

16 December 2020

**Re: Congratulations on the completion of Innovation Nation: Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program**

Dear Sejla Pljakic,

It is my pleasure to advise you that you have satisfactorily completed the ten week accelerated education program on the topics of innovation & entrepreneurship as part of the 2020 Innovation Nation program. The program was successfully run by the School of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences, La Trobe University in partnership with the IEEE and Bosnia & Herzegovina Futures Foundation.

The ten week, not for credit, course commenced on the 14<sup>th</sup> September and concluded with the showcase event and graduation on the December 16<sup>th</sup>. During this time you had the opportunity to witness first hand, the innovative and quality teaching La Trobe University is globally known for. We are proud that our staff were instrumental in the development of a world leading program such as this one with which we hope to spark creativity and entrepreneurship among youth in developing economies such as Bosnia & Herzegovina, Sri Lanka, Jamaica and others involved in the program.

A total of 170 applicants applied for the 2020 program of which 50 were selected. Congratulations on being one of them. The program carries a nominal fee of \$4400 AUD, but La Trobe University's School of Engineering staff have volunteered their time on week nights and weekends in order to ensure there is no cost associated with the program, granting scholarships covering the tuition fee for all participants.

The ten week course is based on the intellectual property and curriculum of two La Trobe University courses

- (EMS2ITI – Ideas to Innovation <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/your-course/subjects/current/ems2iti-ideas-to-innovation>)
- EMS2EEP – Engineering Enterprise <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/your-course/subjects/current/ems2eep-engineering-enterprise>

Over the ten week period you have covered a variety of topics including: design thinking, marketing, business models, information & decision making, management, leadership, finance/economics basics, as well as pitching for investment. During this period you also had the opportunity to receive coaching as well as weekly industry lectures from entrepreneurial experts from all over the world.

I trust that you will fondly remember your online studies with the School of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences at La Trobe University and proudly advocate for us wherever you go.

I also take this opportunity to extend sincere congratulations on completing the course and wish you the very best in the future.

Sincerely,



**Eddie Čustović PhD** (Senior Member IEEE, MIEAust)

*Founder, IEEE Innovation Nation*

*Director, La Trobe Innovation & Entrepreneurship Foundry (LIEF)*

*Program Director, Work Integrated Learning*

*Program Chair, Innovation & Business for Engineers*

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