



Research training in Australia Public hearing in Melbourne

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation will conduct its last interstate public hearing for its research training inquiry in Melbourne on Monday and Tuesday, 8 and 9 September.

“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 of Australian Universities Quality Agency, Australian Council of Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies, National Tertiary Education Union, Australian Education Union, Australian Council of Deans of Education, and the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, as well as Dr Deirdre Barron and David Packham OAM, will discuss the quality and adequacy of research training in Australia.

Representatives from Victorian universities (La Trobe, Deakin, Monash, RMIT, University of Melbourne, University of Ballarat, Swinburne University of Technology and the Melbourne College of Divinity) will participate in two roundtable discussions focussing on the contribution that Australian universities make to Australian research training, and the challenges those universities face in recruiting, training and retaining quality research staff.

“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 8 September 2008 - 9.00am to 4.30pm
Tuesday 9 September 2008 - 8.30am to 11.45am

**Gryphon Gallery, Graduate Centre (1888 Building),
Grattan Street, The University of Melbourne**

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.

For further information: contact the Committee Secretary on 02 6277 4594 or isi.reps@aph.gov.au