

Professor Geoff Scott
BA, Dip Ed, M Ed, Ed D, FACE

Geoff Scott is Pro Vice-Chancellor (Quality) and a Provost at the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

His specific areas of research and writing are in strategic change management and leadership in post-secondary and higher education; quality audit, tracking and improvement in universities; student engagement and retention; flexible learning design and delivery; and assessment of professional capability. He undertakes regular work around the world in these areas and is the author of a wide range of refereed journal articles. His book *Change matters: making a difference in education and training* is widely used in a number of countries. His latest book is with Canada's Michael Fullan is nearing completion. It is entitled: *Turning around universities for the 21st century*.

Key research projects in recent years have included the national *CEQuery* project: "Accessing the student voice". This involved using a new qualitative analysis tool – *CEQuery*- to study more than 280,000 comments from 95,000 students in 14 Australian Universities with a view to identifying what engages them in productive learning and retains them in different fields of education. A commissioned report for the 2008 Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education on this and related work has just been completed.

In conjunction with the Australian Council for Educational Research in 2008 he completed a national study for the Australian Learning and Teaching Council of more than 500 Learning Leaders in 20 Australian Universities. This project is now being used to develop a role-specific national online leadership learning system for Australian higher education. This work has been benchmarked with parallel developments underway in Canada, the U.K., New Zealand and South Africa.

From 2002-4 he initiated a series of studies of successful graduates in a wide range of professions. His research on the distinguishing capabilities of 322 effective school leaders has been used to underpin leadership selection and development strategy of the NSW Department of Education and Training.

In recent years he has been a member of advisory groups to the Federal Minister for Education on quality assurance for Australia's offshore higher education programs and the national learning and teaching performance fund, along with being a member of the national organizing committee for the Australian Universities Quality Forum. In 2007 he was also one of the leaders of the 2007 ACODE-Educause Australasian Leadership Institute.

Earlier in his career Geoff set up NSW TAFE's Outreach program which caters for 95,000 students per year; developed the award winning continuous learning and improvement program for Australia's Skill Olympians; and established a national training program for Australia's diabetes educators. At the University of Technology, Sydney he was a professor of education, coordinated quality audits, chaired the University's Flexible Learning Task Force and was the foundation Director of the UTS Planning and Quality Unit.

In 2000 Geoff was elected as a Fellow of the Australian College of Education for his national and international contributions to post-secondary and higher education. In 2007 he was the recipient of the Australian Higher Education Quality Award. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Australian Council for Educational Research.