



HIGHER EDUCATION INDEXATION REVISION



The Go8 has welcomed new indexation arrangements for higher education which will deliver an additional \$2.6 billion to universities over five years. Taken together with the increased funding for the indirect costs of research, the new indexation arrangement is a significant recurrent funding improvement. It will have accumulating benefits across a range of programs relating to university teaching and research.

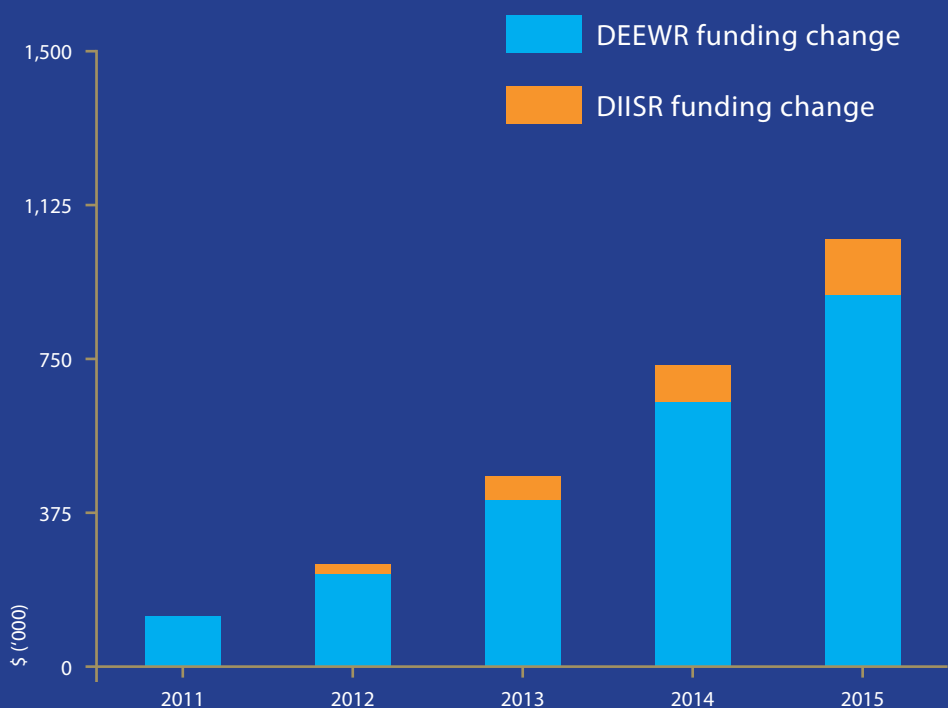
The new index replaces a method that was arbitrary and opaque and had no relationship to changes in university costs. The new formula for higher education funding indexation will be made up as follows:

- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services labour price index (75%)
- Consumer Price Index (25%)

The Go8 congratulates the Government on implementing this important recommendation of the Bradley Review, an issue highlighted by the Go8 as far back as 2003.

The Higher Education Support Amendment (Indexation) Bill 2010, was tabled in Parliament on 13 May 2010.

HIGHER EDUCATION INDEXATION INCREASES



Source: DEEWR, 2010

Year

AUSTRALIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

The Government is currently conducting a review of the AQF's Policy for issuing and protecting the titles of Australian qualifications.

The Go8 supports measures that assure graduates and employers of the quality of Australian qualifications. However, any changes to the current policy need to be balanced and resist a "one-size-fits-all" approach.

The tertiary education sector is becoming increasingly differentiated to meet the needs of a broader student body and a more complex labour market. Education policy settings should reflect this reality.

The Go8's submission to the current review emphasises the following points:

- The level of prescription about what should be contained on testamurs and academic transcripts is unnecessary.
- The current protocols for qualification titles, abbreviations and post-nominals are too restrictive. They do not reflect the current range of qualifications offered by Australian universities, many of which are recognised internationally, nor do they allow for future developments in either domestic or international practice.

Specific issues are outlined in the full submission available on the Go8 website at:

www.go8.edu.au/government-a-business/go8-policy-a-analysis

Go8 ENERGY RESEARCH

This month the Go8 released information about the important work of its member universities in the field of energy research.

The Go8 recognises that the issue of energy usage and transformation is one of vital importance for Australia and for the rest of the world.

The document highlights projects and contact details for experts in:

- Identification, extraction and delivery of primary energy sources
- Conversion of these primary energy sources to secondary energy forms and their delivery
- Use of primary and secondary energy in an efficient manner



- Environmental impacts of energy supply and use
- Economic/social impacts and regulatory/policy issues related to energy supply and use

The document has been sent to senior government figures. It can be downloaded from the Go8 website at:

www.go8.edu.au/government-a-business/go8-research-expertise

Go8-GERMANY RESEARCH EXCHANGE

Applications for the Go8-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme close on 30 June 2010.

Since 2008 this scheme has provided over \$3 million to support research exchange, particularly for early career researchers, between Australia and Germany. The funding has supported 90 projects on issues ranging from renewable energy and emissions trading to ageing and integration of migrants.

Further details including application and selection procedures and are available from the Go8 website at:

www.go8.edu.au/university-staff/programs-a-fellowships/64-go8-germany-joint-research-co-operation-scheme

EMBL AUSTRALIA INTERNATIONAL PhD

The Dean of Graduate Studies for the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Europe's life sciences research flagship, will visit Go8 universities in June to speak with students about the opportunity to participate in the EMBL Australia International PhD Program.

Dr Helke Hillebrand will meet with staff and students at Monash University on Monday 14 June, The University of Queensland on Tuesday 15 June and The University of Western Australia on Thursday 17 June.

The Go8 signed an MoU with EMBL earlier this year making Go8 universities the only official partners of EMBL in this program outside of Europe. Australia became EMBL's first Associate Member in 2007 through

financial contributions from the Australian Government, CSIRO and four of the Go8's member universities (Monash, UQ, UWA and Sydney).

The PhDs will be jointly awarded by the student's Australian university and the EMBL. Funding will be provided by EMBL Australia and each student's Australian host university.

Applications are open now, with the first candidates to commence in October 2010.

A list of FAQs for students interested in applying is available at:

www.emblaustralia.org/Training/PhDProgram.aspx

Information about EMBL's partner universities is available at:

www.embl.de/training/eipp/partneruniversities/index.html

Go8 CONFERENCE DISCOUNTS

Australian Financial Review Higher Education Conference (the only AFR HE conference in 2010)

7-8 June 2010, Sydney

Staff of Go8 universities are eligible for a 10% discount on the registration fee.

For details see: www.afr.com/p/financial_review_higher_education_MaGTPhrjCzXrvUAYlcejWM

Student Housing Summit

7-8 September 2010, Melbourne

Tackling the issues of growth, supply and demand across the student housing sector.

Staff of Go8 universities are eligible for a 10% discount on the registration fee.

www.informa.com.au/studenthousing

Social Inclusion in Education Conference

13-14 September 2010, Sydney

Staff of Go8 universities are eligible for a 10% discount on the registration fee.

Email executive.director@go8.edu.au for the relevant registration form.

www.informa.com.au/conferences/education/the-2nd-annual-social-inclusion-in-education

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Go8 Data Sharing Network meets in Sydney on 16 June
- Go8 Chief Financial Officers meet in Brisbane on 25 June
- Go8 Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Research) meet in Brisbane on 25 June
- Go8 Academic Policy Committee meets at the Gold Coast on 2 July
- Go8 Deans of Medicine meet in Canberra on 20 July
- Go8 Vice-Chancellors meet in Canberra on 22 July

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The *Go8 Update* is published online to keep the Go8 network of committees and staff at Go8 universities informed about the organisation's activities.

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