

Media Release

31 May 2011

TAFE SA's Stephen Conway elected new Chair of TAFE Directors Australia

Stephen Conway, Managing Director of TAFE SA South has been elected as the new Chair of TAFE Directors Australia (TDA).

Mr Conway succeeds Bruce Mackenzie, Chief Executive of Holmesglen Institute (VIC), who completed his term at the TDA Annual General Meeting held in Melbourne on 26 May 2011.

Dianne Murray, Institute Director of TAFE NSW - Illawarra Institute, continues in the role of Deputy Chair, and Sue Slavin, Managing Director of West Coast Institute of Training (WA), was elected as the second Deputy Chair. Kevin Harris, Institute Director of TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute, was elected Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee.

Stephen Conway is the Managing Director of TAFE SA South, covering the Adelaide CBD and surrounding inner suburbs. His experience has included a part time instructor, lecturer, and since 1997, he has held roles as a Director in the South Australian TAFE system. He has a background in Engineering, and was awarded a Flexible Learning Fellowship by the former Australian National Training Authority to research blended learning options across that discipline.

Stephen has twice served as the South Australian representative on the TDA National Board. Having most recently served as the Chair of TDA's Finance and Audit Committee, Stephen is acutely aware of the need for the Association to have a sustainable business base in order to fulfil its Charter to each member and to achieve the strategic goals set by the Board.

In his home state, Stephen is currently overseeing new governance arrangements soon to be introduced by South Australia, with TAFE Institutes moving to become statutory authorities under skills and funding reforms. This structure was recently highlighted as a possible Australian model by the Skills Australia 'VET Roadmap' report.

Following his election, Stephen paid tribute to Bruce Mackenzie's significant contribution to TDA, as a founding member of TAFE Directors Australia (1998), the former Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, and Chair of the TDA Board (2010-11).

"I wish to pay tribute to Bruce Mackenzie's vision for TDA as a national peak body for TAFE Institutes, and especially the networking and sharing of best practice this has provided to TAFE leadership across state and territory boundaries," Mr Conway said.

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