

Tell them it was wonderful!  
Education for all?  
International Mindedness, Social  
Responsibility & the Engaged Life

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# Introduction

- What characteristics do you associate with being International?
- What characteristics do you associate with the Baccalaureate?



# Global Crisis

- [...] If ever there were a call to collective action - a call for global leadership - it is now... We need to restore order to the international financial markets. We need a new understanding on business ethics and governance, with more compassion and less uncritical faith in the "magic" of markets. And we must think about how the world economic system should evolve to more fully reflect the changing realities of our time.

(Ban Ki-Moon, 2008)



# The Scope of the Presentation

- Is international mindedness & social responsibility the key to an engaged life?



- Defining International Mindedness



# Defining International Mindedness

- ... the invitation to think as a world citizen [is], in a sense, an invitation to be an exile from the comfort of patriotism and its easy sentiments, to see our own way of life from the point of view of justice and the good. The accident of where one is born is just that, an accident; any human being might have been born in any nation. Recognizing this, [...], we should not allow difference of nationality or class or ethnic membership or even gender to erect barriers between us and our fellow human beings. We should recognize humanity where it occurs, and give its fundamental ingredients, reason and moral capacity, our first allegiance and respect

Nussbaum (1994) .



- **What should an international education do?**



# What is International Mindedness?

- Learning to know
- Learning to do
- Learning to live together
- Learning to be



# Hayden & Thompson (1995, 1999)

- Exposure to others of different cultures within the school
- Teachers as exemplars on ‘international-mindedness’
- Exposure to others of different cultures outside of the school
- A balanced formal curriculum
- An executive structure that is value consistent with an institution of an international philosophy



# International Mindedness & the Engaged Life

## Positive Psychology

- Positive Emotion – the pleasant life
- Positive Character – the engaged life
- Positive Institutions – the meaningful life

(Seligman et al., 2008)



# Defining International Mindedness & the Engaged Life

- A call to dialogue between teacher & taught
- A call to reflect on my culture & your culture
- It is an education that engages in the study of diverse languages & literatures
- It requires teachers & students to consider multiple cultural perspectives & dwell in cultural ambiguity

(White 2008)



# Defining International Mindedness for an Engaged Life

- It is found in schools where the executive & staff who discuss & act on international mindedness
- It is a system widely recognized across cultural boundaries as a formally recognized system of education that encourages teachers & student to take part in action, service & creativity leading to an engaged & peaceful life with a wide moral sphere where individuals recognize each other with sympathy & dignity.

White (2008)



# Dual systems of Education

- [...] We live in one world. What we do affects others, and what others do affects us, as never before. To recognise that we are all members of a world community and that we all have responsibilities to each other is not romantic rhetoric, but modern economic and social reality.

The Department for Education and Skills (2004) in the United Kingdom



# What is the role of Schools in Education for Social Responsibility?

- Institutions – governments, churches, industries, and the like – have properly no other function than to contribute to human freedom; and in so far as they fail, on the whole, to perform this function, they are wrong and need reconstruction

(Cooley 1902)



# International Mindedness & the Engaged Life

- What is Geelong Grammar School doing about it?
- An Australian Coeducational boarding school in the Anglican tradition
- 900+ boarders, 300+ day boarders, 80 resident academic staff members
- Australia, Brunei, China, England, Fiji, Germany, Hong Kong, Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, USA and New Zealand



# GGG Positive Education Project



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# International Mindedness and the Engaged Life

- Geelong Grammar School 2005 - 2008
- The Handbury Centre for Wellbeing
- A\$15 million capital campaign
- University of Pennsylvania trained GGS staff in Principles & Exercises of Positive Psychology
- Master Teachers & Supportive School
- Enhance Satisfaction & Prevent Depression



# International Mindedness & the Engaged Life

- Professor Martin Seligman
- Professor Roy Baumeister
- Professor George Vaillant
- Professor Barbara Fredrickson
- Professor Felicia Huppert
- Professor Christopher Peterson
- Dr Nansook Park
- Dr Ray Fowler
- Dr Stephen Post



# Positive Education & International Mindedness

- *Geelong Grammar School is the pioneer in the world in taking steps to introduce this type of learning through all aspects of an educational curriculum. In doing so, I believe that Geelong Grammar students who go through the programme will be less likely to suffer from depression – which is increasing in epidemic proportions in many western countries, including Australia – and will lead more positive and fulfilling lives.* (Seligman 2008)



# International Mindedness and the Engaged Life

- Classrooms, Houses, Sports field, Visual & Performing Arts
- Visiting Scholars, Telephone Supervision
- Continued training of teachers, mental health cooperation: January 2009
- Education as usual: Accomplishments





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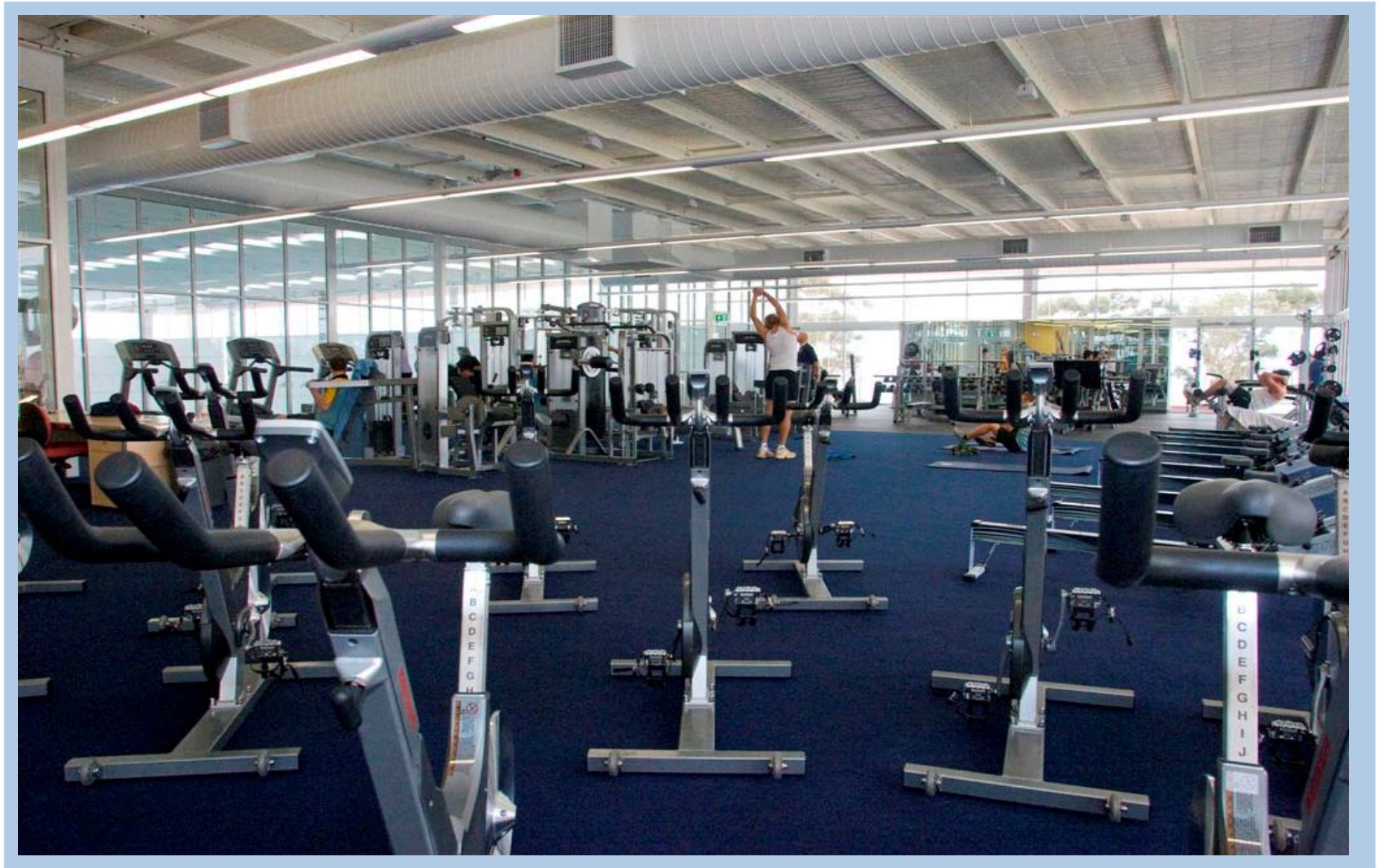
**The Handbury Centre for Wellbeing opened  
2008**



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# Why Positive Education?

## Geelong Grammar School 2008-2011

### Positive Education:

- ✓ More Positive Emotion
- ✓ More Flow
- ✓ More Purpose
- ✓ Better Relationships

Seligman *et al* (2008)



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# Educating for social responsibility

- Learning to know
- Learning to do
- Learning to live together
- Learning to be



- Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.

Lao Tze



- When we live our lives with the authenticity demanded by the practice of teaching that is also learning and learning that is also teaching, we are participating in a total experience [....] In this experience the beautiful, the decent, and the serious form a circle with hands joined.

Paulo Freire (2000 pp. 31-32)



# What can every human being say 'yes' to?

- ✓ More Positive Emotion
- ✓ More Engagement
- ✓ More Nobel Purpose
- ✓ More Positive Relationships
- ✓ More Positive Accomplishment

Seligman (2008)



# Sources & Resources

- [www.reflectivehappiness.com](http://www.reflectivehappiness.com)  
(Interventions)
- [www.positivespsychology.org](http://www.positivespsychology.org)  
(Literature)
- [www/psych.upenn.edu/seligman](http://www.psych.upenn.edu/seligman)  
(Literature & Manuals)
- [www.authentichappiness.org](http://www.authentichappiness.org)  
(Questionnaire)
- [www.ggs.vic.edu.au](http://www.ggs.vic.edu.au)  
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