ARC funding and HCA

University of Western Sydney

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Australian Research Council
UWS questions

• ARC and the funding landscape.
• Patterns of applications and success by discipline/code
  – Multiple submissions and eligibility.
• Disciplines
  – Practice led research and cross-disciplinary applications.
• Academic workforce issues: career age, gender, seniority, sector.
• Linkage, HCA and national research infrastructure
  – GLAM sector.
More information


ARC and the funding landscape
The ARC


Mission: to deliver policy and programs that advance Australian research and innovation globally and benefit the community.

Fund direct costs to Universities and partners.

All disciplines except clinical medicine and dentistry.
Commonwealth Investment in R&D 2013–14

- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 19.44%
- DSTO: 4.94%
- CSIRO: 8.76%
- Other Govt R&D: 7.41%
- CRCs: 1.67%
- RIBG+JRE+SRE: 8.48%
- APA + RTS: 10.93%
- ARC: 10.23%
- NHMRC: 9.93%
- Other Innovation Support: 5.00%
- Other health: 1.00%
- Other Higher Ed R&D Support: 3.39%
- Energy and the Environment: 2.39%
- Rural: 3.94%
- Multisector Science Support: 2.44%

Source: Budget 2013-2014 Industry and Innovation tables
Trends in Government Investment in R&D % 2004–14

(source: 2013–14 Budget tables)
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**
- Laureate Fellowships
- Future Fellowships
- DECRA
- Other Fellowships

**Linkage Projects**
- Centres of Excellence
- Co-Funded & SRI
- LIEF

Area of box represents $ awarded over the period 2008–2013.
N.b. ITRP & DECRA running for less than five years.
## Budget 2014–15: ARC

### New measures

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<td>Juvenile Diabetes</td>
<td>$35 million</td>
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</table>
Budget 2014–15: ARC

Other measures

- 3.25% Efficiency Dividend
- Revised Indexation—now CPI
- Departmental savings measures.
NCGP proposal lifecycle

- Development of Funding Rules
- Eligibility Exemption Request
- Proposal Submission
- Request Not to Assess
- Assessment Process
- Rejoinder
- Selection Meeting
- Approval of Outcomes
- Funding Agreements and Appeals
- Post Award
- Development of RMS
- Recruitment of College of Experts or
  Selection Advisory Committee
- Eligibility
- Announcement
- End of Year and Progress Reports
- Final Report
Discovery Projects grants rankings 2013

Each symbol represents up to 2 observations.
Success rate: Comparison of schemes

Success Rate in commencement year 2013

- Linkage - Infrastructure Equipment
- Linkage - Projects
- Discovery Indigenous
- Industrial Transformation Training
- Discovery - Projects
- ARC Future Fellowships
- Discovery Early Career Researcher
- Australian Laureate Fellowships

Success rates:
- Linkage - Projects: 39%
Discovery Projects

• DP is the largest scheme, supporting excellent basic and applied research by individuals and teams.

• Success rate typically 20% to 22% in recent years.

• Selection criteria (more detail on each in Funding Rules):
  – Investigator (40%)
  – Project Quality and Innovation (25%)
  – Feasibility and Benefit (20%)
  – Research Environment (15%).

• Funding up to five years, up to $500 000 per year.

• No salaries for CIs/PIs.
**Size of scheme and success rates (1)**

*Discovery Projects 2008-2014: Success and Return Rates*

- **Number of Proposals**
  - **2008:** 3234 (21.4%), 878 (66.5%)
  - **2009:** 3307 (20.4%), 845 (64.0%)
  - **2010:** 3143 (22.7%), 925 (67.0%)
  - **2011:** 3299 (22.0%), 931 (68.3%)
  - **2012:** 2756 (22.0%), 788 (65.8%)
  - **2013:** 2693 (21.4%), 732 (65.3%)
  - **2014:** 2831 (19.9%), 703 (66.3%)

- **Success and Return Rates**
  - **2008:** 56.5%, 60.8%
  - **2009:** 54.0%, 60.8%
  - **2010:** 56.3%, 63.8%
  - **2011:** 55.3%, 60.8%
  - **2012:** 50.8%, 59.8%
  - **2013:** 60.8%, 60.8%
  - **2014:** 63.8%, 63.8%
Discovery Indigenous

• Supports fundamental research and research training by Indigenous Australian researchers as individuals and as teams.

• Selection criteria (more detail on each in Funding Rules):
  – Investigator (40%)
  – Project Quality and Innovation (35%)
  – Research Environment (15%)
  – Feasibility and Benefit (10%).

• Funding up to three years, up to $500 000 per year.

• No salaries for CIs/PIs (though note DIAs).
Size of scheme and success rates (3)

*Discovery Indigenous 2012-2014: Success Rates*

- **2012:**
  - Number of Proposals: 19
  - Unsuccessful: 10
  - Successful: 9
  - Success Rate: 34.5%

- **2013:**
  - Number of Proposals: 22
  - Unsuccessful: 10
  - Successful: 12
  - Success Rate: 31.3%

- **2014:**
  - Number of Proposals: 16
  - Unsuccessful: 10
  - Successful: 6
  - Success Rate: 38.50%
Patterns of application and success across the sector
ARC NCGP funding by university ($m) 2007–2013

- University of Southern Queensland
- University of Ballarat
- Central Queensland University
- Bond University
- University of the Sunshine Coast
- Edith Cowan University
- Australian Catholic University
- Charles Darwin University
- Charles Sturt University
- Victoria University
- University of Canberra
- Southern Cross University
- The University of New England
- Murdoch University
- RMIT University
- University of Western Sydney
- University of South Australia
- La Trobe University
- Swinburne University of Technology
- Deakin University
- The Flinders University of South Australia
- University of Technology, Sydney
- James Cook University
- Curtin University of Technology
- University of Tasmania
- Griffith University
- Queensland University of Technology
- University of Wollongong
- The University of Newcastle
- Macquarie University
- The University of Adelaide
- The University of Western Australia
- Monash University
- The Australian National University
- The University of New South Wales
- The University of Sydney
- The University of Queensland
- The University of Melbourne
Engagement by university
Strength in Linkage and Discovery schemes

Percentage of scheme funds obtained

- The University of Sydney
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Queensland
- Monash University
- The University of New South Wales
- The Australian National University
- The University of Adelaide
- University of Wollongong
- Queensland University of Technology
- The University of Newcastle
- Griffith University
- University of South Australia
- University of Technology, Sydney
- RMIT University
- Curtin University
- University of Western Sydney
- Deakin University
- James Cook University
- Swinburne University of Technology
- Murdoch University
- Charles Darwin University
- The University of New England
- University of Canberra
- University of Southern Queensland
- University of Ballarat
- Australian Catholic University
- Central Queensland University
- Bond University
- University of the Sunshine Coast
Patterns of application and success by discipline/FoR
ARC proposals received: 2-Digit FoR (%) 2006-2013

- Mathematical Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Information and Computing Sciences
- Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences
- Engineering
- Technology
- Medical and Health Sciences
- Built Environment and Design
- Education
- Economics
- Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services
- Studies in Human Society
- Psychology and Cognitive Sciences
- Law and Legal Studies
- Studies in Creative Arts and Writing
- Language, Communication and Culture
- History and Archaeology
- Philosophy and Religious Studies
Total ARC funding by major scheme and selected HCA/SBE disciplines (20012-14)
Proposals received by 2-digit FoR code (%)

[past 4 years Discovery Projects and 5 years Linkage Projects]
Proposal received and funded by 2-digit FoR code (number)

[past 4 years Discovery Projects and 5 years Linkage Projects]
Funding ($) for projects with primary 4-digit FoR in Cultural Studies by scheme (2011 to 2014)

No projects funded in LIEF scheme
Cultural Studies (2002)—by 6-digit level FoR code (all schemes, regardless of primary classification code) (2010/11 to 2014)

Size of bubble indicates the total percentage of a 6-digit level code in all projects funded.
Percentage totals of 6-digit level codes for projects funded in all schemes (2010/11 to 2014)

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BED by 6-digit level FoR code (all schemes, regardless of primary classification code) (years 2010 to 2014)

Size of bubble indicates the total percentage of a 6-digit level code in all projects funded.
Quality + impact * benefit?

Creative disciplines may need to:

- identify iterations of the creative work as research
- quantify prestige and esteem
- link narratives and case studies to…
- authoritative typologies
- rank outlets, performances, venues
- consider open access and open data
- consider research infrastructure and shared resources
- adapt to digital transformations in knowledge systems.
Cross-disciplinary collaboration
Cross-disciplinary projects are those where the applicant indicated that the research content was distributed over at least two 2-digit FoR codes, with no more than 70 per cent in any one of those codes.

Single-disciplinary projects are those where the applicant indicated that more than 70 per cent of the research content in the proposal lay within a single 2-digit RFCD code.

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(2014 - )
Percentage totals of other FoR codes in projects (2010/11 to 2014), all schemes

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Non-primary 4-digit FoR components in projects with primary FoR in Historical Studies (2010/11 to 2014), all schemes

Number shown is for percentage totals of the FoR
FOR Network mapping..
[Fruchterman reingold]

HASS disciplines highlighted

Source data: http://www.arc.gov.au/general/searchable_data.htm
FOR
Network mapping..
[Fruchterman
reingold]
HASS - ZOOM
Academic workforce issues
The ARC is committed to ensuring all eligible researchers have fair access to competitive funding through the National Competitive Grants Program.

The ARC considers that Research Opportunity comprises two separate elements:

– Career experiences (relative to opportunity)
– Career interruptions.

Number of ECR–MCR researchers and success rate (%) in Cultural Studies—DP (2011-14) and LP (2010-14)

ECR – PhD received within 5 years
MCR – PhD received within 5 to 15 years
Number of Chief Investigators and success rate in DP, by gender (2011 to 2014)

- Received
- Funded
- Success Rate

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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</table>

Success Rate:
- Female: 10%
- Male: 20%
Participation and success of CIs in DP13 and DP14 by gender and career age
Success rate (%) of HCA/SBE CIs in *Discovery* by career age (yrs post PhD) 2002–14

(Note - fellow applicants have been included as funded on all funded projects)
Success rate (%) of HCA/SBE CIs in Discovery, by title and type of university (2002–14)

(Note - fellow applicants have been included as funded on all funded projects)
Linkage
Some Linkage stats: funding and success rates

Since 2005 there have been nearly 2200 instances of collaboration with Australian private companies, as partner organisations on linkage grants.
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.
Linkage - Instances of Collaboration by Org Type

- Other
- Non-Profit - International
- Non-Profit - Australian
- Higher Education - International
- Government - State & Local
- Government - International
- Government - Commonwealth
- Company/Industry Body - International
- Company/Industry Body - Australian
Linkage and national research infrastructure: GLAM
Number of projects (all schemes) involving GLAM, by 2-digit FoR code (2008 to 2014)
Collaboration between universities (green) and GLAM organisations (blue), by location
Discussion/questions