In this Disability Education and Employment News, we have information on the AEND’s information session in Sydney for University Students with Disability, a new series of Enhancing the Links in Newcastle and the 2010 Stepping into... internship program intake have been extended to Friday 6th May 2010. Plus further information on other Resources, Conferences and Workshops, News articles and other information for the Disability Education, Training and Employment Sectors.

Please distribute the Newsletter to those that you think would be interested in it.

For information on subscribing, please go to the end of the newsletter.

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**Education News:**

Gillard puts funding on notice Justine Ferrari, Education writer From: The Australian

May 01, 2010 12:00AM

BUSINESSMAN David Gonski will lead the panel of eminent people picked by Education Minister Julia Gillard to review the nation's system of funding government and non-government schools.

Mr Gonski will be joined on the panel by former West Australian Labor premier Carmen Lawrence, former Sydney City councillor Kathryn Greiner, former NSW Education Department secretary Ken Boston and Catholic education stalwart Peter Tannock.

Releasing a discussion paper and draft terms of reference yesterday to the inquiry she called two weeks ago, Ms Gillard said the time was right to discuss school funding in an open and constructive manner.
"Education is too important to allow it to be dominated by ideological arguments or as a vehicle for a broader political agenda," she says in the discussion paper.

The terms of reference, which are open to public comment until the end of the month, call for a funding system that is "transparent, fair, financially sustainable and effective in promoting excellent educational outcomes" for all students. For the rest of the article go to http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/gillard-puts-funding-on-notice/story-e6frg6nf-1225860821051

Private schools get more money for special needs students: Greens

ANNA PATTY EDUCATION EDITOR

April 28, 2010

PRIVATE schools are getting a higher per-capita share of the state and commonwealth funding allocated to students with special needs compared with state schools, new analysis suggests.

Commonwealth funding for private schools is tied to the average cost to state governments of funding a child in the public school system.

Of the $3 billion the state and commonwealth governments provide to non-government schools in NSW for special needs education, an estimated 13 per cent, or $400 million, is allocated on the basis of how much is provided to government schools, according to calculations by the Greens.

This means $15,800 goes to each special needs student in the private system, compared with $13,253 per student in a government school, according to the Greens MP and education spokesman John Kaye.

For the rest of the article go to http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/private-schools-get-more-money-for-special-needs-students-greens-20100427-tq1m.html

Disabled student outcomes ‘bit scary’

Posted Wed Apr 28, 2010 8:31am AEST

Some disabled students can currently stay in school until the year they turn 20.

But the Education Department is planning to drop the upper limit to 18.

Trevor Robinson from the ACT Disability Advisory Council has told a Legislative Assembly committee his organisation was not consulted about the decision.

“There are many cases where something slips through and we hear it second hand on the grapevine,” he said.

“By and large if that was to come to council for its opinion we would have said categorically 'no' we don't support the lowering of the age.”

National Disability Services ACT says students with special needs are graduating with fewer skills than they used to.

For the rest of the article go to http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/04/28/2884343.htm

Autism iPhone breakthrough: from tantrums to app-y days

ASHER MOSES

April 16, 2010

Few can legitimately boast that an iPhone app changed their life but for 10-year-old Grace Domican, unable to speak due to autism, the touchscreen phone has given her a voice for the first time.

Her mother, Lisa Domican, created a picture-based iPhone application to help her communicate and the tool was so successful she is now trialling it in a school for autistic children in Ireland.

Domican, who was born in Australia and lived here until she moved to Ireland in 2001, is also planning to provide it to schools in Australia and is selling both iPhone and iPad versions on the iTunes App Store.


Gillard reassures private schools

DAN HARRISON
FEDERAL Education Minister Julia Gillard has moved to neutralise the issue of private school funding ahead of the election, promising no school will be worse off under a new system to be announced next year.

Pre-empting a potential Coalition scare campaign about a private schools "hit list", Ms Gillard last night said her planned review of schools funding would not be about taking money away.

"While enrolments will always change and students will move in and out of schools, no school will lose a dollar of funding in the sense that their school budget per student will not reduce in dollar terms," she said.

For the rest of the article go

Education initiative failing blind students Natasha Robinson From: The Australian
April 12, 2010 12:00AM

THE federal government's so-called education revolution has failed to cater for the special needs of children with disabilities, a NSW legal centre claims.

The Disability Discrimination Legal Centre says it has been swamped with complaints from parents whose children are being hampered at school because simple educational aids are not being provided.

The Rudd Government's $1.3 billion digital education initiative, under which laptop computers are being provided to secondary school students, is one of the biggest areas of concern, says the legal centre's director Joanna Shulman.

The laptops that are being handed out under Canberra's digital initiative are unable to handle the adaptive technology that those with vision impairments need to use, Ms Shulman says. Those children are instead provided with laptops from state government resource pools, which are second-hand and inferior in quality.

For the rest of the article go to

Schools join forces to help disabled kids
Updated Thu Apr 8, 2010 9:39am AEST

Education Minister Andrew Barr has established a working group consisting of representatives from all sectors to share expertise and resources.

Mr Barr says it is hoped the closer collaboration will make it easier for students with disabilities to move from one school to another.

"What we have identified is there is often a disconnect when a student with a disability leaves a school that they've been at for a long time and then transitions into a new school environment," he said.

"It's really important that those linkages and a proper handover occurs and that can be even more complex if the transition is from a public school to a non-government school and vice versa."

Mr Barr says the working group will create closer ties and partnerships between schools.


Teachers struggle to cope with disabled students
BY MARK O'BRIEN
07 Apr, 2010 12:04 PM

SCHOOLS across Campbelltown are in crisis and desperately need more funding to support disabled students, a NSW Legislative Council inquiry has heard.

A submission from Campbelltown and Macarthur Primary Principals Association to a parliamentary inquiry painted a grim picture of well-meaning and dedicated teachers barely managing as they struggle with a lack of funding and training.

The inquiry, into provision of education to students with a disability or special needs, sat in March and will sit again on May 10.

The chairwoman, Liberal MLC Robyn Parker, said more than 700 submissions had been received from the public.

For the rest of the article go to
Employment News:
Abbott mum on unemployed youth policy
April 22, 2010
It's not yet coalition policy to force unemployed young people to relocate, but keeping them on welfare when work is available is "cruelty masquerading as compassion", Opposition Leader Tony Abbott says.
Mr Abbott is keeping tight-lipped on reports that he is drafting a new welfare policy that will include compulsory work for the dole and tougher tests for disability support pensioners.
He has also suggested young people should not get unemployment benefits if work they are capable of doing is on offer elsewhere.

Welfare News:
Govt urged to tighten disability pension
SUSANNA DUNKERLEY
April 30, 2010
The federal government has been challenged to go further in its bid to get people off the disability support pension (DSP) and into the workforce.
In response to the growing number of DSP recipients, currently around 780,000, the government plans to tighten the medical test that determines a person's ability to work.
The government expects the new test, which will come into effect from 2012, will result in 6500 fewer recipients.
It will fast-track the claims of people who are clearly eligible for the pension, meaning that those who are not will be streamed out of the system earlier.

Disability pension criteria set for overhaul
Posted Wed Apr 28, 2010 8:18pm AEST
The Federal Government says moves to tighten the eligibility rules for the disability support pension are not a cost-saving measure.
The Government says it will overhaul the system used to assess a person's impairment and says it will result in about 6,500 new claimants missing out on the pension.
But it expects the pension will be paid to 1,500 people who were previously ineligible.
For the rest of the article go to http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/04/28/2885201.htm?section=justin

Crackdown on disability pension
WITH around 778,000 Australians on disability pensions and the number rising steadily, the Rudd government will today announce tougher rules that will make 6500 people ineligible for the payment.
 Paying disability pensions costs the commonwealth more than $11 billion a year, and that sum is expected to reach $13.2bn in just two years.
Under today's changes, 6500 disability support pensioners will be judged to be capable of work but an additional 1500 people will become eligible to receive the welfare benefit.
The net reduction in DSP recipients by 5000 is a first step in slowing the rate at which the system is ballooning. Those no longer eligible for the payment may be able to apply for the dole.
The government will also close a loophole for people on the DSP who live permanently overseas but who return to Australia every 13 weeks in order to retain their pension. That will take effect from January next year.

For the rest of the article go to http://www.theaustralian.com.au/politics/crackdown-on-disability-pension/story-e6frgczf-1225859069521

**Productivity Commission considers a national disability scheme**

Mon, 19 April 2010

The Productivity Commission has commenced an Inquiry into a National Disability Care and Support scheme. The Inquiry forms part of the Australian Government’s ten year National Disability Strategy, which is being developed with state and territory governments in consultation with the National People with Disabilities and Carer Council.

For the rest of the article go http://thirdsectormagazine.com.au/news/productivity_commission_considers_a_national_disability_scheme/040261/

**Conferences and Workshops:**

**International**

**2010 Round Table Conference**

For the first time in 2010, the Round Table Annual Conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand.

When: 23-25 May 2010

Where: Heritage Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

More information go to http://www.e-ility.com/roundtable/

**National**

**RAISING THE BAR**

National Conference

27th May 2010

SYDNEY

The Australian Employers’ Network on Disability is proud to announce registrations are now open for “Raising the Bar: expectations, legislation and practice”, Australia’s first National Conference for employers focusing on disability.

The full day conference, followed by a Gala Dinner, will take place at the stunning Doritone House, Darling Island Wharf, Pyrmont on Thursday 27th May 2010.

www.aend.org.au

Registrations close on 10th May 2010

RSVP to events@aend.org.au or phone (02) 9261 3922

Guests speakers include:

The Hon. Bill Shorten MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities

Susan Scott-Parker, Chief Executive, Employers’ Forum on Disability (UK)

Rob Gordon, Chief Executive, WorkFocus Australia

Sam Cawthorn, MC, Young Australian of the Year 2009 (Tas)

Dr Rhonda Galbally, Chair of the National People with Disabilities & Carer Council

Roland Hassall, Partner, Sparke Helmore Lawyers... and many more!

Please visit our website at www.aend.org.au to find out more about our guest speakers.

The Australian Employers’ Network on Disability

**Assistive Technology: The tip of the iceberg Conference**

Registration for Assistive Technology: The tip of the iceberg, ARATA National Conference is NOW OPEN.
The conference will be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart from Wednesday 11- Friday 13 August 2010.

Download the full registration guide with program from www.arata.org.au

An accessible version of the registration form will be available shortly. If you require an accessible version, please forward your request via email to arata10@ammp.com.au

Secure online registration will open shortly at www.arata.org.au

REGISTER EARLY and SAVE with early bird registration closing Thursday 27th May 2010.

If you have any questions or enquiries please contact A.M. Meetings Plus on +61 (0)3 9372 7182 or arata10@ammp.com.au

Annual Student Equity in Higher Education Conference
The Melbourne Cricket Ground
11 and 12 October, 2010
For further details and updates:
www.ncsehe2010.com.au

Pathways 10, 2010 Conference - Creating space for people with disabilities in tertiary education
Brisbane from Wednesday, 1 December 2010 to Friday, 3 December 2010.
The Australian Tertiary Education Network on Disability (ATEND) and the members of the Pathways 10 Conference Organising Committee extend a warm invitation to everyone who shares the vision for more inclusive tertiary education experiences and outcomes for people with disabilities.

Pathways 10, 2010 will be held at the vibrant Southbank precinct in the heart of Brisbane at various venues including Southbank Institute of Technology and Griffith University.

Join us for three days of thought-provoking discussion, information-sharing, strategising and problem solving as well as networking opportunities and some great social events.

Topics to be explored at the conference include:
- The Widening Participation Agenda
- Creating inclusive learning environments in tertiary education
- Curriculum development
- Pedagogy
- Assessment

Creating space in workplaces and professions
Reframing the role of the Disabilities Service Practitioner
We are looking forward to creating a stimulating conference program as well as an engaging space in which you can network, reconnect with friends and meet new people.

Watch this space for regular updates. – www.pathways10.org

Contact Judy Hartley, Pathways 10 Organising Committee Chair
07 3735 7280
j.hartley@griffith.edu.au

NSW Events:
MAKING LINKS AND MOVING ON INFORMATION DAY & EXPO
Post-School Education, Training and Employment, Options For Students with Additional Needs
Free Information Day and Expo on education, training and employment support for people with additional needs
PORT MACQUARIE
9.30-2pm Monday 3rd May
Pier One, Panthers, Settlement City
KEMPSEY
9.30-2pm Tuesday 4th May
Kempsey Showground, Sea Street, Kempsey
Organised by Hastings Area Disability Education and Employment Network (HADEEN) and sponsored by the Department of Education and Training (DET) and the North Coast/New England NDCO Program
EVERYONE WELCOME
FOR PARENTS, CARERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF FROM GOVT. SCHOOLS, INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS AND TAFE PRESENTATIONS ON OPTIONS AND SUPPORT 9.45am – 12.15pm
From: Centrelink, Job Services Australia, TAFE & University, Apprenticeships & Traineeships, Youth & Family Mental Health, Disability Employment Services, Transition to Work/CP etc.
EXPO WITH STALLS FROM 9.30AM UNTIL 2PM
RSVP essential – lunch provided
Please contact:
Gwen Johnson, NDCO – 6773 2130 or gwen.johnson@une.edu.au or Denise Cobourn, DET – 6584 3527 or denise.cobourn@det.nsw.edu.au

INFORMATION SESSION IN SYDNEY FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY
IBM INTERN PROGRAM
An opportunity for IT and Business/ Commerce / Marketing students who experience disability and who are interested in finding out about careers within IBM. Students must be studying at University or thinking about attending University to undertake a course in one on the above fields.
IBM is an Employer of Choice with a reputation as an organisation that respects and values diversity.
IBM demonstrates their commitment to disability through their Platinum membership of the Australian Employers’ Network on Disability.
IBM is holding an information session in Sydney for students interested in finding out about IBM’s intern program for 2011.
The session is open to interested IT and Commerce/Business students who experience any type of disability, and will assist those who attend to develop an understanding of the IBM employment proposition.
The session will provide valuable hints and tips that will assist you to prepare a standout application including:
- Identifying employment opportunities at IBM;
- Eligibility to the intern program and discussion of IBM’s graduate program;
- Asking for reasonable adjustments that may be needed during the application process;
- Dealing with disclosure of disability concerns;
- How to highlight strengths in the selection process;
- Dealing with concerns about weak areas - for example lower grades on a transcript.
The session is an ideal opportunity to meet a member of IBM’s disability networking group and Australian Employers’ Network on Disability staff. The session will run for approximately 1 hour.
Sydney session scheduled for 10.30 am-11.30 am on Thursday 13th May at IBM’s office at St Leonards.
To secure your place at the session and to obtain updated venue information please email wilma.stevens@aend.org.au or call (02) 9261 3922.

Enhancing the Links
A Free Hunter-Central Coast Seminar and Service Expo to Assist Students and People with a Disability in the Transition to Training, Education and Employment.
Thursday 22 July 2010
The University of Newcastle - Great Hall
9.00 am – 3.30 pm (Registration from 8.00 am)
Register by 16 July using our simple and fast online link (or download a registration form) at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/ndco/staffresources/linksprogram.html
The Seminar includes:
Information for students and people with a disability; and training, education, employment and disability service providers
on:

- pathway options, supports and services available for students and people with a disability focusing on university, vocational
- education and training, employment, and apprenticeships/traineeships
- information on ADHC post-school programs for Year 12s
- how to access these pathways, planning the next move, financial support, and the role of assistive technology
- a range of take-away resources will also be available

The full program can be found at [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/ndco/staffresources/linksprogram.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/ndco/staffresources/linksprogram.html)

Who Should Attend?

- School, TAFE or University students with a disability or ongoing medical condition – family members also welcome
- People with a disability
- School, VET, and University staff
- Employment Services staff
- Disability Services
- Australian Apprenticeships Centre staff
- ADHC staff, including TTW/Community Participation Providers
- Government and Non-Government Agencies

More Information

Kay Dean, NDCO Newcastle-Hunter
E: kay.dean@newcastle.edu.au | P: 4921 8844 | M: 0438 218848

Timothy Hart, NDCO Northern Sydney/Central Coast
E: thart@med.usyd.edu.au | P: (02) 8878 0514

Managing Disability at Work: The things you need to know

Friday 30 July, 2010
9 am – 3:30 pm (includes lunch)

University of Technology Sydney

A joint initiative being run by the UTS, the University of Sydney, UNSW, the Australian Employers Network on Disability and the NDCO Program (CDS, UWS).

Who should come?

All currently enrolled University students in NSW/ACT with a disability thinking about career pathways.

Does that mean you?

Perhaps you don’t think of yourself as having a disability but the definition is broad and includes dyslexia, mental illness and ongoing medical conditions.

The focus is on assisting you to maximise all opportunities whilst still at university, find the best career pathway, and how to access it after graduation. The forum will provide practical strategies and information, the opportunity to network and meet with other students and experts in the field.

Why come?

To find out more about practical career strategies and programs to give you an edge in a tough job market.

To participate in workshops:

What do I want to do?

- Designed as an introductory session for the beginner job seeker, it includes information on career exploration and researching jobs.
- Finding the job you want! Covers information on services such as: Stepping Into, WAM, DES Services, career counselling and networking.
- The Application - selling your skills and dealing with disclosure. Contains information on disclosure, selling your strengths, resume tips.
- The Interview – making a good impression and addressing workplace adjustments. Contains information on options for raising workplace adjustments, interview expectations.
University Careers Advisors will be available and the event promises to be inspiring and informative. A light lunch will be provided and a chance to meet people from other Universities.

For more information go to http://ndco.cds.org.au/index.php/uni

CDS Seminars 2010

Dates for your diary - CDS is running a series of events during 2010 to highlight the expertise that is available to other organisations for the benefit of their staff and management.

Outline Program - Dates to be Advised

These events are advertised as part of a menu of events but are also developed as separate entities.

Series 1:
Transforming Support Options
1: Shifting thinking and action to a person centred paradigm Rachel Dickson, CDS and Ray Murray Disability Consultant (2 Days)
2: A person-centred approach to the assessment of support needs: The I-CAN Facilitator Training Workshop ( 1 day) Sam Arnold, and Vivienne Riches, CDS.
4: Effective person centred practice through Active Support (2 Days) Tony Harman and Rachel Dickson, CDS
5: Teaming for Transformative Practice (2 Days) Patricia O’Brien, CDS and Ray Murray, Disability Consultant

Series 2:
Healthy individuals, families and support staff
1: Promoting physical and mental health. ( 1 Day) Dr Seeta Durvasula and Rachel Dickson CDS
2: Communication and supporting skills for parents of children and adults Ray Murray and Nola Manickam.
3: Coping with loss and grief ( 1 or 2 days) Vivienne Riches CDS.

This is a practical workshop in which participants will explore and discuss theory and practice, consider case studies, develop skills and competencies for supporting those who are grieving, while ensuring there are supports and safeguards for the carers and exchange resources.

4: Coping with and managing anger ( 1 or 2 days) Vivienne Riches CDS

This course can run as a 1 or 2 day workshop for staff and family or carers who support people with intellectual disability. Alternatively, participants can be people with intellectual disabilities themselves. In this case, the preferred option is to run an eight week, 2 hour per week course.

Series 3:
Inclusive research for people with intellectual disabilities and their supporters
Patricia O’Brien CDS, Stephen Curtis Research Associate, and ASSID NSW.
1. What it means to be a researcher: listening; asking questions; recording and thinking about answers
2. Meeting people who do research and finding out different ways to collect information
3. Setting up a group project
4. Bringing the information back to share with one another
5. A social event to launch the findings

A series of three workshops and one social event will be promoted for a group of people with intellectual disabilities who will work together on a project and the findings will be presented at the final social occasion.

The course runs over a 9 month period.

Series 4:
Leadership series
1. Facilitation as a leadership style (2 days) Ray Murray Disability Consultant and Patricia O’Brien CDS ( this course can also be run over eight 2 hours session)
2. Essentials of leadership for organizations (2 days) Ray Murray Disability Consultant and Patricia O’Brien CDS.
3. Strategies for supporting staff in the work place ( 2 days) Vivienne Riches and Tony Harman CDS
4. Skills of mentoring and supervision ( 2 days) Ray Murray Disability Consultant and Shane Smith NDCO.
5. Using and promoting Assistive Technology in the workplace ( half a day) Timothy Hart NDCO.

Series 5:
Understanding mental illness and supporting clients who have emerging mental-emotional ill health Dr Seeta Durvasula,
Vivienne Riches, Rachel Dickson, Tony Harman CDS.

Aim: Workshop for front line staff of Employment and Transition to Work services, and/or Residential and Day Programs to increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of dual diagnosis and mental ill health, and to increase their ability to support their clients more effectively.

Centre for Disability Studies
PO Box 6, RYDE NSW 1680; Fax (02) 98077053
http://cds.org.au/

NSW Items:

NSW NDCOs are now on Facebook

Become a fan of the NSW NDCO Network and find out what NDCO Events are happening around the State. Go to  http://www.facebook.com/pages/NDCO-NSW-Network/247356653752

Calls for Expressions of Interest and Input:

Low cost PCs from $290
- Complete desktop system
- Professionally refurbished,
- Quality hardware,
- software and support
- Suitable for all key
- PC and internet tasks

To order, either complete and post the enclosed Order Form, call 1800 112 205, or visit www.workventures.com.au/connectit

This offer is available to:
- Centrelink Concession cardholders
- Individuals who can verify low income status
- Schools
- Not for profit organisations

Proof of eligibility must be provided.

What is the? I-CAN

The I-CAN is a support needs assessment, planning and resource allocation tool designed to assess and guide support delivery for people with disabilities including people with mental health concerns.

It provides a support services and family friendly holistic assessment conceptually based upon the internationally recognized ICF (WHO, 2001) framework. Support services can use the I-CAN to ensure quality services, integrated with health care plans and individual or person-centred plans.

Government bodies can use the I-CAN to allocate resources and predict future costs. Families can use the I-CAN to measure progress and to coordinate and liase with support and health professionals. An individual support needs report is generated online which helps guide service delivery and planning and has many potential applications.

The I-CAN is used in many settings, including;
Resource allocation for individual funding
Intake and discharge for people with acquired disabilities such as brain injury or quadriplegia
Community support for people with intellectual disabilities
Supported living for people with mental health concerns
Planning for the move to community living for people leaving congregate settings
Assessment and classification of disability
Support expert evidence at legal hearings

The award-winning I-CAN has been under continuous research and development since 1998 by a team of internationally recognised researchers primarily from the University of Sydney. The I-CAN has been published in international journals, and presented at leading conferences worldwide.

www.i-can.org.au

If you are interested in using the I-CAN tool, facilitator training, research results, CDS membership, or finding out more, visit the I-CAN website or contact CDS:

I-CAN Project
Centre for Disability Studies
59 Charles St, Ryde
PO Box 6, Ryde NSW, 1680
Ph: +61-2-8878-0500
Fax: +61-2-9807-7053
theteam@i-can.org.au
www.i-can.org.au

Applications are now open for the 2010 Stepping into... internship program.
This program provides a minimum of four weeks paid work experience for participating students with a leading organisation.
Students must have a disability to be eligible, and be in the final or penultimate year of their degree.
Opportunities exist for students studying:

- Accounting and finance
- Marketing
- Business and commerce
- Law
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Engineering
- Public Policy and Research

Applications opened today (30th March 2010) and will close at COB Friday 6th May 2010.
Application forms, eligibility criteria and program information can be found on our website at www.aend.org.au.

Publication:
‘Students: Selected Higher Education Statistics’
‘Students: Selected Higher Education Statistics’ – contains statistics relating to students enrolled in higher education courses in each Australian Higher Education Provider. Data in each publication is reported in numbers and Equivalent Full-time Student Load (EFTSL).
Has the effect of parents’ education on child’s education changed over time?

This paper examines whether the expansion of higher education has reduced inequality by providing more opportunities for students from less privileged backgrounds to attend university or further entrenched existing inequalities.

Drawing on Maximally Maintained Inequality theory and Relative Risk Aversion theory, the author uses logistic regressions to analyse data collected by three nationally representative, cross-sectional surveys conducted between 1987 and 2005 (N= 4463) to examine the association between parents’ education and child’s education. Having a university-educated parent is used as a proxy for membership of the privileged class based on the assumption that children of university-educated parents are more likely to take advantage of opportunities to acquire higher education. University-educated parents are also better placed to provide extra tuition and to assist their children negotiate the education system. The author finds that although the expansion of higher education has had some impact, having a university-educated parent continues to exert a direct effect on an individual’s propensity to graduate from university.

http://www.apo.org.au/node/21034

Media Releases:

Australia’s Human Rights Framework

On 21 April 2010, the Attorney-General launched Australia’s Human Rights Framework which outlines a range of key measures to further protect and promote human rights in Australia.

The Framework acts on the key recommendations of the National Human Rights Consultation Committee and complements a number of actions the Government is already taking to encourage greater inclusion and participation in our community


REFORM OF ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION

Joint Media Release

Attorney-General - Hon Robert McClelland MP
Minister for Finance and Deregulation - Hon Lindsay Tanner MP

21 April 2010

Attorney-General, Robert McClelland and Minister for Finance and Deregulation, Lindsay Tanner today announced the Government’s intention to streamline federal anti-discrimination legislation into one single comprehensive law.


A single Act will address current inconsistencies and make the system more user-friendly by clarifying relevant rights and obligations. It will also provide the opportunity to review the complaints handling process and the related role and functions of the Australian Human Rights Commission. Importantly, there will be no diminution of existing protections currently available at the federal level.

“Effective anti-discrimination legislation is an important element in removing barriers to greater inclusion and participation in society. Anti-discrimination law should be clear and easy to understand because people shouldn’t need expensive legal advice to know their rights and obligations,” Mr McClelland said

The project, to be delivered through a Better Regulation Ministerial Partnership, will also provide the basis for the development of harmonised State and Territory anti-discrimination laws which is currently being progressed through the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General (SCAG).

“Better Regulation Ministerial Partnerships form a key part of the Government’s deregulation agenda and ensure a disciplined and coordinated approach to delivering regulatory reform across government.

“Consolidating all Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation into one Act will reduce the regulatory burden and drive greater efficiencies and improved productivity outcomes by reducing compliance costs for individuals and business, particularly small business,” Mr Tanner said.

The Government intends to develop exposure draft legislation as the basis for consultation with stakeholders and the public.

A single Act dealing with all federal anti-discrimination laws represents an important part of the Australian Human Rights
Consultations begin on a national disability care and support scheme. The Inquiry will examine a range of options, and consider whether a no-fault social insurance approach to disability is appropriate in Australia. An insurance scheme has wide support amongst disability groups, but it is a complex idea that will require rigorous analysis before it can be implemented, Mr Shorten said.

To Subscribe:
We hope that this edition of Disability Education and Employment News has been of interest.
If you wish to have the Disability Education and Employment News e-mail to you send an e-mail to thart@med.usyd.edu.au with “Subscribe Disability Education and Employment News” in the subject line.
If you wish to unsubscribe send an e-mail to thart@med.usyd.edu.au with “Unsubscribe Disability Education and Employment News” in the subject line.
To read the Disability Education and Employment News http://ndco.cds.org.au/

To Contribute:
If you have any comments, suggestions or articles, resources, scholarships, workshops, conferences, Events or any other information that is Disability Education, Training or Employment related and you wish to promote it send an e-mail to thart@med.usyd.edu.au
Funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) under the National Disability Coordination Officer Programme.

No 5, Vol 6- Compiled by Timothy Hart the NDCO for North Sydney and Central Coast

The NDCOs for Region 1 and 3 are Hosted at the Centre for Disability Studies