Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #39 provides an update on important issues affecting researchers at UNSW. If you missed the previous bulletins – the contents are available at [http://research.unsw.edu.au/deputy-vice-chancellor-research-bulletin](http://research.unsw.edu.au/deputy-vice-chancellor-research-bulletin).

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1. **ARC/NHMRC Announcements for funding in 2012**

The University of New South Wales was awarded a total of $52M in grant funding across all NHMRC Grant Schemes. There were 48 new project grants awarded to UNSW Researchers and 3 Centres of Excellence (out of a total of 15 awarded nationally). UNSW also had success in senior Fellowships and NHMRC Partnership Grants (NHMRC analogue of the Linkage Scheme) where we rank 2nd amongst the Go8. ARC will announce recipients of Discovery, Linkage and LIEF project schemes on Tuesday 1 November 2011 with remaining ARC schemes (including Future Fellowships and DECRAs) to be announced on November 14th.

I wish to congratulate all recipients of ARC and NHMRC funding schemes for funding in 2012.

2. **2012 UNSW Goldstar Awards**

UNSW Goldstar Awards are awarded annually to UNSW researchers who narrowly miss out on project grants in the major ARC and NHMRC funding rounds. The intent of the Goldstar Awards is to allow some initial research on the proposed research program, and to allow the investigator(s) to further refine and improve the competitiveness of the application. Ranking information provided by the funding agencies is used to identify applicants who have just missed out on a grant, with priority given to early career researchers who have been competitively ranked in consultation with Faculty Associate Deans (Research).
$3 million has been allocated to support this scheme in 2012, an increase of $1 million from 2011. Approximately half the funds will be awarded to near miss NHMRC applicants, and half to ARC applicants. Successful recipients of UNSW Goldstar Awards will be notified by the Grants Management Office, and the list of awards will be posted on the Research@UNSW website. Goldstars from the NHMRC round will be released within the next week, and those from the ARC round released the week commencing 14 November.

3. Have you met your reporting obligations?

Grants Management Office staff are actively pursuing the small number of researchers that have not met their ARC and NHMRC reporting obligations from 2010 and earlier. Approximately 40 reports (progress reports and final reports) fall into this category, and these may render the researchers concerned ineligible to apply for future grants.

The NHMRC has approached UNSW and other Universities for advice on how to ensure researchers take their reporting obligations seriously and the NHMRC is considering suspension of grant funding and/or disallowing future applications. We can expect the ARC to take a similar approach in future now that the systems of both funding bodies are reliably tracking the submission of reports. For further information or questions please contact the Grants Management Office mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au.

4. NHMRC Monitoring Visit Update

The NHMRC has advised that its Audit Report on UNSW will be made available in early November. We have been led to understand that a positive report can be expected on all aspects of UNSW grants and ethics administration and research compliance, with the exception however of compliance with the rules around expenditure against grants. The Grants Management Office is working closely with Heads of Schools, the Research Finance Office and researchers to address this deficiency. By the close of accounts in 2011, all items that could possibly represent ‘non-allowable costs’ in the 2011 financial year will have been examined and, if necessary, journalled to other accounts.

5. eResearch

The peak eResearch body in NSW (Intersect), in conjunction with the University of Sydney, has developed a survey to investigate current practices, attitudes, and future requirements for eResearch. This survey takes 20 minutes and your participation is anonymous unless you choose to identify yourself. To begin the survey, please go to http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/eResearch_round2. The survey focuses on technology and its impact on how you conduct research. This is the first longitudinal survey investigating eResearch practices and attitudes across the higher education sector. The survey was first rolled out in 2009 across seven NSW universities (including UNSW), with over 1,000 participating researchers. If you require any further information, please contact Leonie Hellmers at Intersect 8079 2536 or leonie.hellmers@intersect.org.au.

6. ERA Updates

There are six items in relation to ERA.

a. ERA 2012 Submission
   - The ERA 2012 Submission phase will open on 5 March 2012.
   - Researcher eligibility for ERA 2012 is based on a 31 March 2011 census date.

b. ERA 2012 Journal List
   The ARC has released the ERA 2012 Journal List which was a result of a two-stage consultation process. A copy of the Journal List may be downloaded from the ARC website, http://www.arc.gov.au/era/era_2012/era_journal_list.htm.
c. Final ERA 2012 Submission Guidelines

In September, the ARC released the final ERA 2012 Submission Guidelines, the ERA 2012 Discipline Matrix, and the ERA-SEER Technology Pack. These documents are available on the ARC website, http://www.arc.gov.au/era/era_2012/era_2012_documents.htm.

d. ERA 2012 Peer Reviewers

The ARC is now recruiting Peer Reviewers for the ERA 2012 through institutional nominations by way of a simplified expression of interest (EoI). According to the ARC, the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP) and ERA Teams will work together for the 2012 nominations process so that individuals may be both an ARC Reader for the NCGP and an ERA Peer Reviewer. Details about the ERA Peer Reviewer recruitment may be found in the “Latest News” section of the ERA Office website at: http://research.unsw.edu.au/excellence-research-australia-era-latest-news. The ERA Office will accept EoIs until 15 December 2011, and consolidate the UNSW nominations for submission to the ARC.

e. Research Publication and Output Data Collection

- **New appointees to UNSW** - The ERA Office continues to assist researchers in getting their publication and output data in the UNSW research database, ResPubs. Recently appointed researchers who joined the University after 31 March 2009 have been requested to send in their list of publications to the ERA Office for entry in ResPubs or update the database as soon as possible. Researchers may contact the ERA Office on Ext 52084 for more information.

- **Non-traditional outputs data collection** - The collection (and updating) of non-traditional outputs for purposes of the ERA 2012 peer review has now started. Researchers whose outputs fall in the category of Peer Review Disciplines (see below) will be requested to rank their outputs for potential peer review consideration. Each output selected for Peer Review also requires a Research Statement which will describe the significance of the output, including its contribution to the Field of Research. As these steps take more time than the collection of traditional research outputs, we encourage researchers to contact the ERA Office as soon as possible to make sure that we have the most appropriate outputs and a copy or evidence thereof for the ERA Peer Review.

f. ERA 2012 Research Evaluation Committee (REC) Chairs

The ARC has announced the appointment of the Research Evaluation Committee (REC) Chairs for the ERA 2012. Professor Rose Amal (School of Chemical Engineering at UNSW) was selected from amongst a significant number of nominations of researchers from Australia and overseas. I congratulate Professor Rose Amal on her appointment.

Further information regarding Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) Office is available at http://research.unsw.edu.au/units/excellence-research-australia-era-office.

7. **NHMRC Conflict of Interest Guidelines**

The NHMRC has issued for public consultation a document related to policies and guidelines for its committees and working groups on identifying and handling Conflicts of Interest. UNSW will provide a single consolidated submission. If you have any comments on the consultation document, please provide them to Bronwyn Greene (b.greene@unsw.edu.au, or x52983) by no later than 14 November 2011. The Draft policy and Public Consultation questions are available at: http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/ files_nhmrc/file/guidelines/consult/consultations/coi_publicConsultation_111017.pdf.
8. **ATN/Go8 Impact**

UNSW has agreed to take part in a joint Group of Eight/Australian Technology Network of Universities project on Research Impact Indicators (Excellence in Innovation for Australia, EIA). The EIA trial will be a high-level exercise to develop methods to measure the value of applied research and then to test these measures in a wide variety of disciplines within the ATN and a selection of Go8 universities.

9. **Government support for industry engagement**

New content has been added to the "Industry & Partnerships" section of the Research@UNSW Gateway providing information to prospective industry partners on relevant government funding schemes and programs including the new R&D Tax Incentive, Enterprise Connect and Researchers in Business: [https://research.unsw.edu.au/government-support-industry-engagement](https://research.unsw.edu.au/government-support-industry-engagement).

Please contact the Research Partnerships Unit in the Division of Research if you need further assistance or advice regarding any of these schemes.

10. **Retention of Research Data and Material**

The University of New South Wales has in place the *Procedure for Handling Research Data and Material* which, in accordance with the National Statement and State Records Act describes how research data and materials are to be handled and stored. A copy of the policy can be found here [http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/researchdataproc.pdf](http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/researchdataproc.pdf). Information on the length of time different types of research materials and data should be kept can be found at: [https://www.recordkeeping.unsw.edu.au/documents/Retentionperiodsforrecordsrelatingtoresearch.pdf](https://www.recordkeeping.unsw.edu.au/documents/Retentionperiodsforrecordsrelatingtoresearch.pdf)

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