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Development*

Practical issues in fostering Enhanced Regional Engagement

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*In partnership with
Department of State
Development and
Innovation*

Review of Higher Education

- **Now four reviews**
- **All driving collaboration and greater commercial focus**
- **38 Universities**
 - **need to be differentiated**
 - **value proposition or market niche**
- **Partnerships and regional relevance**



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DEST – Research Collaboration

- reports will underpin an expected budget announcement on a replacement for the \$3bil Backing Australia's Ability program, which expires in 2005-06.
- The creation of "super centres for research" will be encouraged by forcing universities and research agencies to pursue co-location before announcing any major capital expenditure.
- Private companies would also win access to the taxpayer-funded research fund if they formed partnerships with publicly funded research institutions.



DEST - Research Collaboration

- Universities and research agencies will be subject to a new "outcome-orientated" performance measurement, designed to review "quality and relevance".
- Research agencies including the CSIRO, ANSTO and AIMS no longer secure block funding for *all research* but be forced to compete for a share of a \$500 million collaboration fund.
- Community service obligations and public good research are likely to be funded under a funder-provider model



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ANSTO – Aust Nuclear Science & Tech Org

AIMS – Australian Institute of Marine Science



A Changing Environment for Universities

- **Emerging global and regional trends and drivers**
- **Flexibility and responsiveness**
- **Change management**
- **Currency and timeliness**
- **Culture**



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Some key industry partnerships

- **Heavy industry at Gladstone**
- **Mining companies**
- **State Government**
- **Community groups**



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What is the CQU doing

- **Flagship for Sustainable Regional Development (ISRD)**
- **Single portal into CQU's research capability**
- **Single brokerage point for multidisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research**
- **Seamless service delivery across faculties**



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What is the CQU doing

- **Industry alignment**
- **Practical research focus**
- **Industry partnership approach**
- **Incentives to partner**
- **Building the skill set**
- **Leverage of industry funds**



What is the CQU doing

- **Spending time with industry to learn what they need**
- **Tailor output to meet industry needs**
- **Quality assurance**
- **Value for money**
- **Timeliness of output**





What is the CQU doing

- **Taking time to build the relationship**
- **Honesty and transparency**
- **Balanced and equal partnerships**
- **IP and management of sensitive and commercial-in-confidence information**





What is the CQU doing

- **Consultancies vs contracted research**
- **Publish or perish vs partnership or perish**
- **Articulation of DEST credits**
- **Industry placements**



Issues and Challenges in Regional Engagement



- **Accessibility of University to industry**
- **Gaining commitment to intangible performance**
- **Matching increasing expectations and collective capabilities**
- **Managing short term projects with long term engagement in issues**
- **Capacity building, shared knowledge and data**



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