



**Australian Government**

---

**Australian Research Council**

***Linkage International***

---

**Selection Report**

**Round 10**

**Awards for funding commencing in 2005 and  
Fellowships for funding commencing in 2006**

# *Linkage International*

## **Selection Report**

### **Round 10**

#### **Awards for funding in 2005 and Fellowships for funding commencing in 2006**

#### **Overview**

*Linkage International* comprises two elements:

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

Round 10 consisted of both Award and Fellowship applications.

#### **Objectives**

*Linkage International* aims to:

- build strong ongoing collaborations among 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.

#### **Selection process**

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

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

## Selection criteria

Assessment of applications for *Linkage International Awards* is based on the following criteria and weightings:

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

Assessment of applications for *Linkage International Fellowships* is based on the following criteria and weightings:

- quality of the applicant for the Fellowship, including track record and potential 30%
- research proposed, in particular, aims, significance, research plan and methodology 30%
- quality of the host group, including intellectual and physical resources for support of the applicant for the Fellowship 20%
- prospects for ongoing international collaboration between the host group and other Australian groups and groups in the relevant country 20%

## National Research Priorities

- 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

National Research Priorities identified in applications submitted and applications recommended for funding are shown in Table 1 (Awards) and Table 2 (Fellowships) below.

**Table 1: National Research Priorities identified in applications for Awards**

Priority area	Award applications submitted	Award applications recommended
An Environmentally Sustainable Australia	13	2
Promoting and Maintaining Good Health	5	1
Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries	31	9
Safeguarding Australia	7	1
None selected	16	5
TOTAL	72	18

**Table 2: National Research Priorities identified in applications for Fellowships**

Priority area	Fellowship applications submitted	Fellowship applications recommended
An Environmentally Sustainable Australia	17	4
Promoting and Maintaining Good Health	7	2
Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries	38	12
Safeguarding Australia	4	0
None selected	13	2
TOTAL	79	20

## Summary of Outcomes

### *Linkage International Awards*

Seventy-two applications for *Linkage International Awards* were considered, including 17 that were held over from the previous round (Round 9). Eighteen applications are recommended for funding in Round 10, representing a total ARC commitment of \$327,692 over the financial years 2005-06 to 2007-08. Fifty-four applications are not recommended for funding. On the basis of these recommendations, the overall success rate would be 25%. Numbers of applications considered and recommended and success rates, by discipline group, are shown at Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Numbers and success rates for applications for Awards, by discipline group**

Discipline Group	Applications held over from Round 9	New applications	Recommended applications	Applications not recommended for funding	Success Rate %
BSB	3	8	3	8	27
EE	4	12	3	13	19
HCA	1	7	1	7	13
MIC	3	11	4	10	29
PCG	2	10	4	8	33
SBE	4	7	3	8	27
Total	17	55	18	54	25

BSB = Biological Sciences and Biotechnology; EE – Engineering and Environmental Sciences; HCA = Humanities and Creative Arts; MIC = Mathematics, Information and Communication Sciences; PCG = Physics, Chemistry and Geoscience; SBE = Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences

The applications for Awards considered in Round 10 were submitted in 2004 and 2005, for funding commencing in 2005. Applications for Awards may request funding for a period of up to three years. Total requested funding over the financial years 2005-06 to 2007-08 was \$2,826,179. Total recommended funding is \$327,692 or 52% of the total funding requested by recommended applications, as shown in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Amounts requested and recommended for Awards, by discipline group**

Discipline Group	Total requested over project life (all applications)	Total requested over project life (recommended applications)	Total recommended over project life	Total recommended funding as % of funding requested (recommended applications)
BSB	\$392,563	\$77,940	\$29,792	38
EE	\$781,763	\$178,100	\$82,400	46
HCA	\$259,910	\$45,200	\$23,000	51
MIC	\$585,910	\$76,750	\$51,000	66
PCG	\$454,520	\$159,060	\$92,000	58
SBE	\$351,513	\$97,000	\$49,500	51
Total	\$2,826,179	\$634,050	\$327,692	52

BSB = Biological Sciences and Biotechnology; EE – Engineering and Environmental Sciences; HCA = Humanities and Creative Arts; MIC = Mathematics, Information and Communication Sciences; PCG = Physics, Chemistry and Geoscience; SBE = Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences

### ***Linkage International Fellowships***

Eighty applications for *Linkage International* Fellowships were considered. Twenty applications are recommended for funding commencing in 2006, representing a total ARC commitment of \$1,661,290 over the financial years 2005-06 to 2006-07. Sixty applications are not recommended for funding, including three applications that were considered to be ineligible and one application that was withdrawn during the assessment process. Based on these recommendations, the overall success rate would be 25%, as shown in Table 5 below.

**Table 5: Numbers and success rates for applications for Fellowships, by discipline group**

Discipline Group	New applications	Recommended applications	Applications not recommended for funding	Success Rate %
BSB	16	4	12	25
EE	12	4	8	33
HCA	2	1	1	50
MIC	15	3	12	20
PCG	26	6	20	23
SBE	8	2	6	25
Total	79	20	59*	25

\*Three applications were considered ineligible.

BSB = Biological Sciences and Biotechnology; EE – Engineering and Environmental Sciences; HCA = Humanities and Creative Arts; MIC = Mathematics, Information and Communication Sciences; PCG = Physics, Chemistry and Geoscience; SBE = Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences

The total requested funding over the financial years 2005-06 to 2006-07 was \$7,103,720. Total recommended funding is \$1,661,290 or 23% of the total funding requested by recommended applications, as shown in Table 6 below.

**Table 6: Amounts requested and recommended for Fellowships, by discipline group**

Discipline Group	Total requested over project life (all applications)	Total requested over project life (recommended applications)	Total recommended over project life	Total recommended funding as % of funding requested (recommended applications)
BSB	\$1,377,475	\$408,650	\$384,740	94
EE	\$1,291,500	\$421,400	\$393,880	93
HCA	\$100,655	\$22,385	\$20,000	89
MIC	\$1,338,170	\$207,170	\$207,170	100
PCG	\$2,318,682	\$565,690	\$540,200	95
SBE	\$681,798	\$116,900	\$115,300	99
Total	\$7,103,720	\$1,742,195	\$1,661,290	95

BSB = Biological Sciences and Biotechnology; EE – Engineering and Environmental Sciences; HCA = Humanities and Creative Arts; MIC = Mathematics, Information and Communication Sciences; PCG = Physics, Chemistry and Geoscience; SBE = Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences

Seventy-nine applications for ARC International Fellowship (ARCIF) funding commencing in 2006 were considered, of which 20 are recommended for funding, representing an ARC commitment of \$1,661,290. Based on these recommendations, the overall success rate would be 25%, as shown in Table 7 below.

**Table 7: Numbers and success rates for Fellowships, by ARC International Fellowship category**

ARCIF category	Applications	Funded	Success rate %
MOU with France	11	4	36
MOU with Germany (von Mueller Fellowship)	15	5	33
MOU with the Republic of Korea	6	2	33
Australia-Israel Fellowships	7	1	14
Overseas researchers to work in Australia	37	7	19
Australian researchers to work in overseas institutions	3	1	33
Total	79	20	25

## International Collaboration

*Linkage International* applicants are asked to indicate which countries will be involved in the proposed collaborations. For the 38 recommended applications, 44 incidences of international collaboration were reported. The highest number of reported international collaborations was with France and the USA, followed by Germany, Canada and the United Kingdom, as indicated in Table 8 below.

**Table 8: Incidences of international collaboration**

Country	Incidences of International Collaboration
FRANCE	8
USA	7
GERMANY	6
CANADA	4
UNITED KINGDOM	4
CHINA	3
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	3
JAPAN	2
BULGARIA	1
INDIA	1
ISRAEL	1
POLAND	1
ITALY	1
LIECHTENSTEIN	1
NEW ZEALAND	1

## Research Training and Postdoctoral Researchers

The participants in the applications recommended for funding included 34 postgraduate students and 25 postdoctoral researchers in Australian institutions, and 17 postgraduate students and 14 postdoctoral researchers in overseas institutions. This gives a total of 90 postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers who would be supported in developing international research experience and networks, as shown in Table 9 below.

**Table 9: Research training and postdoctoral researchers**

	Australian institutions		Overseas institutions		Total	
	Applications	Recommended	Applications	Recommended	Applications	Recommended
Postgraduates	138	34	106	17	244	51
Postdoctoral researchers	90	25	51	14	141	39
Total	228	59	157	31	385	90

## Funding by Institution

Information about the number of applications considered and recommended, and funding requested and recommended, by institution, is shown in Table 10 below.

**Table 10: Award and Fellowship applications by institution: total requested and recommended funding**

	<b>Funding Requested</b>	<b>Funding recommended over project life</b>	<b>Applications considered in Round 10</b>	<b>Applications Recommended</b>	<b>Success rate %</b>
Australian Museum	\$132,004	0	2	0	0
Central Queensland University	\$30,970	0	1	0	0
Charles Darwin University	\$45,421	0	2	0	0
Charles Sturt University	\$32,500	0	1	0	0
Curtin University of Technology	\$44,630	0	2	0	0
Edith Cowan University	\$61,850	0	2	0	0
Flinders University	\$190,580	0	2	0	0
Griffith University	\$182,050	0	5	0	0
La Trobe University	\$31,420	0	1	0	0
Macquarie University	\$324,220	\$128,790	5	3	60
Monash University	\$98,680	0	2	0	0
Queensland University of Technology	\$182,645	\$20,000	4	1	25
RMIT University	\$108,880	\$74,000	3	2	67
Swinburne University of Technology	\$211,430	\$110,000	3	2	67
The Australian National University	\$1,268,265	\$202,500	15	6	40
The University of Adelaide	\$759,630	\$203,140	11	3	27
The University of Melbourne	\$436,699	\$10,000	7	1	14
The University of New England	\$25,600	0	1	0	0
The University of New South Wales	\$831,874	\$176,960	13	5	39
The University of Newcastle	\$313,940	\$198,080	4	3	75
The University of Queensland	\$1,161,265	\$244,032	17	3	18
The University of Sydney	\$1,055,490	\$378,400	11	3	36
The University of Western Australia	\$544,860	\$152,740	8	4	50
University of Canberra	\$30,016	0	1	0	0
University of Tasmania	\$228,400	\$78,340	3	1	33
University of Technology Sydney	\$682,282	\$12,000	13	1	8
University of Wollongong	\$918,858	0	12	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,934,459</b>	<b>\$1,998,982</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>

## Scheme Budget

The allocations from the *Linkage International* budget recommended for Awards and Fellowships to commence in 2005 and 2006, respectively, are shown in Table 11 below.

**Table 11: Allocations, by financial year**

	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Awards</b>	\$97,898	\$163,846	\$65,948	\$327,692
<b>Fellowships</b>	\$830,645	\$830,645	-	\$1,661,290
<b>Total</b>	\$928,543	\$994,491	\$65,948	\$1,988,982