

**INQUIRY INTO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND
TRAINING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 12/08/2015

Partially Confidential

Submission Re TAFE NSW

As a point of introduction I would point out that I have undergone extensive training at TAFE, I have put over 100 apprentices through the TAFE system and I now work for TAFE hence I have a perspective from all sides. I have enclosed my CV for reference.

TAFE is being turned into an episode of "Yes Minister" and our Premiers reaction is I am sure it will work out, well I will give you the message it won't.

The bureaucracy has managed to get rid of the students, rid of the teaching staff and INCREASE the bureaucracy, if it wasn't so tragic it would be funny.

*You have mid-level bureaucrats announcing that under smart and skilled the students have **just got to understand** that TAFE is not about the students.*

My god what business is not about its clients well according to TAFE bureaucracy TAFE is that model for that business.

Pam Christie brought in a new computer system that did not allow students to get results from 2014 till possibly April 2015 – but according to Government via the minister at the time that is Ok. Too bad if you are a plumber or an electrician that needs a transcript from TAFE to get a licence or to keep or get a job.

The new computer system actually told students there was no capacity in various course at Ultimo when in actual fact the course where empty.

We are not talking about some wacky course but course such as Electro-Technology were this is a prescribed skills shortage.

With the introduction of "Smart and Skilled" the Electrical campus at Petersham is on the verge of closing, it was reported to close at the beginning of 2015 but was delayed due to the pending election.

Electro-Technology at Ultimo has been reduced since the introduction of "Smart and Skilled " by 50% and the available courses have been reduced by as much as 33%.

Too bad that guys are being turned out into a work force under done. That worked for Rudd didn't it a bunch of kids ended DEAD, but that is ok the politicians kept their pensions.

No one will ever convince me that Kevin Rudd or Peter Garrett intentionally introduced a policy that would do the sort of damage that it did, but the reality is that bad policy is bad policy and smart and skilled is bad policy.

The EBS computer system stopped the students, so hence under "SMART and SKILLED" they dumped the teachers – BUT KEPT THE OVERHEADS.

Just like "Yes Minister" they had a very efficient hospital, just refused to take patients.

Anyone who has been with ten miles of TAFE would agree that there are problems in TAFE, but the reality is that those same people will tell you that the problem is in the bureaucracy not in the quality of the output that comes from TAFE.

Teachers are being forced to have 20+ students in a room designed for 15 and then told to ignore the W.H. & S issues.

It is just physically impossible to deliver the quality of course required when the size of the class has been increased and the delivery time for the course reduced.

If any other monopoly organisation increased its charges for a product from \$3200.00 to \$13,600.00 in one jump and at the same time reduced the quality they would be dragged before the pricing tribunal and rightly so.

And before they play the private RTO card there are no private RTO's for many of these courses run by TAFE.

*The bureaucracy says we need to do new things to make money, yet whenever an courses is floated the first thing the bureaucracy does is raise a hundred reasons why they are so busy it can't be done, where as in the private sector the first response is not why can't we do it is **how can we get it done.***

The generally thinking on the floor is that Mr Baird's policy of destroying TAFE is working in conjunction with Mr Abbott's policy of importing labour from China under the new free trade agreements.

Too bad about our kids wanting a job or a career.

If TAFE is so run down why are other countries seeking to copy our model.

NSW deserves better.

As I am still employed by TAFE I wish to a low profile rather than risk my position.

Thanking you for your consideration in this matter and if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.