

NEWS RELEASE

RAFFLES COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND COMMERCE COMMENDED BY THE AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES QUALITY AGENCY

- **Commendations given for the commitment, quality and expertise of the College's teaching staff**

Singapore, March 5, 2009 - Mainboard-listed Raffles Education Corporation Limited ("RafflesEducationCorp" or "the Group"), the largest private education group in the Asia-Pacific region, today announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Raffles College of Design and Commerce ("RCDC" or "the College"), has been commended for its commitment, quality and expertise of its teaching staff, following an audit by the Australian Universities Quality Agency ("AUQA").

Mr Chew Hua Seng, Chairman and CEO of RafflesEducationCorp, commented: "This audit is a strong endorsement of the quality education and teaching expertise provided by the Group's colleges. We deeply appreciate the unwavering commitment of our academic staff, who have worked hard consistently to ensure a wholesome and quality learning experience for our students."

RCDC had requested for an early audit in order to identify strengths and areas of concerns that the College could address proactively. As a result, AUQA conducted the audit in November 2008. Being one of the first Non-Self Accrediting Institutions to take part in AUQA's current audit cycle, RCDC was complimented for recognising the potential contribution of audit findings towards raising the quality of all aspects of its operations. As part of the review process, AUQA also visited two transnational campuses in Singapore and Shanghai, China.

The audit report showed that the combination of staff and the professional practice orientation of programmes had effectively demonstrated the strong linkages with industry. The report also commented that this is a key strength of the College. Students believed that it was this link between teaching and curriculum content that provided them with a strong portfolio of skills once they commenced work in their relevant design industry.

The audit panel also commended the quality and strong commitment of the academic teaching staff, including sessional staff, which was highlighted as another major strength of the College. Said Ms Jane Mourão, Director of RCDC: “Great teaching is the hallmark of a strong educational organisation. We have a student-centred approach here and that shows in the findings of this audit.”

Apart from the commendations, AUQA also recommended some areas for RCDC to work on, especially in the area of academic governance and how governance and management structures intersect. In line with the College’s continuing efforts to enhance its learning, teaching and research environment, RCDC is committed to implementing all the recommendations, and in some instances, has already done so.

Concluded Professor Ron Newman, Chair of RCDC’s Governing Council: “We are committed to ongoing improvement and will continue to make the necessary changes to successfully address the audit findings when we report back in 12 months’ time.”

The full audit report for RCDC can be found on the AUQA website at <http://www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/nsai/>.

About RafflesEducationCorp

Listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange, RafflesEducationCorp is the largest private education group in Asia. Since establishing its first college in Singapore in 1990, the Group has grown to operate 3 universities and 24 colleges across 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region: Singapore, China, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Mongolia, Australia and New Zealand.

The Group also owns the Oriental University City in Langfang, Hebei Province, China – a 3.31 million square metres self-contained campus. Within this campus, there are 14 colleges with 35,000 students.

About Raffles College of Design and Commerce

Raffles College of Design and Commerce (Raffles College Pty Ltd) is a unique education provider based in Sydney, Australia, specialising in design, visual communication and commerce. RCDC delivers higher education and vocational programs from Masters Degrees through to Bachelor Degrees and Certificate courses. RCDC has been around for 30 years, and was formerly known as KvB Institute of Technology, before joining the Raffles Education Corporation in 2005.

About the Australian Universities Quality Agency

The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) is an independent, not-for-profit national agency that will promote, audit, and report on quality assurance in Australian higher education.

AUQA is the principal national quality assurance agency in higher education with the responsibility of providing public assurance of the quality of Australia's universities and other institutions of higher education, and assisting in enhancing the academic quality of these institutions.

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