

# Teachers for a fair go research project

Exemplary teachers of students in Priority Schools



*Teachers for a fair go* is a joint project between the NSW Department of Education and Training and the University of Western Sydney (UWS) funded by Priority Schools Programs (PSP) and the Australian Research Council.

PSP supports communities with the highest concentrations of students from low socio-economic status backgrounds. We recognise that there are many outstanding teachers in Priority Schools. Teachers are *the* decisive educational resource in helping narrow the achievement gap.

### **What is the aim of the project?**

The aim of this project is to identify exemplary teachers from Priority Schools whose work is characterised by high levels of student engagement. These teachers will be invited to become co-researchers in the project, helping the UWS researchers explore, analyse and document their classroom practices. 30 teachers will be identified across the three stages of schooling: early (K –

4), middle (Years 5 – 9) and later (Years 10 – 12). Fifteen teachers will be selected from rural schools and 15 from metropolitan schools.

### **How will teachers be identified?**

Teachers from Priority Schools are invited to submit an on-line application addressing the project criteria. The criteria have been developed based on related research by the UWS team to help teachers identify what student engagement means in classrooms and how it is linked with improved student learning outcomes.

### **How will teachers benefit from being involved?**

Teachers working as co-researchers in the project will refine and develop their research skills and have the

opportunity for independent study with credit towards Master or PhD study. They will have new networking opportunities opened up for them across their local area, the region and the state in a variety of modes, including on-line. Importantly, they will have excellent chances of contributing to the improvement of educational and life chances for students in Priority Schools.

Further information at  
[www.psp.nsw.edu.au](http://www.psp.nsw.edu.au)