

INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES REQUIREMENTS SUBMISSION

11 June 2010

Overview

The New Zealand Principals' Federation (NZPF) fully supports the New Zealand Teacher's Council (NZTC) Draft Proposed Requirements for Initial Teacher Education Programmes. This proposal addresses the critical elements of the teaching and learning necessary for the development of high quality teacher education.

Issues

We are increasingly concerned about issues resulting from the amalgamation of teacher education bodies with universities and the consequent reduction in teacher education funding and quality. In particular, we oppose the phasing out of those competent personnel who do not meet the qualification / research threshold.

We submit that;

- Research is commanding an unbalanced and – inflated priority in the university funding formula that ultimately determines programme design and delivery;
- The elements of the draft requirements preserve and enhance the crucial elements of high quality teacher education being: adequate and sufficient practicum trainee experience, practitioner experience in delivering teacher education programmes and competent registered teachers monitoring trainee performance in schools and;
- The complex network of current providers including normal schools, schools of education and others have experienced and effective personnel whose institutional knowledge and practice will be potentially lost to teacher education.

Recommendation

NZPF fully endorses the NZTC proposal. We recommend that it is adopted in its entirety with a particular emphasis on the requirements outlined in Sections (9: Practicum), (12: Practicum Visiting), (13: Practicum Support) and (14: Programme Delivery). Failure to implement these requirements is currently, and will continue to be, to the detriment of teacher education in New Zealand.