

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

New South Wales

University of Western Sydney

LP0990624 Prof SB Banerjee; Dr F Duarte; Dr JH Troughton

Approved Project Title **Environmental and Social Responsibility in the Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Sector: Challenges and Prospects**

2009 : \$ 13,070

2010 : \$ 26,140

2011 : \$ 13,070

Primary RFCD 3502 BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Business Associates Network

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

The proposed research addressed two of the National Research Priorities, viz., promoting an environmentally sustainable Australia (Goal 2: Transforming existing industries), and promoting and maintaining good health (Goal 4: strengthening Australia's social and economic fabric). The research findings will identify best practices in the areas of environmental and social responsibility in the SME sector thus contributing to the creation of environmentally and socially sustainable workplaces. By integrating perspectives from multiple stakeholders the research also addresses community environmental and social concerns.

LP0991508 Prof RG Craven; Prof MH Vickers; Dr K Barker; Dr K Watson; Dr A Power; Dr M Mooney; Dr B Dobia; Mr PM Whitefield; Ms JM Schofield

Approved Project Title **Enabling schooling success: Psycho-social drivers & impact of Positive Behaviour for Learning intervention on behaviour, well-being, academic engagement & achievement**

2009 : \$ 71,000

2010 : \$ 126,000

2011 : \$ 123,500

2012 : \$ 68,500

Primary RFCD 3301 EDUCATION STUDIES

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

NSW Department of Education and Training

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Reducing behavioural & emotional difficulties in schools is vital given their pervasiveness & long-term consequences for academic failure, mental health & anti-social behaviour. Consistent with National Research Priorities to promote proactive health & wellbeing effective research-based positive behaviour for learning interventions will yield important educational & socio-economic benefits by enriching learning, psychosocial adjustment, schooling success & life potential of young Australians. Research outcomes have the potential to seed success by generating new solutions to strengthen schooling; enable students to reach potential; build capacity at individual & community levels & contribute to national socio-economic wellbeing.

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LP0992238 Prof DS Ellsworth; Dr BE Medlyn; Mrs DE Drewry; Dr EC Morris

Approved Project Title **Forest ecosystem water use: Does species diversity matter?**

2009 : \$ 43,500

2010 : \$ 76,500

2011 : \$ 66,000

2012 : \$ 33,000

Primary RFCD 2707 ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Penrith Lakes Development Corporation

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Forest water use and susceptibility to drought are major concerns for forest plantation establishment in Australia. This research will provide fundamental information about how plantation water use and drought tolerance are modified by species diversity. This work has the potential to transform tree plantation establishment practices toward inclusion of greater species diversity or toward species with particular complementary traits. It has significant potential to enhance benefits from reforestation projects, including better drought survival, reduced water use, soil bioremediation and enhanced biodiversity.

LP0991108 Dr G Fang; Dr JJ Zou; Prof Dr S Chen; Mr JA Cameron

Approved Project Title **A Vision Controlled Autonomous Multi-Robot Welding System**

2009 : \$ 17,500

2010 : \$ 32,500

2011 : \$ 28,070

2012 : \$ 13,070

Primary RFCD 2903 MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Lincoln Electric (Australia)

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

This developed system will increase the application of robotic welding in more Australian industries thereby increasing the productivity and competitiveness of the nation. The system will provide a safer work environment for workers by reducing and potentially eliminating direct exposure of workers to the welding process. This fully automated welding system will give the Lincoln a significant advantage in commercialise this technology both in Australia and overseas. Therefore, this will reap considerable economic benefit for the company, and the nation. This project will also provide a realistic industrial environment for PhD student training.

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LP0990783 Prof M Mitchell; Prof SR Miller; Prof TJ Prenzler; Mr P Gallagher; Prof J Kleinig; Mr GT Chilvers; Prof SL Grover; Dr V Hughes

Approved Project Title **Police Leadership in the 21st Century: Redesigning Roles and Practices**

2009 : \$ 77,500

2010 : \$ 152,000

2011 : \$ 136,500

2012 : \$ 62,000

Primary RFCD 3904 LAW ENFORCEMENT

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

New South Wales Police Force

Western Australia Police

University of Otago

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Leaders are seen as exemplifying and guiding the climate of police organisations. This project will deliver comprehensive, comparative, and internationally relevant empirical data on the relationship between leaders' approach and behaviours and the achievement of outcomes in these significant, high profile public sector organisations. On this foundation the project will make recommendations on innovative institutional design to achieve ethical, effective and efficient policing capable of withstanding the challenges of the future. This will increase public confidence in policing, resulting in safer communities and improved crime control. This proposal contributes to the ARC research priority of Safeguarding Australia.

LP0991327 A/Prof VA Schmied; Dr LA Kemp; Dr T Covic; Prof BE Barnett; Mr RJ Mills; Mrs DA Nemeth; Mrs MM Hughes

Approved Project Title **The perinatal journey: the process and impact of psychosocial assessment**

2009 : \$ 16,428

2010 : \$ 37,985

2011 : \$ 34,627

2012 : \$ 13,070

Primary RFCD 3211 NURSING

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Karitane

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

This study of the process and impact of psychosocial assessment and depression screening during pregnancy and after birth will have immediate national application and benefit as Australian governments prepare policy to implement universal psychosocial assessment. Findings will provide evidence-based approaches to assessment and service delivery impacting positively on large numbers of Australian women who use maternity and early childhood nursing services. Most importantly, skillful early identification of women in distress or 'at risk' is the first step in providing appropriate services and support to ensure better child outcomes. The research will be at the cutting edge internationally and directly addresses National Research Priorities.

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LP0991564 A/Prof VA Schmied; Dr JH Fenwick; Dr K Gribble; Mrs D McGrath; Dr A Sheehan; Prof FC Dykes

Approved Project Title **A study of contemporary family, social and cultural influences on first-time mothers' decisions about infant feeding and early parenting practices**

2009 : \$ 13,070

2010 : \$ 26,140

2011 : \$ 26,140

2012 : \$ 13,070

Primary RFCD 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Kids of Macarthur Health Foundation

Avondale College

University of Central Lancashire

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Children who are never breastfed are more likely to experience respiratory infections, gastroenteritis, diabetes and as adults, high blood pressure, obesity and type-2 diabetes. This study of infant feeding decision-making in first-time mothers will inform strategies, grounded in the daily lives of women and families to assist mothers to breastfeed for longer particularly in communities where breastfeeding is not the norm. Increased support for breastfeeding women from family, community and health professionals is likely to reduce the distress reported by many new mothers. Strategic application of findings will lead to health gains from increased breastfeeding and translate into significant cost savings for the Australian health system.