

MEDIA RELEASE

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Australian Council of Deans of Education Board welcomes National Roundtable outcomes

Professor Michele Simons, Dean of Education at Western Sydney University and President of the Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE) has welcomed the agreed national priorities that have emerged from the National Roundtable on teaching held by Federal Education Minister Jason Clare today.

The meeting with the Minister's state and territory counterparts and with teachers, principals and representatives from the unions and independent and catholic school sectors committed to ratifying a national education workforce strategy before the end of the year.

"The message from the Roundtable is loud and clear. All members of ACDE stand committed to listening carefully to the outcomes from the Roundtable which has sent clear signals about the important work ahead for universities engaged in preparing and supporting the development of teachers across their careers," said Professor Simons.

According to Professor Simons, the Council believes a point of significant agreement around what needs to be done has been reached – and the importance of this level of national agreement cannot be understated. Three broad areas of priority identified – encouraging people to pursue teaching as a career, ensuring that the preparation of graduate teachers combines the best course work and practical pathways can be offered, and ensuring the right conditions to retain teachers in the profession – are the foundations upon which to make a real difference.

"Our goal from this point will be to promote the best balance between the quest for evidence-led excellence and practical know-how in teacher education across the careers of teachers. The aspiration is unambiguously to ensure the development of a diverse teaching workforce that is well equipped to meet the needs of all children and young people in our education system is the outcome," said Professor Simons.

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Further information:

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