

"I can't imagine my life without having had this opportunity" – Australian New Colombo Plan Scholar Reflects on His Experience at Taylor's University

The Australian government funds a limited number of prestigious New Colombo Plan scholars, and Taylor's University has been pleased to host two of them from QUT.



*Front Row (L-R) Jayvien Lau and Angela Pok (TU), Karen Welsh (AEI), Matt Page (NCP-Scholar),
Lai Yee Choo (TU), Tze Ay Chuah (QUT)
Back Row (L-R) Prof Perry Hobson (PVC-GE at TU) and Prof Scott Sheppard (DVC-I at QUT)*

Matthew Page is the second Australian-government funded [New Colombo Plan \(NCP\) Scholar](#) to come from [Queensland University of Technology \(QUT\)](#) to Malaysia, and he is spending a full-year at Taylor's University. "To be honest, I wasn't sure what I was coming to when I was first awarded the New Colombo Plan Scholarship to study at Taylor's University" he said. "My only prior experience of Malaysia had been a single stop-over in KLIA in mid-2014, which gave me no indication of what living and studying in Kuala Lumpur would actually be like. I have been here for four months in and I can't imagine my life without having had this opportunity - it's been absolutely spectacular!" While the QUT campus is based in central Brisbane, he said that "Student life at Taylor's Lakeside Campus has been much different to QUT, with such a wide variety of restaurants and stores available on campus. It feels like a place you can relax with friends and classmates after your studies are finished for the day". He also noted that the surrounding area of Subang Jaya is filled with food and retail districts including the expansive Sunway Pyramid shopping mall, which is one of the biggest in KL, has been offering him hours of endless entertainment. Matt is studying in the Taylor's Business School, and he said that he found that "The classes are much more personal, with your lecturer usually teaching in tutorials as well they get to know you and become a lot more approachable if you need help with any of your course content, and I still keep in touch with many of my lecturers – even

through Facebook and WhatsApp". He has started travelling around Malaysia and has already been to places such as Melaka and has plans to travel to Penang, Ipoh, and Langkawi island in the near future. As he said, "One thing that surprised me about travelling around Malaysia was how drastically things changes just hours outside the city, with each city having its own unique culture, food and people". He also has plans to see more of Asia as he travels around the region. He said that I am "really look forward to my next semester of study at Taylor's, and then starting an internship later this year" adding that, "each day in Malaysia is an unforgettable experience". Taylor's University was also recently pleased to welcome Ms. Karen Welsh from the Australian High Commission as well as several senior staff from QUT, who were interested to catch-up with Matt and to find out more about his experiences. To find out more about Global Mobility at Taylor's University click [here](#). – Global Matters