



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 7 March 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

James Cook University, Brisbane Campus

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.50 am): I will have the pleasure at midday today of officially opening the new James Cook University Brisbane campus. I seek leave to incorporate the details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

This Campus has been created through a partnership between James Cook University and the Sarina Russo Group.

The first intake of 40 students will occur on March 27.

The foundation students will be studying Business and Information Technology courses—in the future, it's hoped to offer a Masters of International Hospitality and Tourism, and a Masters program in Tourism, Hospitality and Accounting.

Officials at the campus hope that, within 3 years, student numbers will have grown to over a thousand.

Last year, Queensland was host to more than 55,000 international students who came here to study from more than 100 countries.

International students generate more than \$920 million in export income for Queensland and create employment for 9,000 Queenslanders in the international education and training industry.

One of our key attractions for overseas students is our Smart State policies, which support knowledge, creativity and innovation.

James Cook University has been involved in numerous Smart State programs.

At the international BIO 2005 conference last year in Philadelphia, I announced \$5 million support from our Smart State Research Facilities Fund towards the new Tropical Science and Innovation precinct at JCU.