

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

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UNSW



PROFESSOR LES FIELD

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR
(RESEARCH)

Dear Colleagues,

This is DVC(R) Bulletin #3 to provide an update on important issues affecting researchers at UNSW. If you missed the previous bulletin – the contents are available at <http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/newsletter/Bulletin2.pdf>

1. **Major Research Infrastructure and Equipment - guidelines and instructions circulated.**

The call has been made for items of Major Equipment and Major Infrastructure for funding during 2008. The process is being coordinated by the Faculties. There will be about \$8M available in 2008 (about \$2M more than was available in 2007) and this includes about \$500K for the NHMRC equipment round which we will consider at the same time. I have asked the Deans and Associate Deans (Research) to be strategic and selective in bringing forward requests for infrastructure – the envelope of funding available is clear so there is no point preparing applications for significantly more than this amount. I have also asked that applications be “pre-filtered” to ensure that the planning has been done well and that: (i) resources and space are actually available for the equipment; (ii) any OHS considerations are addressed so that there are no impediments; and (iii) the equipment can be actually installed and delivered during 2008. Note that the deadline for applications is mid October (in my office). Copies of the guidelines and instructions are available at http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/2008_MREII_Guidelines.rtf.

2. **UNSW Research Excellence Scholarships (\$30-35K)**

These are new scholarships for commencing Higher Degree Research Students and they are targeted at University Medallists and Honours students ranked first in their Honours year. Full details of the full suite of UNSW Local HDR scholarships are available at <http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/scholarships/local.html>. Please ensure that this web-site is linked to School and Centre webpages. School/Centre scholarships not listed on this site should be forwarded to Tilly Boleyn (tilly@unsw.edu.au).

3 **“Visit UNSW Program” for Research Students**

Travel and accommodation costs are available for Honours students (top 5% of year) from anywhere in Australia or NZ to visit UNSW campuses and meet supervisors on Friday 19 October. For further information see <http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/futurestudents/visit.html>.

4. **UNSW Staff PhD Completion Scholarships**

Applications for **UNSW Staff PhD Completion Scholarships** to support UNSW staff whose progress towards PhD completion has been significantly affected by family, carer or community responsibilities or disability are now open. The Scholarships provide funds to Schools or Centres to enable staff who are within six months of PhD completion to be released from teaching and administrative duties in order to finalise their PhD. Up to 5 scholarships will be available in Semester 1 2008. For further information see <http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/unistaff/staffcompletion.html>

5. Australian Synchrotron - UNSW Workshop October 19th

The Australian Synchrotron in Melbourne currently has 2 beamlines operational and others close to being commissioned. UNSW, as an investor in the Synchrotron, is part of the 'NSW Consortium' which will manage the beamtime available to Consortium members and advise new users. The UNSW Analytical Centre (www.analytical.unsw.edu.au) is organising a workshop on October 19th to inform researchers about Synchrotron capabilities and access mechanisms. If you wish to be on the mailing list for this workshop please email analytical@unsw.edu.au with 'Synchrotron' in the subject line.

6. ARC GAMS

Many of us have had to battle in recent years with GAMS as the IT system which supports the ARC. The ARC has been working to implement a new IT system. News last week was that this is in the process of being implemented but will not be online until mid next year. The implication is that for the major ARC grant application round in February/March next year will still have to deal with the same old-GAMS so plan ahead to give yourselves plenty of time to accommodate the potential frustration of dealing with GAMS under peak load and under pressure.

If you have any questions or require further information on any of the above please email enquiries.research@unsw.edu.au

Regards,

Les Field
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)