

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000453

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

Office of Learning and Teaching

Question

"In reference to the Office of Learning and Teaching:

(a) The Government has allocated \$28 million over three years for this institute. Is that correct?

(b) That compares with \$57 million over four years that was allocated to the Office of Teaching and Learning. What magnitude of cut does that represent?

(c) Will spending fall from a projected \$14m this year to just \$8m in 2017 and 2018? How is that justified?

(d) What will be the impact of this cut? What activities will no longer be funded?

(e) Is it the case that "system-wide initiatives" will be the main a priority for the new Institute?

(f) If so, what does that mean for one-off or provider-specific initiatives? Will they continue to receive funding?"

Answer

(a) Yes.

(b) There has been a saving of \$16 million over the forward estimates.

(c) Yes.

(d) The department has engaged Professor Ross Milbourne AO to consult with the higher education sector to seek feedback on the programmes that provide the greatest value and impact for higher education learning and teaching. Information from the consultation will be used to formulate the request for proposal with the final mix of grants, fellowships and awards to be settled in the contract.

(e) and (f) The focus of the redesigned programme will be informed by the consultation process and determined through the request for proposal and contract.