

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

Refreshments will be available during the event.