TAFE DIRECTORS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

REPORT FROM TDA REPRESENTATIVE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEE

TDA representative: Julie Zappa
Title of Committee: Innovation Business Skills Australia (IBSA) Education Sector Advisory Committee
Date(s) of meetings since last report: Last meeting 31st March 2011

Items of interest to TDA:

1. Development of Diploma TAE10

Following three intensive workshops, all units for the Diplomas of Vocational Education and Training and Training Design and Development have been completed and are now in the final stages prior to submission for endorsement.

It should be noted that, within the amended qualification structure, a language, literacy and numeracy unit currently packaged as an elective in the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment has been included. IBSA plans to indicate to NQC in the case for endorsement that it intends that this structure will apply for a period of 3 years, at which time the language, literacy and numeracy unit currently packaged as an elective in the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment will be moved to the core of that qualification. At that time, the current language, literacy and numeracy unit packaged as an elective for the Diploma of VET will be moved into the core.

The AEU (Victoria and Federal) has flagged again that they are not prepared to discuss the Diploma. IBSA proposes to mandate the Diploma for delivery of the Cert IV. This goes against the grain of the Productivity Commission’s approach on barriers for workforce entry and preference to rely on auditing processes. IBSA would argue that auditing processes and the National VET Regulator would not be able to resolve the problem of quality around the Cert IV. The PC will probably not accept IBSA’s proposal but it really is the NQC/National Standards Council’s decision; and significantly, IBSA reports there has been enormous support from the sector for mandating the Diploma.

2. eScan 2011

IBSA’s Environment Scan (Escan) 2011 is now available from IBSA’s website.

3. Interim report on TAE10 Skill Sets as VET workforce development tools in enterprise RTOs

The project status report on the relevance and potential application of TAE401 skill sets as VET workforce development tools within enterprise RTOs was tabled and discussed. The key activity for Stage 1 was the development and distribution of a national survey of Australian enterprise RTOs. Stage 2 will involve face to face interviews with representatives from enterprise RTOs to gather more detailed data for analysis.

4. No More Excuses Industry Response to the LLN Challenge ISC collaborative paper

This report has been released by Australia’s eleven Industry Skills Councils. It examines and offers solutions to the insufficient language, literacy and numeracy levels held by millions of Australian workers. The report states that: ‘ISCs are in a position to identify workforce LLN issues and possible solutions, but in many cases the solutions are not within ISCs’ direct realm of responsibility or control.’ The ISCs recommend that the building of LLN skills ‘be a shared responsibility and propose that the Council of Australian Governments should establish an overarching national blueprint for action on LLN in Australia 2012-2022’.

A full copy of this report is available from ISC websites.

Actions of the Committee:
No actions arising from 31st March meeting.

Recommended action by TDA Board:
For information.

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