

# THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF GRADUATE WOMEN-NSW Inc



AFGW-NSW Inc

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Dear Mr Piccoli

I write to you on behalf of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women in relation to the Smart and Skilled policy of the New South Wales Government.

We are concerned about the continued cuts to funding to the NSW TAFE system and in particular we deplore the current situation characterised by:-

- increased fees which will force young vocational trainees out of the system.
- reduced services which will reduce opportunities for vocational training.
- loss of skills of teachers who will be forced out of the system due to inadequate funding.
- plummeting morale in the TAFE system.
- the perception that the New South Wales Government is in the process of forcing vocational trainees to take up inferior private training.

We believe that this policy will result in :-

- a growing underclass of unemployable people due to the inferior services offered to them as a result of the Smart and Skilled Policy.
- a squandered opportunity for New South Wales to take advantage of the growing demand for educational services from China.
- a depleted and run down TAFE system which will take decades to repair.

We want a vibrant TAFE system to provide for the present and future generations of people who have a right to expect high quality vocational training provided by our State.

Yours sincerely

Virginia Ross  
President AFGW NSW