



Education Digest 27 **9 October – 5 November 2015**

Fees shortfall will be funded from budget

THE R2.3bn needed to accommodate a 0% fee hike next year will come from within the existing budgetary allocations of the Department of Higher Education and Training.

<http://tinyurl.com/pwjmpeg>

“Free Education” report

The Department of Higher Education & Training has released what seems to be the 2012 report that proposed the feasibility of free tertiary education, titled Report of the Working Group on Fee-Free University Education for the Poor in South Africa.

Get the full report here: <http://tinyurl.com/pzu9d8z>

Compulsory coding in school debate continues

South Africa should consider making coding a compulsory requirement in high schools, to address the IT skills shortage.

<http://tinyurl.com/p2lu6bq>

Retiring school principals a challenge

As South Africa’s school principals’ age, the need to identify the next wave of leadership is becoming more pressing. With as many as 1 400 South African principals set to retire each year, the need for teachers applying to be principals to take competency tests could not be more urgent.

<http://tinyurl.com/nogk32y>

Teacher Supply in South Africa: A Focus on Initial Teacher Education Graduate Production

The paper investigates six research questions: (1) What are the trends in initial teacher education programme first-time enrolments and graduations? (2) Are enough individuals enrolling in initial teacher education qualification programmes? (3) Are enough qualified potential new teachers being produced to satisfy current and projected levels of teacher demand? (4) What does the demographic composition and geographic distribution of new ITE programme students and graduates look like, and how has it changed over time? (5) What are the relative roles of first-time enrolments and ITE programme throughput in explaining observed levels of teacher graduate production? (6) Which groups of ITE students have the highest/lowest completion rates and how do completion rates at distance institutions (Unisa) compare with those at contact institutions?

Get a copy here: <http://tinyurl.com/nanloq2>

Kenny Pasensie
Researcher