



**Strategic Policy and Performance Division of the
Queensland Department of Education, Training and the Arts
invites you to attend a**

Research Forum

Australia's opportunity challenge: Raising youth engagement and attainment

Presentation by Dr John Spierings, Dusseldorp Skills Forum

THE RESEARCH FORUM

This Forum will be based on analysis of research findings over the last three years in the area of youth engagement and participation.

Core themes explored will be:

- School retention and educational attainment
- Youth transitions (school to work)
- Post school destinations
- Vocational education and skills formation.

The Forum will include some updated data for the forthcoming **How Young People are Faring** and results from a major national survey of youth conducted by Newspoll for DSF, **What Young People are Thinking**. A focus of the presentation will be on factors of disadvantage related to educational exclusion.

The Forum will also provide an opportunity for discussion regarding the implications of this research for policy development and practice implementation.

THE ORGANISATION

Dusseldorp Skills Forum: An independent public interest enterprise founded in 1988 on the

retirement of Dick Dusseldorp, founder and long-time CEO and Chair of Lend Lease. A share divestment by the staff and institutional shareholders created an independent corpus that today enables DSF to be entirely self-funded. DSF's mission is to promote improved participation in learning and work for the benefit of individuals, the Australian community and the nation's international competitiveness. It has a practice as well as a research and policy focus, and works across the political and industry spectrum for the common good.

THE SPEAKER

John Spierings: DSF's research strategist for almost a decade. Prior to joining DSF he worked as a lecturer and senior researcher at Melbourne, Monash and Adelaide universities. He has published numerous essays and reviews on youth transitions, schooling, vocational education and skill development.

Afternoon tea will be provided.

**Please RSVP by Tuesday 17 July 2007 to
Kim Tually via email
Kim.Tually@deta.qld.gov.au or on phone: (07)
3237 1281**

This Forum is provided Free-of-Charge

When?

**Thursday, 19 July 2007
1:45pm to 3:30pm**

Where?

**Conference Room, Level 12
Education House
30 Mary Street, Brisbane**