



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



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

- **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



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

- **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
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- **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

National Competitive Grants Program



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

Scheme closing dates

Discovery	<i>Discovery Projects</i>	4 March 2009
	<i>Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development</i>	13 May 2009
	<i>Australian Laureate Fellowship</i>	10 December 2008
	<i>Future Fellowships</i>	16 October 2008
Linkage	<i>Linkage Projects</i>	LP10R1: 6 May 2009 LP10R2: 18 November 2009
	<i>Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities</i>	16 May 2009

DP Selection Criteria



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

RESEARCH in the national interest - enabling the future

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Discovery</u>	<u>Linkage</u>	<u>Future Fellows</u>
• Researcher Track Record	40%	20%	50%
• Project Significance & Innovation	30%	25%	-
• Project Quality	-	-	10%
• Project Approach	20%	20%	-
• National Benefit	10%	10%	-
• National Research Priority	-	-	10%
• Industry Partner Commitment	-	25%	-
• Collaboration	-	-	15%
• Strategy			15%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Success Rate	20%	35-50%	-%

Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

➤ 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



Australian Government

Australian Research Council

■ 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



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

Discovery Projects



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

- 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



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

■ 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%***

Linkage Projects 2008/09/10

Changes to Funding Rules



Australian Government

Australian Research Council

- 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



Australian Government

Australian Research Council

- 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%**

Linkage Projects 2009 Rd 1



■ Partner Organization Contribution by sector

- **Comm Gov:** Cash 6.4%, In-kind 4.3%: **Total = 5%**
- **State & Local Gov:** Cash 24.4%, In-kind 31%: **Total = 29%**
- **International:** Cash 0.8%, In-kind 1.6%: **Total = 1%**
- **Nonprofit Oz:** Cash 8%, In-kind 12%: **Total = 12%**
- **Nonprofit Int.:** Cash 8%, In-kind 12%: **Total = 4%**
- **Private company Oz:** Cash 40.5%, In-kind 29.6%: **Total = 33%**
- **Internt'nal comp'ny Oz:** Cash 17.1%, In-kind 17.7%: **Total = 18%**

Linkage Projects 2009 Round 1



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

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

Linkage Projects 2008 – Round 2



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

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

Future Fellowships



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

- **\$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



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

- 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



Australian Government
 Australian Research Council

RFCD	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
33 Education	29%	25%	23%	25%	30%
34 Economics	44%	38%	32%	34%	32%
35 Commerce, Mgt, Tourism & Services	37%	23%	23%	23%	16%
36 Policy & Political Science	31%	30%	21%	19%	25%
37 Studies in Human Society	32%	30%	26%	27%	19%
38 Behavioural & Cognitive Sciences	37%	29%	26%	28%	28%

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