

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice

**Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2009

<b>Outcome:</b>	5	<b>Question No:</b>	134
<b>Program:</b>	5.1		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Australian Film, Television and Radio School		
<b>Topic:</b>	AFTRS - Executives		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	126 (19/10)		

**Senator Abetz asked:**

**Senator ABETZ**—Thank you very much for your forbearance, Chair. How many executives have left the organisation in the past two years?

**Ms Browne**—I will do, indeed. Thank you. Just conferring with my colleagues, we believe that three executives have left the organisation.

**Senator ABETZ**—In the last two years?

**Ms Browne**—That is correct.

**Senator ABETZ**—Can you check that. I was told four. Have they been accompanied with relatively large payouts?

**Ms Browne**—I would have to take that on notice and get back to you.

**Senator ABETZ**—All right; if you could. Can you tell us the basis of their departure—was it retirement or resignation? How much has that cost in payout severance fees and other costs? How many executives have left the organisation in the past two years?

**Answers:**

Four executives have left in the last two years. Two executives resigned, one executive was terminated and one executive was made redundant nearing the end of their contract, the position being abolished. Severance payments were based on paying out notice periods, contract provision and length of service. The total payout figure for all positions was \$134,663.

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**Senator ABETZ asked:**

**Senator ABETZ**—Can you give us a comparison with 2001-03, 2003-05 and 2005-07, if the Australian Film, Television and Radio School has been around for that long? I am not sure how long it has been around for.

**Ms Kruk**—Indeed it has. We will give you some comparable periods.

**Senator ABETZ**—Yes. Just come comparable periods would be helpful, the reason that the executives left, how many other staff have resigned over the past two years and whether any reasons have been provided for those resignations. That is it; thank you. Take all that on notice.

**Answers:**

In the period 20 October 2001- 20 October 2003 1 executive resigned.

In the period 20 October 2003- 20 October 2005 no executives left the organisation.

In the period 20 October 2005- 20 October 2007 1 executive resigned.

In the period 20 October 2007 to 20 October 2009 20 staff resigned. The reasons provided were:

- 3 resigned to move interstate
- 1 resigned to travel overseas
- 4 resigned due to the relocation of the Sydney office
- 3 resigned to return to production roles
- 4 resigned to take other government roles
- 1 resigned to run their own business
- 2 resigned for family reasons
- 1 resigned to take up another position
- 1 resigned after being unsuccessful in obtaining a higher level position.