

PAPER:

***LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF OUTCOMES OF
VET TRAINING COURSES***

Oanh Phan

National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd.

Abstract:

This study will provide an in-depth picture of life after-TAFE for a selection of TAFE students who leave their Institute at the end of 1997. In this study, the careers of TAFE graduates, and some students who leave before graduating, will be followed for a period of three years. This information will provide an understanding of the integration of students into the workforce, and other destinations such as further study.

The paper reports on the findings of the first phase of a longitudinal study of 560 TAFE graduates from seven different TAFE Institutes. During the first phase of the study, TAFE graduates were asked to provide information about themselves, their TAFE course, their past and current employment experience and the relevance of TAFE studies to their employment.

What happens to students when they complete their education has always been of interest to educational institutions and policy makers. An in-depth picture of the lives of TAFE students will aid course developers in vocational educational institutions to maximise the relevance of their courses to industry and student needs. This information will also assist training providers to focus their training courses to increase employment opportunities for graduates.