



# PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

## MEDIA RELEASE

**House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training**  
Inquiry into innovation and creativity: workforce for the new economy

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Issue date: 10 November 2016

## **NEW INQUIRY INTO INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY: WORKFORCE FOR A NEW ECONOMY**

The [Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training](#) has launched a new [inquiry into Innovation and Creativity: Workforce for the New Economy](#).

The inquiry is a re-referral of a similar inquiry started by the Standing Committee on Education and Employment in the 44th Parliament. That inquiry lapsed when the Parliament was dissolved in May this year. The revised terms of reference have a renewed emphasis on public and not-for-profit incubators and accelerators, doctoral training practices and opportunities for generating increased economic activity through greater synergies among publicly funded research agencies and can be found here <insert link>

Committee Chair [Mr Andrew Laming MP](#) said continuing the work started in the last Parliament was important.

“An innovative and creative approach to building businesses will be a key to employing people in the future. I look forward to engaging with innovative businesses during the course of this inquiry.” Mr Laming said.

Committee Deputy Chair [Ms Terri Butler MP](#) endorsed this view.

“Innovation and creativity will be the key to educating people to be ‘job ready’ in the future. We need to find out what changes need to be made so that our education system inspires our next generation of innovators and creative thinkers,” Ms Butler said.

Issues the Committee has been asked to look into include:

- The extent to which students are graduating with the skills needed for the jobs of today and of the future;
- laws and regulations that may act as a barrier to education providers being able to offer qualifications that meet the needs of the new economy and fastest growing sectors;
- Factors that discourage closer partnerships between industry; in particular small and medium enterprises, the research sector and education providers;
- Opportunities for generating increased economic activity, including further investment and jobs, through greater synergies among publicly funded research agencies, universities and other Australian research institutions with businesses and industry; and
- Relationships between tertiary education entrepreneurship programs and public, private and not-for-profit incubators and accelerators.



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Submissions are open until 13 January 2017. Please notify the [Committee secretariat](#) if you intend to make a submission.

Further information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#), CHANGE HYPERLINK is available on the [Committee website](#).

To receive updates, you can [Track this inquiry](#)

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### **For background:**

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