The case for equality

Why our VET students deserve better
**Ending the apprentice ‘hunger games’**

A number of students have had their training suspended due to a lack of suitable employers to take them on as apprentices. This has left many students feeling frustrated and uncertain about their future career prospects.

JILL ROBERTSON

Central Queensland University is urging employers to seek out opportunities for students to train as apprentices to avoid future skill shortages.

"We're seeing an apprenticeship ‘hunger game’ emerging where students and employers have to wait for the right match to occur," Ms Robertson told CQUniversity. "This is having a significant impact on our students' career prospects and the skill development of our future workforce."

"We need employers to step up and take on apprentice roles to ensure our students have the necessary skills to enter the workforce with confidence. We need employers to understand the importance of apprenticeships and see them as an investment in their future workforce."

"As a nation, we need to support our young people and provide them with the opportunities they need to succeed. Apprenticeships are an effective way to do this. Employers must step up to the plate and take on these roles."

Nick Klomp

"It's not just about filling a skill shortage. Apprenticeships are an integral part of the workforce and are essential for the growth of our economy. They provide individuals with the skills and experience they need to succeed in the workplace and become productive citizens."

"As a nation, we need to support apprentices and the employers who take them on. Apprenticeships are a win-win for everyone involved. Employers get access to skilled workers, and apprentices get the experience they need to succeed in the workplace."

**Klomp's big idea: a way to end the hazards for apprentices**

**I am worried for regional Australia: Klomp**

Nick Klomp has proposed a new model for apprenticeships that would involve the government subsidising employers to take on apprentices. This would help to alleviate the current apprenticeship crisis and provide students with the necessary opportunities to succeed.

"The current apprenticeship system is failing our students and our economy," Mr Klomp said. "We need to take a fresh approach to apprenticeships and provide students with the necessary opportunities to succeed."

"A government subsidy for employers to take on apprentices would be a simple yet effective solution. It would provide students with the necessary support to complete their apprenticeships and enter the workforce with confidence."

"This proposal could have a major impact on reducing the current apprenticeship crisis and providing our young people with the opportunities they need to succeed. We need to act now and take action to support our young people."
Source: Mitchell Institute analysis of Australian Bureau of Statistics data (custom request)