



## Research training in Australia Public hearing in Townsville

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation will conduct its sixth interstate public hearing for its research training inquiry in Townsville on Tuesday, 19 August.

“This inquiry focuses on the adequacy and effectiveness of current research training schemes, the factors that determine whether new graduates pursue a career in research, and the opportunities for career advancement for research graduates and staff”, said Committee Chair Maria Vamvakinou.

Representatives from James Cook University and Professor Rick Speare (on behalf of Dr Lee Skerratt) will discuss the contribution that Australian universities make to Australian research training, and the challenges those universities face in recruiting, training and retaining quality research staff.

Representatives of the Central Queensland University Branch of the National Tertiary Education Union will also discuss the quality and adequacy of research training in Australia.

“Attracting new graduates to research, and keeping hold of our best and brightest researchers here in Australia, has become a challenge for many Australian universities”, Committee Chair Maria Vamvakinou noted.

**PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM**  
**Tuesday 19 August 2008**  
**8.30am to 10.15am**  
**Creative Arts Building, James Cook Drive, Douglas Campus**  
**James Cook University, Townsville**

Full program details available at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isi/research/hearings.htm>

Further details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and schedule of public hearings can be obtained from the Committee’s website at: [www.aph.gov.au/isi](http://www.aph.gov.au/isi)

**For media comment:** contact the Committee Chair Ms Maria Vamvakinou on 0417 541 465.

**For further information:** contact the Committee Secretary on 02 6277 4594 or [isi.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:isi.reps@aph.gov.au)