

# 2012

annual report

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## About us

TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) is the peak national body incorporated to represent Australia's 61 government-owned TAFE institutes and university TAFE divisions, and the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC).

Australia's TAFE institute network is the largest and most diverse tertiary education sector in Australia with locations across Central Business Districts (CBD), suburban, regional and remote locations, with many institutes offering further services through the Asia-Pacific and other offshore regions.

The core business of TDA is supporting our member institutes and leading the advocacy for quality skills in Australia.

TAFE Directors Australia was established by TAFE institute directors in 1998, and incorporated as a not-for-profit educational organisation.

Our purpose is to:

- advance vocational education and training policy in Australia
- support policy development for improved outcomes for students – domestic and international
- lead the advocacy on funding
- provide member services for Tuition Assurance to facilitate institutes' Vocational Education and Training (VET) FEE-HELP registration, and Higher Education FEE-HELP
- position TAFE institutes as the major training brand delivering skills in Australia
- develop and support international networks, partnerships and exchanges.

## Vision

To drive quality in vocational education and training, and show leadership in sector policy and value-added member services.

## Mission

TDA will support TAFE institutes in the development, recognition and resourcing of those institutes as the recognised leaders in quality vocational education and training.

# 01 National Board



**Stephen Conway\***  
Chair  
Managing Director,  
TAFE SA Adelaide South Institute

*South Australia*



**Dianne Murray**  
Deputy Chair  
Institute Director,  
TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute

*New South Wales*



**Sue Slavin\*\***  
Deputy Chair  
Managing Director,  
West Coast Institute  
of Training

*Western Australia*



**Neil Fernandes\*\*\***  
Managing Director,  
Central Institute of Technology

*Western Australia*



**Kevin Harris**  
Institute Director,  
TAFE NSW –  
Northern Sydney Institute

*New South Wales*



**Kaylene Harth**  
Institute Director,  
Metropolitan South Institute  
of TAFE

*Queensland*



**John Hassed**  
Pro Vice-Chancellor (VET),  
Charles Darwin University

*Northern Territory*



**Nick Hunt**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
William Angliss Institute

*Victoria*



**Adrian Marron**  
Managing Director,  
Canberra Institute of Technology

*Australian Capital Territory*



**Trevor Schwenke\*\*\*\***  
Institute Director,  
Southern Queensland  
Institute of TAFE

*Queensland*



**Malcolm White**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Skills Institute

*Tasmania*

## NOTES:

- \* Stephen Conway was appointed Chief Executive Officer for the new TasTAFE, effective 1 July 2013.
- \*\* Sue Slavin resigned from the Board in September 2012. She was replaced by Neil Fernandes.
- \*\*\* Neil Fernandes joined the Board in November 2012.
- \*\*\*\* Trevor Schwenke joined the Board in September 2012.

## 02 Message from the Chair



Leaders of TAFE in Australia will be familiar with change. The decision by Australian governments in mid-2012 to proceed with National Entitlement to Training has far-reaching consequences for students and industry. However, there were also some not so certain outcomes for system quality and the continued capacity of TAFE as a leader internationally for technical and further education.

Australian governments have now set timelines for a conversion to 'voucher-style' industry and student funding for Australia's technical and further education. It has been important that amid such Council of Australian Government-endorsed change, TDA has stepped up to play a centrepiece role for members advocating 'transition support' funding for Australia's public provider (TAFE) institutes. TDA has been the strong voice in the VET sector about maintaining quality and building capacity.

I refer to the proposal for National Entitlement to Training across states and territories from the Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, supported by Premiers and Chief Ministers, in response to reward payments of \$1.75 billion over four years, from 1 July 2012.

TDA led the sector when it recommended to the Australian Government that for such an extensive National Entitlement plan, detailed base funding and cost planning would be critical, as it had commissioned for the higher education sector under Dr Jane Lomax-Smith. Instead the Gillard Government proceeded apace to secure an in-principle agreement with Premiers and Chief Ministers, but without such detail. Regrettably, negotiations on the 'transition' detail broke down within months between Commonwealth and Coalition governments elected in the eastern states, NSW, Queensland and Victoria.

It was pleasing however that TDA's policy input to the Queensland Skills and Training Taskforce, outlining new devolution in TAFE governance to support Entitlement, was supported by Chair Michael Roche, and later endorsed by the Queensland government.

One key issue has been TDA's strong stance that the Entitlement model, based within the NPA, required states and territories to commit to sufficient transition funding for TAFE to support the public provider into the new competitive environment.

Behind this stance was TDA's National Charter for TAFE with four overarching principles. The Charter was unanimously endorsed at last year's TDA AGM. All this helped enormously in our quest to engage and successfully articulate why such base funding was essential to uphold a TAFE public provider in Australia.

Undoubtedly this remains a live issue.

TDA also commissioned a survey of members to review our overall Strategic Plan for the next three years. The issue of funding for TAFE under the 'new market' was the Number 1 issue raised by those TAFE CEOs and their executives who took part, and identified issues for their own lecturers and industry partners as they chart what is required for Entitlement.

I thank all 61 TAFE institute CEOs who continue as members, along with a wider group of associate members of TDA. I note that TAFE institutes, in increasing numbers, utilise our fast-expanding services including Tuition Assurance Scheme (TAS) certification. Equally pleasing is the popularity of the TDA TAS for selected private Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and higher education providers, who meet the high credentials required under the member criteria.

The TDA 2012 National Conference was held in Perth, and again was a major success. TDA recorded record sponsorship from corporate service providers, and attracted a strong delegate list from all states and territories, and regional countries, India and Indonesia. We owe much to the hospitality offered by our colleagues in Western Australia, and I wish to thank Deputy Chair Sue Slavin, who went to great lengths to ensure the success of the event with the support of WA Premier, the Hon Colin Barnett MP, and his government.

Sue Slavin showed enormous vigour and contributed much with her innovative ideas to the National Board of TDA, and I wish Sue well on her retirement as Managing Director of West Coast Institute of Training.

I would like to acknowledge Dianne Murray, Institute Director, TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute, also Deputy Chair, for her strong contribution to TDA policy development, and for chairing the international members Australian TAFE International Network (ATIN) group, while also representing TDA on the My Skills website review.

The Board has also been helped enormously by Kevin Harris, Institute Director, TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute, as chair of the Finance & Audit Committee. Kevin implemented a new risk charter along with a review of accounting services.

My thanks go to the leadership shown by Martin Riordan as CEO, and his hard-working executive team Pam Caven, Peter Holden, Linda Condon and Janny Tjen. The financial turnaround for the TDA organisation has been ongoing under their management, and this has supported investment in the advocacy needed during the changes under way to TAFEs across Australia.

**Stephen Conway**  
Chair

## 03 Chief Executive Officer's report



In review, the 2012 year was a watershed for TDA.

Looking back on achievements as we completed our Strategic Plan, I am encouraged that TDA enhanced its voice during the significant overhauls to funding and policy, and equally our new strategy as we encounter new national policy initiatives impacting on members.

A high water mark in 2012 was advocacy for TAFE as the leader in quality in the sector.

TDA began by successfully launching our National Charter for TAFE. The Charter became critical to officials tasked with developing the National Partnership Agreement on Skills, ultimately signed by COAG Ministers in April in Canberra.

At TDA, we stood firm on our policy stance on quality delivery, funding for the role of the public provider, and adequate regulation as real safeguards for the system under Entitlement and wider VET reform proposals. Importantly, research commissioned by TDA demonstrated that TAFE is recognised as a preferred RTO supplier – indeed a standard bearer by industry and consumers – especially when welcoming skilled tradespersons into Australian homes or workspaces.

The advocacy by TDA was rewarded. All jurisdictions have now implemented devolution as the basis of new governance models for TAFE, and 'quality' criteria were nominated for eligible funding for VET (South Australia, Victoria, and likely NSW and Queensland).

This new operating environment for TAFE was a central issue at the TDA 2012 National Conference, hosted in Perth by our WA member institutes. I congratulate all involved. It has become a superb networking event. We recorded a new high for corporate involvement, a strong delegate count and were rewarded with superb organisation. We greeted delegations from our colleagues in India and Indonesia, and it was pleasing to welcome the State Premier, the Hon Colin Barnett MP, who made an

impassioned address articulating his vision for TAFE and its critical role in supporting productivity and the skills required for the resource-rich state.

By year's end, our commitment to students under our Plan was achieved with the TDA National Scholarships Foundation established.

This policy landscape has shaped the directions in the new Strategic Plan 2013–15 for TDA.

However, the policy environment for technical and further education remains fragile. Victoria was one jurisdiction with mixed messages for our 14 TAFE institutes, as the state government sought to implement reduced funding – through course fee allocations – while persisting with its Entitlement scheme which had exceeded revenues because of unexpected growth in student enrolments. This created much 'system stress' for Victorian members with TDA actively responding to continued media interest in the unfolding VET drama.

It's not surprising in this atmosphere that media and communications became front and centre for TDA. National media looked to TDA almost daily for coverage on skills issues. The TDA website became a real hub of activity for policy announcements, member issues, industry news and events. Overall, TDA's website recorded more than 2,000 hits a week at times, as key issues continue to be in national media, and of interest to international stakeholders. We also made web-based systems our vehicle to launch an online tuition assurance records system.

We took special pride in the commissioning of TDA for several important international projects. The Australian Government contracted TDA to create and host a TVET network across the 18-nation East Asia Summit countries, in conjunction with the Republic of Korea. TDA was also honoured by being appointed the UNESCO UNEVOC Coordinating Centre for Australasia and the Pacific. For the region, TDA negotiated a renewed

Memorandum of Understanding with the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) working with public technical and vocational colleges and polytechnics, and the Indonesian Ministry of Education and the Australian Government joined to appoint TDA to oversee a three-year leadership mentoring between polytechnics and our TAFE institutes.

Internally, TDA moved accounting and bookkeeping services to local suppliers to improve financial controls and reporting. This should also support more efficient interactions with members and major contractors.

The full-year result was a deficit of \$102,000.00. This overall result was disappointing, and was caused by Abnormals from legacy issues in the accounting transfers between financial years 2011–12. In 2011, several invoices were incorrectly apportioned to 2012 and there was a conference income adjustment, while in 2012 two Commonwealth contracts were apportioned between 2012 and 2013, and a delayed allocation under TDA's claims under the Export Market Development Grant (EMDG) scheme. For the 2012 year of operations excluding Abnormals, a \$47,000.00 surplus was achieved.

The Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee was diligent in overseeing these accounting changes, and acted to approve a new Risk Management Strategy, and a Charter for the F&A Committee. Our financial focus has been to implement these financial reforms as the organisation was growing, and the outcome has been more transparency and a more consolidated balance sheet.

Our Strategic Plan for 2013–15 is exciting. Our operations show we are more than ever influencing national policy, and at an international level, we are well positioned as mentoring takes shape increasingly between TAFE and regional governments and their colleges and polytechnics.

**Martin Riordan**  
Chief Executive Officer

## 04 Operational highlights

### Background

TDA represents Australia's 61 public provider (TAFE) institutes, offering programs at campus locations in all Australian states and territories.

Enrolments in public technical and further education courses at TAFE accounted for approximately 1.6 million students in 2012, delivering both publicly funded vocational education based on Training Packages under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), and specialist training for senior secondary school certificates, and workplace training.

Increasingly, many TAFE institutes support workplace training and additionally, work in curriculum development in regional and offshore countries. Many of our TDA members also collaborate with joint courses and delivery of Australian qualification courses offshore.

## Performance across TDA's Strategic Plan (2010–12)

### 1. Leadership and policy

TDA stepped up to wide-ranging policy advocacy supporting a sustainable framework for Australia's public provider (TAFE) network through 2012. This was in the face of one of the most drastic years affecting TAFE, amid a federal mission for VET reform and tightening economies in many states and territories.

It was an extraordinary year for many reasons: 2012 began with the Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers announcing all jurisdictions would introduce voucher-style entitlement funding, on a phased-in basis. Quickly, radical changes to funding were announced in Victoria, where deep cuts to TAFE were announced in the State Budget.

Restrictions in federal funding in VET deepened with wider Commonwealth cuts also affecting TAFE, while international students in TAFE declined further, alongside indiscriminate visa restrictions originally intended by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to curb exposure of cases where private colleges abused VET course enrolments.

TDA played an active role mentoring devolved governance, to create

better capacity for TDA members to undertake the changing nature of technical and further education. The National Entitlement to Training decision prompted those jurisdictions yet to review governance of TAFE to begin the process. By the end of 2013–14, all jurisdictions will record changed devolved governance for TAFE, with statutory authorities or similar arrangements the most likely. This pleasing result for TDA over many years enhances TAFE capacity under new state or territory legislation to deliver its productivity mission and map a more dedicated future for supporting its industry and student client base – often across disadvantaged, regional and remote, and special workplace requirements.

TDA has additionally increased focus on the need for professional development amid such fundamental structural change. Our establishment of networks for those TAFEs offering degrees under higher education registrations, TAFE lecturers operating in green skills areas with a new international network while also linking to agencies including LH Martin Institute for Tertiary Education Leadership at University of Melbourne, and the VET Development Centre (Victoria), aims to maximise this support for our people.

We closed 2012 with one key objective of our Strategic Plan, to better help our students. The Board approved proposals initiated by the Secretariat to establish a TDA National Scholarships Foundation, and gained Australian Taxation Office (ATO) approval for tax deductibility for the Foundation.



Strategic Plan

## 04 Operational highlights

### National Charter for TAFE

TDA launched a National Charter for TAFE during 2012. The National Board proceeded with this concept as the forerunner to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) National Partnership Agreement and triennial funding for the VET sector.

The National Charter was developed after an exhaustive process of consultation; liaison took place with the Board of Skills Australia, the industry liaison committee of the COAG Standing Council on Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment (SCOTESE) Ministers, business leadership, the TAFE sector itself, along with many federal government officials and state and territory training agencies. TDA argued that key principles which formed the basis of a National Charter would be important for informing the COAG SCOTESE.



National Charter for TAFE flyer

TDA also took the Charter to the 2011 TDA AGM, with dial-in facilities, and was delighted the Charter received endorsement from all members.

TDA wrote to all Ministers of SCOTESE prior to the COAG meeting, drawing on the Case for the Charter and how industry wished to see the Australian public provider network remain as a public entity supporting the skills and training sector, with its extensive infrastructure across Australia.

The National Charter for TAFE comprises four key principles:

1. That federal and state governments' funding maintains the viability and responsiveness of public providers.
2. That the quality criteria of teaching and learning are enhanced.
3. That governance of TAFEs allows for flexibility and responsiveness.
4. That it is essential that governments recognise the innovation and leadership roles of TAFE, especially through its operations in rural and regional Australia.

### National VET Quality Framework

The National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) under its Chair, the Hon John Dawkins AO, commissioned a review of national regulation of vocational education and training in 2012. The referral by the Australian Government of this issue to NSSC followed a continuing series of damaging media reports about private RTOs, and industry concerns about the issuing of fraudulent qualifications, or poor teaching practice.

TDA convened a number of meetings expressing concern about quality and funding continuing to rogue providers exposed as trading in vocational education, including meetings with the Tertiary Education and Skills Minister Senator, the Hon Chris Evans. The Chair of the NSSC accepted an invitation to be a keynote speaker at the TDA National Conference (Perth, September 2012), where he outlined the process agreed by the NSSC for the 15-month review anticipated for overhauling standards for vocational education and training.

### Australian Skills Quality Authority

TDA supported the referral of powers from various states and territories (except Victoria and WA) for establishing the Australian Standards Quality Agency (ASQA). This decision was based on offering the opportunity for greater consistency in quality of delivery and assessment and greater transparency across the vocational education and training sector, especially after revelations on fraudulent qualifications being offered by some private RTOs. In this regard, TDA has promoted information about the processes and procedures of ASQA, and has met with ASQA Commissioners to encourage more client-service and support for TAFE members, and to express concerns that the policy for full cost recovery for fees from 2013 may not apply proportionally to risk across RTOs.

### Strategic engagement

#### Context

TDA has continued to operate under a stakeholder engagement contract to support the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE), to channel communications on VET policy across our 61 TAFE institute network, and act as an effective strategic partner to enhance policy consultation on emerging issues and VET reform in the sector. Key policy issues that TDA assisted were:



## Collaboration with organisations

**Collaboration and partnering with members** – This collaboration has included, where appropriate, engaging in partnerships with members to conduct joint activities, including research to develop a shared position on VET issues.

**Collaboration and partnering with external bodies** – TDA's engagement strategies have included engaging with important stakeholders across the VET sector and especially with industry as it sought advice on corporate expectation on the National Charter for TAFE and trends toward workplace training. TDA extended its input to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), attending its Strategic Plan review workshop in Sydney, sponsoring the NCVER *No Frills* Conference at the Regency campus of TAFE SA North Institute, featuring NCVER research in the TDA national e-newsletter to TAFE membership, and ongoing liaison with NCVER staff including hosting a delegate to visit the 2012 National Convention for the American Community Colleges (New Orleans, April 2012).

A further important engagement was with trade union representatives, as these represent many TAFE teachers, and also have a role on industry skills councils, the board of the NCVER research agency.

**Industry Skills Councils** – TDA continued to foster partnerships with the 11 Industry Skills Councils (ISCs) to support improvements identified as most desirable by TAFE lecturers and teachers as they apply ISC Training Package products. TDA is represented on a wide variety of ISC Industry Reference Groups, and TDA members use a template to submit regular reports for TDA Board consideration at each of its meetings.

In 2012 TDA also worked with specific ISCs on a range of projects; the establishment of the TDA international Green Skills Network (Manufacturing Skills Australia on the Steering Committee) and a DIISRTE-funded project to develop for vocational education an econometric model on the contribution of VET expenditure to national productivity. The project, *Cost-benefit analysis and returns from additional investment in vocational education and training*, is supported by three ISCs: Agrifood Skills Australia, Innovation & Business Skills Australia and the Transport & Logistics Industry Skills Council Ltd.

**LH Martin Institute, University of Melbourne** – TDA has continued its partnership with the LH Martin Institute for Leadership in Tertiary Education, based at University of Melbourne, as we mentor professional development at executive levels for TAFE. TDA acknowledges the leadership of Professor V Lynn Meek who stepped down during the year as foundation director of the LH Martin Institute. Professor Meek established much focus on the role of TAFE in Australia's emerging tertiary education reform, and we congratulate his achievements and 'open door' approach since he led the establishment of LH Martin with seed funding under the former Howard Government. TDA welcomes his successor, Professor Leo Goedegebuure, and also the appointment of Associate Professor Leesa Wheelahan, who together have collaborated with TDA, including sponsorship of a special pre-conference session on TAFE in the higher education environment in the lead up to the TDA 2012 Conference in Perth.

In addition, TDA co-sponsored several LH Martin lectures. These included the visit to Australia of Professor Gareth Parry, Director of the Centre for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Sheffield, UK. Professor Parry's research addressed system change and policy reform in higher education in the UK, with Australian parallels.

**Peak VET providers representative bodies** – TDA has been in regular liaison with peak VET representative bodies including:

- Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET)
- Enterprise Registered Training Organisation Association (ERTOA)
- Group Training Australia (GTA)
- Victorian TAFE Association (VTA), our affiliate partner in TAFE in Victoria.

TDA has enjoyed representation on a number of advisory bodies, such as the ASQA Provider Roundtable and in joint projects on identified issues related to the implementation of the Commonwealth VET Reform Process.

**Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency** – TDA continued its close working relationship with the Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency (AWPA) to support implementation of the Commonwealth VET Reform Process, and acknowledges the high level policy reports now released by AWPA and its predecessor agency, Skills Australia. An important component of this work was TDA's response through the year to Skills Australia's report *Skills for Prosperity: A blueprint for VET (November 2011)*. TDA did this by acting as an expert on TAFE issues identified by Skills Australia, and led advice to Senator the Hon Chris Evans, specifically on transition support funding recommended by Skills Australia, and ultimately nominated under the National Partnership Agreement on Skills.

**Victorian TAFE Association** – TDA has collaborated with its affiliate employer agency, the Victorian TAFE Association (VTA), representing the 14 Victorian TAFE institutes, on a number of joint submissions, including to the Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC) on the AQFs 5 & 6: Debating the future of mid-level qualifications in Australia.

## 04 Operational highlights

### Victorian TAFE Development

**Centre** – TDA along with the Victorian TAFE Development Centre (re-named the VET Development Centre [VETDC] in late 2012) organised a joint *Thought Leaders* seminar with David Hughes, CEO of the UK National Institute of Adult and Continuing Education (NIACE), as guest speaker. NIACE works with all sectors of adult education and training, and collaborates with a wide range of national, regional and local agencies to do so.

TDA congratulates VETDC for its continued role under legislation for workforce development across the Victorian VET sector, and for its outreach interstate supporting VET workforce issues.

VETDC has generously supported the International Green Skills Network by providing office space, strategic advice and support in hosting joint webinars with TDA on green skills topics.

### National Centre for Vocational Education Research –

TDA recognises the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) as a critical stakeholder, given its primacy as the research agency on labour market, enrolment, and quality and outcome trends for vocational education – across industry, students and providers. TDA has been pleased to continue participating as a member of the NCVER panel (March 2012) to select the successful emerging researchers, for the fourth year since the inception.

### Regional Advisory Committee –

The TDA Regional Advisory Committee provided advice to the TDA Board on regional matters. The Committee is chaired by Ms Elizabeth McGregor, Director, TAFE NSW – North Coast Institute, and Deputy Chair, Michael O’Loughlin, CEO of Wodonga TAFE, Victoria. This Committee enjoys wide participation from members across TAFE’s regional network. The Committee met four times via teleconference during 2012 and advised on a number of issues including:

- the scope to improve take-up of the National Workforce Development Fund (NWDF) projects by small enterprises in rural and remote areas
- the problems faced by small regional TAFE institutes in meeting the cost of flat accreditation fees charged by the Australian Nursery and Midwifery Council
- the establishment of the Regional Universities Network and its potential to improve inter-sectoral access and mobility for TAFE students.

A background briefing was also provided to the TDA Chair for his presentation to TAFE’s Leadership Role in Regional Australia to the 2012 World Congress of the World Federation of Colleges, held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. A number of speakers at the conference emphasised the importance of adapting government programs to the specifics of different regions.

### National stakeholders –

TDA successfully engages widely through a special network of policy representations to ensure the voice of TAFE is represented by experts across the policy areas relevant to VET reform and the wider areas of policy for education in Australia. This is achieved by members nominating to represent TDA on external national committees and consultations. TDA acknowledges the commitment from all TAFE executives who participated on these policy committees and consultations. It is a system which has been widely acclaimed to more actively engage membership of our association, and the dividends have proved invaluable with TDA advice often sought because of this approach. These committees and consultations included:

- Australia India Education Council (joint Ministerial Council)
- Council of Australia Latin America Relations (DEEWR)
- Education Visa Consultative Committee (DIAC)
- International Education Advisory Council (DEEWR)
- Student Visa Assessment Level Framework External Reference Group (DIAC)
- Austrade VET capability project (DFAT)
- International Education Association of Australia (peak body)
- Peak body consultations including ACPET, Universities Australia, English Australia, Group Training Australia, Council of Private Higher Education.

## TDA Publications

During 2012 TDA continued with an active publications portfolio with its popular Occasional Papers, while also developing a number of position papers, and policy submissions, and was again busy with targeted media releases. Submissions, publications and media releases are available on TDA's website, [www.tda.edu.au](http://www.tda.edu.au).

**Figure 1: TDA Submissions, 2012**

Submission title	Date
<i>Submission to the AQF Council's Review of Graduate and Vocational Graduate Certificates and Diplomas in the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)</i>	Feb 2012
<i>Submission to the Productivity Commission's report: Impact of COAG Reforms: Business Regulations and VET</i>	Feb 2012
<i>Submission to the Henry 'Australia in the Asian Century' Taskforce</i>	Mar 2012
<i>TDA submission to the Review of the Student Visa Assessment Level Framework</i>	Mar 2012
<i>The Australian Green Skills Agreement</i>	Mar 2012
<i>TDA submission to Defence Industry Workforce Strategy</i>	Apr 2012
<i>National Charter for TAFE</i>	May 2012
<i>TAFE Directors Australia's response to draft policy document for ANMAC's obligations under Section 50 of National Law</i>	Jun 2012
<i>TDA submission to NSSC</i>	Jun 2012
<i>Response to Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)</i>	Jul 2012
<i>Initial Submission to Queensland Skills and Training Taskforce</i>	Aug 2012
<i>TAFE Directors Australia Submission to the Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee</i>	Oct 2012
<i>Supplementary submission to the Queensland Skills and Training Taskforce</i>	Oct 2012

Related to TDA policy positions, TDA published in 2012, the following position papers:

**Figure 2: TDA Position Papers, 2012**

Title	Date
<i>National Charter for TAFE</i>	May 2012
<i>TDA Members Survey Report</i>	Sep 2012
<i>National Charter for TAFE</i>	Nov 2012
<i>Occasional Paper one – National Conference for TAFE Directors Australia</i>	Dec 2012

## 04 Operational highlights

### 2. Quality and Innovation

#### TDA Annual Conference 2012

The Annual TDA Conference is integral to TDA's communication network for TDA members and their stakeholders.

In 2012 the TDA Conference was hosted by TDA members in Western Australia, and held at The Hyatt Hotel in Perth (6 & 7 September). The title of the 2012 National Conference *East meets West* received much interest as it jointly recognised the spectacular growth of our Asian neighbours and the challenges and opportunities for technical and further education providers in engaging with them, and also recognised changing relationships between our western and eastern Australian states and territories.

The WA Premier, the Hon Colin Barnett MP, officially opened the Conference in Perth, endorsing the critical role TAFE played in workforce participation especially in the resource industry so linked to the Western Australian economy, and driving Australia's economic wellbeing. The Conference agenda explored a range of topics, including the opportunities and challenges facing technical and further education public providers; improving training and employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians; the question of whether Australia has a competitive advantage in skills development; how federal vocational education and training policy is impacting productivity and best practice in TAFE governance and organisation.

The Conference was an outstanding success, supported by more than 340 member and stakeholder delegates, including delegations from India and Indonesia. Delegates were inspired and challenged by over 55 national and international speakers.

The Conference was addressed by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator the Hon Chris Evans; and the Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Sussan Ley MP, who provided a viewpoint from the Federal Coalition. The Hon Murray Cowper MLA, WA Minister for Training and Workforce Development, also attended to deliver a personal address on how TAFE has touched so many, especially from his time as a policeman in outer WA districts.



A: Stephen Conway, Chair, TDA; Sue Slavin, Deputy Chair, TDA. B: Professor Simpson Poon, Vice President, Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong. C: WA Premier, the Hon Colin Barnett MP, addresses the conference.



A: Dianne Murray, Deputy Chair, TDA; Lisa Scaffidi, Lord Mayor of Perth; Sue Slavin, Deputy Chair, TDA; Stephen Conway, Chair, TDA. B: Delegates and sponsors at *East Meets West* national conference in Perth. C: Kaylene Harth, Board Director, TDA; Janelle Chapman, Director, DET International; Mary Campbell, Institute Director, SkillsTech Australia. D: Neil Fernandes, Managing Director, Central Institute of Technology (WA), speaks to the conference. E: Indonesian Polytechnic and Ministry of Education and Culture delegates.

## 04 Operational highlights



### Green Skills developments in 2012

The initiative of establishing an International Green Skills Network has been well received. This project was designed to encourage and drive local and international cooperation, collaboration and innovation in the area of skills for sustainability, and to benchmark learning across vocational education platforms hopefully of benefit to TAFE clients, industry, students, lecturers and the community. DIISRTE generously funded the Network's establishment using seed support from the Skills for the Carbon Challenge. In addition, the US Department of Energy and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) were active as foundation partners in the Network, and participated in the instigation of the Network and cooperation with exchange of delegations. The China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) has also joined TDA in Australia by promoting green skill segments in its CEAIE 2012 International Conference, seeking to establish closer collaboration between sustainability practice in China polytechnics and Australian TAFE.

Linda Condon, the foundation director of the National Centre for Sustainability, based at Swinburne University of Technology, led the TDA Network initiative. Our mission is to provide VET practitioners, university staff, US Community College staff, industry, ISCs and related relevant networks, with a great opportunity to more effectively transition to best practice green skills integration in learning and teaching and through

practical application in the workforce. The Network also builds on the policy requirements established under the Green Skills Agreement and will further support many Commonwealth and State initiatives to encourage the development of green skills in industry.

Membership of the Network is based on a set of criteria. These criteria are designed to establish the green credentials of members, and support their own efforts to deliver excellence in sustainability across TAFE teaching and learning operations.

TDA acknowledges the support of participating TAFE members, external private RTOs, several lead ISCs, universities, industry, the Australian Research Institute for Environment and Sustainability, the National Centre for Sustainability and key organisations in the USA such as the AACC and the Department of Energy US.

By the close of 2012, the Network had signed 13 member institutes with high levels of engagement with Education for Sustainability. The applications to join the Network have been of exceptional quality and there is some discussion about using the organisations involved in the Network as mentors for others. The member organisations are involved in industry-specific working groups with a focus on renewable energy, manufacturing, construction and agriculture.

### Projects

#### *A Green Skills workshop series in China in late 2012*

Under the Chair, Linda Condon, a group of Australian representatives from TAFE SA Regional Institute of TAFE, WA's Pilbara TAFE, and TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute presented and facilitated a number of workshops at the CEAIE 2012 Conference (Beijing, October 2012). The CEAIE workshop was part of a larger conference with over 600 delegates in attendance. Australia and China were asked to present case studies on how industry works with TAFE/Polytechnics in promoting green skills and education for sustainability. Our Board director, Kevin Harris (Chair, F&A Committee, and Institute Director, TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute) signed an historic second five-year Memorandum of Understanding with CEAIE to jointly support cooperation between the Australian TAFE and China public college and polytechnic sectors, and announced TDA sponsorship of an English Language Competition across China's eight geographic regions during 2013.

### 3. Member Services

The National Secretariat provides a range of services for its members in addition to its advocacy role.

These services have grown to be a key attribute for members that are part of TDA, including certification of Tuition Assurance, a requirement for members registered with the Commonwealth to offer FEE-HELP loans to students for vocational and higher education courses.

#### Tuition Assurance Scheme

TDA's Tuition Assurance Scheme (TAS) offers members a cost effective option for guaranteeing tuition assurance for students who take out a student loan through the Commonwealth's VET and Higher Education FEE-HELP.

Our TAFE membership of TAS now represents more than half of all TAFEs across Australia, with TAFEs from another state due to join TAS in 2013.

Membership is also open to non-TAFE providers who meet a strict set of criteria and are approved by TDA's insurers, QBE Australia. In 2012 our membership of non-TAFE providers continued to grow and now has representation from most states and territories.

There were no activations during 2012 and TDA continues to improve its services to members with the launch of an online facility due for mid 2013.

#### Australian TAFE International Network

The Australian TAFE International Network (ATIN) for international executives employed in TAFE has representation from each state and territory, and has grown to be an important forum for the exchange of information and advice to the TDA Board of Directors and Secretariat. ATIN is chaired by Dianne Murray, Deputy Chair of the TDA Board, and Institute Director, TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute. ATIN remained busy as TDA led TAFE input to the much-changed international education policy affecting the Australian VET RTO sector. During the year, student numbers were adversely affected by indiscriminate application by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship of restrictions to student visas for TAFE applicants from overseas – a policy originally put in place under Senator Evans while Immigration Minister during roting evidence by private RTOs operating in several state and territory jurisdictions.

#### Corporate Affiliates Program

In 2012, TDA welcomed ProLearn as a new member of our Corporate Affiliates program. ProLearn is a Melbourne-based firm leading with innovative marketing and recruitment techniques to source domestic students for RTOs, TAFEs and universities, and established service partnerships with several TAFE institutes.

TDA's other corporate affiliate during 2012 was Ellucian, a company formed by the combination of Datatel and SunGard Higher Education. Ellucian delivers a broad portfolio of technology solutions, developed in collaboration with a global education community, and provides strategic guidance to help education institutions of all kinds navigate change and drive efficiencies.

The Affiliates program continues to offer a unique platform for businesses to engage with our members as well as promoting their services through our national conference and publications.

ellucian™



## 04 Operational highlights

### 4. Internationalisation

#### Policy

TDA continued to advocate for a more equitable treatment of international students applying for study at an Australian TAFE institute. The streamlined visa processing offered only to universities created negative perceptions of all other sectors and the application of the genuine temporary entrant criteria raised even more concerns among providers, agents and prospective students.

A formal review of the assessment level framework, with TDA as a member of an external advisory panel, was completed in June 2012 however no formal response was received from the Commonwealth by year's end.

Regulatory and legislative changes to the ESOS Act and the establishment of a single Tuition Protection Service continued to be the prime focus of Commonwealth activity.

TAFE international student enrolments continued to decline throughout 2012 with the high Australian dollar, uncertainty over policy settings, and strong competition from other countries all contributing to a difficult recruitment environment.

Two major policy reviews were commissioned by the Commonwealth leading to the release in October 2012 of the *Australia in the Asian Century* White Paper and the release of a discussion paper in April 2012 by the International Education Advisory Council. TDA made detailed submissions to both reviews,

advocating for a strong and sustained commitment to the vocational education and training sector and its critical role in advancing Australia's international engagement.

Shanghai hosted the 3rd World UNESCO TVET Congress, inviting Managing Director of NCVET, Dr Tom Karmel, to make several presentations on the Australian VET sector and engagement with youth. TDA's Martin Riordan was also invited to be part of the Australian Mission. The Shanghai UNESCO Congress made seven recommendations including how TVET produces improved career pathways, advocating better evidence-based statistics for benchmarking, governance and partnerships, and advocacy itself for TVET.



A: Australia India Skills Conference Group with TDA representative, Neil Fernandes, Managing Director, Central Institute of Technology (WA) and Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator the Hon Chris Evans.

B: The China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) visit, left to right: Song Bicheng, CEAIE; Zhang Limin, President, China Education Institute for International Exchange and Research; Peter Holden, Director, International Engagement and Business Development, TDA; Martin Riordan, CEO, TDA; Dr Lin Zuoping, Deputy Secretary-General, CEAIE; and Feng Junying, Consul Education Office, Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sydney.

C: (L to R) Martin Riordan, CEO, TDA; Cathryn Hlavka, Minister Counsellor, Education, Australian Embassy Beijing; Dr Tom Karmel, Managing Director, NCVET; Peta Furnell, Head of Division, VET Reform DIISRTE.





A: East Asia TVET Network participants, November 2012.



B: China Quality Assurance Study Tour, 17–18 December 2012.

### Projects

TDA plays a key role in developing and supporting international networks which enhance our members' abilities to recruit students, establish partnerships and encourage student mobility.

In 2012 TDA managed a wide range of projects to support this role including:

- the development of a network of vocational education and training providers from 18 countries which form the East Asia Summit
- the appointment of TDA as a coordinating centre for the UNESCO UNEVOC network
- the completion of a second survey of TAFE international student experiences which forms part of the international student barometer
- a survey of Indonesian polytechnics and their current and prospective engagement with industry

- two vocational education leadership training (VELT) programs for college directors from China, bringing the total of participants in this program since 2010 to over 160
- a pilot leadership program for 18 senior leaders from the Indian vocational education and training sector
- a joint Green Skills seminar and study tour in Beijing as part of the CEAIE's annual international conference
- a three-day workshop in Kenya for five commonwealth countries, focusing on benchmarking their education and training systems and identifying priorities for further development.



### Member Communications

TDA commissioned independent research to survey members on their own needs for a national association, especially as governance changes approached under the phase-in of National Entitlement to Training. The survey was a key guide to inform the Board as it prepares the launch of its Strategic Plan 2013–15, and resourcing needs for TDA over coming years.

TDA communicates regularly with members, partners and stakeholders using a variety of platforms, including emails, newsletters, meetings, publications, submissions and press releases.

Members are provided with information and support via the TDA newsletter, and email correspondence from TDA CEO, Martin Riordan.

## 04 Operational highlights

The weekly newsletter is distributed to more than 1,100 member and non-member subscribers, including TAFE and industry leaders, international partners, and government policymakers.

The newsletter shares TDA's national and international ventures, and updates members on the latest industry news, government policies, training reviews and upcoming events.

The TDA website continues to expand its audience, with an average of 2,000 visitors each month who are accessing a range of site information, across policy, sector information and key events.

Relevant media articles and coverage as well as TDA newsletters, submissions, policy documents and press releases can be accessed through the TDA website, [www.tda.edu.au](http://www.tda.edu.au).

TDA has continued to consult regularly with members to shape TDA's position on a variety of national policy areas, through a range of strategies including:

- **TDA representatives** – TDA members or their nominated representatives continue to represent TDA on a number of key external committees and forums, providing a TDA voice. Regular reports to the TDA Board support TDA collaboration with stakeholders and support TDA work on implementation of the VET Reform Process (see pages 18-19 for a matrix of institute executives representing TDA on external policy committees).
- **TDA presentations** – TDA CEO and Secretariat staff have delivered presentations to a range of audiences, including AUSTAFE, Informal conferences and VTA seminars, and have participated on national panels and other forums. These engagements add to the VET knowledge and debate and hence contribute to VET policy and the ongoing discussion regarding the VET Reform Process.

Title	Date
<i>Response to Federal Governments HECS-style loans for VET students</i>	1 Feb 2012
<i>Reaction to PM VET announcements</i>	19 Mar 2012
<i>Response to COAG Skills and Training reform</i>	13 Apr 2012
<i>Response to 2012–13 Budget</i>	8 May 2012
<i>National Charter for TAFE</i>	16 May 2012
<i>Response to My Skills launch</i>	2 Jul 2012
<i>Response to Queensland Training and Skills Taskforce</i>	6 Sep 2012
<i>Green Skills media release</i>	7 Sep 2012
<i>TAFE Directors support need for funding certainty</i>	17 Oct 2012
<i>China's largest English language competition</i>	20 Oct 2012
<i>Reaction to mid-year economic statement</i>	22 Oct 2012
<i>Australia in the Asian Century</i>	28 Oct 2012
<i>Response to Queensland Training and Skills Taskforce Final Report</i>	6 Nov 2012
<i>National TAFE Scholarships Foundation gains Australian Tax Office charity approval</i>	19 Nov 2012
<i>Response to Queensland Ministerial Statement on Skills</i>	30 Nov 2012

### 5. Welfare of TAFE Staff, Students and Graduates

#### TDA National Scholarships Foundation

The National Board supported establishment of a National Scholarships Foundation and was pleased that Australian Taxation Office approval for tax deductibility status was achieved in late 2012. Plans are advanced to launch the Foundation in early 2013, and agreement was reached that the well-regarded Mick Young Scholarships for disadvantaged students would be incorporated into the Foundation scholarship plans, after the closure of the Mick Young Scholarships Trust in November.

#### Graduate International Student Barometer

In 2012 TDA commissioned a study of the experience of international students in TAFE institutes and colleges. This study was the second survey profiling international students' experiences of studying in Australia. The study's executive summary is available on the TDA website, [www.tda.edu.au](http://www.tda.edu.au).

#### NCVER Building Researcher Capacity in the VET Sector

TDA is a member of the NCVER Building Researcher Capacity in the VET Sector Advisory Group which selects applicants, provides assistance to the project team and evaluates the effectiveness of the program. Now in its fifth round of funding, this program encourages VET practitioners new to the field of research to identify specific areas of interest and then with mentor support and a Community of Practice, conduct the research and publish through NCVER.

## National Board of TAFE Directors Australia

### Chair

Stephen Conway,\*  
Managing Director,  
TAFE SA Adelaide South Institute (SA)

### Deputy Chairs

Dianne Murray,  
Institute Director,  
TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute (NSW)

Sue Slavin,\*\*  
Managing Director,  
West Coast Institute of Training (WA)

### Members

Neil Fernandes,\*\*\*  
Managing Director,  
Central Institute of Technology (WA)

Kevin Harris,  
Institute Director,  
TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney  
Institute (NSW)

Kaylene Harth,  
Institute Director,  
Metropolitan South Institute  
of TAFE (QLD)

John Hassed,  
Pro Vice-Chancellor (VET),  
Charles Darwin University (NT)

Nicholas Hunt,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
William Angliss Institute (VIC)

Adrian Marron,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Canberra Institute of Technology (ACT)

Trevor Schwenke,\*\*\*\*  
Institute Director,  
Southern Queensland Institute  
of TAFE (QLD)

Malcolm White,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Skills Institute (TAS)

Martin Riordan,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
TAFE Directors Australia, ex officio

## Finance and Audit Committee

Chair: Kevin Harris,  
Institute Director,  
TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney  
Institute (NSW)

Stephen Conway,  
Managing Director,  
TAFE SA Adelaide South Institute (SA)

Kaylene Harth,  
Institute Director,  
Metropolitan South Institute  
of TAFE (QLD)

Adrian Marron,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Canberra Institute of Technology (ACT)

Nicholas Hunt,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
William Angliss Institute (VIC)

Peter Holden,  
Director,  
International Engagement  
and Business Development,  
TAFE Directors Australia, ex officio

Martin Riordan,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
TAFE Directors Australia, ex officio

## TDA National Secretariat Staff

Martin Riordan,  
Chief Executive Officer

Pam Caven,  
Director,  
Policy and Stakeholder Engagement

Peter Holden,  
Director,  
International Engagement and  
Business Development

Linda Condon,  
Director,  
International Green Skills Network

Janny Tjen,  
Administration Manager

Deborah Laws,  
Project Officer (Policy Support  
and Communications)

Deborah Corrigan,  
Bookkeeper

\* Stephen Conway was appointed Chief Executive Officer for the new TasTAFE, effective 1 July 2013.

\*\* Sue Slavin resigned from the Board in September 2012. She was replaced by Neil Fernandes.

\*\*\* Neil Fernandes joined the Board in November 2012.

\*\*\*\* Trevor Schwenke joined the Board in September 2012.

## 06 External policy committees

### Institute executives representing TDA on external policy committees

Name	Title, Organisation	Host	Committee/Workshop Name
Benson, Audette	College/Associate Director, Industry and Environment	Monash Sustainability Institute (MSI), Sustainable Campus Group (SCG)	Forum: Social Sustainability in the Tertiary Education Sector, 22 August 2011, Monash University
Brown, Linda	Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Director TAFE, Swinburne University of Technology	DIISRTE, Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment (MCTEE)	Green Skills Agenda Implementation Group
Burrows, Dr Catherine	General Manager, TAFE Strategy, NSW Department of Education and Communities	DIISRTE	My Skills Advisory Group
Chong, Foonghar	Director, Education Health, Community & Personal Services, Nepean College, TAFE NSW – Western Sydney Institute	Community Services and Health	Joint Training Package Advisory Committee (TPAC)
Coppolillo, Frances	Associate Director, Faculty of Further Education, NMIT	Innovation Business and Skills Australia (IBSA)	IBSA National Project Reference Group (NPRG)
Culver, Amanda	A/Education Programs Manager TAFE NSW	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Nursing
Culver, Amanda	A/Education Programs Manager TAFE NSW	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Direct Client Care and Support
Culver, Amanda	A/Education Programs Manager TAFE NSW	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Worker
Deschepper, Anne	Manager, Tertiary Development and Accreditation, Chisholm Institute of TAFE	Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC)	Implementation of the AQF
English, Leone	Dean, Faculty of Health Science & Community Studies, Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), Australian Nursing & Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC)	3 Committees – (1 report): a) ANMAC – Board b) ANMAC – Accreditation Advisory Committee (ANMACAAC) c) ANMAC – Research, Innovation & Policy Committee d) ANMAC – Enrolled Nurse Accreditation Committee
English, Leone	Dean, Faculty of Health Science & Community Studies, Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	Health Workforce Australia (HWA)	Higher Education and Training Sector Advisory Committee
Fernandes, Neil	Managing Director, Central Institute of Technology (WA)	DIISRTE	Australia India Education Council (AIEC)
Field, Vicki	Head Teacher, Community Services TAFE NSW – Hunter Institute	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Client Services
Horwood, Gail	A/Manager Industry Teams – Community Services and Health, TAFE NSW Training and Education Support, Industry Skills Unit Meadowbank, NSW Department of Education and Communities	Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council (CS&HISC)	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Children & Youth Services
Horwood, Gail	A/Manager Industry Teams – Community Services and Health, TAFE NSW Training and Education Support, Industry Skills Unit Meadowbank, NSW Department of Education and Communities	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Community Sector Development

Name	Title, Organisation	Host	Committee/Workshop Name
Holden, Peter	Director, International Engagement and Business Development, TAFE Directors Australia	Department of Immigration & Citizenship (DIAC)	Education Visa Consultative Committee
Holden, Peter	Director, International Engagement and Business Development, TAFE Directors Australia	DIAC	Student Visa Assessment Level Framework External Reference Group
Kidgell, Justin	Program Manager, RMIT's Dental Health Program	Health Workforce Australia	Oral Health Workforce Plan Project Advisory Group
Koutoukidis, Gabrielle	Head of Strategic & Business Development – Health Science, Nursing, Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	Teaching Training Research Working group of the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
Macphail, Belinda	Teacher – Certificate III in Dental Assisting, Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Dental/Oral Health Care Sector
Murray, Dianne	Institute Director, TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute	DIISRTE	My Skills Advisory Group
Neuman, Carolyn	Assistant Director – Sub Faculty Allied Health, TAFE NSW Sydney Institute	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Technicians and Support Services
Palmer, Louise	General Manager, People and Organisational Development, Kangan Institute	IBSA	IBSA National Project Reference Group (NPRG)
Pook, Dr Henry	Dean, Faculty of Building, Construction & Architectural Design, Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	Master Builders Construction	CAMS (Construction Apprenticeship Mentoring Scheme)
Riordan, Martin	Chief Executive Officer, TAFE Directors Australia	World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP)	Martin Riordan is the Vice-Chair of WFCP
Schubert, Dr Ruth	Director, Strategy and Business, TAFE SA	Standing Council on Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment (SCOTESE)	Access and Participation Principal Committee (APPC)
Scott, Win	Chief Executive Officer, Sunraysia Institute of TAFE	NCVER	National VET Research and Evaluation Program Selection Panel
Simmons, Virginia	Director, Virsis Consulting	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)	International Education Advisory Council
Strand, Scott	LVT/Co-ordinator Complimentary Health, Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE	CS&HISC	Industry Reference Group (IRG) – Complementary and Alternative Health Sector
Torr, Amanda	Director, Higher Education, Polytechnic West	DIISRTE	Higher Education Staff Data Collection
Underwood, Cheryl	Head, School of Life and Physical Sciences, RMIT University	SA Health – Government of South Australia	Workshop of the National Oral Health Plan 2014–23
Wesney, Anita	Manager – Research and Policy, Canberra Institute of Technology	DIISRTE	My Skills Advisory Group
Williams, Rhys	Director, International Development, International Development Centre, Victoria University	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Council on Australia Latin American Relations (COALAR)	Education Action Group
Zappa, Julie	Executive Director, Creative Industries, Central Institute of Technology (WA)	IBSA	Education Sector Advisory Committee
Zwierzynski, Janice	Relieving Director, Performance and Accountability, TAFE NSW	Unique Student Identifier	USI External Reference Group

## Independent Auditor's Report



### **Independent auditor's report to the members of TAFE Directors Australia**

#### ***Report on the financial report***

We have audited the accompanying financial report of TAFE Directors Australia (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2012 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

#### ***Directors' responsibility for the financial report***

The directors of the association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Associations Act 1991* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### ***Auditor's responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### ***Independence***

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Associations Act 1991*.

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**PricewaterhouseCoopers, ABN 52 780 433 757**  
Ground Floor, 44 Sydney Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603, GPO Box 447, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601  
T: + 61 2 6271 3000, F: + 61 2 6271 3999, [www.pwc.com.au](http://www.pwc.com.au)

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

## Independent Auditor's Report (continued)



### *Auditor's opinion*


In our opinion the financial report of TAFE Directors Australia is in accordance with the *ACT Associations Act 1991*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2012 and of its performance for the year ended on that date and the other matters required by Section 72 (2) of the *ACT Associations Incorporation Act 1991*,
- b. we have obtained all the information and explanations required,
- c. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *ACT Associations Incorporation Act 1991*, and
- d. proper accounting records and other records have been kept by TAFE Directors Australia as required by the *ACT Associations Incorporations Act 1991*.

### *Matters relating to the electronic presentation of the audited financial report*

This auditor's report relates to the financial report and remuneration report of the TAFE Directors Australia (the association) for the year ended 31 December 2012 included on TAFE Directors Australia web site. The association directors are responsible for the integrity of the TAFE Directors Australia web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of this web site. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report and remuneration report named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information included in the audited financial report presented on this web site.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

  
Shane Bellchambers  
Partner

24 May 2013

## 08 TAFE Locations

### Pacific

#### Fiji

**Australia-Pacific Technical College**  
[www.aptc.edu.au](http://www.aptc.edu.au)

### Australia

#### Australian Capital Territory

**Canberra Institute of Technology**  
[www.cit.act.edu.au](http://www.cit.act.edu.au)

#### New South Wales

**TAFE NSW – South Western Sydney Institute**  
[www.swsi.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.swsi.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – North Coast Institute**  
[www.nci.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.nci.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Riverina Institute**  
[www.rit.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.rit.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute**  
[www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Hunter Institute**  
[www.hunter.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.hunter.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute**  
[www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute**  
[www.sydneystafe.edu.au](http://www.sydneystafe.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – New England Institute**  
[www.newengland.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.newengland.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Western Sydney Institute**  
[www.wsi.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.wsi.tafensw.edu.au)

**TAFE NSW – Western Institute**  
[www.wit.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.wit.tafensw.edu.au)

#### Northern Territory

**Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education**  
[www.batchelor.edu.au](http://www.batchelor.edu.au)

**Charles Darwin University (TAFE Division)**  
[www.cdu.edu.au](http://www.cdu.edu.au)

#### Queensland

**Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE**  
[www.barrierreef.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.barrierreef.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE**  
[www.msit.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.msit.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Gold Coast Institute of TAFE**  
[www.goldcoast.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.goldcoast.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Mount Isa Institute of TAFE**  
[www.mtisa.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.mtisa.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**The Bremer Institute of TAFE**  
[www.bremer.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.bremer.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Southbank Institute of Technology**  
[www.southbank.edu.au](http://www.southbank.edu.au)

**Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE**  
[www.sqit.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.sqit.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE**  
[www.tnqit.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.tnqit.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Brisbane North Institute of TAFE**  
[www.bn.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.bn.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE**  
[www.sunshinecoast.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.sunshinecoast.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**SkillsTech Australia**  
[www.skillstech.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.skillstech.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Central Queensland Institute of TAFE**  
[www.cq.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.cq.tafe.qld.gov.au)

**Wide Bay Institute of TAFE**  
[www.widebay.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.widebay.tafe.qld.gov.au)

#### South Australia

**TAFE SA Adelaide North Institute**  
[www.tafesa.edu.au](http://www.tafesa.edu.au)

**TAFE SA Adelaide South Institute**  
[www.tafesa.edu.au](http://www.tafesa.edu.au)

**TAFE SA Regional**  
[www.tafesa.edu.au](http://www.tafesa.edu.au)

#### Tasmania

**Tasmanian Polytechnic**  
[www.polytechnic.tas.edu.au](http://www.polytechnic.tas.edu.au)

**Skills Institute**  
[www.skillsinstitute.com.au](http://www.skillsinstitute.com.au)

#### Victoria

**Advance TAFE**  
[www.advancetafe.edu.au](http://www.advancetafe.edu.au)

**Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE**  
[www.britafe.vic.edu.au](http://www.britafe.vic.edu.au)

**Box Hill Institute**  
[www.bhtafe.edu.au](http://www.bhtafe.edu.au)

**Chisholm Institute of TAFE**  
[www.chisholm.edu.au](http://www.chisholm.edu.au)

**GippsTAFE**  
[www.gippstafe.vic.edu.au](http://www.gippstafe.vic.edu.au)

**GOTAFE (Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE)**  
[www.gotafe.vic.edu.au](http://www.gotafe.vic.edu.au)

**Holmesglen Institute of TAFE**  
[www.holmesglen.vic.edu.au](http://www.holmesglen.vic.edu.au)

**Kangan Institute**  
[www.kangan.edu.au](http://www.kangan.edu.au)

**NMIT (Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE)**  
[www.nmit.edu.au](http://www.nmit.edu.au)

**RMIT University**  
[www.rmit.edu.au](http://www.rmit.edu.au)

**South West Institute of TAFE**  
[www.swtafe.vic.edu.au](http://www.swtafe.vic.edu.au)

**Sunraysia Institute of TAFE**  
[www.sunitafe.edu.au](http://www.sunitafe.edu.au)

**Swinburne University of Technology (TAFE Division)**  
[www.tafe.swin.edu.au](http://www.tafe.swin.edu.au)

**The Gordon**  
[www.thegordon.edu.au](http://www.thegordon.edu.au)

**University of Ballarat**  
[www.ballarat.edu.au](http://www.ballarat.edu.au)

**Victoria University**  
[www.vu.edu.au/tafe](http://www.vu.edu.au/tafe)

**William Angliss Institute**  
[www.angliss.edu.au](http://www.angliss.edu.au)

**Wodonga Institute of TAFE**  
[www.wodongatafe.edu.au](http://www.wodongatafe.edu.au)

#### Western Australia

**Central Institute of Technology**  
[www.central.wa.edu.au](http://www.central.wa.edu.au)

**Challenger Institute of Technology**  
[www.challenger.wa.edu.au](http://www.challenger.wa.edu.au)

**C.Y. O'Connor Institute**  
[www.cyoc.wa.edu.au](http://www.cyoc.wa.edu.au)

**Durack Institute of Technology**  
[www.durack.edu.au](http://www.durack.edu.au)

**Education and Training International**  
[www.eti.wa.edu.au](http://www.eti.wa.edu.au)

**Great Southern Institute of Technology**  
[www.gsinstitute.wa.edu.au](http://www.gsinstitute.wa.edu.au)

**Kimberley Training Institute**  
[www.kimberley.tafe.wa.edu.au](http://www.kimberley.tafe.wa.edu.au)

**Pilbara Institute**  
[www.pilbaratafe.wa.edu.au](http://www.pilbaratafe.wa.edu.au)

**Polytechnic West**  
[www.polytechnic.wa.edu.au](http://www.polytechnic.wa.edu.au)

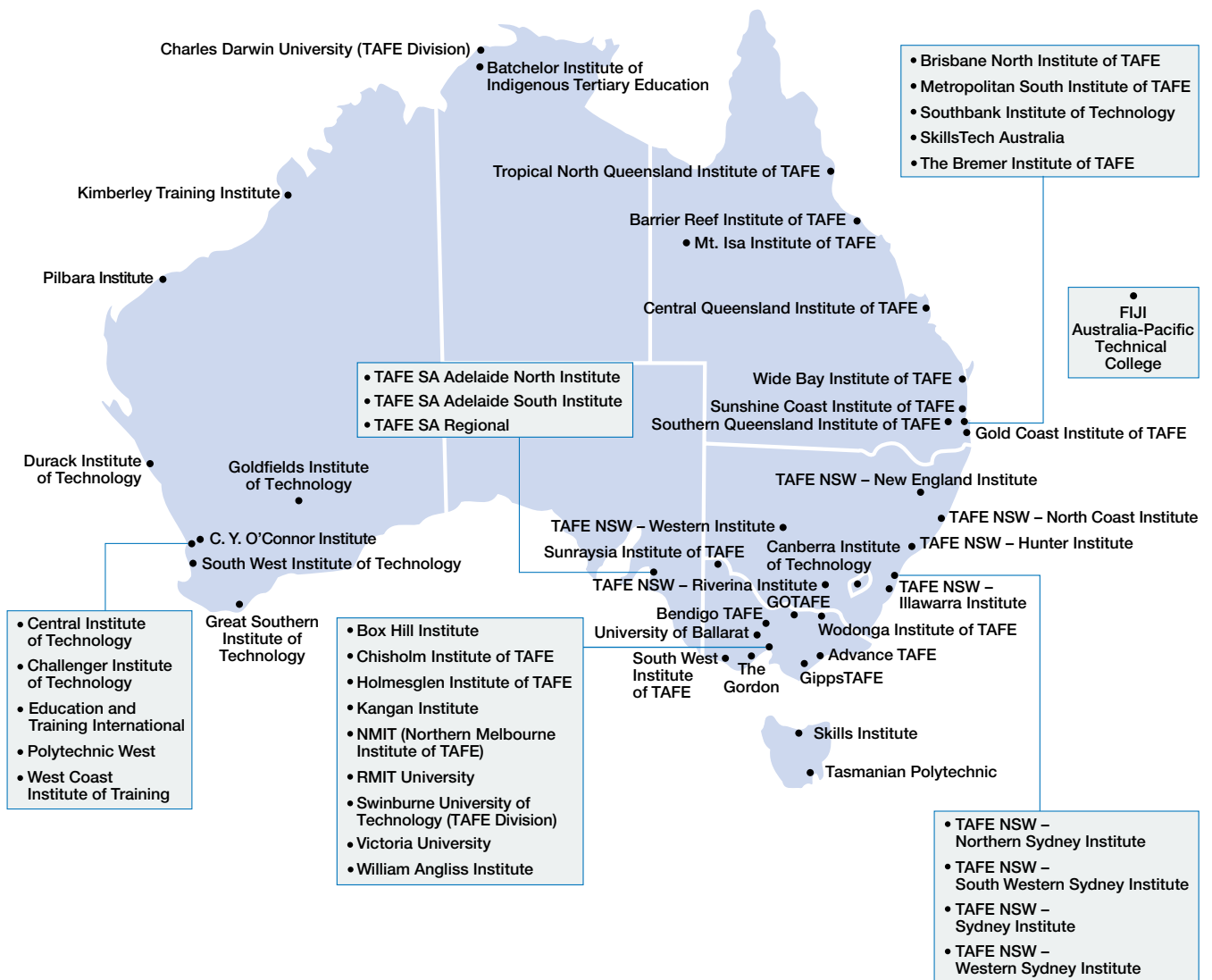
**South West Institute of Technology**  
[www.swit.wa.edu.au](http://www.swit.wa.edu.au)

**Goldfields Institute of Technology**  
[www.goldfields.wa.edu.au](http://www.goldfields.wa.edu.au)

**West Coast Institute of Training**  
[www.westcoasttafe.wa.edu.au](http://www.westcoasttafe.wa.edu.au)



## 08 TAFE Locations



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