



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Education & Vocational Training
Inquiry into Teacher Education

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 7 September 2005

Chair: Luke Hartsuyker MP
Deputy: Rod Sawford MP

Australian Catholic University to answer Committee's questions about teacher education

Representatives from the Australian Catholic University (ACU), including several students, will appear before the House Education Committee in Canberra tomorrow to provide evidence for the Committee's major inquiry into teacher education.

The Committee is examining the scope, suitability, organisation, resourcing and delivery of teacher training courses in Australia's public and private universities.

The ACU has a long history of teacher education, having one of the largest education faculties of all Australian universities. The ACU's Faculty of Education operates across five campuses in Victoria, Queensland, NSW and the ACT.

A recurring theme in the ACU's submission to the inquiry is the adequacy of the funding of teacher education courses. The ACU believes that current resources are one of the factors limiting the development and implementation of more flexible and professional teacher education programs.

The ACU acknowledges that a different model of teacher education may be required to meet the diverse needs of schools but argues that there are many factors inhibiting such change. They suggest that change is needed in the relationship between universities and schools.

The hearing will begin at 9.30am in Committee Room 1R3 at Parliament House on Thursday 8 September 2005 and will be broadcast (audio only) internally on the House Monitoring System on radio frequency 96.7.

The Committee has already received over 150 submissions from across Australia and will travel to all states and territories over the next few months to hold public hearings.

FOR INTERVIEW

Please contact Committee Chair, Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP, through Greg Pierce on 0408 532 785.

For background information including the full terms of reference, please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4573 or visit inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/evt/teachereduc/.

The ACU's submission is on the inquiry website www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/evt/teachereduc/subs/sub068.pdf