



ERA Indicators Consultation Paper

On 7 September ARC CEO Professor Margaret Sheil released the *ERA Indicators Consultation Paper*, which outlines the indicators proposed for inclusion in ERA and seeks views from institutions, researchers and other relevant stakeholders on specific issues, particularly including the proposed collection of esteem for the ERA initiative.

Esteem indicators constitute measures of prestige and recognition by experts within the discipline. The ARC has been consulting with experts from the sector to investigate the application of a list of discipline-specific indicators, including esteem indicators, for the full ERA evaluations.

The closing date for electronic submission of responses to the *ERA Indicators Consultation Paper* has been extended to Friday 2 October 2009. A signed hard copy of the electronic submission must be received by 9 October 2009.

Further information about the Consultation Paper, including details on how to submit responses, can be found on the ARC website at www.arc.gov.au > *Research Excellence* > *Current consultations*.

The closing date for electronic submission of responses to the ERA Indicators Consultation Paper has been extended to Friday 2 October 2009

Humanities and Creative Arts evaluation experts announced

On 27 August ARC CEO Professor Margaret Sheil announced the appointment of 22 distinguished researchers from the higher education sector to the Cluster Two Research Evaluation Committee (REC) for the 2009 ERA trial.

Cluster Two encompasses the Humanities and Creative Arts disciplines. There are unique opportunities for testing in Cluster Two as this cluster will also utilise peer review.

The 22 members of the REC are senior university academics whose expertise is broadly representative of disciplines in the Humanities and Creative Arts.

Distinguished Australian academic Professor Graeme Turner from The University of Queensland has been appointed as Chair of the Cluster Two Committee.

Cluster Two data was submitted for the ERA trial in August 2009. The Cluster Two REC will commence the evaluation of this data shortly.

For the full ERA process in 2010, the ARC will establish eight RECs—one for each ERA discipline cluster. For more information on the Cluster Two REC for the ERA trial in 2009 and its membership visit www.arc.gov.au > *Research Excellence* > *Research Evaluation Committees*.

Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences evaluations commence

Cluster One (Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences) data was submitted to the ERA trial in June–July 2009.

Membership of the Cluster One REC for the 2009 ERA trial was announced on 3 August 2009 and evaluations have now commenced.

Outreach

The following presentations on ERA are being given by ERA staff during September:

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| 21 September | Macquarie University |
| 29 September | Australian Council of Professors and Heads of Information Systems (ACPHIS) Melbourne, University of Melbourne |
| 30 September | Australian Council of University Art and Design Schools (ACUADS) 2009 Annual Conference, Griffith University |

If you have any up-coming events that you would like ERA staff to attend and present at, please email era@arc.gov.au or phone the ERA Helpdesk on **02 6287 6755**.

New journal requests

The ARC has received a large number of requests for new journals to be added to the full journal title list for the ERA initiative. Many of the submissions received relate to journals which are already on the ARC list, however may be listed under its current name, or the journal may have merged or ceased. The ARC thanks the sector for its continuing interest in this aspect of the project.

The ARC is updating the full journal title list every fortnight. The revised list is available on the ARC website at: www.arc.gov.au > *Research Excellence* > *Journal lists*.

Releasing the revised list will improve the transparency of the process and assist universities to begin their preparation for the 2010 evaluation.

The list was most recently revised on 17 September 2009.

Institutional repositories

The ARC is continuing to check that institutional repositories are accessible via the System to Evaluate the Excellence of Research (SEER). ERA staff will be contacting institutions if they cannot access their repository or if other problems are discovered. Institutions should make sure that access is either via IP address recognition or Basic Authentication. A number of repositories still have form based authentication where the username and password dialogue boxes are embedded in a webpage. SEER will not work with this type of authentication. The Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) Australian Institutional Repository Support Service (CAIRSS) has identified ways of resolving authentication issues for specific repositories.

Institutions should also ensure that their submitted Cluster Two (Humanities and Creative Arts) links are accurate and link to the correct research output.

Repositories should be available during the Cluster Two evaluation period.

ERA News is emailed to ERA Liaison Officers and also published to the ARC website at www.arc.gov.au > *Research Excellence* > *ERA Newsletter*. The ERA Team appreciates feedback. If you have any comments or suggestions for this Newsletter, please email era@arc.gov.au or phone **02 6287 6755**.