

University back-pays Executive Officer \$6000

3 February 2011

An Australian university has reimbursed one of its executives more than \$6000 after an investigation by the Fair Work Ombudsman found the senior staff member was underpaid.

The executive complained to the Fair Work Ombudsman about not being paid for work performed outside normal working hours.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says the university in question back-paid the outstanding entitlements following discussions with Fair Work inspectors.

“Given the university’s co-operation and voluntary compliance, there will be no further action,” he said.

“It appears there was some confusion as to whether the additional hours worked were actually authorised, because the executive’s time-sheets were not signed by her supervisor, who had left the University, giving rise to concern about whether the overtime was approved or not.

“This situation reinforces the importance of accurate record-keeping and the hefty bills for backpayment of wages that can be incurred when errors are made.”

Mr Campbell encouraged employers to take advantage of educational and guidance materials published on the Agency’s website at www.fairwork.gov.au.

Employers or employees seeking assistance or further information can also contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays. For translations, call 13 14 50.

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