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**Curriculum Review: Give teachers the chance to teach, not prepare for tests**

The IEUA NSW/ACT Branch has welcomed the interim report from Professor Geoff Masters for the NSW Curriculum Review.

The Review presents a unique opportunity to press the pause button and reconsider matters after some 25 years.

Professor Masters seems to have taken into consideration the views of teachers in his report. Many teachers, particularly those teaching in primary schools, find the existing curriculum overcrowded and inflexible.

“Teachers feel they lose the opportunity to seize the teaching moment, due to this overcrowded curriculum” NSW/ACT Branch Secretary John Quessy said.

For secondary school teachers, the curriculum is too focused on final exams, especially the HSC. The IEU welcomes the report’s consideration of a review the ATAR and would encourage ongoing consultation with the teaching profession.

“The voice of teachers must be heard in whatever future steps are taken,” Quessy said.

“The curriculum is the tool with which teachers do their work. You would not design a tool without a lot of input from those who were going to use that tool.”

*The IEUA NSW/ACT Branch represents over 30,000 teachers, principals and support staff in Catholic and independent schools, early childhood centres and post secondary colleges.*

**Authorised by John Quessy, IEUA NSW/ACT Branch Secretary**