MEDIA RELEASE
Available for immediate release: 24 February 2011
Attention: Higher education editors

Grant success to support better vocational pathways

The National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) has committed $825K to research into vocational pathways and the connection between education and work.

Led by Associate Professor Leesa Wheelahan at the LH Martin Institute, the project also involves the University of Melbourne’s Centre for the Study of Higher Education, the Education Policy Leadership Unit, RMIT and the Workplace Research Centre at the University of Sydney.

“This research will help policy makers and those involved in workforce development and educational institutions to develop approaches that support better flows between education and work,” said Associate Professor Wheelahan.

The factors supporting or inhibiting high quality further education study and occupational outcomes from entry-level VET will be examined, and recommendations on how to improve educational pathways between VET and higher education will be made.

Using primary industry, health care, finance and engineering as case studies, the project will investigate the relationship between qualifications and occupations within these industries and how it can be improved.

“I congratulate all the researchers who have won a contract. We look forward to working with them over the course of the next three years,” said Dr Tom Karmel, Managing Director, NCVER.

For interview: Associate Professor Leesa Wheelahan leesaw@unimelb.edu.au / 040 114 6024.
More information: Catriona May Catriona.may@unimelb.edu.au / 8344 3357 / 0435 960 030
Katherine Smith k.smith@unimelb.edu.au / (03) 8344 3845 / 0402 460 147