are empowered with the knowledge and skills that will serve them over the course of their careers, and to ensure that institutes are able to make meaningful use of emerging technologies and innovations.

In this context the signatories of this declaration are committed to ensuring that learners are empowered to face future uncertainties.

Signatories:

1. Recognise the empowering effect of work and the dignity it instils in all workers, but especially in those from disengaged or disempowered groups.
2. Commit to supporting skills of the future, recognising that this entails flexibility, innovation and engagement with industry and employers, and with communities.
3. Commit to ensuring no one is left behind, by supporting all learners to fulfil their potential and by retraining displaced workers in ways that support the skills of the future and retain the dignity of the worker.
4. Commit to preparing all learners for the labour market, by building a strong foundation in learners, and leveraging the existing foundation of displaced workers involved in retraining.
5. Support quality learning and teaching that responds to the needs of society and students by providing learning and development opportunities to teaching staff, and using:
 - a. New methods of delivery and assessment, and
 - b. New ways of designing qualifications to support future-proof skills and new ways of learning.
6. Support the development of qualifications that enable learners to navigate a fluid economy, prepare learners for lifelong learning, and recognise the inter- and multi-



disciplinary nature of learning required for an increasingly interconnected and globalised economy.

7. Build and support the building of pathways for learners, both into and out of the labour market and into higher qualifications.
8. Commit to establish and use international communities of practice – made up of WFCP members and international leaders in technical and professional education and training – to share knowledge and collaborate, to address the issues facing our sector, as well as the global economy.

Craig Robertson, Chair of WFCP Board, October 10, 2018

Document signed by the representatives of the associations of colleges or institutions of the 16 member countries of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics, gathered at the World Congress on October 10, 2018 in Melbourne.

