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The World Congress of Philosophy 2023 is on its way to Melbourne

- First time held in the Southern Hemisphere -

Melbourne continues to lead in the business events sector, securing the 25th World Congress of Philosophy 2023 (WCP2023) making it the first time to be held in the Southern Hemisphere and anticipated to deliver over \$20 million in economic contribution for the state.

Locally hosted by the Australian Association of Philosophy and to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), the meeting will see 2,250 delegates over seven days during July 2023, boosting the local economy during the typically quiet winter period.

The World Congress of Philosophy is held every five years and organised by the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP). Its objective is to globalise philosophical research and enable philosophers to address any emerging global issues through productive interactions with other disciplines in the humanities.

The successful bid was secured by the Melbourne Convention Bureau (MCB) supported by Tourism Australia's Bid Fund Program and in collaboration with local government and industry stakeholders.

MCB Acting Chief Executive Officer, Julia Swanson said the win reinforces Melbourne's reputation as a top business events destination.

"Melbourne has a proven track-record of success in hosting world-class business events and these meetings strengthen our economy and create Victorian jobs," said Ms Swanson.

Melbourne will serve as a platform for academics, philosophers and philosophy students to gather, connect and learn all about the latest developments in the field.

"Hosting this congress is another big success for Victorian academics, philosophers and students who will tap into and share a wealth of knowledge," Ms Swanson added.

Professor Graham Oppy, Monash University and local conference chair said the decision to bring the meeting to Melbourne was made after an extensive bid campaign which culminated in Melbourne being successful against other top world business events destinations.

"We are delighted to be hosting the global meeting 2023 in Melbourne, which will attract philosophers from around the world," said Prof. Oppy.

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