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Eli Schwarz
Professor and Dean
Faculty of Dentistry
College of Health Sciences

6th Floor, 2 Chalmers Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010 Australia
Tel: +61 2 9351 8334
Fax: +61 2 9211 5912
Email: dean@dentistry.usyd.edu.au

Fax: (02) 9230 2981

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Ms Jan Burnswoods,
Committee Chair,
Standing Committee on Social Issues,
Legislative Council,
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
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Dear Ms Burnswoods,

Thank you for your recent request to supply additional information concerning funding for the Faculty of Dentistry to your Inquiry. I am providing the following response.

1. The total amount of funding the Faculty receives:

	<i>Actual 12/2004</i>	<i>Projected 12/2005</i>
Grants and HELP (incl. Research grants)	3,011,474	3,900,183
Funded positions	<u>517,128</u>	<u>601,124</u>
	3,528,602	4,501,307
Student fees	1,883,562	2,256,716
Other income – donations, bequests, Contract research	<u>226,842</u>	<u>457,594</u>
Total revenue	<u>5,639,006</u>	<u>7,215,617</u>

The above table sets out the total revenue received by the Faculty from all sources.

In reviewing this information it is important to note that not all the revenue is discretionary, in other words, items such as research grants for example, are "earmarked" for specific research initiatives and cannot be applied to other activities within the Faculty on a discretionary basis.

2. The value and proportion of funding from each of the four sources for 2004-2005:

- a. Operating grant from DEST based on student numbers (includes HECS) \$2,143,000
- b. Student fees from full fee paying students \$1,883,562
- c. Performance-based income related to research output & PG students \$ 428,000
- d. In-kind support from Area Health Services \$ n/a

In relation to (d) above, by its nature, in-kind support cannot be easily converted to a dollar equivalent. The support provided by the Sydney South West Area Health Service and Sydney West Area Health Service comprise the entire clinical infrastructure for the Faculty of Dentistry at Sydney Dental Hospital and the Westmead Centre for Oral Health, including staff support, clinic

support, patient support, conjoint academic and hospital staff positions, etc. Other Area Health Services in the state provide a variety of support functions for the Faculty's Practice Education Program, where final year students are placed in rural and regional clinics. The Faculty is not aware of any specific line item in the budgets of Area Health Services that indicate what this support amounts to.

3. Does HECS funding fully cover the cost of HECS places? If not what percentage does HECS funding cover?

In determining the costs of teaching, learning and research, it is important to recognise that all costs incurred within the Faculty are aimed at achieving quality teaching outcomes and increased and improved research initiatives which, in turn, support the teaching initiatives of the Faculty and the University.

In summary for the 2005 academic year for dentistry, the University of Sydney received:

Commonwealth Grant Scheme per Dentistry EFTSL	\$15,422 p.a.
HECS contribution paid by the student per EFTSL	<u>\$ 8,018 p.a.</u>
Total received per EFTSL	\$23,440 p.a.

The University estimates that the actual costs of teaching within the Faculty in 2005 at \$19.5K per annum per Equivalent Full Time Student Load (EFTSL). However, it is important to note that this figure excludes quite substantial costs relating to central student support, information technology support, service and building infrastructure in the form of teaching spaces and libraries, and superannuation, which are borne by the University and not allocated to the Faculties.

When the Faculty's and the University's costs are added together, there can be little doubt that the Commonwealth funding provided for HECS students in dentistry does not cover the full cost of their tuition. The quantum of the shortfall, however, is difficult to accurately quantify.

I trust that this information will be helpful to the committee's deliberations.

Yours sincerely

Eli Schwarz
Professor and Dean

