



## BACKGROUND

Architecture plays a crucial role in sustaining and enhancing the wellbeing of individuals, families and societies. The architectural profession plays a major role in shaping all aspects of the built environment and in the conservation and development of cultural values.

It is essential that Australia maintains the highest educational standards for architecture so that the quality of Australian architectural graduates is equal to the highest international standards.

## ADVOCACY POINTS

The Institute believes that the Australian Government's higher education policy must:

- Ensure sufficient funding to enable Australian schools of architecture to provide learning environments that are in line with international best practice. This includes funding to allow:
  - for the appointment of quality staff
  - the provision of acceptable staff to student ratios in design studio teaching
  - adequate resources and infrastructure
- Recognise the role that independent professional accreditation plays in maintaining high educational standards and producing high quality graduates
- Support the international recognition of the Australian accreditation system
- Include a sufficient subsidy so that prospective architectural students are provided with the maximum opportunity to complete their Master of Architecture degree through the ongoing provision of Commonwealth-supported places to subsidise study in pre-professional Master of Architecture courses
- Promote the value of studio-based learning
- Collaborate with universities and professional bodies on employment and graduate skill demand
- Maintain the current indexation of higher education funding
- Support world class architectural research and development