Group of Eight Submission to the Australian Universities Accord Consultation

Fifteen bold ideas to implement a seamless tertiary education and research system

Research

1. Development of a National Research Strategy, incorporating national science and research priorities
2. An overarching government body for research and innovation
3. Greater diversity of mission, scale and focus among universities delivering research
4. Full economic cost support for government research grants
5. A future fund for non-health and medical research with a strong link to basic research
6. Removal of the sector’s reliance on international fee revenue, particularly for the funding of research
7. National Strategic Research Block Grants to support core research
8. Introduction of national doctoral training centres

Education

9. Implementation of support for lifelong learning
10. Support for excellence and innovation in learning and teaching
11. Staged implementation of a flat-fee model for student contributions to government-funded places in higher education
12. A National Tertiary Education System Fund

Equity

13. Redesign of post-secondary education as a seamless tertiary education system supporting equity, mobility and pathways
14. Targeted, long-term, collaborative solutions and focused strategies that work across all levels of government to address impediments and barriers to equity in education
15. A National Equity Data/Evidence Institute
Proposed National Tertiary Education and Research System

NATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION (whole of government)

- National Research Strategy
- Non-HMR Research Future Fund
- ARC, NHMRC & MRFF

TERTIARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

- National Equity Data/Evidence Institute
- National Tertiary Education System Fund

RESEARCH

- Knowledge
- People – Lifelong Learning
- Collaboration

TERTIARY EDUCATION

- Full Economic Costs (FEC)
- National Doctoral Training Centres
- Targeted Research Block Grants
- Publicly supported research-intensive universities
- PhD granting institutions
- (Higher) education institutions undertaking project-based research

PFROs
- Business / Industry
- Independent research institutes

Knowledge

People – Lifelong Learning

Collaboration