

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

21 – 22 October 2009

Question: sbt 72

Topic: Structure of the Productivity Commission - Economists

Hansard Page: E125 (22/10/09)

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON—I am conscious of the time and I know there might be other questions. Can you take on notice—I do not want to know the names of your economists—to give me an outline of your structure within the Productivity Commission, the economists that work within each area of the structure, and the qualifications of the economists within those structures? I would like to pursue this question of getting more and different views within the Productivity Commission. That would help me understand how you are structured and what the qualifications of your economists are and what universities they came from.

Mr Banks—We will do what we can. I think you will see that there is a very diverse group of people who work for us, coming from all sorts of places and walks of life. We even have some trained in France, to come back to an earlier comment.

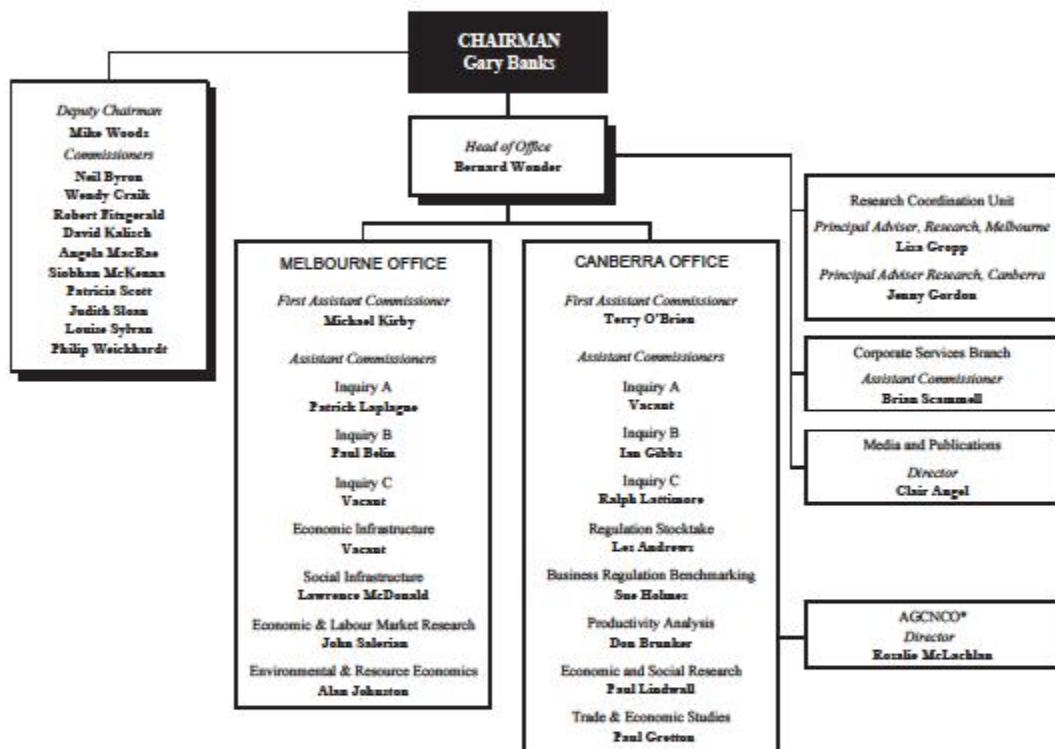
Senator CAMERON—Don't tell Senator Joyce. That is where the socialist plot is coming from now. When you say you will do what you can, does that mean you do not have that analysis?

Mr Banks—I will have to check with my colleagues. We have a certain amount of information. It was of interest to us to know, for example, whether people who have economics degrees might also have training in other things. Quite a few of them do have that. We will get together some information. I can see where you are coming from, so we will provide whatever information we can to satisfy that.

Senator CAMERON—Thank you.

Answer:

An outline of the Productivity Commission's structure is shown at Attachment A. Information on the qualifications of Commission staff is shown in Attachment B.



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Qualifications of Productivity Commission staff

Attachment B to sbt 72

Institution - Australia	Award Level	Area of study	Number of awards
Australia and New Zealand School of Government	Masters	Public Administration	2
Australian Catholic University	Bachelor Degree	Social Work	1
Australian National University	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	3
		Economics	23
		Forest Science	1
		Law	1
		Linguistics	1
		Sciences	1
		Urban Geography	1
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Arts/Social Sciences	1
		Development	1
		Economics	9
		Public Policy	1
	Masters	Economics	22
		Environmental & Resource Economics	1
		International Relations	1
		Public Policy	3
		Resources & Environment	1
	Doctorate	Economics	3
		Natural Resource Management	1
		Psychology	1
Australian Society of CPAs	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Accountancy	3
Bond University	Bachelor Degree	Administration	1
Canberra CAE	Bachelor Degree	Information Technology	1
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Education	2
		Information Technology	1
Capricorn Institute of Advanced Education	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Administration	1
Central Queensland University	Masters	Economics	1
Charles Darwin University	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
Charles Sturt University	Masters	Applied Finance	1
Curtin University	Bachelor Degree	Business	1
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Business	2
Flinders University	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1
		Economics	2
	Masters	Arts/Social Sciences	1
Griffith University	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Administration	1
		Economics	1
	Masters	Economics	1
James Cook University	Bachelor Degree	Economics	2
La Trobe University	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	4
		Economics	4
		Sciences	1
		Agricultural Science	1
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Arts/Social Sciences	1
Macquarie University	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
	Masters	Economics	2

Institution - Australia	Award Level	Area of study	Number of awards		
Monash University	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1		
		Biomedicine	1		
		Business	1		
		Economics	16		
		Eng, Arch & Surveying	1		
		Information Technology	2		
		Law	6		
		Sciences	2		
		Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Information Technology	1	
			Masters	Accountancy	1
			Economics	5	
			Environmental Science	1	
			Industrial Relations	1	
Murdoch University	Bachelor Degree	Economics	4		
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Environmental Science	1		
Queensland University of Technology	Bachelor Degree	Business	1		
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Business	1		
Royal Melbourne Inst. Tech.	Bachelor Degree	Accountancy	1		
		Business	2		
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Information Systems	1		
		Library & Information Science	1		
	Masters	Business	1		
Securities Institute of Australia	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Finance / Banking	2		
Swinburne University	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Applied Statistics	1		
		Information Systems	1		
		Information Systems	1		
University of Adelaide	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1		
		Economics	8		
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Environmental Studies	1		
		Masters	Economics	1	
University of Canberra	Bachelor Degree	Business	1		
		Social Sciences	1		
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Masters	Legal	1	
		Accountancy	1		
University of Melbourne	Bachelor Degree	Agricultural Science	1		
		Arts/Social Sciences	3		
		Economics	21		
		Environmental Engineering	1		
		Forest Science	1		
		Law	1		
		Sciences	3		
University of Melbourne	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Economics	1		
		Education	1		
		Finance / Banking	1		
		Library & Information Science	1		
		Linguistics	1		
		Sciences	1		

Institution - Australia	Award Level	Area of study	Number of awards
University of Melbourne	Masters	Agricultural Science	1
		Economics	5
		Legal	2
		Sciences	1
		Arts/Social Sciences	1
	Doctorate	Economics	1
University of New England	Bachelor Degree	Agricultural Economics	1
		Economics	3
		Finance / Banking	1
	Masters	Economics	3
Doctorate	Economics	1	
University of Newcastle	Bachelor Degree	Economics	4
	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Education	1
University of NSW	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1
		Economics	5
		Law	1
University of Queensland	Bachelor Degree	Agricultural Science	1
		Arts/Social Sciences	3
		Business	1
		Economics	6
		Sciences	1
		Arts/Social Sciences	1
	Doctorate	Economics	1
University of Southern Queensland	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Administration	1
		Education	1
		Journalism	1
		Journalism	1
University of Sydney	Bachelor Degree	Agricultural Economics	2
		Economics	5
		Resource Economics	1
	Masters	Economics	1
Doctorate	Economics	1	
University of Tasmania	Bachelor Degree	Economics	5
University of Western Australia	Bachelor Degree	Agricultural Economics	2
		Economics	2
	Masters	Economics	1
	Doctorate	Economics	1
	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
University of Wollongong	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
Victoria University	Bachelor Degree	Business	2
		E-Commerce	1
		Finance / Banking	1
		Multimedia	1
		Taxation	1
		Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Taxation
	Masters	Business	1

Institution - International	Award Level	Area of study	Number of awards
Cambridge University, UK	Masters	International Relations	1
Ecole Nationale d'Administration, France	Masters	Administration	1
Harvard Business School, USA	Post Grad Dip / Grad Cert	Business	1
Harvard University, USA	Doctorate	Economics	1
London School of Economics	Masters	Economics	1
Oxford University, UK	Doctorate	Economics	1
Purdue University, USA	Doctorate	Economics	1
	Masters	Sciences	1
Renmin University of China	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
Universite de Geneve, Switzerland	Bachelor Degree	Economics	1
Universite de Montpellier I, France	Masters	Economics	1
University of British Columbia, Canada	Masters	Economics	1
	Doctorate	Economics	1
	Doctorate	Zoology	1
University of Cincinnati, USA	Masters	Arts/Social Sciences	1
University of Madras	Bachelor Degree	Business	1
University of Manchester, UK	Masters	Economics & Econometrics	1
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1
University of Southampton, UK	Masters	Economics	1
University of Victoria, Canada	Masters	Public Administration	1
University Of Waterloo, Canada	Doctorate	Pure Mathematics	1
University of Western Ontario, Canada	Bachelor Degree	Arts/Social Sciences	1
Wayne State University, Detroit, USA	Masters	Library & Information Science	1
Wittenberg University, USA	Bachelor Degree	Sciences	1

Notes:

There are 165 staff of the Productivity Commission who have a graduate degree or post-graduate qualification.

Most staff have both graduate and post-graduate qualifications. There are a total of 330 graduate and post-graduate awards made by tertiary institutions to Commission staff (189 Bachelors degrees, 47 Post-graduate diplomas/Graduate certificates, 78 Masters and 16 Doctorates).

Approximately 59% of awards are for qualifications primarily in the economics field of study.

The qualifications have been awarded by 35 Australian and 21 international institutions. The Commission has an office in Canberra and Melbourne – approximately 59% of qualifications have been awarded from institutions in those cities.

Vocational qualifications have been excluded (e.g. TAFE certificate) from the above table. 'Double degrees' have been included as two awards for the purpose of this table. Qualifications in 'commerce' have been included as an 'economics' area of study.

Tertiary qualifications held by non-ongoing part-time Associate Commissioners have been excluded from the above table.