Towards a sustainable research system in Australia

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Research Utopia in 2030

• History
  • Inertia
• Resource allocation
  • Levers for change
• Strategies for change
Australian Research Grants Committee 1974 – % funding share compared with ARC NCGP 2013
Commonwealth Investment in R&D 2013-14

- ARC: 10.23%
- NHMRC: 9.93%
- APA + RTS: 10.93%
- RIBG+JRE+SRE: 8.48%
- Other Innovation Support: 5.00%
- Other health: 1.00%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 19.44%
- Other Govt R&D: 7.41%
- DSTO: 4.94%
- CSIRO: 8.76%
- Multisector Science Support: 2.44%
- Rural: 3.94%
- CRCs: 1.67%
- Energy and the Environment: 2.39%
- Other Higher Ed R&D Support: 3.39%

Source: Budget 2013-2014 Industry and Innovation tables
Trends in Government Investment in R&D $M 2004-14
(source: 2013-14 budget tables)
Trends in Government Investment in R&D % 2004-14
(source: 2013-14 budget tables)
ERA 2012 ARC/NHMRC research funding by discipline

Field of research

ARC
NHMRC
Income and Quality

ERA 2012

HERDC income Cat 1-3 by rating - 2012

- National Competitive G
- Other Public
- Industry
National Competitive Grants Program

*Discovery Projects*

- Laureate Fellowships
- Future Fellowships
- DECRA

*Linkage Projects*

- Centres of Excellence
- Co-Funded & SRI
- LIEF
- Other Fellowships
- ITRP

Area of box represents $$ awarded over the period 2008-2013. N.b. ITRP & DECRA running for less than five years.
What should our research allocation look like in 2030

• Focus on quality
• Effective programs
• Strengthen connections
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**

- Laureate Fellowships
- Future Fellowships
- DECRA

**Linkage Projects**

- Centres of Excellence
- Co-Funded & SRI
- ITRP
- LIEF
- Other Fellowships

Area of box represents $$ awarded over the period 2008-2013.
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Research Utopia in 2030

• Not just more $$

• Careful choice of programs

• The right balance:
  - Between established researcher and new talent (and re-entry)
  - Between competitive funding and block funding
  - Unconstrained and targeted research
Mapping Engagement:

Linkage Projects vs. Discovery Projects

Strength in scheme:
- avg. p.a.: $LP + $DP
- WA: $112m
- QLD: $50m
- VIC: $12m
- NT: $12m
- NSW: $50m
- SA: $12m
- TAS: $50m
- ACT: $50m
Engagement by Cohort
Strength in Linkage and Discovery Schemes

Group of Eight

Non-Aligned

Innovative Research Universities

Australian Technology Network

Regional Universities Network

Discovery

Linkage
Engagement by University
Strength in Linkage and Discovery Schemes

Percentage of scheme funds obtained

The University of Sydney
The University of Melbourne
The University of Queensland
Monash University
The University of New South Wales
The Australian National University
The University of Western Australia
University of Wollongong
The University of Adelaide
Queensland University of Technology
The University of Newcastle
Macquarie University
Griffith University
University of South Australia
University of Technology, Sydney
University of Tasmania
RMIT University
Curtin University of Technology
La Trobe University
James Cook University
Swinburne University of Technology
University of Western Sydney
Deakin University
Murdoch University
Charles Darwin University
The University of New England
University of Canberra
Southern Cross University
Charles Sturt University
Victoria University
Edith Cowan University
University of Southern Queensland
University of Ballarat
Australian Catholic University
Central Queensland University
Bond University
University of the Sunshine Coast