



Department of  
**Education and Training**

## ***Media Statement***

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Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

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### **National win for Shenton College students**

Shenton College Year 9 students were the outright winners of the prestigious Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO) National Junior Competition held in Perth recently.

The Shenton College team won the competition against six other Year 9 teams and has placed fourth in the overall national competition against 18 teams from Years 9 to 12.

The team, consisting of Michelle Lim, Emily Phillimore and Alvin Djajadikerta, each received Macquarie Electronic Dictionaries at the official ceremony for their achievements.

Shenton College Head of Politics and Law, Mark Hutchins, said the Australian Olympiad was a competition based on creating mathematical strategies to solve problems.

“The problems are written in English and require students to understand and identify patterns in isolated or ancient languages such as Kannada from the South of India,” Mr Hutchins said.

“Students must use knowledge about languages, maths, computers and natural sciences to complete the problems.”

The competition aims to create a deeper knowledge of languages and patterns in languages before students reach university.

“Many secondary school students were not aware of what linguistics and computational linguistics involved until they tried their hand at solving some problems,” Mr Hutchins said.

“The competition develops students’ skills from subjects such as Society and Environment, English, Languages other than English, and Mathematics.

“There is also a high level of logic needed to complete the problems, so our success was thanks to the students’ levels of reasoning and maturity during the competition.

“This year was the first year WA has competed in the Olympiad and Shenton College has done really well.

“There are many students who are looking forward to being part of next year’s team and once again we hope to progress to the international competition.”

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