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to

Prof Mary O’Kane

Chair, Australian Universities Accord

19 Dec 2022

Submission on priorities for the Australian Universities Accord

Dear Prof O’Kane, Dear Panel Members,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the terms of reference for the review panel.

In my view, the quality of Australia’s higher education and research system and several of the other priority issues identified in your letter are intimately tied to the principles upon which our higher education system is based.

I commend the panel for including the topic of “Governance and accountability” and the topic “The connection between the vocational education and training and higher education systems” in the priorities.

I would recommend that you consider including in your terms of reference the following additional items:

- Foundation principles for Australia’s HE system
- Funding model and management structures for Australia’s HE system
- Workplaces in Australia’s HE system
- Principles and processes for international education, and relation to migration

I would also like to point the panel to my peer-reviewed paper on governance structures for universities:

1. **[“A self-selection mechanism for appointed external members of WA University Councils”](#)**, peer-reviewed article by G.E. Schröder-Turk, Australian Universities Review 63 (2020)

I would also like to point the panel to the following submissions that I have made or co-authored (in my role as a member of the Australian Institute of Physics) in regards to earlier government consultations that are relevant to the University Accord:

1. **“Risk and consequences of separation of teaching and research”** by Gerd Schröder-Turk: Submission to the Senate Education and Employment Committee in the [Australian Federal Government Senate Inquiry in relation to the Job Ready Graduate Bill](#), September 2020. The focus of this submission was on the risk to research quality through loss of independence.
2. **“University Research Commercialisation”**. Submission by the Australian Institute of Physics National Executive (co-authored by Gerd Schröder-Turk) to the Australian Government, Department of Education, Skills & Employment, in relation to consultation on the University Research Commercialisation scheme, 10 April 2021
3. **Submission by the Australian Institute of Physics in relation to the Higher Education Support Amendment (Job-Ready Graduates and Supporting Regional and Remote Students) Bill 2020**, submission to the Australian Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee inquiry, (co-authored by Gerd Schröder-Turk), 8 September 2021

For the avoidance of any doubt: This submission represents my personal views. I do not suggest and do not wish to imply that the views expressed here, or in the referenced papers, are the views held by any of the organisations of which I am a member or employee.

I look forward to future opportunities to engage with the University Accord panel, and wish you well in your work.

Kind regards,

Gerd Schröder-Turk