

Higher Education Standards Panel

Call for Comment (Number 2, 28 May 2013)

Draft Standards for Research, Research Training and Learning Outcomes (Research Training)

Draft Standards for Research

Q1. Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Research? If not, why?

Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School (BMIHMS) broadly supports the proposed standards for Research.

Q2. Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?

There is a degree of ambiguity as to whether the standards apply to coursework masters where research training is taught and research is undertaken as required by the relevant Australian Qualifications Framework learning outcomes descriptor, that is, “to plan and execute a substantial research-based project, capstone experience and/or piece of scholarship.” There is also a question as to whether the standards would apply for research undertaken at an undergraduate level, while BMIHMS feels that undergraduate research would be excluded, it would be helpful if the standards were more explicit.

Draft Standards for Research Training

Q3. Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Research Training? If not, why?

Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School (BMIHMS) broadly supports the proposed standards for Research Training.

Q4. Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?

BMIHMS feels that there is a need for more explicit direction. For instance, does the requirement in point 3 of the proposed Research Training standards include or exclude all undergraduate and all coursework masters? If not excluded, the scale of the obligation, that is, the requirement of a principal and assistant supervisor for a 6 month research activity should be reconsidered.

Draft Standards for Learning Outcomes (Research Training)

Q5. Do you broadly support the proposed standards for Learning Outcomes (Research Training)? If not, why?

Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School (BMIHMS) broadly supports the proposed standards for Learning Outcomes (Research Training).

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Q6. Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?

BMIHMS would like to see greater clarity around point 4b of the proposed Learning Outcomes (Research Training). Does this apply to coursework masters?

Q7. Do you wish to make any Overall or General Comments about the form, style, scope or any other aspects of the proposed set of research-related standards?

BMIHMS would like clarity with regard to the footnote present in the Research Standards: “Applicable to providers that conduct research, or conduct research and offer research training.” Similarly, in the Research Training and Learning Outcomes (Research Training): “Applicable to providers that conduct research and offer research training.” How is “research” defined? The definition of research, in particular, the scale of research, will be a key determinant as to the applicability of the standards.

Should further information be required please contact Guy Bentley CEO at

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