

## THE AUSTRALIAN

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### Luminis launches MBA grant

MICHAEL BENNET THE AUSTRALIAN APRIL 12, 2016 4:12PM

**Boutique corporate advisory house Luminis Partners has unveiled the first investment from its newly-formed foundation, establishing a \$1 million MBA scholarship program with The University of New South Wales.**

After founding Luminis early last year, investment bankers Simon Mordant, Ron Malek and Jamie Garis today announced the program with UNSW Chancellor David Gonski — who also chairs ANZ Bank — and Lucy Turnbull, an alumna of the The Australian Graduate School of Management MBA program

The program, which will provide full tuition fees and a stipend, or salary, for the 16-month course, marks the official launch of the Luminis Foundation, the vehicle the bankers vowed to set up to support the arts, education, health and welfare.

The foundation is funded out of the profits of Luminis Partners, which advises companies and institutional clients on corporate transactions, such as takeovers.

“We could not think of a better initiative to launch our Foundation,” said Mr Malek, also an Alumnus of UNSW.

“We are genuinely excited to be part of a scholarship program that aims to create the next generation of leaders.”

The program with The AGSM at UNSW Business School includes an exchange at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and access to an “exclusive business network”, according to a media statement.

Scholars will be selected on their academic record, leadership potential and “credentials to forge a truly remarkable career in business”. Professor Julie Cugin, director of AGSM at UNSW Business School, labelled the living allowance “generous”.

Mr Mordant, a major donor for an extension of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney, said: “When we set up Luminis Partners twelve months ago we said our Foundation would be central to all we do.”

“Ron is an Alumnus of UNSW and I am an Alumnus of Wharton. We believe that education and innovation are fundamental to all we do and we are overjoyed to be partnering with UNSW and Wharton to create this long-term scholarship program in business innovation.”

Ms Turnbull and Mr Gonski commended Luminis for showing leadership.

“It shows how business can contribute to assisting future leaders and at the same time how a top university can provide opportunities for both its students and those who wish to assist them,” Mr Gonski said.