

Committee,

I am a 65 year old Chartered Civil Engineer (NPER), who has worked for 45 years, mainly in rail.

As I see it Australia needs to try and encourage more students into the technical area.

All I can suggest is{

- Change the relativity of HEX fees so that there is less incentive to study the “soft” subjects like Arts degrees and make science based courses much cheaper.
- Promote trade and technical courses more prominently on TV and at schools.
- Publicise the achievements of technical people more e.g. mining, engineering, architecture, etc.

I just can't see the pint of Australian Universities churning out people with BA's when many of them won't be able to use them in their work.

The other aspect we could review is to ensure that technical people are always used to their full potential.

Sometimes qualified engineers are used for positions that an experienced people with lower level technical qualifications could be used.

Yours faithfully,

Tim Calver