

Moray House School of Education Robertson Bequest Seminar Series

Dr Dennis Gunning

"Post-16 Education Policy Making - examples from the devolved systems of the UK and Australia"

**Tuesday 22nd February 2011 @ 5.30pm
(tea/coffee and scones @ 5pm)**

**St John's Land Seminar Room (4th Floor, Room 4/22)
Moray House School of Education, Holyrood Road**

Abstract

The post-16 education and training systems in the UK and in Australia both operate within a mix of national and devolved responsibilities – and both share the same challenges across a range of strategic issues in senior secondary, further and higher education. The seminar will use case studies to illustrate some of these strategic issues and to discuss the direction of travel of the two countries in the balance between national and devolved powers. Issues covered will include senior secondary school qualifications, qualifications and credit systems, post-school quality assurance and funding.

Biography

Dr Dennis Gunning began his career as a chemistry teacher in Ayrshire in 1971. He then worked as a researcher with the Scottish Examination Board, followed by management posts in an English examination board, a Scottish regional council and SCOTVEC/SQA. In 2001, he became the inaugural director of the Victorian Qualifications Authority in Melbourne and returned to the UK in 2007 to take up the post of Director of Skills, Higher Education and Lifelong Learning for Wales. Dr Gunning has been a member of the boards of SFEU, Scottish Ballet, Awards UK and Deakin University. He retired in the summer of 2010 and is now an adviser to the Scottish Government's review of post-16 education and vocational training.

If you would like to attend this seminar please reply to Carolyn Newton (c.newton@ed.ac.uk) as places are limited.