Dear Colleagues,

This DVC(R) Bulletin #57 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. Director, Research Ethics and Compliance Support Unit

It is my pleasure to announce that Dr Detlef (Ted) Rohr has accepted the position of Director for the Research Ethics and Compliance Support (RECS) unit in the Division of Research. Ted is currently Director, Research Integrity, Governance & Systems at RMIT. He is also Co-leader of the Australasian Research Management Society Ethics & Research Integrity Special Interest Group and one of Australia’s leading managers in the area of research ethics.

Ted will commence at UNSW in mid-November. Additional resources have been added to the ethics secretariat to provide additional support until that time.

2. New Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of the Built Environment

Professor Robert Freestone will be Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of the Built Environment, commencing 1 August 2013. Professor Freestone joined UNSW in 1991 and has been a Professor of Planning since 2007. His own research is in planning history, metropolitan planning and heritage conservation.

He has had various research management roles within the FBE. Professor Freestone was on the Research Evaluation Committee for the Humanities and Creative Arts for the ERA in 2010 and served on the Engineering, Technology & Architecture panel for the New Zealand PBRF in 2012.
3. Changes to Animal Care and Ethics Committee (ACEC)

I am pleased to advise that Professor Richard Lock will be taking on the role of Presiding Member of Committee A and Chair of the ACEC from the next meeting. I am also pleased to advise that Professor Lars Ittner will join Committee B from September 2013 to February 2014, after which time, he will be taking on the role of Presiding Member of Committee B. In the interim, Professor Peter Gunning will stay on and Chair Committee B to provide a transition period for both Professor Lock and Professor Ittner.

Lars has recently joined UNSW from The Brain and Mind Research Institute at The University of Sydney. Lars is an internationally recognised expert in developing and analysing mouse models of human disorders by using transgenic, knockout and conditional knockout mice. He has received several awards for his work including the Merck Young Achiever Award 2010 for Excellence in Translational Medical Research.

Leadership roles within the ACEC area significant responsibility and I want to extend my gratitude to Professors Gunning, Lock and Ittner for their time and effort. I want to specifically take this time to publicly thank Professor Gunning for his leadership of the ACEC over the years to achieve a high level of animal care and welfare at UNSW.

4. Orientation to Research Workshop

New researchers at UNSW are invited to register for the next ‘Orientation to Research’ workshop on 14 August to gain an overview of the research environment; strategy, expectations, and the support available in developing their research career.

If you wish to learn more about training and development workshops for researchers, visit the Researcher Development Unit online or subscribe to the Researcher Training & Development Bulletin.

5. 2014 UNSW Major Research Equipment Infrastructure Initiative (MREII) Guidelines

We will run a Major Research Equipment and Infrastructure Scheme for 2014 along very similar lines to that which ran this year. The guidelines are now available at https://research.unsw.edu.au/unsw-internal-funding-opportunities.

Note that proposals need to be prioritised by your Faculty and Faculty lists need to be with my office (to Andrea Burns, A.Burns@unsw.edu.au) no later than 30th October 2013. Each Faculty will have its own internal deadline. Successful proposals will be announced within 2 weeks after the announcement of successful 2014 LIEF grants (expected early November).


UNSW will make a single consolidated submission to the Government on the questions raised in the discussion document. Please send any comments you would like considered
for incorporation into the UNSW submission to Bronwyn Greene (b.greene@unsw.edu.au) as soon as possible.

7. Do you know... Release of New Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animal for Scientific Purposes (8th Edition)

The NHMRC have recently released the 8th edition of the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, available here. The Code provides an ethical framework and governing principles for all those involved in the care and use of animals. It details the responsibilities of investigators, animal carers, institutions, and animal ethics committees.

The updated Code is endorsed by the NHMRC, the ARC, the CSIRO and Universities Australia. It replaces the Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes, 7th edition 2004.

Professor Laura Poole-Warren
Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)