Perfect Storm

- TEQSA - standards
- Australian Qualifications Framework
- Mission – based Compacts
- Performance Funding
- Demand driven funding
- Participation Agenda
- Skills Agenda
- Pathways
- Funding review
- International market
TEQSA Overview


- National regulatory and quality assurance agency with the power to regulate higher education providers and monitor quality against a Standards Framework developed by the Higher Education Standards Panel.

- Principles for regulation: regulatory necessity, reflecting risk, proportionate
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• Higher Education Standards Framework: Provider Standards, Qualification Standards, Teaching and Learning Standards, Information Standards and Research Standards.

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- The Information Standards, Teaching and Learning Standards and Research Standards will be new standards developed with the higher education sector. These will be drawn on by TEQSA when conducting its quality assurance activities.
TEQSA Provider Standards – draft released April 13

• Provider standing
• Financial viability and safeguards
• Corporate and academic governance
• Primacy of academic quality and integrity
• Management of human resources
• Responsibilities to students
• Physical and electronic resources and infrastructure

NOTE ALSO: Draft Provider Course Accreditation Standards

AUSTRALIAN LEARNING AND TEACHING COUNCIL
Australian Qualifications Framework

• Read it carefully
• Look for the implications
• Pathways
• Level 8 and 9
Mission-based Compacts
Performance Funding

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• Higher education performance funding will enable universities to enhance the quality of teaching and learning and student outcomes.
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• Higher education performance funding will enable universities to enhance the quality of teaching and learning and student outcomes.

• Focus on quality is essential where funding is driven by student choice, and is essential for ensuring that the Commonwealth’s participation and social inclusion ambitions are achieved without a risk to quality.
Demand Driven Funding

- more autonomy to universities through the removal of funding caps on Commonwealth supported places and funded on basis of student demand.

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- a strong focus on enhancing the quality of teaching and learning while expansion of the higher education system meets national participation ambitions.
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- this will add 50 000 commencing students by 2013 and produce 217 000 additional graduates by 2025.
Participation Agenda

• by 2020, 20 per cent of higher education enrolments at the undergraduate level will be people from low (SES) backgrounds.

• by 2025, 40 per cent of all 25 to 34 year olds will hold a qualification at bachelor level or above.

• enhanced participation and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in higher education

• loadings related to number of the low SES students to help universities provide intensive support to disadvantaged students and improve retention and completion rates.

• targets will relate to access, participation and outcomes

• performance in meeting equity objectives will be linked with teaching and learning Performance Funding
Skills Agenda

• Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment (MCTEE) reflects the need for higher education and VET systems to work together to produce integrated responses.

• Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC) to develop strategies to improve articulation and connectivity between the Higher Education and VET sectors.

• Skills Australia’s role expanded to advise on the effectiveness of the higher education system in meeting Australia’s skill needs.

• Greater emphasis on work based education, internships, work relevant generic skills
Pathways


• AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy aims to maximise the credit that students can gain for learning already undertaken by:

  • enhancing student progression into and between AQF qualifications

  • recognising the multiple pathways that students take to gain AQF qualifications and

  • recognising that learning can be formal, non-formal or informal, and

  • supporting the development of pathways in qualifications design.
Base Funding Review

- Independent review of the base funding levels for learning and teaching in higher education to report in 2011
- To ensure that funding levels remain internationally competitive and appropriate for the sector.
- To examine options for achieving a more rational and consistent sharing of costs between students and across discipline clusters.
Implications for Teaching and Learning in ICT

Collaboration vs competition

• National agreement on standards in ICT

• Collaboration in assessing and demonstrating achievement of quality student outcomes

• Effective collaboration with accrediting bodies and employers
Implications for Teaching and Learning in ICT

Student support

• More effort on pathways and student support
• More effort on support for disadvantaged student groups
• Coping with greater demand in popular courses
• Coping with increased student numbers
Implications for Teaching and Learning in ICT

Industry engagement

• Remaining relevant to industry needs
• Securing work based experience for more students
• Assessing learning outcomes and demonstrating quality in work based learning.
Implications for Teaching and Learning in ICT

Market forces

• More competition from stronger, better regulated private providers
• Coping with falling demand as a result of competition
• Identifying your point of difference
• Mission based differentiation beyond minimum standards
The Teaching and Learning world post ALTC

• Primacy of Disciplines in new Quality Assurance agenda
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- Importance of Deans’ Councils
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• Importance of Deans’ Councils
• Importance of Associate Deans T&L
• Importance of maintaining networks of providers, employers and professions