Alert 1: ARC Linkage Projects 2016

This Bulletin is the first of the alerts that will be issued by the Grants Management Office throughout the round. Your LP16 application toolkit and additional information can be found at the LP16 Resource Page. Suggestions for items you would like to see in future alerts or on the resource page can be directed to mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au.

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1. Key Dates

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10 September 2015</td>
<td>Funding Rules and Changes to Funding Rules released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16 September 2015</td>
<td>Applications open in RMS 2.0. All intending applicants should initiate an application in RMS 2.0 as soon as practical. This will allow the Research Strategy Office (RSO) and Grants Management Office (GMO) to provide you with key information and strategic and compliance support throughout the round.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To access RSO support, contact</td>
<td>Strategic Support (Research Strategy Office) - email James Walsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:j.walsh@unsw.edu.au">j.walsh@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
<td>(<a href="mailto:j.walsh@unsw.edu.au">j.walsh@unsw.edu.au</a>) as early as possible for strategic support/advice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 October 2015</td>
<td>Internal Deadline for Compliance Advice (GMO) - Details of your Compliance Advisor will be advised shortly after the internal close.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 noon, Monday 26 October 2015</td>
<td>Request not to Assess Due- Submit to the GMO (<a href="mailto:mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au">mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au</a>) by 12 noon, Monday 26 October for submission to the ARC by 28 October.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 November 2015</td>
<td>ARC External Close- Finalise and submit applications on RMS 2.0.</td>
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2. Changes to LP16 Funding Rules from the Previous Round

Below is a summary of changes to Linkage Projects in 2016. All intending applicants should read the rules in full prior to commencing an application.

Objectives

The first LP16 objective has been adjusted to reference provision of opportunities for commercial benefits, in addition to economic, social and cultural ones:

a. support the initiation and/or development of long-term strategic research alliances between higher education organisations and other organisations, including industry and other research end-users, in order to apply advanced knowledge to problems and/or to provide opportunities to obtain national economic, commercial, social or cultural benefits;

Reference to the old Strategic Research Priorities has been updated to the new national Science and Research Priorities (Food, Soil and Water, Transport, Cybersecurity, Energy, Resources, Advanced Manufacturing, Environmental Change, and Health).

d. build the scale and focus of research in the national Science and Research Priorities.
Selection Criteria
In response to the Government’s ‘Boosting the Commercial Returns from Research’ agenda, significant changes have been made to the LP16 selection criteria this year.

Under Significance and Innovation (25%), the following criteria have been added/updated:
- Will new methods or technologies be developed that address a specific market opportunity?
- How will the anticipated outcomes advance the knowledge base and/or provide an industry advantage?
- Does the Project plan provide a business model for implementation?
- Will the proposed research maximise economic, commercial, environmental and/or social benefit to Australia?
- Does the Project address the Science and Research Priorities?
- Does the research address an important problem for the partners?

Budget Items Supported
Teaching relief for CIs has been raised from $40,000 to $50,000 per year.
Note: Publication & dissemination costs plus web hosting costs are still allowable but have been moved to the general Budget Items Supported section of the rules (A7.1.1).

Salary On-Costs
The amount of ARC salary on-costs that may be requested has been raised from 28% to 30%.
- For details of UNSW rates for academic, professional and casual salaries, see the Salary Scales for Grant Budgeting.

Partner Organisation Contribution Requirements
‘Exempt Community Organisation’ has been removed from the list of Exempt Partner Organisations types, as the organisations which fall under this category could also be included in the Exempt Charity or Exempt Non-Profit Organisation types.

3. What can my Partner Organisation contribute as cash/in-kind?

- Download the “What can my Partner Organisation contribute as cash/in-kind?” advice document

The document lists general categories where a Partner might provide items for your project. These categories are by no means the limit of what can be contributed.

What do I use it for?
Use the lists for ideas on items your Partner could contribute under each budget category- Personnel, Equipment, Maintenance, Travel, Other and Fieldwork.

General contribution requirements:
The combined contribution from all Partner Organisation’s (cash/in-kind) must at least match the total requested from the ARC, and the combined Partner Organisation cash contribution must be at least 25% of the total requested from the ARC.

Results of previous rounds do however highlight the fact that competitive applications have on average a 40% combined cash contribution, and meeting the ARC requirements at a minimum (particularly where requesting funding for larger amounts) will result in a very low score on collaboration under the “Commitment from Partner Organisations” criteria.
4. LP16 Budget Table Example: Items from Previous Successful Applications

- Download the LP16 Budget Table Example

**What is this?**
The LP16 Budget Table Example is an excel spreadsheet of budget items taken from previous successful Linkage Project applications, plus rules and instructions for what can and can’t be included in your budget.

**What do I use it for?**
Use the spreadsheet for ideas on items you may need, the appropriate budget categories sections to place the items in, and examples for clearly detailing each line item.

5. Resources and Support

- **Strategic Advice (Research Strategy Office – RSO)**
  Strategic advice on the scope, nature and suitability of any proposed project, how to address the selection criteria including track record, and general grantsmanship advice. Discuss your project with the RSO at the early stages of the application process as fundamental issues are difficult to resolve late in the process. Please send any component of your proposal for strategic advice, as a Word file, to j.walsh@unsw.edu.au.

- **Compliance & Eligibility Advice (Grants Management Office - GMO)**
  Your individual Compliance Advisor will be in touch shortly after the internal close. In the meantime, contact the GMO on mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au. Note that the ARC will not respond directly to enquiries from researchers – they request that enquiries are made through the Grants Management Office. For RMS technical issues, contact the GMO Systems Team - systems.gmo@unsw.edu.au.

- **GMO Successful Grant Library**
  Consult successful Linkage Project applications from previous rounds for ideas on structuring your proposal and for a better understanding of the level at which your proposal should be pitched.

**Conditions for visiting the Grants Library**
- Access is restricted to UNSW employees/affiliates and students. You must bring your current UNSW Staff ID card with you when you visit the library.
- The applications may only be viewed at the Grants Management Office. Grants will be viewed digitally, but no part of the application is permitted to be printed, digitally copied or photographed. You may take notes.

**How to make an appointment:**
- Email your request to mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au, including the following information:
  - Name, position and school/Faculty (e.g. your UNSW email signature)
  - The scheme(s) you would like to view (e.g. “ARC Linkage Projects”)
  - Scheduling requirements, if any (e.g. “I am available Tuesday or Friday mornings”)

**Note:** To ensure availability, please contact us in advance of the time you would like to visit the Library.

- **Linkage Projects 2016 Resource Page**
The LP16 Resource Page contains information and tools for completing your application. This page is continually updated throughout the round as information is released and new resources become available.

- **LP16 Alerts**
  If you have received this Alert by other means and wish to have it emailed to you directly, email grantsnews@unsw.edu.au with 'subscribe grant-news' in the body of the message.