“ARC Funding Prospects in the ASSH Disciplines”

UWS Forum on Mapping the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Report

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Overview

- ARC funding schemes (NCGP) – a bird’s eye view
- The funding envelope
- ASSH Disciplines
- Assessment process
- Questions and discussion
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
Aims of the Discovery and Linkage Programs

1. Discovery Program

• Fund excellent, internationally competitive research by individuals and teams that will produce high quality outcomes

• Build Australia’s research capacity through supporting and facilitating research training and career opportunities for excellent Australian and international researchers

• Support research in priority areas that will deliver national benefits

• Enhance research capacity and outcomes through support for international collaboration
Aims of the Discovery and Linkage Programs

2. Linkage Program

• The ARC's Linkage funding schemes aim to encourage and extend cooperative approaches to research and improve the use of research outcomes by strengthening links within Australia’s innovation system and with innovation systems internationally.

• Linkage promotes national and international research partnerships between researchers and business, industry, community organisations and other publicly funded research agencies.

• By supporting the development of partnerships, the ARC encourages the transfer of skills, knowledge and ideas as a basis for securing commercial and other benefits of research.

• The main Linkage schemes are: Linkage Projects; Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF); ARC Centres of Excellence; and Special Research Initiatives.
Discovery Projects 2008-2015: Success and Return Rates
Success Rate by Panel: All Discovery Schemes
Laureate Fellows 2014
Success by discipline

*BSB = Biological Sciences and Biotechnology; EMI = Engineering, Mathematics and Informatics; HCA = Humanities and Creative Arts; PCE = Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences; SBE = Social, Behavioural and Economics Sciences
Source: 2014 Selection Report Table 5

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Centres of Excellence 2014
Success by discipline

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Source: 2014 Selection Report Table 1
FOR Network mapping..
[Fruchterman Reingold]

HASS disciplines highlighted

01 MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
02 PHYSICAL SCIENCES
03 CHEMICAL SCIENCES
04 EARTH SCIENCES
05 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
06 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
07 AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCES
08 INFORMATION AND COMPUTING SCIENCES
09 ENGINEERING
10 TECHNOLOGY
11 MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES
12 BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN
13 EDUCATION
14 ECONOMICS
15 COMMERCE, MANAGEMENT, TOURISM AND SERVICES
16 STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY
17 PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES
18 LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES
19 STUDIES IN CREATIVE ARTS AND WRITING
20 LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION AND CULTURE
21 HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
22 PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Source data: http://www.arc.gov.au/general/searchable_data.htm
FOR Network mapping..
[Fruchterman Reingold]

STEM disciplines highlighted

01 MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
02 PHYSICAL SCIENCES
03 CHEMICAL SCIENCES
04 EARTH SCIENCES
05 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
06 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
07 AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCES
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Source data:
http://www.arc.gov.au/general/searchable_data.htm
NCGP Lifecycle

**Funding Rules**
- Approved by Minister
- Published on the ARC website
- Sector advised of availability

**Proposals**
- Applications submitted via RMS by Eligible Organisations by the relevant scheme closing date
- Instructions to applicants, sample application form and FAQs published on ARC website

**Assessment**
- Proposals are considered against eligibility criteria and compliance with the Funding Rules.
- Proposals are assessed by independent assessors
- Applicants may be given the opportunity for a rejoinder to assessors’ written comments
- Proposals are assessed by the ARC College of Experts or a Selection Advisory Committee

**Selection meeting**
- The ARC College of Experts or a Selection Advisory Committee consider all proposals, rank each proposal relative to other proposals in the same discipline cluster and recommend budgets for the highly ranked proposals

**Approval of funding**
- ARC CEO provides recommendations to the Minister in relation to which Proposals should be approved for funding, which Proposals should not be approved for funding, and the level of funding and duration of Projects.
- Minister considers recommendations and approves and announces funding outcomes
- Postaward and reporting
Enlarged ARC College

• In 2011 for 2012 meetings the ARC College of Experts was enlarged, the number of schemes it assessed was increased and the membership rotated between the major meetings.

• Previously the entire ARC College of Experts sat at the April and August meetings, and separate selection advisory committees met for specific schemes, e.g. Future Fellowships.
Number of Panels

- **Discovery Projects**
  - Laureate Fellowships
  - Future Fellowships
  - DECRA
  - Discovery Indigenous
  - Discovery Projects
  - BSB, EMI, PCE, HCA, SBE

- **Linkage Projects**
  - Centres of Excellence
  - Co-Funded & SRI
  - ITRP
  - LIEF
  - Linkage Projects
  - BEM, ET, PMI, HSE
Selection Meeting

- The Selection Meeting is the final face-to-face meeting of the panel of General Assessors and is the conclusion of the peer review process.

- The panels meet to consider which proposals to recommend to the ARC for funding, and recommended budgets for those proposals.

- All recommendations are given to the ARC CEO, who then makes recommendations to the Minister.

- All funding decisions are made by the Minister under the ARC Act.
Discussion/questions