Abstract

DEGREES GO TO TAFE:
TRANSITION EXPERIENCES IN A MULTI-SECTORAL INSTITUTION

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Over recent years there has been a strong emphasis on TAFE courses preparing students to articulate into higher education degree courses, often directly from the secondary sector. However, there are increasing numbers of students articulating from the higher education sector (after completing their degree) into a range of TAFE courses, in an effort to either enhance their education or give it an applied or more vocational focus. Whilst a body of research exists concerning those students who enter the TAFE sector directly from secondary schools, less is known about the perceptions or transition experiences of the undergraduate students making use of this ‘reverse articulation’ opportunity.

This qualitative research project aims to shed light on the perceptions of students who have completed an undergraduate degree and are moving into the TAFE sector. In particular this project will explore the transition experiences of these students as they articulate into their chosen TAFE course in a multi-sectoral institution. The paper, a work in progress, will provide insight into this less well-known and understood transition process.