



2009 ERA trial

Cluster One outcomes—national report

The Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative 2009 Cluster One trial outcomes, aggregated to a national level, were released on 30 November 2009. More information can be found at www.arc.gov.au/era/trial.htm

Cluster One outcomes—institutional reports

Deputy/Pro Vice-Chancellors were sent their institutions ERA 2009 Cluster One trial outcomes report this morning.

These reports detail the final ERA rating and Research Evaluation Committee (REC) comments provided for each assessable Unit of Evaluation at both the two- and four-digit Field of Research (FoR) level at a given institution.

The final reports also provide data (under specific licence conditions) on the Australian and World Benchmarks for citations per paper for two- and four-digit FoRs, as well as World Centile thresholds for two- and four-digit FoRs.

The full ERA

Submission Guidelines for the full ERA

Work on the *ERA Submission Guidelines* and the *ERA-SEER Technical Specifications* is nearing completion, and we expect these documents to be released in early December 2009.

Citation supplier announced

On Monday 23 November the ARC announced that Scopus will be the citation data supplier for the full ERA evaluations.

Similar to the 2009 trial process, Scopus will undertake journal article EID (electronic identifier) tagging. As a part of this process, Scopus will provide institutions with the full article metadata for each article submitted to the tagging process (see below). As with the 2009 trial, the ARC will provide static citation counts and benchmarks back to submitting institutions post-evaluation.

Publication tagging process

The EID tagging service for 2010 will open 1 January 2010

In order for the ARC to process publication records for citation analysis, each paper published in a journal indexed by Scopus must be submitted with a Scopus unique article identifier (EID). To facilitate this, the ARC has made arrangements for Scopus to undertake EID tagging for each of the submitting institutions.

The 2009 trial highlighted the need for improved quality of data in terms of accuracy and completeness of ERA submission data.

ERA 2009 Cluster Two Trial Outcomes – available mid December 2009

The agreement with Scopus to provide full article metadata back to universities will help to improve institutional data quality and ultimately the quality of submission data for ERA.

Institutions will be able to upload journal article information using the ERA portal on the Scopus website. The portal will be available from 1 January 2010 and will include instructions and Frequently Asked Questions.

Institutions must register for the tagging service. Up to four staff per institution will be provided usernames and passwords for the web portal. Institutions can register for the tagging service from 1 January 2010 www.arc.gov.au/era/citation.htm.

Further information, including the template containing standard field columns for EID matching, is available now from www.arc.gov.au/era/citation.htm

Ranked journals and ranked conferences—update

In preparation for the full ERA we are in the final stages of preparing the ranked journal and ranked conference lists.

The ERA Team would like to thank institutions for their submissions to the full ERA journal list; we received over 4000 new journal submissions, a number of these reflected journals already on the list.

Over the past six months the ARC has been working with over 700 expert reviewers to finalise the rank and FoR assignments for over 20 000 journals. We have also had experts from the Information and Computing Sciences, Engineering and Built Environment and Design disciplines developing ranked conference lists.

As a result of the large amount of expert review and the new journals added to the list, the full consolidated list will be made available to all of our expert reviewers for one final check of the lists. This will allow us to release the final lists in early February 2010.

Research Evaluation Committee nominations

The ARC has written to all universities Deputy Vice Chancellors of Research (institutions eligible to participate in ERA), with a copy to ERA Liaison Officers to invite nominations for membership of the RECs for the full ERA process. The full process will involve all eight ERA clusters and so the call for nominations is for discipline experts across the full range of disciplines evaluated in ERA. The eight clusters are:

1. Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences
2. Humanities and the Creative Arts
3. Engineering and Environmental Sciences
4. Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences
5. Mathematical, Information and Computing Sciences
6. Biological and Biotechnological Sciences
7. Biomedical and Clinical Health Sciences
8. Public and Allied Health

Nominations for REC membership close on 14 December 2009. Please note: nominations will only be accepted via ERA eligible institutions and cannot be accepted when made by individuals.

Outreach

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

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| 1 December 2009 | CAUL Australian Institutional Repository Support Service (CAIRSS) Community Day, University of the Sunshine Coast |
| 14 December 2009 | Professors of Creative Writing meeting in Sydney |
| 17 December 2009 | Australia Council executive meeting |

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.