

# Research Forum

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## Non-completion of apprenticeships: a gender perspective.

Dr Alexandra Winter and Mr Bernard Trendle, Training and Skills Research,  
Department of Education and Training  
Wednesday 15 September 2010, 10.00am – 12.00pm  
Conference Room, Level 12, Education House  
30 Mary Street, Brisbane

Apprenticeship remains an important pathway for young people making the transition from full-time education to full-time participation in the labour market. However, the importance of this pathway is not spread equally across gender with over 80 % of all apprenticeship commencements in Queensland in 2001 being male. Furthermore, while nearly 50% of all people complete their training contract, the rate of completion between the genders varies, with only 37.8% of females completing their training compared to some 53.5% of their male counterparts. This presentation provides an analysis of differences in the rate of cancellation from apprenticeship, focussing on the role of gender in these differences in the cancellation/completion decision.

Following Dr Winter's and Mr Trendle's presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to raise any comments or questions.

**Dr Alexandra Winter** is currently employed with the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist and until recently worked on the Women in Hard

Hats and Smart Women - Smart State initiatives at the Office for Women. The work on gender and the cancellation from apprenticeships was completed while out-posted to the Training and Skills Research Unit. Her most recent publication is: "The Smart Women - Smart State Strategy: A Policy on Women's Participation in Science, Engineering and Technology in Queensland, Australia", forthcoming in *Women in Engineering, Science and Technology: Education and Career Challenges*.

**Mr Bernard Trendle** is currently employed in the Training and Skills Research Unit of the Department of Education and Training and has been employed in the training portfolio for 8 years. Recent publications include "An analysis of factors responsible for apprenticeship cancellation", published in the special issue on work and employment of the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Economics*, while a study of Indigenous cancellation from apprenticeship has been accepted for publication by *Education Economics*.

Please RSVP your attendance by Friday 10 September to [rebecca.libke@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:rebecca.libke@deta.qld.gov.au)

Refreshments will be available during the event.