

Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham

Minister for Education and Training Senator for South Australia

Ms Tricia Blombery Covenor Standing Committee for Education Australian Federation of Graduate Women 11 Park Road MARRICKVILLE SA 2204

Dear Ms Blombery

Thank you for your kind message of congratulations following my appointment as the new Minister for Education and Training.

I am both honoured and excited to have been asked by Prime Minister Turnbull to take on this role. Australia enjoys one of the best education and training systems in the world and it is an enormous privilege to continue the government's work to make our great system even better.

Since December last year I have enjoyed serving as the Minister responsible for vocational education and training, pursuing reforms focussed on lifting the quality of training, its relevance to modern jobs and the status of VET.

I am now committed to ensuring that from early learning through to schools to universities and vocational education and training our education system equips all Australians with the opportunity to be their best, do their best and make our country its best.

I look forward to ensuring Australia has the highest quality standards of education at all levels, and to working collaboratively with all education stakeholders to develop policy and to build broad support for any future reforms we need to undertake.

I note your comments regarding disadvantaged students and STEM for women and I look forward to working with your organisation in these important areas of my portfolio.

Yours sincerely

Simon Birmingham

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