Chair – Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP Deputy - Ms Fran Bailey MP

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 13 August 2008

Research training in Australia Public hearing in Brisbane

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation will conduct its fifth interstate public hearing for its research training inquiry in Brisbane on Monday, 18 August.

"This inquiry focuses on the adequacy and effectiveness of current research training schemes, the factors that determine whether new graduates pursue a career in research, and the opportunities for career advancement for research graduates and staff", said Committee Chair Maria Vamvakinou.

Representatives from the University of Queensland, Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology, University of Southern Queensland, University of the Sunshine Coast and Southern Cross University will discuss the contribution that Australian universities make to Australian research training, and the challenges those universities face in recruiting, training and retaining quality research staff.

Representatives of the University of Queensland Branch of the National Tertiary Education Union and Professor Brian Fitzgerald will also discuss the quality and adequacy of research training in Australia.

"Attracting new graduates to research, and keeping hold of our best and brightest researchers here in Australia, has become a challenge for many Australian universities", Committee Chair Maria Vamvakinou noted.

PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM Monday 18 August 2008 9.00 am to 3.00 pm Undumbi Room, Parliamentary Annex, Cnr George & Alice Sts, Brisbane, Brisbane

Full program details available at http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isi/research/hearings.htm

Further details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and schedule of public hearings can be obtained from the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/isi

For media comment: contact the Committee Chair Ms Maria Vamvakinou on 0417 541 465.

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