



**ACT**  
Government

Education and Training

To: Higher Education Standards Panel Executive  
Address: [info@HEstandards.gov.au](mailto:info@HEstandards.gov.au)

Dear Higher Education Standards Panel Executive

### **Draft Standards for Course Design and Learning Outcomes**

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2013 requesting comments on proposed revisions to the current Higher Education Threshold Standards.

The ACT Education and Training Directorate, on behalf of the ACT Government, is pleased to provide a response to the Higher Education Standards Panel on the *Draft Standards for Course Design and Learning Outcomes – Discussion Paper*.

While as a Directorate we do not enact these Standards, we are interested in working with the higher education sector to ensure quality and consistency is enhanced and maintained.

The Directorate broadly supports the Panel's proposed revision of the format and style of the standards, as exemplified by the draft standards for Course Design (Coursework) and Learning Outcomes (Coursework) and the move to reduce overlap and repetition is welcomed.

The Directorate agrees with the inclusion of Reference Points in the standards, noting that the points provided do not themselves form Higher Education Standards and that further refinement may be required as the practical implications are better understood. Well crafted reference points will assist in developing a consistent understanding of the Standards.

The Directorate supports the Panel's approach to and refinement of the content of the proposed standards for Course Design (Coursework) and Learning Outcomes (Coursework).

The Directorate looks forward to further opportunities to remain involved in the review of the *Higher Education Threshold Standards* and provide feedback to the Panel in the future.

Jayne Johnston  
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Tertiary Education and Performance  
16 April 2013