Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #22 provides an update on important issues affecting researchers at UNSW. If you missed the previous bulletins – the contents are available at [http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/newsletter.html](http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/newsletter.html).

In this Issue:

1. New Edition of Research@UNSW Magazine
2. SRE Survey Response Results
3. Research Publication Collection
4. ERA Update

### 1. NEW EDITION OF RESEARCH@UNSW MAGAZINE

The new edition of Research@UNSW magazine has been released. An e-zine version is available to download from [http://download.digitaldm.com/download/ReSearchAtUNSW1011.htm](http://download.digitaldm.com/download/ReSearchAtUNSW1011.htm)

### 2. SRE STAFF SURVEY RESPONSE RATE

We have now completed and submitted our SRE Staff Survey data to Canberra. I would like to personally thank all of those who participated and especially those who were required to complete the 2-week diary exercise component. UNSW was the first institution to complete and submit the survey, and submit it with the required response rate.

#### a. 2nd SRE Survey to be held in July

We will be required by DIISR to complete a second survey later in the year, in order to access the SRE Funding. We anticipate that this second SRE Survey will commence on Monday 12 July and will continue through to Sunday 25 July 2010, - again we are required to survey one Non-Teaching Week and one Teaching Week. Further information on the second survey will be sent closer to the date.


### 3. RESEARCH PUBLICATION DATA COLLECTION

Each year we are required to report to DIISR the number of research publications that we author as part of the annual Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC). This information is then used by DIISR to calculate about 10% of our Research Block Grant Funding. At UNSW this is the basis for our ERA return and the primary source of data for internal research performance measures such as “Research Active Staff”. It also feeds into the UNSW budget model for the allocation of research funding.

For the 2010 collection of 2009 research publications, publications may be entered into ResPubs:

#### a. by Academic staff;

#### b. by the Research Assistants of the academic staff on their behalf; or

#### c. by School administrative staff.
All items entered into the 4 HERDC categories (A1 Book, B1 Chapter, C1 Article and E1 Conference Paper) will be verified by the Head of School (i.e. checked to make sure they conform to HERDC criteria).

Heads of Schools must determine how much verification material is required for them to verify each item. In the case of Books, a copy of the book should be provided to the HoS. In the case of Journal Articles, the HoS may opt for any of the following:

a. if the HoS has previously seen the paper then no further proof may be needed
b. the URL or DOI is provided so that the article can be viewed online
c. a copy of the article may be provided in hard copy or electronically
d. in cases where the database has no information regarding the peer review process of the journal the HoS may also need to be satisfied of proof of refereeing.

At this stage, the simplest approach is for each researcher, unless instructed otherwise by their school:

a. check if their data is up to date;
b. enter any missing publications;
c. provide verification material only as requested by their school.

If you have any questions related to the HERDC Publications data collection, please contact Tom Croucher in the Library (t.croucher@unsw.edu.au).

4. ERA UPDATE

The Excellence for Research in Australia (ERA) exercise, is taking place now. The submission is due mid-year, and outcomes are expected in late 2010.

The 2010 submission is comprised of eight discipline clusters, and requires information and data on researchers, research outputs, research income, applied measures of research output and measures of esteem. Additionally, a Background Statement is required for each 2-digit FoR (Field of Research) code – cluster combination. We have identified about 25 “FoR leaders” to assist with the process – about one for each of the 2-digit FoR Division Code. A list of the FoR leaders can be found at https://www.unsw.edu.au/research/res/protected/news.html.

The ERA Office has now completed the data entry of all eligible research outputs within the reference period (2003-2008) that have been submitted to the office into the ResPubs publication database.

Researchers can check their publications information in ResPubs to verify or update the Field of Research (FoR) codes and the apportionment assigned to their research outputs where the output might span multiple research codes. Some discipline clusters will be using selective peer review in their ERA assessment, so we are working with the staff and the FoR leaders to select the outputs that are most suitable for peer review.

Data from ResPubs and the Research Census will inform the UNSW ERA submission. The ERA Office will be undertaking final preparation for the ERA submission, working closely with Associate Deans Research, FoR Leaders and individual researchers, to ensure the quality of the UNSW submission.

Let me publically thank the FoR Leaders for the work that they have already done. With such a diverse range of strong disciplines at UNSW, it is so important to have this level of engagement close to the coal-face. The ERA is a massive exercise and it is only with the commitment of the FoR leaders are we able to make the best submission possible for UNSW.

Professor Les Field
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)