Presentation to BARDsNeT
UTS, Business School, Sydney
Friday 7 November 2014

Professor Marian Simms
ARC Executive Director
The Australian Research Council

- The Australian Research Council (ARC) is an independent statutory agency within The Department of Education. The ARC’s main responsibilities are:
  - providing funding for research through the competitive funding schemes of the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP)
  - evaluating research quality in Australia through the Excellence in Research for Australia exercise
  - and, together with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), administering the Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC).
Australian Government support for science, research and innovation 2014–15 ($9.2b)

- ARC: 9.53%
- NHMRC: 10.12%
- Australian Government R&D: 7.50%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 26.44%
- Block Funding: 21.19%
- Business Innovation: 3.30%
- Business R&D: 0.02%
- Other Health: 0.63%
- Higher Education R&D: 0.47%
- CRCs: 1.63%
- Energy and the Environment: 1.37%
- Rural: 3.30%
- Other R&D: 1.95%
- CSIRO: 8.11%
- DSTO: 4.44%
ARC NCGP funding by University ($m) 2007–2013
ARC funding by institution 2010–2014
ARC NCGP funding by 2-Digit FOR (%) 2006–2013
The ARC

National Competitive Grants Program
$883.9M in 2013-14

- Discovery and Fellowships $551.4 M
- Linkage and Centres $332.4 M

Evaluation and Policy

- Excellence in Research for Australia
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**

- **Laureate Fellowships** 5%
- **Future Fellowships** 16%
- **DECRA** 3%
- Discovery Indigenous

**Linkage Projects**

- **Centres of Excellence** 7%
- **Co-Funded & SRI**
- **ITRP**
- **Linkage Projects** 18%

5 year averages
Discovery projects: Size of scheme and success rates

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Proposals</th>
<th>Unsuccessful</th>
<th>Successful</th>
<th>Return Rate</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3234</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3307</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3143</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3299</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>55.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2756</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2693</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>60.8%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2831</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>63.80%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 converge 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 prominent researchers.

• The five panels are: Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (BSB), Engineering, Mathematics and Information (EMI), Humanities and Creative Arts (HCA), Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences (PCE), and Social Behavioural and Economic Sciences (SBE).
Research Opportunity

• 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

• The new ROPE Statement (released Feb 2014) is online at:  
Proportion of proposals received in selected disciplines of SBE (commencement year 2002–2014)

- Education (2d) 13%
- Psychology 18%
- Sociology 9%
- Social work 1%
- Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services (2d) 15%
- Economics (2d) 11%
- Other SBE disciplines 20%
- Policy and Administration 6%
- Political Science 7%

Note—data on basis of FOR codes and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Total success rate (all schemes, Start Year 2002–2014) and number of proposals received in NCGP panels

![Graph showing total success rate and number of proposals received in NCGP panels from 2002 to 2014, with different categories represented by different colors.]
Number of proposals received in selected disciplines (2- and 4-digit FOR) all schemes, by commencement year

Note – data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Total success rate all schemes, Selected disciplines (Commencement year 2002–2014)

Note – data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Which scheme is more important? selected disciplines

13 Years' Funding (2002 to 2014)

- Linkage - Projects
- Discovery - Projects
- ARC Future Fellowships
- ITRP - Hubs
- DECRA
- Linkage - Projects (APA...)
- ITRP - Training Centres
- ARC Research Networks
- LIEF
- Linkage - International
- Discovery Indigenous
- Special Research Initiatives

3 Years' Funding (2012 to 2014)

- Discovery - Projects
- Linkage - Projects
- ITRP - Hubs
- DECRA
- ARC Future...
- ITRP - Training Centres
- LIEF
- Discovery - Projects
- DECRA
- ARC Future...
- Linkage - Projects
- Australian Laureate...
- Discovery - Projects
- ARC Future...
- Linkage - Projects
- Discovery Early...
- Linkage -...
### Success rate in selected disciplines and schemes (commencement year 2002–2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>ARC Future Fellowships</th>
<th>Discovery Early Career Researcher Award</th>
<th>Discovery - Projects</th>
<th>Discovery - Indigenous</th>
<th>Australian Laureate</th>
<th>Linkage - Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commerce (2d)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics (2d)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (2d)</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics (2d)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBE-All</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines

Web: arc.gov.au  |  Email: Communications@arc.gov.au
Total success rate in *Discovery Projects* and *Linkage Projects* (commencement year 2002–2014)

Note—data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Discovery Projects (DP)
Number of proposals received, selected disciplines, commencement year 2002–2014

Note—data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Success rate (%) in DP, selected disciplines, commencement year 2002–2014

Note—data on basis of original RFCD and FOR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Number of proposals received and success rate (%) comparison between LP and DP in Commerce and Economics

Note — data on basis of FOR and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
ARC funding and number of projects funded in DP and LP, for comparison

Note—data on basis of FOR and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
# Future Fellowships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2-digit code discipline\Commencement year</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals submitted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects funded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Last 13-years ARC total funding (2002–2014)
Selected schemes and disciplines

Note – data on basis of FOR and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Last 3-years ARC total funding (2012–2014), selected schemes and disciplines

Note – data on basis of FOR and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Proportion of Prof and A/Prof type of researchers (incl. PI) on *Discovery Projects* proposals each year for comparison (not incl. DECRA)
Average number of researchers (including Partner Investigators) on each *Discovery Projects* Proposal

![Graph showing the average number of researchers on Discovery Projects proposals from 2002 to 2014 for various disciplines. The disciplines include Commerce, Economics, Education, Policy and Administration, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, and Law. The graph illustrates an increase in the average number of researchers over time for most disciplines, with variations in peaks and troughs.]
Total number of ARC projects, Partner Orgs (PO) and ARC funding for Linkage Projects (2002 to 2014)
Average number of Partner Organisations on each Linkage Project
Discussion/questions