

The VET System:

I am a strong advocate of Apprenticeships and trades training. It is often seen as a failure for a year 12 student to enter into an apprenticeship rather than going to pursue a University course.

I for one see the transition from Year 12 into a trades apprenticeship as a positive investment into a young person's future. I made the same transition after year 12 as an apprentice electrician, worked through TAFE Electrical Engineering Certificate, onto an Electrical Engineering Degree and a Master's Degree.

I was not mature enough at 17 to know what I wanted to do, but as I experienced industry met a wide range of people outside of my family circle found that I enjoyed my trade and want to learn more and develop myself and my skills as time moved on. As a result I believe I learnt better communication skills with people at all sorts of levels in life and enjoyed a career of very well paid jobs in industry, mining, consulting over a 39 year period.

I strongly advocate that such career options be made clear and communicated to young people, University is a great option, but alternatives need to be there for young people, who may not have the maturity, have the financial means, come from remote areas, dysfunctional families and just people that want to live life and learn as they develop within themselves.

I would be happy to contribute in any way to enhance Vocational Training.

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Director

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