ARC Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences:

Changes, Statistics, etc.
National Competitive Grants Program
(FY 08/09 $596M)

**Discovery (DP, DIRD, Future Fellows, Aust. Laureate Fellows)**

Excellent research by individuals and teams
(FY $333M)

**Linkage (LP, LIEF)**

Collaborative research and infrastructure use - national & international
(FY $169M)

**Centres**

(Centres and Research Networks)

National centres of research excellence
(FY $94M)
Changes at the ARC

• International collaboration eg
  – *Discovery Projects* eg new international objective
  – *Social Sciences Collaboration* scheme & *ARC International Fellowships* scheme dropped

• New ways of building research capacity – 2008 for 2009 eg
  – *Future Fellows*
  – *Australian Laureate Fellows*

• Enhancing research of Indigenous scholars:
  – *Disc. Indigenous Researchers Develop.* scheme - new fellowship
  – *AIATSIS* added as an eligible organization

• ARC Networks finished; Centres new round in 2009
• *Evaluation changes - ERA*
Major ARC Schemes

- **Discovery Projects** –
  - excellent fundamental research by individuals and teams

- **Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development** –
  - develop research expertise of indigenous Australians

- **Australian Laureate Fellows** -
  - for outstanding researchers to stay in or return to Oz

- **Future Fellows** –
  - rewards best mid-career Australian researchers and outstanding international researchers

- **Linkage Projects** –
  - collaborative research between universities and industry/government/community

- **Centres of Excellence** – large research teams conducting focussed, sustained investigations on important challenging problems

- **Linkage infrastructure, equipment and facilities (LIEF)** –
  - Collaboration across unis & partner orgs to fund major infrastructure
## Scheme closing dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discovery</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Discovery Projects</em></td>
<td>4 March 2009</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development</em></td>
<td>13 May 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Australian Laureate Fellowship</em></td>
<td>10 December 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Future Fellowships</em></td>
<td>16 October 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Linkage</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Linkage Projects</em></td>
<td>LP10R1: 6 May 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LP10R2: 18 November 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities</em></td>
<td>16 May 2009</td>
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</table>
# DP Selection Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Discovery</th>
<th>Linkage</th>
<th>Future Fellows</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Track Record</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Significance &amp; Innovation</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Quality</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Approach</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Benefit</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Research Priority</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Partner Commitment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Rate</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>35-50%</td>
<td>-%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences

Includes Disciplines of:

• Education
• Public Policy & Political Science, +
• Behavioural & Cognitive Sciences: Psychology, Linguistics, health psychology
• Human Society: Geography, Sociology, Health
• Economics, Econometrics
• Accounting, Banking
• Commerce, Management, Tourism & Services: eg Accounting, Management, Marketing, Tourism, Transportation, Health
Changes to Discovery Scheme in 2009 for 2010

- New ‘International Collaboration Awards’
  - 1 month minimum to 6 months max
  - For Oz CIs/Fellows & Overseas PIs to work together on project
  - Covers travel and subsistence up to $40,000 - prorata

- Travel for overseas PIs or other research personnel if directly justified against doing the project -
  - 1 per annum return economy to and from Oz to work on project

- Always have had:
  - PhD stipends for overseas candidates
  - Fellows as overseas candidates - APDs, ARFs/QE11s/ APFs
  - PIs living overseas (but can now request travel to & from Oz)

- AIATSIS – eligible Administering Organisation
### Discovery Projects:
No. of Applications & Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARC as a whole</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>3,240</td>
<td>3,441</td>
<td>3,766</td>
<td>4,047</td>
<td>4,121</td>
<td>4,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. funded</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>822</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>237.9 million</td>
<td>297.5</td>
<td>273.6</td>
<td>274.7</td>
<td>300.8</td>
<td>288.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARC Success Rate</strong></td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SBE Success Rate</strong></td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Discovery Projects**

- Av. duration of funded grants = **Just over 3 years**
- Av. 1st year funds gained: $116k = 67% of request
  - SBE $88.9k = 66% of request
- Av. funds gained for total project = **$341k in 2009**
- ECR-only applications (ECR target = 15% of 1st year funds):
  - 2009 Overall Success Rate = 15.5%; For SBE = 20%
  - % of income overall = 10.2%; For SBE = 12.7%
- Applications including ECRs
  - 2009 Success Rate Overall = 20%; For SBE = 24%
  - Average no. assessments per proposal= 5 (2 CoE, 2 Oz Reader, 1 Int)
    - SBE Aver. No = 5.08, SD = 0.81
  - Average no. Chief Investigators per funded grant= 2;
    - SBE = Just over 2 (eg 2.35)
**Discovery Projects**

- **Fellowships** –
  
  Need good-excellent (1) project and (2) Fellow (TR) scores

  - **Aust. Postdoc Fellowships (3 years since PhD) - 2009**
    
    *Success Rate = 17%: SBE = 18.3%*

  - **Aust. Research Fellows/Queen Elizabeth II Fellows - ≤ 8 years since PhD, also ≤ 13 years if previously had ARF/QEII**
    
    *2009 Success Rate = 15.1%: SBE = 20%*

  - **Aust. Professorial Fellowships - ≤ 13 years since PhD**
    
    *2009 Success Rate = 14.3%: SBE = 14.3%*
Changes to Funding Rules

- Overseas higher education organisations eligible as Partner Organisations - need at least 1 Aust. PO.
  - Could always have overseas organizations as partners

- Partner orgs – ‘matching’ contribution requirements

- Citizenship/residency requirements for APA-I (PhD scholarships) removed for 2008

- CIs, PIs, APDIs & research support personnel can have funds for domestic & international travel for the project

- $ 2m/year Upper limit to each proposal in exceptional cases (LPs normally $500K total maximum)

- Allowance for CI to be relieved of other duties for up to half of life of project – limit of $66k pa per CI

- AIATSIS – eligible Administering Organisation
Linkage Projects

- Av. duration of funded grants = Just over 3 years
- Av. 1st year funds gained 2009 Rd1: $110k - 71% of request
  - SBE $88.9k: 66% of request
- Av. funds gained for total project 2009 Rd1= $329k in 2009
- Average no. of chief investigators per funded grant = Just under 3 (2.7/2.8); SBE Over 3.33/3.53

Fellowships – Need top project scores and fellow score (TR)
- APAI - 2009 Success Rate 34%/34%: SBE 36%/33%
- APAI _IT (quota of 50)- 2009 Success Rate 74%/91%
- Aust. Postdoc Fellows Ind -2009 Success Rate 43%/52%: SBE 50%/87%
- Av. funding gained by Rural & Regional apps= 38.7%; SBE 36%
**Partner Organization Contribution by sector**

- **Comm Gov:** Cash 6.4%, In-kind 4.3%: \[\text{Total} = 5\%\]
- **State & Local Gov:** Cash 24.4%, In-kind 31%: \[\text{Total} = 29\%\]
- **International:** Cash 0.8%, In-kind 1.6%: \[\text{Total} = 1\%\]
- **Nonprofit Oz:** Cash 8%, In-kind 12%: \[\text{Total} = 12\%\]
- **Nonprofit Int.:** Cash 8%, In-kind 12%: \[\text{Total} = 4\%\]
- **Private company Oz:** Cash 40.5%, In-kind 29.6%: \[\text{Total} = 33\%\]
- **Internt’nal comp’ny Oz:** Cash 17.1%, Inkind 17.7%: \[\text{Total} = 18\%\]
## Linkage Projects Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>367</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>53K</td>
<td>59K</td>
<td>60K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>805</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>666</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>476</td>
<td>494</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>62</td>
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<td>793</td>
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<td>427</td>
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<td>64</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>682</td>
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Australian Research Council
## Linkage Projects 2009
### Round 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline Group</th>
<th>Proposals received</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate %</th>
<th>Requested funds over project life (all proposals) $ million</th>
<th>Indicative funds over project life (approved) $ million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSB</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>42.21</td>
<td>14.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>EE</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
<td>42.22</td>
<td>17.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCA</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>11.98</td>
<td>5.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIC</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>18.16</td>
<td>8.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCG</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>14.15</td>
<td>6.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SBE</strong></td>
<td><strong>140</strong></td>
<td><strong>68</strong></td>
<td><strong>48.6%</strong></td>
<td><strong>50.08</strong></td>
<td><strong>19.74</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All</strong></td>
<td><strong>441</strong></td>
<td><strong>218</strong></td>
<td><strong>49.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>178.81</strong></td>
<td><strong>72.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Linkage Projects 2008 – Round 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline Group</th>
<th>Proposals received</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate</th>
<th>Requested funds over project life (all proposals) $ million</th>
<th>Indicative funds over project life (approved) $ million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSB</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>36.54</td>
<td>13.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>EE</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>45.03</td>
<td>14.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCA</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>10.14</td>
<td>3.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIC</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>26.26</td>
<td>7.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCG</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>21.66</td>
<td>7.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBE</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>58</td>
<td><strong>40.8%</strong></td>
<td><strong>43.27</strong></td>
<td><strong>16.50</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>182.91</td>
<td>63.71</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Future Fellowships

• $844m scheme – 2009-2013 – Can apply twice in the period
• 200, 4-year fellowships over next 5 years = 1000
• Closed 26th November, begin Fellowships in 2nd half 2009
• Mid-career researchers (5-15 years post-PhD)
• Open to Australian and international researchers- usually must reside predominantly in Australia
• Salaries up to $140K (3 levels) + $50K pa for infrastructure, equipment, travel & relocation costs directly related to the research
• Includes selection criteria Strategic Alignment’ & ‘Collaboration’.
  – List of Research Strengths submitted by Administering Org.
  – Candidates must demonstrate capacity to build collaboration across industry and/or research institutions and/or disciplines.
Australian Laureate Fellows

• Allocate $239 million over 5 years
• Up to 15 to be awarded
• Each worth around $3 million
• Most prestigious fellowships (Professor + $100K)
• National and international applicants
• Emphasis on research leadership & mentoring
  – Funds for 2 postdoctoral and 2 postgraduate researchers and project funding (up to $300K). Will work with & mentor.
• Opened 2008 for funding 2009.
Discovery Indigenous Researchers’ Development

- For applicants of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, need not have a PhD
- **Success Rate 2009** 34.6%, **2008** 39%
- **Most applications from SBE and HCA**
- Salary support to Indigenous Australian researchers and postgraduate research students
- Research Cadetship - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Changes in 2009 for 2010
  - Opening of ARC schemes to Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)
  - New Fellowship introduced:
    - *Australian Research Fellows – Indigenous*
    - Not developmental - for 2 or 3 years
ARC Centres of Excellence

- Review of ARC Centres of Excellence – 2005 cohort
  - Eleven Centres reviewed in 2008.
  - Assessed progress & evaluated their future plans for a funding extension.
  - Recommendations for funding extensions made in December,
  - Universities and Centres advised first quarter of 2009.

- New Groundwater Centre

- Centres consultation paper
  - Release delayed

- New ARC Centres of Excellence round for funding commencing in 2010
  - New round for ARC Centres of Excellence for funding commencing in 2010.
  - Applications expected to open mid-2009.
  - Assessment and selection processes to take place into early 2010.
  - Funding to commence from 1 July 2010.
### Success Rates for SBE in Major RFCD codes across All Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFCD</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33 Education</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 Economics</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Commerce, Mgt, Tourism &amp; Services</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Policy &amp; Political Science</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 Studies in Human Society</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38 Behavioural &amp; Cognitive Sciences</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

- Opportunities eg Linkage
  - State & Local Governments, Oz & Int. Private companies

- Career paths for researchers through
  - *DP Fellows* (eg ≤ 3 years; 3-8 years; >8 years), *LP Fellows*,
  - *Future Fellows* (5-15 years),
  - *Australian Laureate Fellows*

- Opportunities for groups through new *Centres* round

- Opportunities for international collaboration through *DP Projects*, *LP Projects*, *Future Fellows*

- Opportunities for Indigenous researchers

- Early career researchers – sole or with other CIs