



Longitudinal
Surveys of
Australian Youth

POLICY FORUM

Young people:

Finding their way in a new era

Drawing on current research, this event seeks to inform policy-makers about the lives of young people, with a focus on:

- improving education outcomes
- providing skills for the contemporary labour market
- social engagement.

Keynote speaker: Adam Smith from the Foundation for Young Australians.

To register or view the program, visit
www.ncver.edu.au/newsevents/policy/forum.html

Where:

Melbourne Park Function Centre

When:

10 November 2009

Enquiries:

events@ncver.edu.au or (08) 8230 8491

Registration:

\$270



Australian Government
Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations



The first ever **National TAFE Day** will be celebrated on 28 October.

It is an opportunity for TAFE teachers, students and TAFE Institutes around the country to celebrate the achievements of Australia's world-renowned national TAFE system.

Few countries anywhere in the world can boast a system of vocational education and training that delivers so many different courses to so many students.

It is worth reminding ourselves that across Australia over 1.6 million students a year are taking part in over 12,000 different courses.

On 28 October Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education, Julia Gillard will be delivering the National TAFE Day inaugural address in Parliament House, Canberra, at a reception hosted by the Australian Education Union.

The AEU will also be using the day to launch a new campaign highlighting the value of TAFE and urging governments to invest more in TAFE.

Full details of the **Invest in Quality, Invest in TAFE** campaign, including how members can get involved, will be included in the next edition of *The Australian TAFE Teacher*.

AEU Federal President Angelo Gavrielatos said that National TAFE Day was a fitting time to acknowledge not only the achievements of TAFE but also its importance to the nation.

"TAFE teachers across Australia should be proud of their efforts and the quality training and education that they deliver every day," he said.

"National TAFE day is a time to celebrate but it

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is also a time to take stock; to reflect on where we would be as a nation without a strong public training system that offers educational opportunities to people from all walks of life.

"TAFE has long been a key driver of equity in Australia and it must continue to play this role; to deliver the training and skills people need to get secure well-paid jobs and fulfil their potential.

"We must campaign against further attempts to privatise vocational education and training.

"You only have to look at the unfolding scandal with private colleges and international students to understand the dangers of undermining the public provision of training through a market system that puts price before quality.

"Every TAFE must be sufficiently resourced

to do what they do best; deliver cutting edge, flexible, quality training with appropriate numbers of qualified teachers."

The Australian Education Union will be launching its **Invest in Quality, Invest in TAFE** campaign on this day.

Australia has a world quality TAFE system. The TAFE "brand name" is trusted by students, employers and parents. Communities rely on

their TAFE Institutes; individual students know that they will engage in a quality educational experience when they go to TAFE.

But TAFE Institutes have been under-funded for more than a decade, and governments have failed to invest.

There are 58 TAFE Institutes in Australia, with hundreds of campuses in every state and territory. Nearly 80% of all VET delivery is by TAFE, and more than 1.67 million students study through TAFE. ❖

National

TAFE DAY



Wednesday 28 October 2009