EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1 Output Group: ARC

DEST Question No: E639_07

Provided in writing by Senator Wong on 9 November 2006

Question:

- Can the ARC confirm that the share of Group of Eight universities in terms of ARC grant funding has been increasing for the last few years?
- Please provide the funding provided to Go8 universities for the last 3 years in each of the ARC's grant areas (e.g. Linkage, Discovery. Federation Fellows etc). Please also provide the total funding disbursed in that year for comparison.
- What does the ARC put this down to?
- Could the ARC please provide amount and proportion of ARC grant funding including Discovery, Linkage, Federation Fellows and the other areas, that has gone to the various university groupings cumulatively, i.e. Go8, ATN, IRU, NGUs etc?

Answer:

The ARC has provided the following response.

- The share of new ARC funding allocated to the Group of Eight universities has risen in each of the last four years, from 66.1 per cent in 2003 to 72.3 per cent in 2006.
- This information is provided in Table 1 (attached).
- On 1 November 2006 the ARC appeared before the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee at the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings. To quote from the Hansard of the hearing, page 33, the CEO stated that
 - '...it is a long-established trend that the Group of Eight universities would get in the order of 70 per cent of the funding. That probably reflects the concentration of very good researchers that are employed by the Group of Eight universities; their long tradition of research excellence, research support and research infrastructure; and perhaps the choice of research area in which they apply'.
- This information is provided in Table 2 (attached).