



## Alarming decline in funding of tertiary geoscience departments across Australia

Members of the National Committee for Earth Sciences of the Australian Academy of Science are deeply concerned by the systematic reduction in staff members in geosciences departments over the last year in Australia. This reduction has occurred despite a massive upturn in mineral exploration expenditure resulting in increases in first-year enrolments in most universities.

The decline follows the pattern over the last 15 years, over which time staff numbers and student enrolments have been linked to the increasing expenditure by the minerals sector with a sho3 0 TdD833TJ -0.14646Tj -069i.[(and s)14(t)2.16L0 Tts

