

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E431_06

Senator Carr asked on Thursday 2 June 2005, EWRE Hansard page 67.

Question:

- a. Can you please describe the overall losses made by the Monash University South African campus?
- b. Are these losses being covered by interest-free loans?
- c. Do they appear in the University's financial statements?

Answer:

Monash University South Africa campus

- a. The University's financial statements for 2004 advise that the South African campus made a deficit of \$12.3m in 2004 (deficit of \$8.6m in 2003 and \$9.8m deficit in 2002). The University considers the South African campus to be a long term strategic investment and has factored in losses in the initial years.
- b. Yes. According to the Victorian Auditor General's Report (May 2005), the loans to Monash University, South Africa, a wholly owned subsidiary of Monash University, will be interest-free from 2004. The University generated \$160 million in overseas fee revenue in 2004 and indicates that its international income is being reinvested in further international activities (i.e. South Africa, Malaysia) as part of its long term strategy.
- c. Yes, information regarding the financial position of Monash University South Africa appears in the Monash University financial statements for 2004.