

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian National University

LP0990498 Prof MG Banwell

Approved Project Title **Chemical Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Analogues of Platencin, a New-generation Antibiotic**

2009 : \$ 53,500

2010 : \$ 97,000

2011 : \$ 88,000

2012 : \$ 44,500

Primary RFCD 2503 ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Biota Holdings Limited

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

The just discovered natural product platencin displays potent and broad spectrum anti-bacterial activity. It may represent the precursor of a new class of drugs to replace current anti-infective agents which are becoming alarmingly less effective as bacterial resistance increases dramatically. For this reason, platencin has been described as a once in a generation discovery. This study will exploit two sophisticated new synthetic techniques for the purposes of making analogues of platencin that will be screened by the industry partner, Biota, for anti-bacterial properties. New drug candidates capable of treating especially dangerous infections such as methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) should thus emerge.

LP0991064 Dr S Bessell; Prof J Mason; Dr AV Nevile; Ms A Michaux

Approved Project Title **Children, Community and Social Capital in Australia**

2009 : \$ 13,500

2010 : \$ 30,861

2011 : \$ 32,361

2012 : \$ 15,000

Primary RFCD 3602 POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

The Benevolent Society

NAPCAN

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

Contributing to our understanding of children's roles and contributions to their communities in Australia, this research will strengthen the basis for policies and interventions relating to social inclusion, community strengthening, children's well-being and family policy. Currently, there is a strong policy focus on children's issues in Australia, but children's own experiences and perspectives are often missing from policy deliberations. This research will provide the foundation for policy and interventions that are inclusive of children and value children as community members and citizens.

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

LP0990974 Dr H Booth; Dr RJ Ackland; Dr TD Windsor

Approved Project Title **The role of online social networks in successful ageing: benefitting from 'who you know' at older ages**

2009 : \$ 60,000
2010 : \$ 105,000
2011 : \$ 75,000
2012 : \$ 30,000

Primary RFCD 3701 SOCIOLOGY

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)
National Seniors

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

The project will increase understanding of how online social networking contributes to successful ageing through partnering, economic and voluntary activity, family and social connectedness. The findings will inform policy recommendations, social interventions and education programs designed to enhance 'ageing well, ageing productively'. These are expected to benefit the health and well-being of older Australians, with economic benefits of increased contributions to society and fewer demands on services. Social and economic benefits are also expected from insights into reducing the technological and psychological barriers that prevent older people from benefiting from the Internet and online social networking.

LP0990530 Dr AV Nevile; Dr JL O'Flynn; Prof I Marsh; Mr DJ Perkins

Approved Project Title **Balancing trust and control in the provision of employment services: comparing outcomes for disability employment service users.**

2009 : \$ 21,937
2010 : \$ 33,344
2011 : \$ 11,407

Primary RFCD 3602 POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)
Jobs Australia Ltd
ACE National Network
The Brotherhood of St Laurence

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

The Australian government is committed to assisting marginalised job seekers and increasing employment participation as part of its Social Inclusion Agenda. This research will assist the government achieve its social inclusion goals by analysing key elements of the new generation of employment services and generating comparative information about the relative effectiveness of different service delivery models currently operating in the Job Network and the Disability Employment Network.

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

LP0991593 Dr AB Nicotra; Dr GL Hoyle; Dr KJ Steadman; Mr RB Good

Approved Project Title **Australian alpine seed ecology: Plant conservation and adaptation to climate change**

2009 : \$ 44,500

2010 : \$ 85,500

2011 : \$ 82,000

2012 : \$ 41,000

Primary RFCD 2707 ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

APDI Dr GL Hoyle

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Australian National Botanic Gardens

Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

The Australian alpine region is critically vulnerable to climate change. Many alpine plant species are already threatened. Our project facilitates effective management of Australian alpine flora, enabling us to preserve alpine biodiversity and improve ecosystem resilience to climate change. Seed banking provides conservation of nationally vulnerable and threatened flora, providing insurance against extinction. Our exemplary contribution to global seed conservation provides a national resource of alpine seeds for revegetation and research and interpretive resources at the Australian National Botanic Gardens facilitate public awareness of the ecological significance and fragility of Australian alpine ecology in response to climate change.

LP0990975 Dr JP Smith; Ms KF Mortensen; Prof DH Broom; Dr E McIntyre; Dr S Javanparast; Dr JP Craig; Dr L Strazdins

Approved Project Title **Working while breastfeeding: best practice strategies for workplaces and childcare centres**

2009 : \$ 22,013

2010 : \$ 45,134

2011 : \$ 44,015

2012 : \$ 20,894

Primary RFCD 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Australian Breastfeeding Association

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

By generating new knowledge on how to strengthen community and policy support for breastfeeding, the proposed research will contribute to National Research Priority goals regarding promoting and maintaining good health. Assisting employed mothers to continue breastfeeding will reduce adverse impacts of genetic, social and environmental factors predisposing infants and children to ill health and reducing their life potential. It will also help prevent disease, and help mothers reconcile labour force participation with protecting their own and their children's health.

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

LP0991757 Dr L Wang; Dr H Li; Prof RI Hartley; Dr T Shan

Approved Project Title **Generic Content-based News Picture Retrieval with Local Invariant Features**

2009 : \$ 40,000

2010 : \$ 80,000

2011 : \$ 80,000

2012 : \$ 40,000

Primary RFCD 2802 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SIGNAL AND IMAGE PROCESSING

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

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Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

Image Retrieval searches for images from large databases whose visual content meets the requirements submitted by users. Besides directly benefiting the Partner Organization, this project will enable more efficient access to large picture repositories in news agencies and publishers, digital libraries and film archives. It will make public use of visual information much more convenient and economical. It will help security officers to effortlessly and accurately find particular scenes from the images generated by a large closed-circuit TV networks. Also, the developed technology can be applied to tele-education and e-commerce. New algorithms developed in this project will benefit the Australian and world scientific communities.

LP0991635 Prof RC Williamson; Dr MD Reid

Approved Project Title **Structures and Protocols for Inference**

2009 : \$ 35,000

2010 : \$ 70,000

2011 : \$ 65,000

2012 : \$ 30,000

Primary RFCD 2802 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SIGNAL AND IMAGE PROCESSING

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Canon Information Systems Research Australia

Administering Organisation The Australian National University

Project Summary

The proposed research is expected to lead to increased adoption and efficiency of use of machine learning technologies. It will develop new and better ways to use existing machine learning software in a manner that allows easier integration into commercial products. It will increase the competitiveness of Australian industry.