

Question on Notice – Dr Pieter Mourik, Albury Hearing

Senator McKENZIE: How many of your scholarship recipients are from the local public high school?

Dr Mourik : I can get those details for you because they are on my database, but I do not have that with me.

Senator MOORE: The evidence we had first up this morning was from a group of professors, mainly from Charles Sturt University. That point about the regional placement and how it operated, and also the 25 per cent expectation of schools, was one of the key issues. Would you mind having a look to see if you have any comments on that evidence? Given that you have a clinical school here, I think it would be very useful to see what they said. I think a counterbalance to the argument on that would be useful.

Dr Mourik : I will do that.

Thank you for your email; I have asked the staff at UNSW Rural Clinical School for their input as well.

1. Nearly half are from public high schools (43 out of 90), if you count Albury Xavier High; there were 6 from Xavier. A couple came from very small secondary schools such as Billabong, Tallangatta, Beechworth and Corowa.

If you go to www.bordermedical.com.au you have all the names of the students since 1991.

2. The discussion about CSU setting up a Rural Medical School has been going for years; the main problem is clinical placements, as we are saturated with students and another medical school would overwhelm the local clinicians, who find it difficult to find time to teach.
3. Few of the teaching staff prepared to take on any more teaching (as I indicated at the hearing); I cannot see new academic staff coming here just to teach.
4. CSU apparently has plans to set up a rural school in Bathurst and Orange; perhaps they should see how this goes before they take on another school