

ACCELERATOR PROGRAM TO BENEFIT AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY FOR YEARS TO COME

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The Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN) says the national economy will be the big winner for years to come with the passing of legislation for Australia's Economic Accelerator (AEA) program.

ATN has consistently advocated for the alignment by Government of its research agenda under a unified strategy and to support the exchange of people between universities and industry and has played a key role in the policy development.

The AEA builds on the university research commercialisation agenda started under the previous Federal Government and includes the Trailblazers Universities program. ATN universities are leading four of the six Trailblazers initiatives.

"This is a significant investment in research commercialisation and industry engagement, which need to part of a series of continued, scalable and sustainable investments in research to ensure Australia's prosperity," Mr Sheehy said.

"The ATN appreciates that the previous Government saw the opportunity for our direct involvement in shaping the policy and we are proud to have played a pivotal role in its development.

"I particularly want to acknowledge the significant work of the then Minister Alan Tudge, for driving the policy agenda in such a passionate manner - particularly around the alignment of university research commercialisation and industry. The outcomes will set us up for success for years to come."

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The Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN) was established in 1999 and brings together Australia's six real world universities focused on enterprise, impact and finding solutions to issues facing our rapidly changing economy and society. Our member universities are Curtin University, Deakin University, RMIT University, The University of Newcastle, University of South Australia, and University of Technology Sydney. Our universities produce Australia's most job-ready graduates and undertake world-class research with real-world impact. Through our innovation we are proud disruptors challenging the status quo. ATN universities provide world-class education to almost 310,000 students and teach 20 per cent of domestic higher education students and 19 per cent of international students. We are the fastest-growing university grouping in terms of domestic students. Together, we are proud of who we include, not exclude, with a strong commitment to equity, excellence, and social justice. ATN is one of Australia's leading university peak bodies with a track record of advocating and shaping positive policy outcomes with all levels of government.

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