PAPER:

WHO'S LISTENING, WHO CARES

Graeme Harper Faculty of Education The University of Melbourne

Abstract:

We of AVETRA have been given legitimacy by our personal interest, industriousness, opportunity, initiative and the current national enrapture with vocational education. But who is listening to us? We have worked well and honourably, but can we say we have really made a difference? And who really cares? Are governments, their agencies, vocational educational institutions, both public and private, taking note and acting on our work? What is a recipe for acknowledgment and the making of a real contribution to the field? We are not politicians, neither are we cloistered clowns, and we should note and adopt ways of becoming activists for something that is too important to leave to educational bureaucracies.