

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000049

Senator Carr, Kim asked on 25 February 2015, Hansard page 104

Self-accrediting authority

Question

Senator KIM CARR: Avondale is the first time you have done this, isn't it?

Prof. Saunders: It is the first time we have done it through this sort of thorough process. We did actually grant self-accrediting authority to the overseas universities and Torrens University, which we inherited from the state government processes.

Senator KIM CARR: But they were established institutions with an international reputation; is that correct?

Prof. Saunders: The two overseas universities, yes. Torrens is, as you know, a branch of Laureate.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. Surely, it is arguable that this is an entirely different circumstance?

Prof. Saunders: Yes, it is. We applied the process really from go to whoa here in terms of that assessment.

Senator KIM CARR: Is this a disallowable instrument?

Ms Paul: I do not think so.

Mr Griew: I do not believe it is, no.

Ms Paul: We will check it out.

Answer

Authority to self-accredit is not a disallowable instrument.