



SENATOR KIM CARR
Labor Senator for Victoria

Shadow Minister for Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Industry
Shadow Minister Assisting the Leader for Science

Ms Tricia Blombery
Convenor
Standing Committee for Education
Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.
PO Box 48
NEDLANDS WA 6009

Dear Ms Blombery

Thank you for writing in support of the newly established Inquiry into Australia's Innovation System. I sincerely hope that the Federation will take an active role in the inquiry, and I would be very pleased to help facilitate your contribution.

Labor in government made sincere efforts to attract and retain women in research careers, including targeted fellowships and consideration of the impact of career breaks on the progression of our female researchers.

The fact remains, we have not done enough. There is too much untapped talent in this country. There are certainly too many women who leave the sector for want of the opportunities they deserve.

We have pushed for this inquiry to make space for the full and frank discussion we ought to have on the challenges for the research sector. At the same time, we want to give the sector the opportunity to share its great vision for Australia's future.

The AFGW has been an outstanding advocate for women, for education and for the innovation community. I know it will make a strong contribution to this inquiry.

Please contact my office if we can offer any further information or assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Senator Kim Carr