

Minister's Approval for Discovery Indigenous for Funding Commencing in 2024 Schedule

Approved Organisation, Leader of Approved Research Program (Columns 1 and 2)	Approved Research Program (Column 3)	Estimated and Approved Expenditure (\$)		Indicative Funding (\$)					Total (\$)
		2023-24 (Column 4)	2024-25* (Column 5)	2025-26* (Column 6)	2026-27* (Column 7)	2027-28* (Column 8)	2028-29* (Column 9)	(Column 10)	

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian National University

IN240100006	Where we belong: Connecting Indigenous identity and well-being in the city	124,369.50	247,985.00	249,377.50	125,762.00	0.00	0.00	747,494.00
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Bourke, Dr Sarah C

This project aims to address a critical knowledge gap about the lived experience of well-being for urban/sub-urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This project intends to provide an empirical understanding of the importance of identity and belonging for well-being from an Indigenous standpoint. Expected outcomes of this project include an in-depth, holistic, and place-based understanding of Indigenous-determined pathways to living well in the city and identifying community-based policy opportunities. This project has the potential to contribute to significant social and cultural benefits, such as improving Indigenous community well-being, healing intergenerational trauma, and promoting social cohesion and reconciliation.

National Interest Test Statement

Pathways to wellbeing for Indigenous Australian communities are often based on non-Indigenous definitions of a good and healthy life. Drawing on yarning and storytelling methods, this project aims to generate new, in-depth, self-determined knowledge about what it means for Indigenous Australians in the ACT to belong and be well. This outcome would help contextualise quantitative data on Indigenous wellbeing in an urban/sub-urban environment, telling the stories behind the numbers using Indigenous voices – addressing a major gap in current research and public policy development. These findings will be shared through reports and presentations to local organisations, including the ACT government, to inform existing structures such as the ACT Wellbeing Framework, and enable the creation of new initiatives and policies based on Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing. Adoption of these insights in reforms is expected to lead to cultural benefits for Australia's growing urban Indigenous communities and positively impact social cohesion and inclusion in the wake of the Voice Referendum.

The Australian National University	124,369.50	247,985.00	249,377.50	125,762.00	0.00	0.00	747,494.00
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Australian Capital Territory	124,369.50	247,985.00	249,377.50	125,762.00	0.00	0.00	747,494.00
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New South Wales									
The University of Newcastle									
IN240100027	Ngukurr to Newcastle: intercultural collaboration and influence	52,287.00	116,360.50	132,917.00	68,843.50	0.00	0.00	370,408.00	
Kelly, Dr Raymond F	<p>This interdisciplinary project will explore the intercultural contributions of residents from a remote Aboriginal community both on their own community and the broader Australian society. In doing so it aims to challenge dominant deficit-centred view points of remote Aboriginal communities and instead examine these communities as sites for lively intercultural exchanges. It will support community members to collect and document stories about the people who were an are influential and in doing to engage in Indigenous histories from an Indigenous perspective. Collaborative engagement with the community will ensure that these stories are preserved in accessible forms so that they are accessible for future generations and future leaders.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project seeks to uncover the unknown stories of Indigenous people of influence. One example was 1960s Indigenous activist and Ngukurr man, Dexter Daniels, whose relationship with trade unions is part of Newcastle's legacy of Indigenous activism. Historians, anthropologists, linguists, health researchers, and Ngukurr community members will collaborate to unearth, debate and celebrate this and many other stories. The research addresses Australia's National Cultural Policy, Revive: A place for every story, a story for every place. By re-interpreting the archive to tell histories from Indigenous perspectives, this project can produce cultural and social benefit for all Australians as we move towards greater recognition of Indigenous histories. The new knowledge created will directly intersect with the public discourse to present a missing piece of Australian history and will re-situate Aboriginal knowledge systems within the community and fields of History, Linguistics and Anthropology. It will do so by sharing outcomes via academic publications, talks, blogs, a book and performances of the stories.</p>								
	The University of Newcastle	52,287.00	116,360.50	132,917.00	68,843.50	0.00	0.00	370,408.00	
The University of Sydney									
IN240100037	Indigenising the Built Environment in Australia	233,972.00	472,567.00	473,554.50	234,959.50	0.00	0.00	1,415,053.00	
Mossman, Dr Michael D	<p>In 2021, Performance Criteria relating to Country and First Nations Communities and Cultures were introduced by the Australian architectural profession in the National Standard of Competency for Architects. This Indigenous-led research project will determine the efficacy of these criteria by interacting with key stakeholders to collect critical information for the 2025 iteration of Competencies and provide important observations for the profession. This project aims to Indigenise discourse between Indigenous Communities and built environment professions, promote greater cultural competency and advocate for considerations of First Nations specific Performance Criteria in other registered built environment professions across Australia.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project will investigate how the 2021 National Standard of Competency for Architects has implemented First Nations specific Performance Criteria for the architecture discipline across Australia. Their efficacy and impact are currently undetermined - for example, we are uncertain of how communities and practitioners actually interpret key design criteria in real development projects, and whether they have reached mutual understanding. This study will produce a longitudinal dataset to support the architecture discipline to better understand its interactions with First Nations Cultures and Communities. The findings will both enhance educational and professional practice in the built environment and deliver far reaching effects on the qualities of infrastructure across all disciplines associated with architecture. This will benefit Australian society by promoting investment into architectural processes that consider cultural competency and deepen dialogue between Country and First Nations Communities, and the built environment sector to achieve enriched public returns.</p>								
	The University of Sydney	233,972.00	472,567.00	473,554.50	234,959.50	0.00	0.00	1,415,053.00	

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University of Technology Sydney									
IN240100063	Raising the Bar: Learning from the Life Stories of Indigenous Lawyers	122,440.00	241,657.00	239,166.50	119,949.50	0.00	0.00	723,213.00	
Watson, Dr Nicole L	<p>It was not until the 1970s that individuals such as Mullanjeiwaka, Dr Pat O'Shane and Judge Bob Bellear became the first generation of Indigenous lawyers. Over six hundred Indigenous people have since followed in their footsteps. Today, Indigenous lawyers pursue test cases for the victims of stolen wages practices, represent native title claimants, and are leading the conversation on the proposed Indigenous Voice to the Parliament. Despite such contributions, the stories of Indigenous lawyers have been overlooked by scholars. In an Australian first, the project will gather the life stories of Indigenous lawyers. It will generate new knowledge about their career motivations, and how they are changing law and the legal profession.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Despite the increasing importance of Indigenous matters in the Australian legal system, e.g. native title and the Voice to Parliament, only 0.8% of Australia's solicitors and 0.3% of barristers identify as Indigenous. This project will produce the first in-depth study of Indigenous lawyers by undertaking interviews with practitioners from diverse geographical locations, ages and areas of practice. Participants will be asked about their experiences of racism, balance between professional loyalties and community obligations, and career progression obstacles. The project will benefit Australia socially by creating a better understanding of cultural safety in the legal profession. Engagement with Indigenous legal aid services, professional bodies, law firms and law schools will ensure that educational tools, webinars and a mini documentary developed in this project can be directly adopted by end users. Those tools will inspire social debate about the existence and manifestation of racism in the legal profession, and measures that can be taken to retain Indigenous people in the legal profession to attain parity.</p>								
IN240100098	PFAS transport through landfill clay liners enhanced with proteins.	104,245.50	202,373.50	194,248.50	96,120.50	0.00	0.00	596,988.00	
Turner, Prof Brett D	<p>Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of environmentally persistent, man-made chemicals found likely to be carcinogenic in humans. Due to their non-stick, water and stain repellences, PFAS have long been used in everyday products (food wrappers, carpets, furniture etc.) which end up in landfills. As it is currently unknown how PFAS move through the various components of landfill barriers, their fate and transport has become a priority for the regulators of Australia's landfill sites according to the Australian 2018 PFAS National Environmental Management Plan. This research will determine PFAS transport through common clay barriers enhanced with proteins which have been shown to be an excellent sorbent for PFAS.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Protecting Australia's soil and water resources from per- & polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) is paramount. Household products containing PFAS disposed to landfills will continue to threaten soil and water sources long into the future due to their recalcitrance and toxicity. PFAS transport in soils, let alone landfill liners, is poorly understood and addressing this knowledge gap is a scientific priority. The 2021 American ban on the thermal treatment of PFAS leaves landfilling the only option, highlighting the importance of understanding these systems. This research will elucidate the fundamental parameters & mechanisms governing PFAS transport through landfill liners, thereby addressing the current knowledge gaps. By working with state EPA heads and stakeholders, the outcomes of this research will demonstrate how to best construct landfills for optimal environmental protection from these forever chemicals. These results can then be incorporated into the PFAS National Environmental Protection Measure (NEMP), the framework for the environmental regulation of PFAS-contaminated materials.</p>								
University of Technology Sydney		226,685.50	444,030.50	433,415.00	216,070.00	0.00	0.00	1,320,201.00	
Western Sydney University									
IN240100137	'Like the Thunder': Seeing Stories in the Gulf Country	133,112.00	266,386.00	267,428.50	134,154.50	0.00	0.00	801,081.00	
Wright, Prof Alexis	<p>This project investigates the nature of relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in the Gulf of Carpentaria. It will generate imaginative understandings of how new relations might have been built through the historical marriage of a Waanyi woman and Chinese man in the late gold rush era; consider the challenges of contemporary Aboriginal</p>								

* Note - Indicative funding for approved projects will be made available through a funding variation under section 54 of the ARC Act

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	<p>advocacy; and examine how storytelling allows us to understand the nature of relations. The outcomes will be presented in major works of fiction and non-fiction and a collection of scholarly essays. Cultural benefits include showing how storytelling helps reveal the essential nature of human relations, and how the capacity to remake relations is essential to intercultural reconciliation.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project investigates the nature of relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in the Gulf of Carpentaria. It will produce two major books by award winning Waanyi writer Alexis Wright. One will research historical events, linked to Wright's own story, to represent cultural traditions being reimagined in the late 19th century marriage of a Waanyi woman and Chinese diaspora man. Another work of conversations will reflect on the capacities of Aboriginal people to renew relationships within and between Gulf communities now. The research will be of social and cultural benefit to Australia. Aboriginal storytelling is a socio-economic tool that has long developed strategies to actively engage with tumultuous change. This project will harness these strategies to contribute to Australia's understanding of itself by reflecting on and imaginatively examining intersections of culture in the 19th century and today. The research outcomes will reach both public and academic audiences via wide promotion of the books, a project website, and a conference publication shared with schools and universities.</p>							
	Western Sydney University	133,112.00	266,386.00	267,428.50	134,154.50	0.00	0.00	801,081.00
	New South Wales	646,056.50	1,299,344.00	1,307,315.00	654,027.50	0.00	0.00	3,906,743.00

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Queensland

The University of Queensland

IN240100124	Recirculating Indigenous traveling songs	152,668.00	305,628.50	313,713.00	321,798.00	306,991.00	145,945.50	1,546,744.00
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Bracknell, Prof Clint T This project aims to develop new understandings of how unrestricted Indigenous traveling songs have spread across vast geographic and linguistic boundaries in Australia, investigating ways these songs can contribute to greater social connectedness today. It intends to energise collaborative networks across Indigenous communities, language centres, and holding institutions around the world. Forging models to reinvigorate the performance of traveling songs across a wide and diverse range of interconnected localities, this project should advance the potential for Indigenous performance culture to contribute to language revitalisation, cultural identity, and the facilitation of cross-cultural diplomacy in national and international contexts.

National Interest Test Statement

Indigenous traveling songs were once the most popular and widespread music in Australia. They have long histories of public performance in many regional areas, freely crossing linguistic and cultural boundaries. Like many Indigenous languages, Indigenous traveling songs are critically endangered and very few people with knowledge of them remain. This project will work with Indigenous communities and collecting institutions to conduct archival research to uncover, identify, and share Indigenous traveling songs. By increasing understanding of open and unrestricted traveling songs, this project will enhance Australia's cultural heritage, directly contribute to Closing the Gap, and build capacity for greater incorporation of Indigenous performance in the creative industries, tourism, and education. After initially working with Indigenous communities to consolidate a repertoire traveling songs appropriate for sharing with the public, the project team will facilitate singing workshops and performance events, while simultaneously developing digital resources to sustain Indigenous traveling songs into the future.

The University of Queensland	152,668.00	305,628.50	313,713.00	321,798.00	306,991.00	145,945.50	1,546,744.00
Queensland	152,668.00	305,628.50	313,713.00	321,798.00	306,991.00	145,945.50	1,546,744.00

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Victoria								
Deakin University								
IN240100030 Sculthorpe, Prof Gaye H	The Great Exhibitions and their Lost Indigenous Objects This project will rediscover the Australian Indigenous objects sent overseas to the Great Exhibitions of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Such objects acted as powerful forms of cultural, political and economic display, and a form of imperial and colonial projection. It will excavate the hidden histories of Indigenous people involved in these events and the many objects lost to Australia. Through collaborative work at community dialogues, the project will repatriate knowledge and remake connections between objects, museums, and Indigenous people. In doing so, it will bring contemporary Indigenous perspectives to global attention, generate new exhibition possibilities and influence international museum practice. National Interest Test Statement Between 1851 and 1937, Australia lost hundreds of significant Indigenous objects sent overseas for display at international exhibitions, some now found in museums in Paris, London, Glasgow and Chicago. This project will find and examine these objects to reveal forgotten histories of Indigenous Australians on the global stage. We will then reconnect these objects and associated data back to Australia, Indigenous custodians and the wider public, enabled through discussion at regional stakeholder workshops, publication of the first complete inventory of these objects and distribution of community booklets featuring objects and images from each state. This engagement and sharing process will enable new histories to be generated for truth-telling about Australia's past as well as recovering Indigenous Knowledge. Direct involvement of Indigenous scholars in the work will develop their expertise while benefitting and influencing practice in Australian and international museums by demonstrating how such collections could be used to the benefit of Indigenous people, Australia and global audiences.	133,803.00	218,924.50	191,915.00	192,886.00	86,092.50	0.00	823,621.00
	Deakin University	133,803.00	218,924.50	191,915.00	192,886.00	86,092.50	0.00	823,621.00
The University of Melbourne								
IN240100016 Daniels-Mayes, Dr Sheelagh M	Improving life outcomes for Indigenous people living with a disability This study aims to investigate how Australian universities can advance life outcomes for Indigenous people with disability through education and employment. Indigenous-led, the study is interdisciplinary framed within Indigenous knowledges. Yarning interviews with relevant university students and staff, and analysis of policies and strategies, will identify new opportunities. Expected outcomes include the generation of new knowledge to inform the development of culturally safe-disability confident practices within and beyond the university. This should provide significant benefit to Indigenous people's self-determination. The study should provide significant benefit to universities and the Australian workforce who aim to become inclusive. National Interest Test Statement This research addresses the significant number of Indigenous people living with a disability who face both racism and disability-related discrimination. This too often negatively affects their education and employment opportunities. Research into improving pathways to success for university Indigenous staff and students with disability is currently inadequate. Led by an Indigenous person with a disability, this project will document the lived experiences of Indigenous students and staff with disability and identify policy gaps or barriers. Research findings will inform improvements to university practices and policy with a view to opening up new opportunities for students and future workers living with a disability. Outcomes will also inform the development of professional development programs that foster culturally safe and disability confident workplaces within and beyond universities. Reducing barriers to opportunities and successful participation in education and employment will improve life outcomes, thereby closing equity gaps.	152,719.50	340,709.50	385,414.50	430,127.50	433,826.00	201,123.00	1,943,920.00
	The University of Melbourne	152,719.50	340,709.50	385,414.50	430,127.50	433,826.00	201,123.00	1,943,920.00

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	Victoria	286,522.50	559,634.00	577,329.50	623,013.50	519,918.50	201,123.00	2,767,541.00
		1,209,616.50	2,412,591.50	2,447,735.00	1,724,601.00	826,909.50	347,068.50	8,968,522.00

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