



**Australian Government**  

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**Australian Research Council**

# **Learned Academies Special Projects**

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**Selection Report  
For Funding Commencing in 2014**

# ***Learned Academies Special Projects*** **Selection Report**

## **Overview**

The *Learned Academies Special Projects* is a scheme that supports the development of Australian research. *Learned Academies Special Projects* has provided the Learned Academies and the Australian Council of Learned Academies with the funding and flexibility to achieve that objective. Proposals for projects commencing in 2014 opened on 1 April 2014 and closed on 29 April 2014. This report outlines recommendations from the selection process for that round.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the *Learned Academies Special Projects* scheme are to support the development of Australian research.

The broad themes for research programs for *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding commencing in 2014 are concerned with or include:

- i. National and international collaboration in research
- ii. Discipline research development
- iii. Professional development for early and mid-career researchers
- iv. Science, humanities, social science and technical and engineering research policy
- v. Multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or cross disciplinary research
- vi. Other areas, as approved in advance of the closing date by the ARC.

## **Selection process**

The ARC prepared funding recommendations for submission to the CEO. The recommendations were based on advice from the Selection Advisory Panel which:

- assessed proposals
- ranked each proposal relative to the others on the basis of the proposal
- assessed and recommended budgets.

The ARC considered the eligibility of all proposals and it was considered to be in order. This report reflects the recommendations of the ARC CEO to the Minister.

## **Selection criteria**

Selection criteria and corresponding weightings for *Learned Academies Special Projects* proposals are:

- The contribution to the development of Australian research (25%)
- Collaborative approaches to research and research training (15%)

- Research and research training themes listed in the Funding Rules (15%)
- The merit of the proposal in relation to its: goals and potential outcomes; conceptual framework, design, methods and analyses; and budget justification and value for money (15%)
- The extent to which the proposal may be expected to have results of broad benefit (15%)
- The potential for the research to contribute to issues of national significance (15%).

## Summary of Outcomes

The ARC received a total of five (5) proposals for *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding in 2014. The overall success rate was 40% per cent.

**Table 1. Comparison of proposal numbers, success rates, requested and allocated funds for successful proposals from *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding in 2014**

Funding year	Proposals considered	Proposals approved	Success rate	Total requested funds (over project life)	Requested funds (over project life) of approved proposals	Funds allocated (over project life)	Allocation as a percentage of request
2014	5	2	40.00%	\$1,818,810	\$834,160	\$834,160	100.00%

## Recommended Learned Academies Special Projects for Funding

**Table 2. Details of recommended *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding in 2014**

Project ID:	Administering Organisation	Project Leader	Recommended funds over project life
LS140100016	Australian Academy of Science	Professor Chennupati Jagadish	\$474,334
LS140100017	Australian Academy of Humanities	Professor Antonia Finnane	\$359,826

## Strategic Research Priorities

**Table 3. Recommended funding for *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding in 2014 by Strategic Research Priority**

Priority Area	Proposals considered	Proposals approved	Success rate	Allocated funds (over project life)
Lifting productivity and economic growth	2	1	50.00%	\$474,334
Promoting population health and wellbeing	2	0	0.00%	\$0
Securing Australia's place in a changing world	1	1	100.00%	\$359,826
<b>Total priority proposals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>40.00%</b>	<b>\$834,160</b>
<b>% within priority area</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		<b>100.00%</b>

**Table 4. Proposal data by Field of Research category for *Learned Academies Special Projects* for funding in 2014**

Field of Research category	Proposals considered	Proposals approved	ARC recommended funding over project life (recommended proposals)
Economics	1	0	\$0
Environmental Sciences	1	0	\$0
Language, Communication and Culture	1	1	\$359,826
Studies in Human Society	2	1	\$474,334
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$834,160</b>

## Gender

A total of 15 participants were named as Chief Investigator on all proposals considered in this round. Of these, eight are male and seven are female. The success rate for male and female participants in this round are 62.50% and 71.43% respectively.