

## **Group of Eight endorses ATN report**

**5 February 2010**

The Group of Eight (Go8) welcomes the Curtin University of Technology report released today by the Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN) recommending a state based approach to low SES enrolment targets.

Go8 Chair, Professor Alan Robson, said Go8 Vice-Chancellors endorse the report and hope the Government will give it serious consideration as it attempts to find a more effective way to measure socio-economic status.

“The report’s main recommendation is that the Government adopt a state-weighted target, which will allow for differences in the numbers of low SES households in different parts of the country,” said Professor Robson.

“This is a reasonable and sensible approach and contributes significantly to the debate about how to increase the enrolments of students from low SES households in higher education.

“It recognises that more than 90 per cent of Australia’s domestic undergraduate students attend university within their own state.

“It takes into account the demographic realities of each state.

“We encourage DEEWR to have regard to this report once a new interim measure of SES has been determined.

“The Go8 commends the ATN universities for commissioning this important piece of analysis,” Professor Robson concluded.

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