TASA Workshop- “The role of social scientists in understanding Australia’s changing landscape”

24 July 2014, UNSW, Arts & Social Sciences

Professor Marian Simms
ARC Executive Director
The Australian Research Council

The Australian Research Council (ARC) is an independent statutory agency within the Education Portfolio. The ARC’s main responsibilities are:

- providing funding for research through the competitive funding schemes of the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP);
- providing policy advice on research matters to Government;
- Evaluating research quality in Australia through the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) exercise;
- and, together with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), administering the Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC).
Government support for research and development in Australia: 2013-14

- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 19.4%
- Govt. R&D Activities: 7.4%
- DSTO: 4.9%
- ARC: 10.2%
- NHMRC and Other Health: 10.9%
- CSIRO: 8.8%
- Other Business R&D Support: 0.1%
- Other Innovation Support: 5.0%
- Block Funding to Higher Ed.: 21.9%
- Higher Ed. R&D Support: 0.9%
- Other Science Support: 2.4%
- Energy and the Environment: 2.4%
- Rural: 3.9%
- CRCs: 1.7%
The ARC

National Competitive Grants Program
$883.9M in 2013-14

Evaluation and Policy

Discovery and Fellowships
$551.4 M

Linkage and Centres
$332.4 M

Excellence in Research for Australia
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Program**
- Laureate Fellowships
- DECRA
- Discovery Indigenous
- Future Fellowships
- Discovery Projects

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

Discovery Program Funding 2013-14 - $551.4 million

Linkage Program Funding 2013-14 - $332.4 million
NCGP and Peer Review

- Under larger schemes, such as *Discovery Projects (DP)* and the *Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA)*, all five panels of the ARC College convene for selection meetings. In other schemes, such as *Australian Laureate Fellowships and Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities* schemes, a single interdisciplinary Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) may be utilised. SAC members may be ARC College members and/or other eminent researchers.

- The five panels are: Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (BSB), Engineering, Mathematics and Informatics (EMI), Humanities and Creative Arts (HCA), Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences (PCE), and Social Behavioural and Economic Sciences (SBE).
Proportion of proposals received in selected disciplines of SBE (commencement year 2002 and 2014)

- Education: 13%
- Psychology: 18%
- Sociology: 9%
- Social Work: 1%
- Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services: 15%
- Economics: 11%
- Other SBE disciplines: 20%
- Policy and Administration: 6%
- Political Science: 7%
Staffing Profiles

The chart shows the staffing profiles across various fields, including Anthropology, Criminology, Demography, Human Geography, Other Studies in Human Society, Policy and Administration, Political Science, Social Work, and Sociology. Each field is represented by different colored bars indicating the percentage of staff at various levels (A, B, C, D, E).
### Sociology – National Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessed UoEs</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>466</td>
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<td>Outputs</td>
<td>4,591</td>
<td>3,537</td>
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<td>Income</td>
<td>$70,964,733</td>
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<td>Commercialisation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
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<td>Conference Papers</td>
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</table>
Total success rate (all schemes, Start Year 2002 to 2014) and number of proposals received in NCGP panels
Number of projects funded in DP (DECRA not included), by commencement year
Success rate in DP - commencement year

- COMMERCE...
- EDUCATION
- ECONOMICS
- POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
- POLITICAL SCIENCE
- PSYCHOLOGY
- SOCIOLOGY
- SBE-All
- SOCIAL WORK

Years: 2001 to 2014
Success rates range from 0% to 45%.
Total success rate in Discovery Projects and Linkage Projects (start year 2002 to 2014)
Total Success rate in all schemes
(start year 2002 to 2014) - (2014 data no FT14, FL14)
Proportion of Prof and A/Prof type of researchers (including Partner Investigator) on *Discovery Projects* proposals each year for comparison.
Average number of researchers (including Partner Investigators) on each Discovery Projects proposal
Combined success rate by discipline and scheme (proposals between commencement year 2002 to 2014)
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