



MONASH UNIVERSITY – ACER
CENTRE FOR THE ECONOMICS OF
EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Office of Training and Tertiary Education

Seminar

Friday, 13 April 2007, 3–4.15 pm

Treasury Theatre, Lower Plaza
1 Macarthur Street, East Melbourne

VET Developments in the United States

Professor Norton Grubb

University of California, Berkeley

This seminar will informally discuss VET developments in the U.S., at both the secondary (high school) level and the postsecondary (community college) level. Among the developments reviewed will be:

- the resurgence of interest in secondary vocational education, as part of a longer process of cycling between hostility toward and acceptance of vocational programs;
- the interest in multiple *pathways* through secondary school, for many different reasons including the need for greater motivation and engagement;
- the rise of *College for All* as a slogan intended to enhance equity, despite some difficult limits on that policy;
- a new interest in community colleges (somewhat like TAFE colleges), including their occupational programs; and
- the continued trend toward vocational orientation of the university.

The talk will place these events in the context of the *Education Gospel*, the faith in vocationally-oriented education that has preoccupied many countries including Australia.

Norton's research interests span community colleges, schools, labour markets, the interactions among education and training programs and the flow of students into and through postsecondary education. He also conducts workshops for secondary and community college instructors and administrators, presenting different approaches to reform. Norton has published many books, the most recent being *The Education Gospel: The Economic Power of Schooling* (Harvard University Press 2004), *Honored But Invisible: An Inside Look at Teaching in Community Colleges* (Routledge 1999); and *Learning to Work: The Case for Reintegrating Education and Job Training* (Russell Sage 1996).

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ALL WELCOME (No CHARGE)