ARC post 2013 election

- The ARC, ARC Act and funding processes sit under the Department of Education
- The Minister responsible for the ARC is The Hon. Christopher Pyne MP
- Education Department also responsible for:
  - co-ordination of research policy in relation to universities
  - creation and development of research infrastructure.
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**
- Australian Laureate Fellowships
- Future Fellowships
- Discovery Indigenous
- Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

**Linkage Projects**
- Centres of Excellence
- Co-funded Centres and Special Research Initiatives
- Industrial Transformation Research Hubs
- Industrial Transformation Training Centres

Web: arc.gov.au  |  Email: info@arc.gov.au
Detail of Government Investment in R&D 2013-14

- ARC: 10.2%
- NHMRC: 9.9%
- Other health: 1.0%
- Block Funding to Higher Ed: 21.9%
- Other Higher Ed R&D Support: 0.9%
- Rural: 3.9%
- Energy and the Environment: 2.4%
- Multisector Science Support: 2.4%
- CRCs: 1.7%
- Other Govt R&D: 7.4%
- DSTO: 4.9%
- CSIRO: 8.8%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 19.4%
- Other Industry R&D Support: 0.1%
- Other Innovation Support: 5.0%
Modern History of the Linkage Scheme

- Ongoing Feedback from sector
- Split of Linkage (LP) into LP + ITRP
  - Provides a continuum in size, focus and timing
The *Linkage Projects* scheme objectives

- initiation and/or development of **long-term strategic research alliances** between higher education organisations and other organisations, including industry and end-users, in order to apply advanced knowledge to problems and/or to provide opportunities to obtain national economic, social or cultural benefits;

- scale and focus of research in **Strategic Research Priorities**;

- opportunities for researchers to pursue internationally competitive research in **collaboration** with organisations outside the higher education sector, targeting those who have demonstrated a clear commitment to high-quality research; and

- growth of a **national pool** of world-class researchers to meet the needs of the broader Australian innovation system.
The Money!

Average ARC funding, PO contribution and number of PO on each LP project

The Partner Organisation must make a significant contribution in cash and/or in kind, to the project that is equal to, or greater than, the ARC funding.
Since 2005 there have been nearly 2200 instances of collaboration with Australian private companies, as partner organisations on linkage grants.
Partner Organisation Views: Why Use LP Scheme?

- Chance of success is reasonably high: 47% (Important), 10% (Not Important)
- Possible to obtain larger grants: 76% (Important), 2% (Not Important)
- Access to highly skilled research personnel: 88% (Important), 2% (Not Important)
- Opportunity to build longterm relationships with uni researchers: 92% (Important), 2% (Not Important)
Success Rate: Comparison of Schemes

Success Rate in commencement year 2013

- Linkage - Infrastructure Equipment...
- Linkage - Projects: 39%
- Discovery Indigenous
- Industrial Transformation Training...
- Discovery - Projects
- ARC Future Fellowships
- Discovery Early Career Researcher...
- Australian Laureate Fellowships
Some Linkage Stats: Partner Orgs.

Linkage Projects - number of Australian private companies as Partner Orgs 2005 - 2013

Average 28% of projects

The Linkage Projects scheme is a driver of collaboration between higher education researchers and other parts of the national innovation system.
## Partner Orgs by Type - VICTORIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Partner Organisation</th>
<th>All Australian Universities</th>
<th>Deakin</th>
<th>LaTrobe</th>
<th>Monash</th>
<th>RMIT</th>
<th>SwinBurne</th>
<th>UniMelb</th>
<th>Uni Victoria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government - Commonwealth</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government - International</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government - State &amp; Local</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit - Australian</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit - International</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Company - Australian</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Company - International</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education International</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round</td>
<td>Admin Org</td>
<td>Number submitted</td>
<td>Number funded</td>
<td>Success rate %</td>
<td>ARC Funding</td>
<td>Partner funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP13</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
<td>(figure not released)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP12 R2</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP12 R1</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP11 R2</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>$262,499</td>
<td>$660,913</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP11 R1</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP10 R2</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$615,000</td>
<td>$1,043,580</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP10 R1</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>$552,474</td>
<td>$863,400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP09 R2</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$705,260</td>
<td>$952,700</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP09 R1</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>$456,840</td>
<td>$563,437</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP08 R2</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>$470,000</td>
<td>$657,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP08 R1</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>$312,825</td>
<td>(figure not released)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARC Linkage Program

Summary of Significant Changes to the *Linkage Projects* Scheme (LP13):

The Linkage Program has two major changes:

1. The establishment of the Industrial Transformation Research Program (i.e. *Industrial Transformation Research Hubs* and *Industrial Transformation Training Centres*).  
   *ITRP*
ARC Linkage Program

Summary of Proposed Significant Changes to the *Linkage Projects* Scheme:

2. Revision of the *Linkage Projects* scheme to complement the introduction of the Industrial Transformation Research Program, and to incorporate feedback from ARC consultation and the formal evaluation of the scheme.
ARC Linkage Program; LP 13 ongoing changes

In Detail:

- The minimum funding request from the ARC has been increased from $30,000 to $50,000 per annum,

and the maximum has been decreased from $500,000 to $300,000 per annum.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

- The maximum length of a Linkage Project has been decreased from five years to three years.

- The new ITRP hubs allow projects up to five years.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

- the *contributions of Partner Organisations* have been clarified with respect to the source of cash that can be used to leverage ARC funding

  i.e. funds cannot be derived from those previously awarded by the Australian Government for research
Partner Investigators

- **A PI must**: take significant intellectual responsibility for the conduct of the Project and for any strategic decisions called for in its pursuit and the communication of results; and/or
  - have the experience and capacity to provide effective supervision, support and mentoring of research personnel associated with the Project; and/or
  - have the relevant skills and experiences to manage a similar scale research Project.

- A PI must have the capacity to make a commitment to carrying out the Project and cannot assume the role of a supplier of resources for work that will largely be placed in the hands of others.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

- The **types of organisations that may be exempt** from the cash requirement (i.e. start-up companies, charities, community organisations, museums and herbaria) have been identified.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

• To encourage more collaboration across the research and innovation system, cash and in-kind contributions for matching funds up to a total of 25% from other research organisations will be recognised.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

- **Named Fellowships** within the *Linkage Projects* – Australian Postdoctoral Fellow (Industry) (APDI) and Linkage Industry Fellow (LIF) will no longer be offered.

Linkage Projects scheme still provides funding for unnamed postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers.

- The ARC will provide funding for new postgraduate and postdoctoral fellowships with the introduction of the Industrial Transformation Research Program, namely the Training Centres.
What makes a good ARC proposal?

- Focus
- Clear research problem
- Mature Plan
- Clear writing/execution
- Innovation
- Selection criteria
- Keep up to date with the rules
- ROPE*/Total Budget

- Convince assessor of your capability
- Distinguish from previous/similar work

- FoR codes (ABS); Key words
- Choose carefully/assessor
- Not “99”
- Get good advice

*research opportunity and performance evidence
ARC College

To support the advancement of knowledge and contribute to national innovation, the ARC engages an ARC College to play a key role in identifying and assessing the quality, excellence, moderating external assessments and recommending fundable proposals. It also assists the ARC in recruiting and assigning a team to implement peer review reforms in established and emerging disciplines as well as interdisciplinary areas.

Its members are experts of international standing drawn from the Australian research community: from higher education, industry and public sector organisations.

ARC College nominations are approved by the ARC CEO for appointments of one to three years.

The ARC College members assess and rank ARC grant applications submitted under the National Competitive Grants Program, make funding recommendations to the ARC and provide strategic advice to the ARC on emerging disciplines and cross-disciplinary developments.

The ARC is required to maintain a high standard of professionalism and ethical conduct in its operations. The ARC Guidelines for Disclosure and Confidentiality Obligations are designed to ensure that all members of the ARC College are aware of the confidentiality obligations associated with their activities and that conflicts of interest are identified and addressed in a rigorous and transparent way. The ARC requires members of the ARC College to provide assurances to the ARC that they will abide by the ARC’s confidentiality requirements and will disclose to it any conflicts of interest related to their activities.

ARC College Nominations for 2014

ARC College Nominations for 2014 closed at 5:00pm (AEST) on Friday 26 July 2013.

ARC College members

There are currently 134 members on the ARC College.

ARC College members listed by discipline group:
  - Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (BSB)
  - Engineering, Mathematics and Informatics (EMI)
  - Humanities and Creative Arts (HCA)
  - Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences (PCE)
  - Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences (SBE)
Linkage funding outcomes

LP14 Updates
(significant changes from LP13)

- Strategic Research Priorities; announcement on 21 June 2013;
- Selection criteria include “enhance links with organisations outside the Australian publicly-funded research sector and higher education sectors”;
- Clarification on the provision of travel costs for research support personnel
LP14 Updates, cont:
(significant changes from LP13)

• Proposals for Medical and Dental Research are not supported;

• The requirement for an Australian Partner Organisation has been removed.
  – selection criteria have been updated to emphasise the requirement for Proposals to maximise the economic, environmental and/or social benefit to Australia
LP14 Updates, cont: (significant changes from LP13)

- Rules regarding the eligibility of Chief Investigators with Conflicts of Interest have been revised.
- The Administering Organisation is required to manage Conflicts of Interest in accordance with the NHMRC/ARC/UA Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2007);
LP14 Updates, cont:
(significant changes from LP13)

- Publications arising from a Project must be deposited into an open access institutional repository within a twelve month period from the date of publication, as per the ARC Open Access policy
Medical and Dental

- ARC schemes do not support medical and dental research, *defined as research and/or training primarily and substantially aimed at understanding or treating a human disease or human health condition.*
- This includes, but is not limited to, Projects that involve any of the following...

* www.arc.gov.au
Definition: Medical and Dental

a. late pre-clinical or early human trials of a human therapeutic agent, material or diagnostic test or device; or other interventional research involving humans;

b. using material collected from human subjects for the primary purpose of studying the underlying causes, prevalence, epidemiology or mode of inheritance of a disease or human condition; or

c. using established animal models or established cell lines for the purpose of studying the underlying causes, prevalence, epidemiology or mode of inheritance of a human disease or human health condition.
Promoting Outcomes

• ARC wants to work with research offices to celebrate the research outcomes attained by its grant recipients
• Reinforce to ordinary Australians that their tax dollars are being well spent on groundbreaking, exciting research
• Feeding research outcomes into dialogue on Government policy is a challenge and an opportunity
Your ARC media contacts

- communications@arc.gov.au and publications@arc.gov.au

- ARC Media line 02 6287 6711

- We are always willing to help

- Let us know when you have a news story or event that needs promoting
• ARC CEO Prof. Aidan Byrne

• ED Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences; Prof. Marian Simms

• ED Biological Sciences & Biotechnology; Dr Fiona Cameron

• ED History and Creative Arts; Prof. Denise Meredeyth

• ED Engineering, Mathematical and Information Sciences; Prof. Brian Yates
ARC’s next steps in Research Impact

- Embedding impact into *some* funding rules
- Identifying common, agreed reporting of impact
- Enable a possible future assessment of impact using common data and language
Should we be worried about impact?

We shouldn’t be:

- Every aspect of the modern world is shaped by research. The impact of research is everywhere.

BUT

- Need to take care not to over-engineer
- Need to disentangle contributions
- Need to cope with diversity
- Need to avoid perversity

- Need to be clear about the **WHY!**
Small steps

- **Research Impact Principles**
- Release of the PFRA work on the ARC website:
Who was involved?

- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Studies
- Australian Institute of Marine Science
- Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
- Australian Research Council
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- Defence Science and Technology Organisation
- National Health and Medical Research Council
- National Measurement Institute