

MEDIA RELEASE



17 February 2010

New Deputy Director-General for TAFE NSW appointed

The Director-General of the NSW Department of Education and Training, and the Managing Director of TAFE NSW, Michael Coutts-Trotter, today announced Pam Christie as the new Deputy Director-General, TAFE and Community Education.

Ms Christie, the current Director of Sydney Institute of TAFE NSW, replaces Marie Persson, who retired from the position last December.

"I am pleased to welcome Ms Christie to the role and I'm confident she will further boost TAFE NSW's reputation as a world-class vocational education and training provider," Mr Coutts-Trotter said.

"Ms Christie was chosen from a high quality field of national and international applicants.

"She comes to the role with outstanding achievements in vocational education and training, including successfully leading the Sydney Institute of TAFE NSW – Australia's largest training provider – over the last four years.

"Ms Christie is widely respected by employers and other key industry representatives across the sector. Her breadth of experience and a commitment to providing students across the State with the best vocational education and training outcomes makes Ms Christie the right person for this role," he added.

Ms Christie started her career as a secondary school teacher with a number of Australian and international postings. She then joined the NSW Adult Migrant English Service and became its Deputy Director.

During 15 years work in vocational education and training, Ms Christie has held a range of senior positions in the NSW Department of Education and Training.

During her four years as the General Manager, State Training Services and NSW Commissioner for Vocational Training, she led major reforms to the regulation and funding of the State's training system, resulting in significant growth in the uptake of apprenticeships and traineeships.

In 2002 Ms Christie and her team were awarded the Premier's Public Sector Gold Award for increasing the uptake of traineeships across the NSW Public Sector.

As the Director of Sydney Institute, Ms Christie has strengthened the position of the Institute in the tertiary sector and built stronger relationships with employers, schools, universities and the community.

NSW Department of Education & Training

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As Deputy Director-General, she will be responsible for more than 500,000 students and 20,000 staff.

“I am confident that under Ms Christie’s leadership TAFE NSW will further strengthen its role in developing the skills base needed to grow the NSW economy,” Mr Coutts-Trotter said

“We are very fortunate to have someone of Ms Christie’s experience and ability in a role that is so important to the future of hundreds of thousands of NSW students taking up vocational education and training.”

Ms Christie begins her new role on Monday, 8 March 2010.

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