

Submission to the Senate Education and Employment References Committee Inquiry into technical and further education in Australia

11 January 2014

To whom it may concern,

I wish to make the following submission on the technical and further education sector in Australia regarding the effects of a competitive training market on TAFE.

I have a science degree from Flinders University, but have also studied extensively in various TAFES across Australia and also with various for-profit providers.

I understand that the operation of a competitive market has seen a proliferation of private for-profit providers who are accessing government funding in a market which is still poorly regulated. It is my experience that a number of private, for profit providers have not provided me with adequate training and my time was effectively wasted

It was very clear that some of the private trainers I experience had little background in teaching and little experience in the area they were teaching. Additionally, it was clear the classes were as full as they could be made, whether or not that was a positive outcome for students.

I believe the ongoing operation of a competitive market for technical and further education will continue to see far less government funding going to TAFE institutes. This is not what this country needs.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed electronically]