



## ***Australian Education Union - Federal Office***

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### **Tasmanians Being Denied Vital Training and Education**

Tasmanians are missing out on vocational training and education due to a chronic lack of funding and resources, according to the results of a new survey to be released today.

The survey of teachers working in the Tasmania Polytechnic, Tasmanian Skills Institute and Drysdale show there are not enough places to meet rising student demand.

AEU Federal TAFE Secretary Pat Forward said over half the teachers reported that they had to turn away students and four out of ten said there were waiting lists in their department.

The survey results will be released today at the Tasmanian launch of a national campaign for better TAFE funding.

Ms Forward said the training shortfall was a serious impediment to reducing unemployment, tackling skills shortages, meeting future workforce demand and ensuring all Tasmanians could get the skills and education they needed.

"You would think the Federal Government and the Tasmanian Government would understand how critical it is to have a high-quality, well-funded training system," she said.

The president of the TAFE division in Tasmania, Hugh Fielding said the survey results showed the Tasmania Tomorrow reforms failed the basic test of providing an adequate level of training and education.

"It is time to stop the experiment and return to what we know delivers for Tasmanians and that is TAFE," he said.

"A well-funded TAFE system that delivers high quality training and education is what Tasmanians want and it is time for the Government to deliver that."

**NOTE: The launch will take place in the cafeteria of the Alanvale Campus of the Tasmanian Polytechnic (54a Alanvale Road Newnham) at 1.00 pm today.**

The survey report is available at:

<http://www.aeufederal.org.au/Tafe/TAFESurvey/TAS.pdf>

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