

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 762**  
**Asked Thursday, 11 May 2006**

MR MALONE asked the Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations and Minister for Sport (**Mr Barton**):

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the recently announced Queensland Skills Plan where there appears to be a growing disparity between the concepts being put forward in the Government's plan and with what is actually happening at TAFE campus and to a fashion course currently being conducted at Ithaca TAFE and now being transferred to Mt Gravatt TAFE, midway through the conduct of the current course—

What consultation was undertaken with the 54 students enrolled in the course, many of whom will now no longer be able to complete the course due to its change of location?

**ANSWER:**

In 2003 a process commenced to consolidate the small elements of fashion and clothing training at Brisbane North Institute of TAFE, Ithaca campus with the recognised fashion training centre at Moreton Institute of TAFE, Mt Gravatt campus.

This issue is outside of the current Queensland Skills Plan actions. Following a year of negotiation, all teachers in this area were transferred to Moreton Institute of TAFE, however after extensive consultation Moreton Institute continues to offer and deliver programs from Ithaca Campus to the current students.

Of the 49 current full-time students continuing their studies in Semester 2, 2006, 45 have indicated their preference to transfer to Mt Gravatt, whilst 3 students indicated their preference to complete their current program at Ithaca Campus. The remaining student indicated their preference to transfer to Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE.

All students preferences have been accommodated. Moreton Institute intends to honour its commitment to students and continue to deliver training to the 3 students from Ithaca Campus through to the conclusion of their program in December 2006.

Moreton Institute of TAFE has consulted extensively with both staff and students regarding the transition of training delivery from Ithaca Campus to Mt Gravatt Campus.

Students were transported to Mt Gravatt Campus for a tour of the facilities and to introduce them to the learning environment.

Consultation included personal contact with students as well as meetings conducted at Ithaca Campus. The communication process has enabled management to consider and address the students' concerns. Feedback provided by students at these sessions resulted in class times being scheduled in order to best meet student needs. Students indicated that they were very happy with the draft timetable of classes and were looking forward to the transition.

Students were provided with an additional opportunity to express their individual preference to transfer to Mt Gravatt from 1 July or continue studies at Ithaca Campus until the scheduled conclusion of the current programs in December 2006.