

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E908_04

Senator Carr provided in writing

Question:

- a) When was the report on the study on online teaching and learning in higher education actually completed and handed to DEST?
- b) When was it forwarded to the Minister
- c) Why was its release timed for late December?
- d) Would you agree that its findings suggest that good teaching and effective learning, online, necessitate resource-intensive approaches – especially interactive approaches?
- e) What are the implications of this for the Commonwealth's plans to rationalise courses and encourage collaboration in teaching between institutions? Won't this involve the use of online teaching methods?
- f) Has the Department carried out a cost assessment of rationalising teaching across institutions using online approaches?

Answer:

Online Teaching and Learning

- a) The report, *Online Teaching and Learning in Higher Education: A Case Study* was submitted to the Department in March 2003.
- b) The report was sent to the Minister's Office in September 2003.
- c) The report was released after normal review processes.
- d) The report argues that similar levels of resourcing are required to support good teaching in whatever environment.
- e) There are no implications from this report for any course rationalisation. The report discusses a method of delivery. The use of online teaching methods is something determined by each individual institution.
- f) No