MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 5 August 2008

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

Research training in Australia Public hearing in Perth

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation will conduct its fourth interstate public hearing for its research training inquiry in Perth on Tuesday, 12 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 of the Postdoctoral Researchers Association at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, as well as Professor Su Lloyd and Professor Nigel Laing, will discuss the quality and adequacy of research training in Australia.

Representatives from Curtin University of Technology, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, University of Notre Dame and University of Western Australia will participate in a roundtable discussion of 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 Tuesday 12 August 2008 9.00 am to 2.00 pm Room 1, Level 1, Legislative Assembly, 11 Harvest St, Perth

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