

# Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2007

## Queensland

### James Cook University

**LP0776905** Prof NH Oliver; Dr TG Blenkinsop; Dr G Xu; Mr L Feltrin; Mr RD Wilson; A/Prof TD Pham; Mr IJ Holland; Mr F Santaguida

**Approved Project Title** **From exploration to mining: new geological strategies for sustaining high levels of copper production from the Mount Isa district**

**2007 :** \$ 90,000

**2008 :** \$ 177,500

**2009 :** \$ 182,500

**2010 :** \$ 95,000

**Primary RFCD** 2601 GEOLOGY

APA(I) Award(s): 1

APDI Mr L Feltrin

#### **Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)**

Xstrata Copper Exploration Pty Ltd

**Administering Organisation** James Cook University

#### **Project Summary**

Mineral production at the Mount Isa copper and Ernest Henry copper-gold mines is worth more than \$ 1 billion per year and this has underpinned the northern Queensland economy for a number of years. These resources are being depleted at a high rate, and no significant new discoveries have been made in over a decade. This project will provide some of the tools to define new resources for the next generation, ensuring the prosperity of the region and bolstering the Australian economy. The timing is critical given the long lead time between discovery and production (in the order of 5 to 10 years). If successful the research may have major financial impacts at local, regional and national scales. It may also improve mine safety.

**LP0776927** Dr L Schwarzkopf; A/Prof RA Alford

**Approved Project Title** **Are frogs in fragmented lowland rainforest especially susceptible to both disease and climate change?**

**2007 :** \$ 16,666

**2008 :** \$ 32,908

**2009 :** \$ 32,483

**2010 :** \$ 16,241

**Primary RFCD** 2707 ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

#### **Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)**

Powerlink Queensland

**Administering Organisation** James Cook University

#### **Project Summary**

On a world scale, amphibian declines have been especially severe in Australia. Major causes of amphibian declines here are disease and habitat destruction. Our project will significantly advance our knowledge of frogs in coastal lowland rainforest. These frogs are a key to understanding the evolution of disease resistance to the amphibian disease fungus, and they are also likely to experience severe impacts from climate change. Thus, studies in this region will allow us to better understand the mechanisms responsible for frog declines in Australia. Also, this project will be useful to industries constructing infrastructure in rainforest, allowing an assessment of the impacts of works on already stressed frog populations.