Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #50 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.

In this Issue:

1. Acting Associate Dean (Research) – Faculty of Science
2. ERA results released
3. Internal Funding Schemes
4. UNSW Human Research Ethics Committee Ratifications
5. UNSW Research Pricing Tool and New Arrangements for Pricing Externally Funded Research
6. InfoEd Shutdown for Upgrade
7. Division of Research Christmas Shutdown Arrangements
8. Do you know... The Procedures for Dealing with Radiation and Radioactive Substances?

1. Acting Associate Dean (Research) – Faculty of Science

With Professor Mark Hoffman’s appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Peter Lovibond will be acting Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Science. Professor Lovibond is a senior researcher at UNSW with an excellent research track record in the areas of Psychology and Cognitive Science. Professor Lovibond will be contributing to research strategy and promoting research performance and excellence within the Faculty of Science and across the University during his term.

2. ERA Results released

Results for the 2012 ERA exercise were released this week. As far as UNSW is concerned – a terrific performance - we are again clearly amongst the top research intensive Universities in the country and benchmarked in the league of Universities. 97% of our research outputs were assessed to be “at or above world average” across all of the discipline areas on which we were assessed. We achieved the top ranking - grade 5 – benchmarked as “well above world average” in 25 different discipline units.

I would like to personally thank the team who assisted in compiling our ERA submission and all of the ERA discipline leaders who assisted in pulling together the submission at the coal face within their respective fields of expertise.
3. **Internal Funding Schemes**

UNSW’s internal funding schemes have been announced for funding to commence in 2013, with the successful recipients notified. The schemes and amounts awarded are:

- Major Research Equipment and Infrastructure Initiative (MREII) - $7.6M awarded to 62 successful applicants;
- Goldstar Awards - $3M awarded to 76 eligible researchers;
- VC Postdoctoral Research Fellowships - $1.5M to 12 successful early career researchers.

A complete listing of all successful recipients can be found at [http://research.unsw.edu.au](http://research.unsw.edu.au) under ‘Grants and Announcements’.

4. **Important changes to UNSW Human Research Ethics Committee Ratifications**

In an effort to streamline the Human Ethics approval processes, we have made some important changes to the need for ratifications of protocols approved by other Ethics Committees.

Apart from those projects involving negligible risk, **all human research should be reviewed and approved by an authorised Australian HREC**. Low risk projects at UNSW should be approved by the appropriate Human Research Ethics Advisory Panel.

Any research project involving patients in a teaching hospital or otherwise connected with the hospital or local health district should be approved by a hospital HREC.

Other research projects for which grants are administered by UNSW should be referred to a UNSW HREC or HREA Panel for approval. Human research performed solely by UNSW researchers (not falling into the hospital category above) also should be approved by UNSW HREC or HREA Panel.

Collaborative projects approved by an authorised HREC of another Australian institution no longer require ratification by the UNSW HREC.

5. **UNSW Research Pricing Tool and New Arrangements for Pricing Externally Funded Research**

As you are aware we had proposed 1 January 2013 as the commencement date for new arrangements for pricing externally funded research. During the consultation process we have received constructive feedback which we are incorporating into the pricing tool and associated procedures. There will not be time to finalise the development of the pricing tool and complete user acceptance testing before 1 January 2013. Therefore the launch of the pricing tool and commencement of the new indirect cost rates will be deferred to 1 April 2013 at the earliest. Current rates for indirect cost recovery will continue until that time.
From 1 January 2013, the allocation of indirect costs received for new and continuing projects will change. Indirect costs recovered will be credited against the relevant faculty’s research revenue in the operating budget. Similarly, the new SPF04 allocation will proceed as planned from 1 January.

If you have any questions or need further assistance please contact Warwick Dawson on x57929 or w.dawson@unsw.edu.au.

6. **InfoED Shutdown for Upgrade**

In order to undertake Major Upgrades to the InfoEd system, InfoEd will be shut down from **3pm, Wednesday 12th December, until close of business on Friday, 14th December 2012.** InfoEd will be inaccessible to all staff members during this time. These updates are an essential part of maintaining and improving operational aspects of the InfoEd system, and are the foundation for significant improvements to InfoEd functionality in the future. All staff are advised to undertake any necessary preparations leading up to the shut down, and the InfoEd Operations Team thanks you for your cooperation and understanding.

7. **Division of Research Christmas Shutdown Arrangements**

- **Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.

- **Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)** – will remain open except for the official close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.

- **The Graduate Research School** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.

- **Grants Management Office** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013. For researchers needing urgent assistance or support, mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au will be cleared regularly throughout the break.

- **Research Strategy Office** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.

- **Research Partnerships Unit** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.

- **The Mark Wainwright Analytical Centre** - will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013. Individual labs may be closed for maintenance for additional days either side of the shutdown. Registered users of these labs will be advised by email.

- **NewSouth Innovations** – will remain open except for the official University close-down period from Thursday 20 December 2012 and re-open 2 January 2013.
8. **Do you know...The Procedures for Dealing with Radiation and Radioactive Substances**

The University of New South Wales has procedure in place for the dealing with radiation, in particular to research and teaching. Radiation Safety is overseen by the UNSW Radiation Safety Committee (RSC).

The role of the UNSW RSC is to:

- Assess and monitor the environmental and safety risk management aspects of University activities that involve ionising and non-ionising radiation;
- Advise senior management on identified radiation hazards and proposed risk control measures.

**Matters that Require UNSW RSC Approval or Notification**

- Projects (research and teaching) that involve radioactive isotopes, irradiating apparatus or work with class 3 or 4 lasers;
- Applications for registration of radiation premises;
- Proposed variation of a current project or facility registration;
- Incident reports relating to actual or potential risk to people or the environment from radiation, such as unintentional exposure to radiation.

A copy of the radiation procedure can be found [here](#).

For all questions, queries and applications for the dealing with radiation and lasers please direct them to Bob Armstrong, Radiation Health & Safety Coordinator, (x52912 or [r.armstrong@unsw.edu.au](mailto:r.armstrong@unsw.edu.au))

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