

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2 and 3
Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education
3.1 – Research infrastructure

DEST Question No. E309_04

Senator Harradine asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

Given the important impact of research on regional universities and communities, what is the Department doing to assist regional universities in undertaking research and maintaining and expanding their research capability?

Answer:

Regional Universities – Assistance for Research

Under the *Knowledge and Innovation* framework, there is support for research undertaken by regional universities through a regional package which assists universities to develop regional connections, foster a shift towards a more entrepreneurial framework, concentrate research activity into areas of strength, and assist institutions to take advantage of opportunities presented through new fields of research. DEST administers a key element of this package, by which regional universities are supported by a fund worth \$6 million over a transitional period between 2002 and 2004, to ensure that no regional university suffers a deterioration in its research funding, from its starting position, through the introduction of the *Knowledge and Innovation* reforms. Eligible universities are:

- Charles Sturt University
- Southern Cross University
- The University of New England
- The University of Newcastle
- University of Wollongong
- Deakin University
- La Trobe University
- University of Ballarat
- Central Queensland University
- James Cook University
- University of Southern Queensland
- University of Tasmania
- Northern Territory University