



**Australian Government**

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**Australian Research Council**

## **Linkage International**

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**Selection Report for Awards submitted in  
2004 (Round 8)**

# Linkage International Selection Report Awards submitted in 2004 (Round 8)

## Objectives of Linkage International

Linkage International aims to:

- build strong on-going collaborations between researchers, research teams or centres of excellence in Australia and overseas;
- strengthen international research experience for early career researchers and generate opportunities for postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers to link into leading-edge international research networks;
- build Australian research capability by enhancing existing, and developing new collaborations among experienced and senior researchers; and
- develop innovative modes of international collaboration and links into global innovation networks.

*Linkage International* comprises two elements:

- Awards: to build links between researchers, research teams and research centres of excellence in Australia and overseas by funding extended collaborations; and
- Fellowships, including:
  - ARC International Fellowships funded under international agreements for the reciprocal exchange of postdoctoral researchers, including the Anglo-Australian Observatory (AAO) Fellowship Agreement;
  - ARC International Fellowships to fund overseas researcher/s to work in Australia;
  - ARC International Fellowships to fund Australian researcher/s to work in overseas institutions; and
  - Australia-Israel Fellowships (AIF) co-funded by the ARC and the Australia-Israel Scientific Exchange Foundation.

Round 8 consisted of applications for Awards only.

## Selection process

Assessment of applications was undertaken by a Selection Committee drawn from members of the ARC's College of Experts. The Selection Committee:

- ranked each application relative to the others on the basis of the applications;
- assessed and recommended budgets; and
- prepared funding recommendations.

## Selection criteria

Selection of *Linkage International Awards* is based on the following criteria and weightings:

- strength and benefits of the collaboration (as evidenced, for example, by on-going research collaboration, reciprocal and matching funding contributions, and/or the participation of early career researchers) 40%
- Chief Investigator, including, track record, research management skills 20%
- Overseas Investigator, including track record, research management skills 20%
- research proposed, in particular, aims, significance, research plan and methodology 20%

## Summary of outcomes

### Linkage International Awards (Round 8)

Ninety-one (91) applications were considered for *Linkage International Awards*, including 48 held over from the previous round (Round 7). 24 applications are recommended for funding in the current round, representing a total ARC commitment of \$603,809 over financial years 2005-2008. Of the 43 new applications considered for the first time in Round 8, 24 are recommended for funding, a success rate of 26.37% (out of all 91 applications including holdovers) or 55.81% (out of the 43 new applications).

Awards applications remain ‘live’ for one year from submission. Consequently, 48 applications will be held over for the next round (Round 9). 17 applications are now out of time, and are not recommended for funding.

*Table 1: Numbers and Success Rates for Awards by Discipline Group*

Discipline Group	Applications held over from Round 7	New applications	Recommended applications	Applications held over to Round 9	Expired and not funded	Success Rate
BSB	6	8	4	7	2	28.6%
EE	11	10	6	11	4	28.6%
HCA	1	2	1	2	0	33.3%
MIC	7	8	5	8	2	33.3%
PCG	17	7	4	11	8	16.7%
SBE	6	8	4	9	1	28.6%
Total	48	43	24	48	17	26.37%

The Awards applications considered in the current round were submitted in 2004, and funding will commence in 2005. Awards may be funded for up to three years. Total requested funding over financial years 2005-2008 is \$3,306,556; total recommended funding is \$603,809 or 18.3% of total requested funding. Requested Year 1 funding is

\$1,419,634; recommended Year 1 funding is \$291,681 or 20.5% of Year 1 requested funding.

Requested and recommended funding is shown below by discipline groups.

*Table 2: Requested and recommended funding financial years 2005-2008*

<b>Discipline Group</b>	<b>Total requested funding</b>	<b>Total recommended funding</b>	<b>Total recommended funding as % of requested funding</b>	<b>Year 1 requested funding</b>	<b>Year 1 recommended funding</b>	<b>Year 1 recommended funding as % of requested funding</b>
BSB	\$279,508	\$70,551	25.2%	\$179,578	\$35,863	20.0%
EE	\$906,158	\$199,550	22.0%	\$352,348	\$82,900	23.5%
HCA	\$69,465	\$5,000	7.2%	\$27,665	\$5,000	18.0%
MIC	\$596,138	\$143,000	24.0%	\$263,996	\$63,500	24.1%
PCG	\$1,011,728	\$100,200	9.9%	\$419,156	\$65,600	15.7%
SBE	\$443,559	\$85,508	19.3%	\$176,891	\$38,818	21.9%
Total	\$3,306,556	\$603,809	18.3%	\$1,419,634	\$291,681	20.5%

## **National Research Priorities**

The Minister for Education, Science and Training designated the following areas as national research priorities for 2004/5 funding rounds:

- Research Priority 1: An Environmentally Sustainable Australia
- Research Priority 2: Promoting and Maintaining Good Health
- Research Priority 3: Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries
- Research Priority 4: Safeguarding Australia

The number of total applications and applications recommended for funding which selected priority areas is shown in Table 3 below.

*Table 3: Priority Areas in Linkage International Award applications*

<b>Priority area</b>	<b>Award Applications</b>	<b>Award recommended</b>
An Environmentally Sustainable Australia	13	1
Promoting and Maintaining Good Health	8	2
Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries	40	14
Safeguarding Australia	7	2
None selected	23	5
TOTAL	91	24

## International Collaboration

*Linkage International* applicants are asked to indicate if the proposed research will involve international collaboration, and if it will, which countries will be involved. On the 24 successful applications, 27 incidences of international collaborations were reported with 13 countries. The highest number of reported international collaborations was with the United Kingdom, followed by France and Italy.

*Table 4: Incidences of international collaboration - countries listed more than once*

Country	Incidences
United Kingdom	7
France	3
Italy	3
Austria	2
Canada	2
China	2
Republic of Korea	2

Countries listed once only were Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, Singapore, South Africa and the USA.

## Research training and early career researchers

In applications recommended for funding participants in the projects include, 25 postgraduate students and 11 postdoctoral researchers in Australian institutions, and 17 postgraduate students and 11 postdoctoral researchers in overseas institutions, are participants in the projects. A total of 64 early career researchers will be supported in developing international research experience and networks.

*Table 5: Research training and early career researchers*

	Australian institutions		Overseas institutions		Total	
	Applications	Recommended	Applications	Recommended	Applications	Recommended
Postgraduates	100	25	77	17	177	42
Postdoctoral researchers	56	11	43	11	99	22
Total	156	36	120	28	276	64

## Funding by institution

Table 6: Award applications by institution: total requested and recommended funding

	Year 1 Request	Year 1 Fund	Year 2 request	Year 2 Fund	Year 3 request	Year 3 Fund	TOTAL request	TOTAL Fund
Charles Darwin University	\$18,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,500	\$0
Charles Sturt University	\$32,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,500	\$0
Curtin University of Technology	\$43,750	\$0	\$29,550	\$0	\$26,080	\$0	\$99,380	\$0
Deakin University	\$38,690	\$7,000	\$50,090	\$10,500	\$39,690	\$11,000	\$128,470	\$28,500
Edith Cowan University	\$18,365	\$0	\$16,190	\$0	\$11,390	\$0	\$45,945	\$0
James Cook University	\$8,050	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,050	\$0
Macquarie University	\$4,487	\$4,487	\$5,642	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,129	\$9,487
Monash University	\$17,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,500	\$0
Murdoch University	\$7,300	\$0	\$5,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,500	\$0
Queensland University of Technology	\$126,541	\$25,298	\$64,014	\$11,500	\$40,184	\$0	\$230,739	\$36,798
Swinburne University of Technology	\$21,800	\$0	\$12,400	\$0	\$8,800	\$0	\$43,000	\$0
The Australian National University	\$160,112	\$28,700	\$129,056	\$7,200	\$142,927	\$10,950	\$432,095	\$46,850
The University of Adelaide	\$34,625	\$15,300	\$75,890	\$17,000	\$20,150	\$20,150	\$130,665	\$52,450
The University of Melbourne	\$84,429	\$18,400	\$82,629	\$6,000	\$11,150	\$0	\$178,208	\$24,400
The University of New England	\$12,800	\$0	\$12,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,600	\$0
The University of New South Wales	\$139,010	\$56,800	\$73,660	\$19,300	\$59,834	\$15,600	\$272,504	\$91,700
The University of Newcastle	\$93,436	\$6,376	\$95,460	\$8,000	\$65,348	\$10,688	\$254,244	\$25,064
The University of Queensland	\$128,826	\$45,500	\$91,826	\$18,600	\$79,946	\$20,600	\$300,598	\$84,700
The University of Sydney	\$60,780	\$0	\$62,680	\$0	\$51,960	\$0	\$175,420	\$0
The University of Western Australia	\$132,690	\$41,800	\$118,950	\$35,000	\$52,600	\$5,000	\$304,240	\$81,800
University of South Australia	\$87,806	\$22,000	\$67,556	\$20,000	\$61,050	\$20,000	\$216,412	\$62,000
University of Tasmania	\$18,450	\$6,600	\$17,150	\$5,000	\$8,850	\$0	\$44,450	\$11,600
University of Technology Sydney	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
University of Wollongong	\$100,987	\$13,420	\$101,995	\$22,000	\$88,925	\$13,040	\$291,907	\$48,460
Victoria University	\$23,200	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,500	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,419,634	\$291,681	\$1,118,038	\$185,100	\$768,884	\$127,028	\$3,303,556	\$603,890

### **Program Budget**

The following allocations from the *Linkage International* budget have been recommended for Awards to commence in 2005.

#### By financial year

<b>2004 -05</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$145,841	\$238,391	\$156,064	\$63,514	\$603,809

#### By calendar year

<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$291,681	\$185,100	\$127,028	\$603,809