



MEDIA RELEASE

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Sector gathers to discuss first-year student attrition

Almost 200 representatives from the Australian higher education sector have taken part in the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency's (TEQSA) forum on first-year student attrition.

On the back of TEQSA's report, *Characteristics of Australian higher education providers and their relation to first-year student attrition*, the forum brought together representatives from almost 120 providers, government agencies and peak bodies to discuss the report's findings and what it means for the future of Australian higher education.

Attendees heard from Anthony McClaran, TEQSA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Lin Martin TEQSA Commissioner and Professor Nick Saunders TEQSA Chief Commissioner. Also on hand to discuss the report and to give her perspective on the issue was Professor Pip Pattison, University of Sydney's Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education).

Mr. McClaran said that the forum was an excellent opportunity for providers, government and regulator to take part in a research and evidence-based discussion about an issue of critical importance to the sector and most importantly, students.

"It's important that the sector works together in discussing issues such as first-year student attrition, and to see representatives from around the country dedicated to improving student outcomes is very encouraging, said Mr. McClaran.

"The response to this forum has been extremely positive. The event was full and, in response to demand, was live streamed for those who couldn't attend. We are in the process of planning more forums to engage with the sector, with academic integrity and contract cheating the next issue to be tackled later in the year".

More information

- To view a recording of the forum visit teqsa.streaming.net.au
- [To view *Characteristics of Australian higher education providers and their relation to first-year student attrition*, visit TEQSA's website](#)

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