

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No. E272_04

Senator Stephens asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

What work has been done to examine the extent of regional university engagement with their communities?

Answer:

Regional university engagement with their communities

The Department has commissioned a number of studies to examine this issue, notably the studies by Steve Garlick, *Engaging Universities and regions* (EIP 00/15, December 2000) and an earlier study, *Creative Associations in Special Places: enhancing the partnership role of universities in building competitive regional economies* (EIP 98/04, April 1998).

The Department has also undertaken a number of studies looking at issues of regional access to higher education, for example, *Regional Participation in Higher Education and the Distribution of Higher Education Resources across Regions* (Stevenson et al, DEST Occasional paper series 99-B, June 1999).

Each year, universities report to the Minister on their educational profile. In this documentation, a number of items address regional university engagement with their communities, for example, through the university's strategic plan, through proposals for regional campus developments and reporting on cooperative research initiatives.