

02.6.2026

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**Title**

Supply issues for science academics in Australia: now and in the future / Daniel Edwards ; T. Fred Smith

**Publication year**

2010

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education. - 60 (2010) 1, S. 19 - 32

**Inventory number**

28337

**Keywords**

Ausland : Australien : Studenten, Studium, Lehre ; Ausland : Australien : einzelne Hochschulen ;  
Ausland : Australien : Forschung, Hochschullehrer

**Abstract**

Australia, like the rest of the developed world, is in the midst of dealing with notable issues related to the age structure of its academic workforce. These issues are widespread and have been articulated in the Australian context most comprehensively by Hugo (2008). This paper investigates issues with demographic change and other key factors related to the desirability of a science or mathematics academic career within Australian universities. It draws on the findings of a research project undertaken in 2008 for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The findings show that while demographic issues are not as dire for science academics compared to the entire sector, issues relating to tenure, workload and retaining young science academics in Australia are a threat to the long-term sustainability of science faculties in Australian universities. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Edwards, Daniel, E-Mail: edwardsd@acer.edu.au