Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #32 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.

In this Issue:

1. Review of UNSW Research Ethics and Safe Research Practice
2. Research Consulting Services
3. Director (Research Partnerships)
4. Research@UNSW Gateway Update
5. Reporting of Serious Adverse Events
6. Review of UNSW PhD Program
7. UNSW Centres
8. 2011 Strategic Roadmap for Australian Research Infrastructure
9. Inventing the future at UNSW

1. Review of UNSW Research Ethics and Safe Research Practice

The coordination of research ethics and safe research practice across UNSW has been raised as a key risk issue for the University. Also, the NHMRC will be conducting a Monitoring Visit to UNSW in August 2011. The purpose of this visit is to ensure the University is compliant with good and responsible research practice and are compliant with NHMRC Guidelines. In preparation for the audit it is also timely to review our current UNSW practices.

I have commissioned an internal Review of UNSW Research Ethics and Safe Research Practices. The review will encompass the following areas and their responsible UNSW Units:

- Animal Ethics;
- Human Ethics;
- Gene Technology;
- Biosafety; and
- Radiation Safety.

The Review will examine all aspects of research ethics and safe research practice at UNSW including the structure, functions, governance, resources and business processes of these units, as well as our compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.

The Review Panel seeks constructive feedback on the review of Research Ethics and Safe Research Practice at UNSW. Should you wish to contribute to the review, please contact Bronwyn Greene on b.greene@unsw.edu.au, x52983 or Barbara Chmielewski on barbarac@unsw.edu.au, x 55615.
2. **Research Consulting Services**

As reported in earlier bulletins, consulting services will transfer from UNSW Global to the Division of Research from 1 April 2011. This move will enable a 'one-stop-shop' for research and research support and ensure greater clarity for researchers and external partners in accessing expertise and services. By 2012, we aim to increase research consulting eligible for HERDC reporting to 80% of total activity, up from 40% in 2009. Key changes:

- Four of the current Global staff providing consulting services and support will relocate to the Division of Research, and will be supplemented by additional appointments in project and contract management to maintain service levels of the business.

- All current consulting projects (research and non-research) will transfer to the Division.

- The Division of Research Guidelines for Infrastructure Support (30%) have been updated to reflect inclusion of consulting, and will apply to research and non-research projects managed by the Division from 1 April 2011.

- All consulting projects with a University Paid Outside Work (UPOW) component will be managed by the Division. The Paid Outside Work policy, FAQs and the online form in myUNSW have been modified to reflect these changes. Employees undertaking UPOW on projects will be paid via the UNSW payroll. UNSW employees will generally not be able to undertake UPOW via a separate company given they have an existing employment relationship with UNSW. The POW website will be updated shortly with all relevant information, POW website for updated information: [http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/services/indrel/pow.html](http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/services/indrel/pow.html).

Staff contacts and further information will be updated shortly at [www.consulting.unsw.edu.au](http://www.consulting.unsw.edu.au).

3. **Director (Research Partnerships)**

Warwick Dawson has been appointed to the new role of Director (Research Partnerships), effective 1 April 2011, reporting to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research). This role provides strategic leadership in the identification, establishment and effective management of research partnerships including industry, external partners, medical research institutes and affiliated institutions, and will be responsible for UNSW’s participation in productive contract research, consulting, multi-venture initiatives and philanthropic partnerships. The Director will work closely with the RSO/GMO/NSi, UNSW Foundation, Faculties and researchers to establish a framework that enables critical research partnerships to be readily identified and prioritised. The role will interface with the UNSW Research Legal Team in the pre- and post-award management of research partnerships, including improving execution times for ARC Linkage grants.

Warwick is located on level 4, Rupert Myers South Wing, phone 57929 email: w.dawson@unsw.edu.au.

4. **Research@UNSW Gateway Update**

The Research@UNSW Gateway is the new UNSW website coordinating all aspects of Research at UNSW. The website is now close to completion with an anticipated launch date in May 2011 to allow for the least disruption to the peak grant application closing dates.

The current focus of the Gateway team is the uploading of UNSW researcher and research project profiles in collaboration with Faculties, Schools and researchers. The bulk of research profiles will be loaded by Friday 15 April 2011.

For further information or assistance with profile uploads please contact Barbara Chmielewski, General Manager (Research) via email mail barbarac@unsw.edu.au or phone x55615. A further update will be provided in the 1 May Bulletin.
5. **Reporting of Serious Adverse Events**

Reporting of Serious Adverse Events associated with Research/Teaching involving human participants and those impacting on animal wellbeing is a mandatory requirement under UNSW Policies dealing with research involving humans and animals and also under NSW Legislation.

It is important that researchers **immediately** report any serious adverse events to the relevant UNSW Ethics Committee (the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Animal Care & Ethics Committee), including those that have occurred at off-campus affiliated institutions participating in the study. Please contact the Ethics Secretariat for further information ethics.sec@unsw.edu.au or x 54234.

6. **Review of the UNSW PhD Program – Survey & Submissions**

The University is undertaking a review of the PhD program at UNSW. The aim of the review is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of our PhD program and to improve its quality and appeal (see [http://www.newspaper.unsw.edu.au/text/pdf/CallForSubmissions_PhDProgram.pdf](http://www.newspaper.unsw.edu.au/text/pdf/CallForSubmissions_PhDProgram.pdf)).

We encourage all academic staff to complete a Survey (which should take approx 10 minutes) **before 11 April 2011** at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PhDSurveyAcademics](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PhDSurveyAcademics). (Please note that this is the same Survey for all UNSW Academic Staff.)

In addition to the Survey, written submissions on some (or all) of the terms of reference can be made via email (with or without attached documents) to phdreview@unsw.edu.au by **15 April 2011**.

7. **UNSW Centres**

UNSW’s Centres and Institutes greatly enhance the University’s research, teaching and community service activities. Recommendations on the establishment and review of UNSW Centres are a key responsibility of the Research Strategy Office (RSO). The criteria and process for establishing one of the several types of Centre or Institute are available at [http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/centresprocedure.pdf](http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/centresprocedure.pdf)

Once established, Centres and Institutes have a formal status within the University and carry the imprimatur of the University. Researchers considering a Centre as the appropriate structure to build capacity or to support cross-disciplinary research, should initially discuss the proposal with their Faculty Associate Dean(s) (Research) and Head(s) of School to ensure alignment with the School/Faculty strategy. It is important for Centre proposals to have strong support from their host Faculty (or Faculties). Associate Professor Peter Krug (p.krug@unsw.edu.au x59736) in the Research Strategy Office, is available to discuss the overall approach regarding UNSW Centres, and will advise on the process of lodging your request to establish a Centre or Institute for approval by the appropriate Deputy Vice-Chancellor. All Centre documents, including documents requiring the signature of the DVCR or DVCA, must be lodged with the RSO.

Until they have been through the establishment process, “Centres” or “Institutes” don’t exist and they cannot use the name “Centre” or “Institute” or conduct their business the umbrella of UNSW.

8. **2011 Strategic Roadmap for Australian Research Infrastructure**

NCRIS (the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Scheme) has been the National scheme to support large research infrastructure over the last 5 years. The 2011 Strategic Roadmap for Australian Research Infrastructure Discussion Paper has been released and this reviews options for managing large research infrastructure into the future. The purpose of the Discussion Paper is to seek feedback from stakeholders and the wider research community on the views expressed by the Expert Working Groups and to canvass additional feedback on the research infrastructure requirements to support excellent research and innovation outcomes into the future.

UNSW will submit a single consolidated response to the Discussion Paper. If you wish to contribute to the consolidated submission please provide any comments by close of business 15 April 2011 to David Do, david.do@unsw.edu.au or x 52784.

9. Inventing the future at UNSW

Applications for the 2011 UNSW Inventor of the Year Awards will open on the 11th of April 2011. Carrying a total cash prize pool of $28,000, the awards are open to UNSW academics and students who are commercialising their research with NewSouth Innovations, UNSW’s commercialisation company. The awards reward commercialisation excellence in biomedicine, science & engineering, environmental science and information and communication technology.

Following on from last year’s introduction of two new prizes for Best New Inventions and Student Inventor of the Year, UNSW will again recognise early stage innovations and our leading student inventors. Researchers and students who have submitted new inventions to NewSouth Innovations, in the 12 months up to 30th of June 2011 will automatically be entered for the Best New Invention awards. So get your thinking caps on and submit your new inventions to NSi.

This year’s UNSW Inventor Awards will be announced at a gala event on Thursday 1 September, 2011.

Further information: www.unswinventorawards.com.au

Les Field
Deputy Vice- Chancellor (Research)