Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #49 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. Announcement of new Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Please join me in welcoming Professor Mark Hoffman in his appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research). Professor Hoffman has been Head of the School of Materials Science and Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Science. Professor Hoffman is a senior researcher at UNSW with an excellent research track record and has been contributing to research strategy and promoting research performance and excellence within the Faculty of Science and across the University for some time. Mark will officially take up the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) position on 3 December 2012.

2. Announcement of new Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Training)

I am pleased to announce Professor Laura Poole-Warren to the complimentary new role of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Training). I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Professor Laura Poole-Warren as Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) since the departure of Professor Margaret Harding. Professor Laura Poole-Warren has been instrumental as the Dean Graduate Research, in managing and facilitating higher degree research strategy and success at UNSW, including HDR enrolments, HDR completions and maintaining UNSW’s excellent HDR track record. In this new role, Laura will maintain her responsibilities as Dean of Graduate Research, but will also be responsible for researcher training and development for all staff across the division, including research administrators, research candidates, early career researchers and research academics. I welcome Laura Poole-Warren to this position which will formally commence on 3 December 2012.
3. **ARC & NHMRC Grant Funding Commencing in 2013.**

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) recently announced the successful Project Grants for Funding Commencing in 2013. UNSW performed well in this round securing $56m in new grant funding. Professor Rebekah Puls from the Kirby Institute received the largest project grant at UNSW of $1.2M. I congratulate all successful recipients and wish all the research success in the future.

The Australian Research Council have also released the outcomes of various grant schemes for Funding Commencing in 2013 including the Discovery Project Grants, the DECRA Fellowships and the LIEF grants for major facilities and infrastructure. Overall UNSW will receive more than $29M in new grant funding from than ARC in 2013. Again, I congratulate all successful recipients.

Now that we have the results of the ARC and NHMRC schemes, the Goldstar Grants (awarded to near-miss applications in the ARC and NHMRC Project Grants), the VC’s Postdoctoral Fellowships and the UNSW Major Equipment and Infrastructure schemes will be announced will be finalised and announced within a few days.

4. **MYEFO Budget Announcements and Impact on UNSW Research**

The Federal Government announced significant reductions in anticipated research funding for 2013 and beyond. There have been a number of articles in the media around this eg: [http://theconversation.edu.au/mid-year-budget-slashes-499m-from-research-support-10248](http://theconversation.edu.au/mid-year-budget-slashes-499m-from-research-support-10248). I can confirm that the projected impact on UNSW will be ~$15M in 2013. The UNSW executive is working on re-casting the 2013 USW budget to best accommodate the anticipated reduction in funding. At this stage, there are no planned cuts to the University’s strategic investment in research budget which includes the Major Research Equipment and Infrastructure Initiative (MREII), Goldstar grants, the VC Postdoctoral Fellowships, or the University Postgraduate Awards.

5. **Enter 2012 Research Publications into ResPubs**

Please ensure that you enter your 2012 research publications into ResPubs. Implementation of a new system is underway, but it will not be used for the 2012 collection. It is important that 2012 research publications continue to be entered into ResPubs.

6. **Review of the Australian Competitive Grants Register**

The Australian Competitive Grants Register (ACGR) is the list of grants that are identified as “Category-1” competitive grants. The ACGR is now open to receive applications for listing. Schemes are listed on the ACGR for five years unless otherwise stated. For reference, the 2012 ACGR can be viewed at: [Schemes included on the 2012 ACGR](#). If you think that there are new schemes missing from this list, please contact Bronwyn Greene, x52983 or b.greene@unsw.edu.au by no later than COB, Monday 14 November 2012.
7. UNSW Research Pricing Tool

A reminder that the UNSW Research Pricing Tool has been developed to support UNSW researchers undertaking externally funded research including contract research and consultancy projects, and competitive grants that are not listed on the Australian Competitive Grants Register (ACGR). The Tool will go live from 1 January 2013 to price projects from that date onwards.

The Research Pricing Tool enables projects to be appropriately priced in accordance with the UNSW Competitive Neutrality and Pricing Policy and associated UNSW Procedure for Pricing Externally Funded Research. These documents are currently open for consultation pending final approval. They provide relevant background information and advice on how to use the Research Pricing Tool.

Features of the pricing tool:
1. Web based
2. Calculates project price to the sponsor/funding agency inclusive of UNSW indirect costs
3. Enables market price adjustment where appropriate
4. ‘Save’ functionality allows researcher to work at their own pace in developing the budget
5. Final budget can be exported as pdf or xls to be included in the proposal

All UNSW academic staff will be able to access the pricing tool using z-pass authentication. Professional staff must be approved to use the tool by completing the Administrative Access form. More information can be found at https://research.unsw.edu.au/pricing-tool

8. French Researchers in Australia Forum

The Embassy of France in Australia invites French researchers at UNSW to the inaugural French Researchers in Australia Forum.

The Embassy wishes to make contact with any French postgraduate, post-doctoral and early career researchers working at UNSW. The Embassy would like to invite these researchers to attend a two day workshop at the Australian Academy of Science in Canberra, to be held on 13-14 December 2012. Points of discussion will include research cooperation between France and Australia, intellectual property and the transfer of research findings between the two countries. It is hoped to create a network of French early career researchers based in Australia.

To register interest in attending this event, French researchers based at UNSW should contact Majella Christensen at the Embassy’s Office of Science and Technology, via email at majella.christensen@diplomatie.gouv.fr.
9. Do you know... The Procedures for Managing Conflict of Interest at UNSW?

The University of New South Wales recognises that conflicts of interest do arise from time to time for University staff and researchers. University staff are required, under the Code of Conduct to act appropriately when a conflict of interest arises between the staff member’s own interest and those of the University. The University has a Conflict of Interest Policy in place for managing conflicts of interest. The Policy includes:

- The definition of Conflict of Interest – which, importantly, includes an actual, perceived or potential conflict;
- Examples of Conflict of Interest; and
- How Conflicts of Interest should be managed through disclosure and notification procedures.

Conflicts of interest are not in themselves bad things (and to some extent are to be expected), provided they are handled properly and in accordance with the Conflict of Interest Policy.

A copy of the UNSW Conflict of Interest Policy can be found here, and the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement can be found by clicking on the hyperlink.

Examples of situations where a conflict of interest might arise include:

1. A researcher has been asked to peer review a journal article on which one of the authors is a former PhD student;

2. A staff member is a director of a company and that company is wishing to partner with UNSW in a collaborative research project;

3. A relative of one of our staff members works for a company that supplies specialised research equipment that is required for their research group.

4. A senior manager within the Faculty is on the panel employing potential researchers into the University. A family member has applied for a position on offer.

5. You are the author of a new textbook in Fundamental Physics and you are in charge of recommending the texts to be used in our Physics-1 courses.

6. A researcher is undertaking research into the effects of a new drug and the research is being sponsored by the company manufacturing the drug;

Professor Les Field
Vice President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)