Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (LIEF)

Professor Brian Yates
Executive Director, Engineering, Mathematics and Information Sciences
Overview

1. ARC
2. LIEF outcomes for 2015
3. Applying for LIEF
2014–15 Federal Budget

(Treasury omitted)
National Competitive Grants Program

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

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

5 year averages
Size of scheme and success rates (1)

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

- **Unsuccessful**
- **Successful**
- **Return rate**
- **Success rate**
Size of scheme and success rates (2)

DECRA 2012-2014: Success Rates
Size of scheme and success rates (3)

*Discovery Indigenous 2012-2014: Success Rates*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Proposals</th>
<th>Unsuccessful</th>
<th>Successful</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Size of scheme and success rates (4)

Australian Laureate Fellowships 2009-2013: Success Rates

- Number of Proposals
  - 2009: 133 (10.1% successful)
  - 2010: 82 (15.5% successful)
  - 2011: 122 (12.2% successful)
  - 2012: 91 (15.7% successful)
  - 2013: 95 (15.2% successful)

- Success rates over years:
  - 2009: 0.1
  - 2010: 0.2
  - 2011: 0.3
  - 2012: 0.7
  - 2013: 0.0
Size of scheme and success rates (5)

Future Fellowships 2009-2013: Success Rates
Size of scheme and success rates (6)

**Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities**

![Bar chart showing number of proposals and success rates from 2010 to 2015. The chart includes categories for unsuccessful, successful, and return rates. The x-axis represents the years 2010 to 2015, while the y-axis shows the number of proposals. The bar heights indicate the number of unsuccessful and successful proposals, with a trend line showing the return rate percentage for each year.]
Some Linkage Stats: Funding and Success Rates

Linkage Projects Funding and Success rate

Since 2005 there have been nearly 2200 instances of collaboration with Australian private companies, as partner organisations on linkage grants.
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

Web: arc.gov.au  |  Email: info@arc.gov.au
ARC developments

- Recent schemes (DP, IN, DE, LE)
- Current schemes (LP, FL, ITRH, ITTC)
- Revision and harmonisation of funding rules
- Centres of Excellence
- Future Fellowships
- Medical Research policy
- New RMS
- ERA 2015
Overview

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Over time</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total annual scheme funding</td>
<td>stable</td>
<td>$30m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of proposals submitted</td>
<td>risen</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of proposals funded</td>
<td>stable</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success rate</td>
<td>fallen</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size of grant</td>
<td>stable</td>
<td>$413k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant size most frequently awarded</td>
<td></td>
<td>$150-300k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of collaborating organisations</td>
<td>stable</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and Territory shares of funding</td>
<td>stable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Size of scheme and success rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposals considered</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate</th>
<th>ARC funds allocated</th>
<th>Return rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>159</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>$29m</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(put ‘LIEF outcomes' in a search engine)
## Distribution by field of research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of research</th>
<th>Number of proposals approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Sciences</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Archeology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts and Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Strategic research priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Research Priority Area</th>
<th>Proposals considered</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Living in a changing environment</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population health and wellbeing</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing food &amp; water assets</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securing Australia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Productivity &amp; economic growth</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>none selected</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Contributions from collaborating organisations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>ARC funding</th>
<th>Number of unique collaborating organisations</th>
<th>Number of collaborations</th>
<th>Cash contribution from collaborating organisations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>$29m</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>$26m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposals with only one eligible organisation ('Single-organisation proposals')

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Proposals considered</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview

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LE16 Timeline

• August 2014
  – Release of funding rules

• 19 February 2015
  – Proposals open

• 9 April 2015
  – Proposals close

• June 2015
  – Rejoinders

• October/November 2015
  – Announcement
Important Information when writing application

• Funding Rules
  - objectives
  - selection criteria
  - budget items
  - eligibility

• Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
• Instructions to Applicants (ITAs)
Some changes for LE16

- No more than 15 CIs and PIs
- Every CI or PI (or their research group) must use the facility, on average, for a minimum of 10% of the available time
- All Eligible Organisations must make a cash contribution
LE16 Objectives

• Develop collaborative arrangements amongst organisations to support research infrastructure
• Support national and international co-operative initiatives to allow expensive infrastructure to be shared and accessed
• Support existing or emerging research strengths
• Support research infrastructure for the broader research community
LIEF

LIEF offers "strong incentives to higher education and other research organisations to collaborate in establishing and providing shared access, regionally and nationally, to medium-scale research infrastructure“.

(ARC review of LIEF 2012)
LE16 Selection Criteria

a) Significance
   (including large scale cooperative initiatives)

b) Need and use
   (value for money, planned use, broader access, alignment with similar infrastructure)

c) Collaboration
   (genuine commitment, cooperative arrangements, sustainability)

d) Investigators
   (management of facility, relevance of research infrastructure to each CI and PI)
LE16 Budget items

• Minimum request for ARC funds is $150,000
• Provision of research infrastructure (provision = 'purchase, upgrade, construction, transportation, installation, maintenance of, or management of access to')
• Coordinated access to international or major national facilities
LE16 Budget items **not supported**

- Basic facilities
- Costs associated with actual use of the facility for carrying out research (accommodation, travel, research support personnel)
- Fee-for-service costs – must be active participants, not just consumers (see FAQ)
LE16 Eligibility

• Each CI and PI must be a significant user of the research infrastructure (e.g. 10% of available time)

• Two or more Eligible Organisations, unless collaborative use is not possible—need very good reasons!

• Multi-year grants—only in the case of coordinated access to international or major national facilities

• Some research is excluded—see the ARC Medical Research policy

• Organisational cash contributions to direct costs of the research infrastructure must be at least 25%
LE16 Collaboration

• Must describe:
  - access for participants on the Proposal
  - access for participants not associated with Proposal
  - how the research infrastructure will be managed, including distribution of ongoing costs

• If the infrastructure is to be located in more than one organisation then must demonstrate:
  - facilities are genuinely integrated & collaborative
  - the items are complementary
  - the overall research outcomes will be enhanced by this arrangement
Summary

The aim of the LIEF scheme is to provide research infrastructure to support excellent research for the broader research community through cooperative initiatives.
Professor Brian Yates

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