

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors acknowledge with gratitude:

- the Council on Higher Education, and particularly the Higher Education Quality Committee, for commissioning the project and supporting it in many ways;
- the Department of Education, and particularly the Higher Education Branch and the HEMIS Office, for pioneering work in producing the first cohort studies and for providing the data on which the ITLS research is based;
- the late Dr Prem Naidoo of the HEQC, who had a central role in conceptualising the ITLS project as a whole;
- the members of the ITLS reference group, who provided most valuable comments on earlier drafts of this paper.