



Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.

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27 November 2014

Senator Lee Rhiannon
Greens Spokesperson for Education
PO Box 6100
The Senate
Australian Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600

Dear Lee,

I am writing on behalf of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc to thank you for the motion you put to the Senate on Tuesday 18 November championing of the VET sector and raising the matter of better regulation of private providers in the light of the recent Australian Skills Quality Authority report.

AFGW is the national voice of graduate women working, since 1922, through initiatives in Education for the advancement and wellbeing of women and girls. While our main concerns have traditionally been with Higher Education in the sense of university education, AFGW has increasingly recognised that the blurring of traditional lines between the university and VET sectors, and the growth of pathways between them, means that the VET sector is now a matter to which we should pay greater attention.

We are most concerned by the appalling results of private for-profit providers of VET courses expressed in the Annual Report of the ASQA. I have written to both Minister Macfarlane and the Minister for Education expressing our concern. Copies of the letters are attached. Our State education representatives have also been asked to make similar approaches to their State Ministers. Our Victorian president had done so.

Congratulations on having the motion passed to begin the inquiry into private providers.

We wish you well in what must be a very demanding and difficult political climate.

Tricia Blombery

Convener
Standing Committee for Education

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