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MEDIA RELEASE - Second successive silver for Adams at World University XC

Liam Adams (Athletics Essendon) has claimed a silver medal overnight at the 2010 World University Cross Country Championships in Kingston, Canada, his second at the international event. Backing up his strong 38th place finish at last month's IAAF World Cross Country Championships in Bydgoszcz, Poland where he was the best placed Australian male, Adams repeated his runner-up finish from the 2008 edition of the Championships in Mauquenchy, France, shaded by Japan's Tetsuya Yoroizaka in a sprint finish.

Duelling shoulder-to-shoulder with Yoroizaka across the 10 kilometre course, the 24 year-old Victoria University student crossed the line in 30:09.7 minutes, just over a second behind his Japanese rival (30:08.4min), with Germany's Christian Gattling (30:11.5min) rounding out the podium.

Ben Ashkettle (Doncaster AC- 31:25.8min) was the best performed of the remaining Australians - crossing in 22nd place - with fellow Victorians Luke Hennessy (Glenhuntly AC - 28th 31:52.9min) and Tyson Popplestone (Eureka AC - 47th 33:18.0min) helping the four-person Australian men's team to sixth place in the overall standings. Japan claimed the men's overall team title.

In the women's race, Carly Griffith (Knox AC) was the sole Victorian representative, placing 37th overall in the women's 5 kilometre race. The fourth Australian woman across the line, Griffith was part of the women's squad that claimed the team silver medal behind Great Britain, however missed out on the medal dais, as only the top-three athletes from each country could contribute points towards the team total. Home team Canada claimed the bronze medal in the women's team competition.

New South Wales' Melinda Vernon (7th - 17:11.9min) and Eliza Stewart (9th- 17:16.0min), and South Australian Jessica Trengove (10th - 17:16.2min) were the first three Australians across the line, taking the team silver medal, with Queenslander Emily Donker (41st - 20:12.2min) also contesting the international event.

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