

## Record of ARC Site Visit to Macquarie University

5 February 2025

ARC Attendees (participants in all discussions outlined below)

- Alison Beasley, Branch Manager, Research Evaluation and Policy Branch
- Geraldine Dennis, Branch Manager, Programs Branch

### Summary of Discussion 1

Macquarie University (MQ) Attendees

- Professor Isak S. (Sakkie) Pretorius, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research
- [REDACTED] Director, Research Grants & Award, Research Services

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- ARC confirmed:
  - Following recent media, Minister Claire has written to the ARC Board Chair, requesting that the Board investigate as a matter of priority the extent to which the grant is being used and administered in accordance with the grant agreement.
  - These most recent claims reported in the media, combined with the matters that we have previously engaged with MQ over, lead ARC to hold concerns regarding the grant and the manner in which it is being administered.
  - The ARC is considering whether to exercise the power under the grant agreement to suspend the project while enquiries are undertaken – and that advice will be provided to the Board Chair on this matter tomorrow to inform a response to the Minister.
  - Today's visit is to set up the way we want to work together and to outline the areas we require further information on, with a list of questions to follow in writing.
- MQ confirmed we have their full co-operation.

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