Presentation to UQ
Political Science and International Relations

November 2014

Professor Marian Simms
ARC Executive Director
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);

– providing policy advice on research matters to the 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).
2014-15 Federal Budget
(Approx. AU$415 Billion)

(Treasury omitted)
Australian Government support for science, research and innovation 2014-15 ($9.2 B)

- ARC: 9.53%
- NHMRC: 10.12%
- DSTO: 4.44%
- CSIRO: 8.11%
- Energy and the Environment: 1.37%
- Rural: 3.30%
- CRCs: 1.63%
- Other Health: 0.63%
- Higher Education R&D: 0.47%
- Block Funding: 21.19%
- Business Innovation: 3.30%
- Business R&D: 0.02%
- Australian Government R&D: 7.50%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 26.44%
- Other R&D: 1.95%
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**

- Future Fellowships 16%
- DECRA 3%

**Linkage Projects**

- Centres of Excellence 7%
- Co-Funded & SRI
- Discovery Indigenous
- ITRP

Discovery Projects 41%

Linkage Projects 18%

5 year averages

Web: arc.gov.au  |  Email: Communications@arc.gov.au
Size of scheme and success rates (1)

Discovery Projects 2008-2015: Success and Return Rates
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).
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

Proportion of proposals received in selected disciplines of SBE (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

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

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 to 2014) and number of proposals received in NCGP panels
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 to 2014)

Note – data on basis of original RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Success rate in selected disciplines and schemes (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

Note – data on basis of original RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Total success rate in *Discovery Projects* and *Linkage Projects* (commencement year 2002 to 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 to 2014

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

Note – data on basis of original RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Average number of researchers (including Partner Investigators) on each Discovery Projects proposal
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

Web: arc.gov.au  |  Email: Communications@arc.gov.au
Thank you