



MACQUARIE
University
SYDNEY · AUSTRALIA

Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY NSW 2109 AUSTRALIA

Phone [REDACTED]
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24 September 2025

Dear Prof Ute Roessner,

I refer to the letter dated 12 February 2025 from the Acting Chief Executive Officer of the ARC. The letter notified the University that the ARC had suspended Grant FT220100427 under clause 35.2.2 of the Grant Agreement (Suspension Notice).

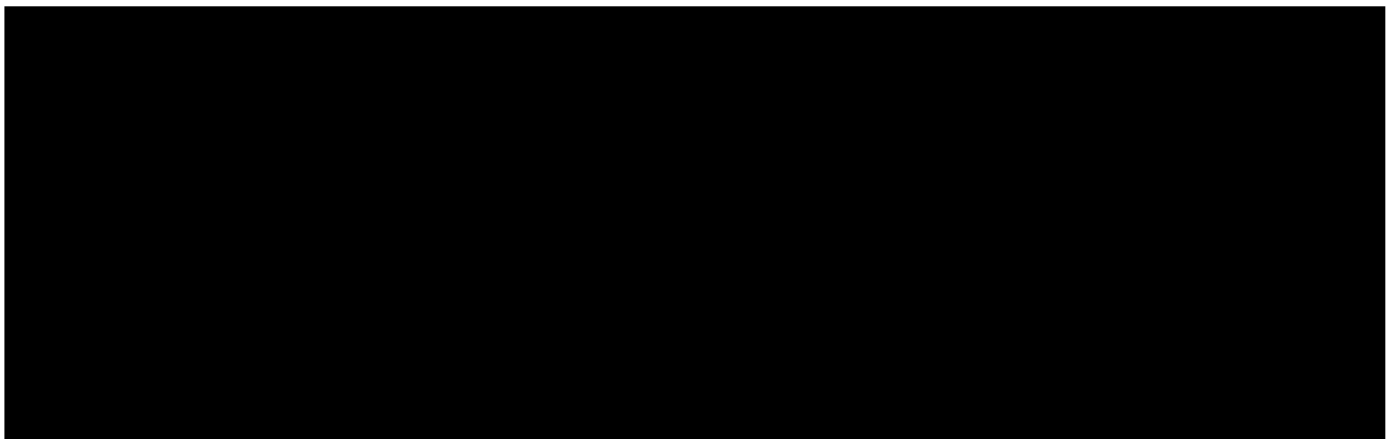
The Suspension Notice required the University to undertake a number of steps.

Completion of Preliminary Assessment

[REDACTED] Preliminary Assessment Report (Report) [REDACTED] As advised previously, the University identified that the Suspension Notice raised potential breaches of the *Macquarie University Research Code*. The University was required by applicable laws and policies to comply with the Code and the related *Macquarie University Research Complaints, Breaches and Investigations Procedure (Procedure)*.

The University considers that its letter to the ARC dated 13 August 2025, responded to the matters required of it in section D of the Suspension Notice.

The University considers that the Report responds to the remaining requirements of the Suspension Notice (being sections A, B and C). To assist the ARC in this regard, page **Schedule 1**, attached to this letter, identifies the requirements of these remaining sections to the relevant parts of the Report.



Confidentiality

The Procedure requires the University to apply appropriate confidentiality to all steps instigated under the Procedure.

In the circumstances, it is appropriate to provide the ARC with a copy of the Report on a confidential basis. To support the University's compliance with the Procedure and to protect the research integrity procedures both our organisations support, the University asks that the ARC does not disclose the Report to any third party or person without first discussing the matter with the University.

As is required by the Procedure, the outcome of the Preliminary Assessment has been issued to Dr Abdel-Fattah. The University has also reminded Dr Abdel-Fattah of the need to maintain appropriate confidentiality.

Next steps

I again thank the ARC for its understanding while the Report was prepared. The concerns raised by the ARC raised complex issues given the nature of the research required under the Grant. I trust you may see that, in all the circumstances, the University responded thoroughly and expeditiously to the ARC's concerns (including through the appointment of eminent international experts).

I understand that the ARC will now consider its position and what action the ARC now wishes to take. I look forward to hearing from the ARC as soon as possible. Please contact me should further information be required.

Yours sincerely,



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Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Macquarie University