ARC funding and the humanities
Southern Cross University
9 July 2014

Prof. Denise Meredyth
Executive Director, Humanities and Creative Arts
Australian Research Council
The ARC

National Competitive Grants Program
$884.0 M in 13-14

Discovery & Fellowships
$596.3 M

Linkage & Centres
$314.7M

Evaluation and Policy

Excellence in Research for Australia

- Statutory Agency established 2001
- Mission: to deliver policy and programs that advance Australian research and innovation globally and benefit the community
- Fund direct costs to Universities and partners
- All disciplines except clinical medicine and dentistry
National Competitive Grants Program

Discovery Projects

Future Fellowships
Laureate Fellowships
DECRA

Linkage Projects

Centres of Excellence
Co-Funded & SRI
LIEF

ITRP
Other Fellowships

Area of box represents $$ awarded over the period 2008-2013.
N.b. ITRP & DECRA running for less than five years.
Average Awarded Grant Size - DP11 to DP13 - By 2 digit FOR showing awarded amount as a proportion of requested amount
## Budget 2014–15: ARC

### New measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Future Fellowships</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for Dementia</td>
<td>$26 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Health and Medicine</td>
<td>$42 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC Antarctic Gateway</td>
<td>$24 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MYEFO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Diabetes</td>
<td>$35 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Budget 2014–15: ARC

Other Measures

- 3.25% Efficiency Dividend
- Revised Indexation – now CPI
- Departmental savings measures
NCGP selection processes
NCGP Proposal Lifecycle
Proposal assessment – overview

• ARC staff and Executive Directors assess eligibility etc., but do not decide whether proposals should be funded
• All proposals are assessed against the selection criteria, and in accordance with the weightings for that scheme
• Proposals are generally assigned to two College of Experts members and at least two external assessors
• College of Experts meets to moderate judgments and to make final recommendations about fundable proposals and budgets
• Under the ARC Act all recommendations are just that, and must be approved by the Minister
Assessment Process (1)

- The peer review process designed to be fair, thorough and transparent
- The ARC relies on two types of assessors - Detailed and General
- Detailed assessors drawn from the Australian and international research community
- Detailed assessors complete in-depth assessments of proposals by providing scores and comments against the scheme specific selection criteria
- These assessments are then taken into consideration by General assessors (ie College or SAC members) in the later stages of the peer review process
Assessment Process (2)

- General assessors are members of the College of Experts or a Selection Advisory Committee.

- General assessors take into consideration the ratings and comments provided by Detailed assessors and the applicant’s rejoinder, and assign their own ratings to the relevant scheme selection criteria.

- Once all assessments have been finalised and submitted to the ARC, Detailed and General assessments and Rejoinders are considered by the panels at the final selection meeting.
Rejoinder

- Where the ARC seeks external assessments, applicants are often given the opportunity to submit a Rejoinder.

- The Rejoinder process allows applicants to respond to assessment comments made by external assessors.

- Rejoinders are not viewed by external assessors but are considered by an ARC College of Experts Panel or SAC when deciding on the final recommendation for a Proposal.

- Timeframes for applicants are typically up to ten working days.
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.
More information

- Your university Research Office is the essential first stop for information
- ARC staff are available to assist via email and phone
- Huge amount of valuable information on the ARC website
  - Funding rules and Instructions to Applicants
  - FAQs
  - Additional pages on various policies
  - Detailed outcomes for all schemes for recent years, arranged by institution and by discipline (FoR code)
Success rates and patterns
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

39%
Discovery projects: Size of scheme and success rates

Discovery Projects 2008-2014: Success and Return Rates

- Number of Proposals
- Unsuccessful
- Successful
- Return rate
- Success rate
HCA disciplines: application and success rates
Total funding by primary 4-digit FoR code in HCA 2002-14

FoR code was translated from RFCD for projects commenced prior to 2010/11
Total ARC funding by major scheme and selected HCA disciplines (2012-14)
Number of proposals received and funded by 2-digit FoR code

[past 4 years Discovery Projects and 5 years Linkage Projects]
Proportion of proposals received by 2-digit FoR code

[past 4 years Discovery Projects and 5 years Linkage Projects]
Academic workforce issues
National Competitive Grants Program

ARC Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE)

• 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: http://www.arc.gov.au/applicants/rope_statement.htm
First-time awardees by scheme 2008-14
Participation and success of CIs in DP13 and DP14 by gender and career age
Success rate (%) of HCA/SBE CIs in *Discovery* by career age (yrs post PhD) 2002-14

(Note - fellow applicants have been included as funded on all funded projects)
Success rate (%) of HCA/SBE CIs in Discovery, by title and type of university (2002-14)

(Note - fellow applicants have been included as funded on all funded projects)
Cross-disciplinary collaboration
Percentage totals of non-primary FoR codes in projects (2010/11 to 2014) all schemes

Pr. Primary 2d Txt
1. Mathematical Sciences
2. Physical Sciences
3. Chemical Sciences
4. Earth Sciences
5. Environmental Sciences
6. Biological Sciences
7. Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences
8. Information and Computing Sciences
9. Engineering
10. Technology
11. Medical and Health Sciences
12. Built Environment and Design
13. Education
14. Economics
15. Commerce, Management, Tourism...
16. Studies in Human Society
17. Psychology and Cognitive Sciences
18. Law and Legal Studies
19. Studies in Creative Arts and Writing
21. History and Archaeology
22. Philosophy and Religious Studies

Secondary 2d Txt
Agricultural Sciences
Biological Sciences
Built Environment and Design
Chemical Sciences
Commerce, Management, Tourism...
Earth Sciences
Economics
Education
Engineering
Environmental Sciences
History and Archaeology
Information and Computing Sciences
Law and Legal Studies
Mathematical Sciences
Medical and Health Sciences
Philosophy and Religious Studies
Physical Sciences
Psychology and Cognitive Sciences
Studies in Creative Arts and Writing
Studies in Human Society
Technology
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
08 INFORMATION AND COMPUTING
09 ENGINEERING
10 TECHNOLOGY
11 MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES
12 BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN
13 EDUCATION
14 ECONOMICS
15 COMMERCE, MANAGEMENT, TO
16 STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY
17 PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SC
18 LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES
19 STUDIES IN CREATIVE ARTS AND
20 LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION A
21 HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
22 PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STU
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
16 STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY
17 PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE
18 LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES
19 STUDIES IN CREATIVE ARTS AND WRITING
20 LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION AND CULTURAL STUDIES
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]

HASS - ZOOM

01 MATHEM.
02 PHYSICAL
03 CHEMICAL
04 EARTH SC
05 ENVIRON
06 BIOLOGIC
07 AGRICULT
08 INFORMA
09 ENGINEER
10 TECHNOL
11 MEDICAL
12 BUILT ENV
13 EDUCATIC
14 ECONOM
15 COMMER
16 STUDIES II
17 PSYCHOLOG
18 LAW AND
19 STUDIES II
20 LANGUAGE
21 HISTORY A
22 PHILOSOPH
FOR Network mapping..
[Force Atlas 2]

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
16 STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY
17 PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE
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..
[Force Atlas 2]

Source data:
http://www.arc.gov.au/general/searchable_data.htm
FOR Network mapping..
[Force Atlas 2]
FOR Network mapping..
[Force Atlas 2]
Discussion/questions