



ACT
Government
Education and Training

To: Higher Education Standards Panel Executive
Via email: info@HEstandards.gov.au

Dear Higher Education Standards Panel Executive

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

Thank you for your email of 12 June 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 Research, Research Training and Learning Outcomes (Research Training) - Discussion Paper*.

The Directorate broadly supports the proposed Standards outlined in the discussion paper. In regards to the specific content of the Standards, it is noted that under Standard 3 of the Standards for Research Training, the principle supervisor must be 'research-active'. The Directorate suggests that a definition for 'research-active' be included with the Standards. Should the requirements for 'research-active' be too onerous, the availability of supervisors may be limited. This may subsequently impact on current and prospective students that choose to complete high level research. All other aspects of the proposed Standards outlined in the discussion paper are clear.

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

Jayne Johnston
Executive Director
Tertiary Education and Performance
10 July 2013