

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

#### **DEST Question No. E040\_07**

Senator Stephens asked on 1 June 2006, EWRE Hansard page 4.

#### **Question:**

What I understand is that there was a change in the timeframes in which the data was being collected and, associated with that, there was a change in software and hardware requirements. What kinds of changes in the data?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Data Collection*

Under the *Higher Education Funding Act (HEFA)*, the student data collection year covered 1 September to 31 August and was collected twice a year (May and October). Half year data was generally available in August and full year data in December.

Under the *Higher Education Support Act (HESA)* the student data collection year covers 1 January to 31 December. To support the introduction of HESA, four collection points (May, August, October and March) were introduced from 2005. These changes in collection arrangements will mean that half year data will now normally be available in December and full year data in July in the following year.

A new web-based Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS) is being developed and functionality progressively released to support the implementation of the higher education reforms.