

Fellow Profile



Professor Ross Guest Griffith University

Ross Guest is Professor of Economics and Dean (Learning and Teaching) in the Griffith Business School, a Principal Fellow with the Higher Education Academy, and an adjunct professor at the Australia and New Zealand School of Government.

Fellowship title: Embedding and benchmarking core knowledge and skills as the foundation for learning standards in the undergraduate economics curriculum

Year completed: 2013

Expertise key words: learning standards in economics, economics education, higher education

What did you achieve?: PART ONE: ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE FELLOWSHIP

As noted in the formal evaluation report, "The project has achieved a high level of engagement by various stakeholder groups and especially by the Economics discipline community and by key individuals and organisations within that community." We raised awareness of the need for learning standards in economics through campus visits across the country, a national symposium presentation, and a refereed journal article: Guest, R. (2013) 'Towards Learning Standards in Economics in Australia', *Economic Papers*, 32, 1, 51–66. • The learning standards were developed and disseminated through a survey of Australian economists (mainly academics) through which over 800 respondents targeted and 137 responses received on the first draft of the learning standards. We produced a dedicated website which has details of the learning standards including the process and outcomes of the Fellowship: <http://www.economicslearningstandards.com/>

PART TWO: ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE THE FELLOWSHIP

An extension project was conducted, a year after the Fellowship, which collaboratively piloted the building of a pool of assessment tasks, each of which was quality-assured and categorised under one or more of the five minimum learning outcomes that constitute the Economics Learning Standards. This project aimed to promote a deeper engagement with the learning standards and further embed them in the economics curriculum at institutions. We also continued to promote the learning standards through presentations at conferences and a refereed journal article: Guest, R. and Layton, A., (2016) 'A Report on the Development of Learning Standards for Economics in Australia', *Australasian Journal of Economics Education*, 13, 1, 1–12.

What does the sector need now?: The commitment of the economics academic community to learning standards, by key bodies such as the Australian Business Deans Council, the Economics Society of Australia and Department Chairs.



**Australian
Learning &
Teaching
Fellows**