

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS APPOINTS NEW CEO

Paul Wappett will join Australian Institute of Business (AIB) in February as its new Chief Executive Officer, leaving his current position as CEO at Open Universities Australia (OUA).

The appointment comes after rapid growth for AIB, which has led to it becoming the largest MBA provider in Australia with over 5,000 current students domestically and internationally. This follows the appointment of key academic leaders from around the world this year and significant investment in its interactive online learning environment and infrastructure to further enhance its services to meet student needs. Recently AIB also launched The Agile MBATM that aims to redefine and revolutionise learning for working adults with its flexible, 100 per cent online delivery.

Mr Wappett said he was thrilled to be appointed to the position.

"I am excited to be working with the progressive and student focused team at AIB. Completing my MBA was a life-changing experience for me in the early 2000s and having the opportunity to help people boost their careers through access to a quality, reasonably-priced MBA that can be fit around their lifestyles is a dream job for me."

Mr Wappett is moving from Open Universities Australia (OUA) where he has held the position of Chief Executive Officer since early 2012. Under Paul's leadership, OUA has evolved to become a leading institution in learning design for online education, educational content production and the use and development of learning technologies and platforms.

A lawyer by profession, Paul's previous positions have included legal and commercial roles at CPA Australia, the Western Bulldogs Football Club, Mobil Oil Australia and law firm Clayton Utz. Paul is also currently the Chairman of Berry Street, the largest child protection agency in Victoria.

Current AIB Joint CEOs, Joel and Sanjay Abraham, have been with AIB for more than a decade and will remain with the business as Non-Executive Directors.

Joel Abraham said "We're proud of our achievements as Joint-CEO's which include leading the institution to achieve market leadership, and more recently, driving transformational change. AIB is now positioned for continued growth in Australia with expansion internationally. We undertook an extensive CEO search and will work to support Paul to take the institution forward and continue to deliver life-changing experiences for our students," Mr Abraham said.

Mr Wappett will begin his new role at AIB in February 2018.

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About AIB: Australian Institute of Business is a 32-year-old Higher Education Institution offering the full suite of business degrees, exclusively serving the needs of working adults. AIB is the largest MBA provider in Australia, delivering fully accredited postgraduate programmes that are globally recognised. AIB has more than 16,000 students and graduates across 90 countries, employing more 200 staff.