

# Research Directions

Office of Research Services

## **Teacher Secondments**

**Dr Wayne Sawyer, Centre for Educational Research, is leading a research team with funding from the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) to investigate whether qualified school teachers already employed in Australian schools are also employed in university settings to train teachers, and how these arrangements work.**



'The scale and variety of teacher education programs in Australia is remarkably diverse' said Dr Sawyer. 'The project team has identified approximately 160 programs currently delivering pre-service teacher education across 39 tertiary institutions in Australia. Some deliver courses full-time on-campus but others are delivered via external or web-based modes. In some instances, unique programs designed to meet local needs have been developed. The involvement of Department of Education and Training-employed school teachers in these course delivery systems varies greatly, and may have a significant impact on the quality of graduates from the program.'

This study will identify the extent of partnerships between schools and universities in teacher education and the contribution of schools to the capacity of universities to deliver their courses. The dependence of education faculties on the secondary school system, the integration of educational theory and practice and the enhancement of practitioner focus in education will also be explored to provide valuable information to universities and DEST about current teacher education systems and philosophies.

**Project Title:** *The Provision of Research on Teacher Secondments and Placements to University Education Faculties*

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