

Bringing research and policy development together – the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA) Research Fellowship Scheme

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The Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA) is committed to strengthening its links with the research community, as a means of improving its policy analysis and development, and of promoting external research into the major issues for the Education, Training and Youth Affairs Portfolio. The DETYA Research Fellowship Scheme (RFS) brings members of the research community to work within DETYA for six to twelve months, to exchange ideas and expertise and assist in the process of translating research findings into policy.

Since it started in 1999, the RFS has proved to be highly beneficial for DETYA. Benefits also flow to fellows – as well as undertaking a major research study, there is the opportunity to gain access to departmental resources, information and data collections, and an understanding of the policy process and how the department operates.

Each year DETYA identifies the priority areas it wishes to address with research fellowships. Applications for 2002 fellowships will be invited in July 2001, and the department is very keen to encourage senior researchers in the VET field to apply. This presentation and paper describes:

- the purpose and operation of the Research Fellowship Scheme;
- the fellowship experiences of a recent DETYA Research Fellow; and
- how to apply for a fellowship for 2002.