Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #41 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.

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1. Higher Education Research Data Collection Workshops (HERDC)

Each year, the University is required to report how much research income we have received and the number of research publications to the Commonwealth. The data included in this report then feeds into the calculations which determine how much research block grant funding UNSW receives from the Commonwealth.

Two Workshops have been arranged for those involved in the data collection to understand the impact the collection has on the University’s research block grant, learn about key changes to the data collection guidelines and processes, and key deadlines and responsibilities for the 2012 collection:

1. Research Publication Collection
   - **When**: Monday 5th March – 10am-12noon
   - **Where**: Room G31, Old Main Building
   - **Who**: School administrators, Outreach Librarians, Heads of School, Directors of Research Centres, Associate Deans Research, Faculty General Managers.
   - **RSVP**: Please RSVP to Susan Lafferty (s.lafferty@unsw.edu.au)

2. Research Income Collection
   - **When**: Friday 9th March – 10am-12noon
   - **Where**: Room G31, Old Main Building
   - **Who**: Finance Managers and Management Accountants, Faculty General Managers
   - **RSVP**: Please RSVP to Vicky Tzouvaras (v.tzouvaras@unsw.edu.au)

A separate joint Income and publication workshop has been planned for the Canberra Campus on Wednesday 14th March at 10am in SL1.
2. **Research@UNSW Gateway**

The Research@UNSW Gateway was launched in May 2011 to provide a single point of access to all information on researchers and research activities at UNSW. In response to feedback, the following changes are planned in 2012:

- Increase the number of researchers with a profile on the Gateway (currently 57%) and consistency of all published profiles; new UNSW staff, or other staff who do not yet have a published profile on the Gateway can email researchgateway@unsw.edu.au for assistance (see also http://research.unsw.edu.au/profile-and-project-page-faqs);

- Enhanced search functionality to include the whole UNSW website, to replace current “Find a Researcher” and “Find a Research Project”; and

- Revised front page for easy navigation to information researchers have reported that is difficult to locate.

The Gateway Team will also be conducting a range of surveys and usability testing to inform improvements to the site layout and usability of the Gateway. Changes will happen progressively through 2012. Feedback on any aspect of the site is welcome at researchgateway@unsw.edu.au.

3. **ERA Update**

The preparation for the UNSW ERA 2012 Submissions is well underway. The ERA Office is now finalising the collection of eligible data for the reference period covering 3 years (2008-2010) for Research Income, Esteem Measures and Applied Measures; and 6 years (2005-2010) for Research Publications and Outputs. For Researcher eligibility the census date is 31 March 2011.

With the assistance of the Field of Research (FOR) Leaders, the FOR-coding and selection of research outputs for peer review (selected Disciplines only) are now on its final stages. With regard to Peer Review selection, researchers may be contacted by the ERA Office to request a copy or evidence/s of their research output/s, and an accompanying Research Statement if the output is non-traditional (e.g. creative works, curated exhibitions, or rendered or recorded creative works). It is important that, if you are contacted by the ERA Office, that you respond to the request email with the output copy (and research statement) as quickly as possible.

ERA 2012 Submissions comes in two stages: (1) Institution submissions, and (2) ARC validating the submissions. Stage 1 submission starts on 5 March 2012.

4. **Chemicals of Security Concern Review**

The Attorney-General’s Department has commenced a public consultation on Chemicals of Security Concern. The consultation document can be accessed at www.chemicalsecurity.gov.au/RIS. The consultation covers the following chemicals which have been identified as “precursor chemicals of security concern”:

- Hydrogen peroxide (H2O2)
- Ammonium perchlorate (NH4ClO4)
- Sodium chlorate (NaClO3)
- Sodium nitrate (NaNO3)
- Nitric acid (HNO3)
- Potassium nitrate (KNO3)
- Potassium chlorate (KClO3)
- Nitromethane (CH3NO2)
- Sodium perchlorate (NaClO4)
- Sodium azide (NaN3)
- Potassium perchlorate (KClO4)
There are 4 options under consideration by the Government, ranging from a targeted awareness campaign through to full government regulation. **We will make a single UNSW-wide consolidated response to this consultation paper.** If you have any comments to make, please send them to my Executive Officer, Bronwyn Greene ([b.greene@unsw.edu.au](mailto:b.greene@unsw.edu.au)) by no later than **14 March** for inclusion into the UNSW submission.

5. **Review of Health & Medical Research in Australia**


The Review Panel are seeking feedback on the following 4 key questions:

1. Why is it in Australia’s interest to have a viable, internationally competitive health and medical research sector? (Terms of Reference 1 and 6);
2. How might health and medical research be best managed and funded in Australia? (Terms of Reference 2, 3 and 7);
3. What are the health and medical research strategic directions and priorities and how might we meet them? (Terms of Reference 5, 12 and 13); and
4. How can we optimise translation of health and medical research into better health and wellbeing? (Terms of Reference 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11).

**We will make a single UNSW-wide consolidated response to this consultation paper.** If you have any comments to make, please send them to my Executive Officer, Bronwyn Greene ([b.greene@unsw.edu.au](mailto:b.greene@unsw.edu.au)) by no later than **16 March** for inclusion into the UNSW submission.

6. **eResearch Training Opportunities at Intersect**

Intersect is the organisation representing and coordinating NSW Universities eResearch interests and activities. Intersect offers courses on the following topics.

1. **High Performance Computing for WIMPs**: is a two day introduction to our HPC computing facilities. A basic familiarity with Windows or Mac OS X is assumed.
2. **HPC for the CLUEy**: is a half day introduction to our HPC computing facilities for those with Command Line Unix Experience.
3. **The Google Refine Introduction**: is a half day course into using this powerful tool for data cleaning and exploration.
4. **Advanced HPC -Parallel Programming (coming soon)**: covers OpenMP and Message Passing Interface (MPI). It is assumed that participants are familiar with either C or FORTRAN programming languages.


7. **Do you know…how long research data and material needs to be kept?**

Our researchers must be able to produce original data underpinning any research undertaken at UNSW.

Research material and research data, and registers of that material and data, must be kept for varying lengths of time – from a minimum of 5 years to indefinitely in some disciplines – depending on the nature of the research and the nature of the data or material. An easy-to-use table outlining the minimum retention periods for the various classes of research data and material is at: [https://www.recordkeeping.unsw.edu.au/documents/Retentionperiodsforrecordsrelatingtoresearch.pdf](https://www.recordkeeping.unsw.edu.au/documents/Retentionperiodsforrecordsrelatingtoresearch.pdf).
Each researcher has a responsibility to properly store research data and materials in a manner that is durable and readily retrievable. Each Head of School has a responsibility to ensure that their staff appropriately manage research data and materials.

Further information on the *Procedure for Handling Research Data and Materials* can be found at: http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/researchdataproc.pdf

This “Do you know...?” section is the first of what will become a regular item for the DVCR Bulletin. Each Bulletin will highlight a different topic area. If there is any topic that you would like to see addressed in this Section, please email enquiries.research@unsw.edu.au.

**Professor Les Field**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)**