

Summary of Linkage Projects Applications for Funding to Commence in 2006

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian National University

LP0668078 Dr KJ Anstey; Dr MS Horswill; A/Prof JM Wood; Dr NA Pachana; Dr N Barnes

Approved Project Title **Hazard Perception and Cognitive Ageing in Older Drivers: Investigation and Development**

2006 : \$94,000

2007 : \$125,000

2008 : \$70,000

Primary RFCD 3801 PSYCHOLOGY

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Partner Organisation(s)

NRMA ? ACT Road Safety Trust

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Older road users have high fatal crash rates that cost the Australian economy \$500 million each year. However, driving cessation is associated with depression and reduced social participation among older adults. The present study will benefit older road users and the wider community by identifying which traffic hazards pose the greatest difficulty for older drivers and providing information that may lead to adaptation of roads, and vehicles to reduce crash risk among older Australians. This will reduce injury and healthcare costs and allow older Australians to maintain higher levels of social participation.

LP0667771 Dr S Chand; Dr B Reilly; Dr P Larmour; Mr R Tulip

Approved Project Title **Improving effectiveness of Australian aid to the island-Pacific**

2006 : \$49,300

2007 : \$49,300

2008 : \$49,300

Primary RFCD 3601 POLITICAL SCIENCE

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Partner Organisation(s)

AusAID

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Improving the effectiveness of aid to the island Pacific so as to secure peace and prosperity within our immediate neighbourhood is in Australia's own national interest. This research investigates issues of state functioning and state failure with a view to improving the effectiveness of external interventions and of bolstering state capacity in the South Pacific. It is now widely acknowledged that 'failed states' can generate refugee flows and create havens for organised crime or terrorist groups, thus becoming a threat to neighbouring states. Such cross-border spillovers have major implications for Australia's national security and have been the primary rationale for the recent interventions into Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

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LP0667970 Prof HM Christensen; Dr KM Griffiths; Prof AJ Mackinnon; Ms D Smith

Approved Project Title **Internet technologies, health informatics and statistical methods, and new delivery platforms in call centres**

2006 : \$83,000

2007 : \$92,000

2008 : \$92,000

Primary RFCD 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

APA(l) Award(s): 1

Partner Organisation(s)

Lifeline Australia Inc.

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Although depression is the major cause of health disability, 60% of Australians with depression do not receive professional help. There are few systems for delivering health information and resilience skills to members of the community. This project aims to develop a workable system to reduce unmet need. It will provide a model of information delivery applicable to other areas of the health industry, particularly those involving chronic disease. It has applicability to education and other sectors which involve the delivery of information to the public. Because e-health is an emerging field, the project also has the capacity to build expertise in an area which is under-resourced.

LP0667725 Prof M Coper; Dr F Wheeler; Dr JM Williams

Approved Project Title **Judicially Speaking: An Oral History of the High Court of Australia**

2006 : \$31,788

2007 : \$31,393

2008 : \$30,375

2009 : \$30,296

2010 : \$26,863

Primary RFCD 3901 LAW

Partner Organisation(s)

High Court of Australia

National Library of Australia

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

This project will leave a basic research legacy by creating a history of the High Court in the words of those closest to it. The Court is among our most under-researched national institutions. By deepening understanding of how the High Court has operated in the past, including in response to social and political change, the project will enrich debate about how it should function in the future. It will provide new insights into the evolution of Australian law to meet the challenges of tomorrow and will preserve vital national heritage in the form of the recollections of prominent national figures.

LP0668046 Prof AF Dulhunty; Prof CJ Easton; Dr MG Casarotto

Approved Project Title **Refinement And Delivery Of Synthetic Compounds That Specifically Alter Muscle Contraction**

2006 : \$50,000

2007 : \$46,250

2008 : \$46,250

Primary RFCD 3205 PHARMACOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

APA(l) Award(s): 1

Partner Organisation(s)

Biotron

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

The project has broad benefits for the nation and the community. Cutting edge research at the molecular level, done within Australia, will benefit Australian scientists and research in general. The discovery of drugs that will be developed by the Australian Pharmaceutical Industry will benefit the Australian Industry sector and will have spin-offs for the racing industry, livestock industry (lean meat) and for rural industry (insecticides). In addition, expansion of the outcomes of the project into preclinical development will strengthen the Australian bioscience sector. Thus the project will eventually benefit the Australian industry sector. The project will have further benefits for education and training.

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LP0667708 Dr WJ Foley

Approved Project Title **Breeding for resistance: Diagnostic toolkit for predicting variation in plant defence compounds in Eucalyptus**

2006 : \$145,000
2007 : \$150,000
2008 : \$140,000

Primary RFCD 3006 FORESTRY SCIENCES

Partner Organisation(s)

Oji Paper Company Ltd
Forests NSW
Forest Products Commission of Western Australia

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Pulp and timber from plantations are important for Australia's economic and environmental future. However, we must ensure that these plantations are grown sustainably. One area of concern is the current reliance on pesticides to control herbivores of plantation eucalypts. The work proposed here aims to use existing ecological findings together with early access to the genome of Eucalyptus to develop ways of using the natural resistance of Eucalyptus as an alternative to chemical pesticides. The work will also help us to understand how eucalypts produce the distinctive odours that are so characteristic of Australian landscapes.

LP0667937 Dr MB Gray; Mr JH Chow; Dr IC Littler; Prof DE McClelland; Mr P Williamson

Approved Project Title **Technologies for advanced optical fibre sensors**

2006 : \$250,000
2007 : \$250,000
2008 : \$250,000
2009 : \$250,000

Primary RFCD 2404 OPTICAL PHYSICS

Partner Organisation(s)

Benthic Geotech Pty Ltd

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

This project is to create a significantly better technology for exploration of oil and gas reserves under the ocean. Based on lasers and fibre optics, it leverages Australia's prodigious photonics expertise and couples it with Australia's established and well-regarded resource industry. Successful completion will enable better utilization of this country's natural resources, in particular oil and gas reserves, whilst also creating a high technology export, given the size of the world marine survey market (US\$4 billion). Better energy exploration technologies are vital to Australia and, indeed the world, as energy supply dwindles and the increased energy costs begin to impact negatively on economic growth.

LP0667980 Prof KA Houghton; Dr J Ng; Dr M Kend; Mr CC Ikin

Approved Project Title **Keeping Capital Markets Efficient: A National Strategy on the Future of Auditing**

2006 : \$83,331
2007 : \$20,620

Primary RFCD 3501 ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Partner Organisation(s)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

The lack of confidence in the reliability of financial statement information is costly to the Australian capital market. The auditing profession is also struggling to attract and retain skilled professionals, which can erode audit quality. Using a rigorous research design to understand business community expectations and concerns, this project will provide a national forum that informs and directs responsible national strategy to ensure that high quality audit services are procured by corporate Australia. Improved audit quality will have the effect of improving the efficiency and attractiveness of the Australian capital market and address the skill shortage in auditing.

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LP0667901 Dr RH Huisken; Dr BK Taylor; Dr C Chung

Approved Project Title **Introducing China: The World's Oldest and Newest Major Power**

2006 : \$35,553

2007 : \$35,769

2008 : \$35,289

Primary RFCD 3602 POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Partner Organisation(s)

Department of Defence

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

China's weight in regional affairs is growing rapidly on all fronts, and will continue to do so into the indefinite future. China will be the largest single source of dynamism and turbulence in our region. Australia's political and business leaders will be confronted with decisions and choices with significant ramifications for our well-being into the longer term future. A deeper understanding of China's aspirations, and of the impact that China is having on the outlook of others in the region, will improve the odds for sensible decisions and choices. It may also be the key to avoiding choices that we do not wish to make.

LP0668057 Dr K Lahiri-Dutt; Dr CS Filer

Approved Project Title **The relationship between mining companies and mine-affected communities in developing countries**

2006 : \$98,000

2007 : \$80,000

2008 : \$85,000

Primary RFCD 3704 HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

APA(l) Award(s): 1

Partner Organisation(s)

Kaltim Prima Coal

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Conflicts with local communities have been a major source of social risk for mining companies operating in Indonesia and other parts of the Asia Pacific region, and this research will contribute to Australian national security by dealing directly with this issue. It will contribute to the formation of better policies and practices for empowering women and empowering communities in the Indonesian mining sector. At a regional and global scale, the lessons learnt about the construction of effective strategies for 'engendering' the development process will be applicable in other locations where Australian capital, technology and expertise are invested in large-scale industrial development, both inside and outside of the mining sector.

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LP0668117 Dr AV Rode; Dr KG Baldwin; Ms LA Wain; Mr S Laidler; Capt JT LAND; Cmdr SR Moore; Ms J Barr; Mr DW Gardner

Approved Project Title **Short-pulse laser cleaning for Australian heritage conservation**

Project Title

2006 : \$64,150

2007 : \$55,150

2008 : \$46,650

Primary RFCD 2404 OPTICAL PHYSICS

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Partner Organisation(s)

Australian War Memorial

Art Gallery of NSW

Army History Unit

Naval Heritage Collection

Artlab Australia

RAAF Museum

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Conserving heritage objects is a demanding discipline, requiring a suite of techniques for different problems. Overseas, laser cleaning using long pulse techniques leaves microscopic damage as discrete chunks of material are removed, and is unsuitable for many materials. We have developed a short pulse laser process which can remove material molecule-by-molecule in a controlled fashion, and which can be readily halted once the final finish is achieved. We will research this technique for application to unique Australian heritage materials that are important to the specific conservation needs of the Australian War Memorial, the RAAF, Navy and Army Museums, Artlab Australia, and the Art Gallery of NSW.

LP0668432 Dr J Taylor; Dr WG Sanders

Approved Project Title **The 2006 Census and Indigenous People in Remote Areas: Assessing the Quality of the Enumeration Process and Resulting Data**

2006 : \$101,500

2007 : \$82,000

2008 : \$84,000

Primary RFCD 3701 SOCIOLOGY

Partner Organisation(s)

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

Rigorous assessment of the quality of census data will benefit Indigenous communities, policy makers, and researchers in the area of Indigenous policy and service delivery. Of particular note is the direct benefit to the ABS in seeking to improve their methods for enumerating remote Indigenous populations. The research directly addresses the National Research Priorities relating to rural and remote areas and strengthening Australia's social and economic fabric because it will enhance assessment of the reliability of statistical information for social, economic and community planning in remote Indigenous communities.

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LP0667674 Prof J Wajcman; Prof MP Bittman; Dr P Jones

Approved Project Title **The Impact of the Mobile Phone on Work/Life Balance**

2006 : \$150,000

2007 : \$150,000

2008 : \$20,000

Primary RFCD 3706 HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Partner Organisation(s)

Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association

Administering Institution The Australian National University

Project Summary

The telecommunications industry exemplifies the frontier technologies that are at the heart of Australia's successful knowledge economy. Mobile phones are developing innovative capacities far ahead of consumer needs and requirements. For example, third generation technologies are currently seeking to find the 'killer application' that will provide them with a mass market. A profound understanding of the social dimensions of existing mobile telecommunications will provide insights for the development of new technologies and new services. It will provide the industry with a competitive advantage in a fast developing sector.