

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

UNSW



RESEARCH BULLETIN #11 November 2008

PROFESSOR LES FIELD

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR
(RESEARCH)

Dear Colleagues,

This is DVC(R) Bulletin #11 to provide an update on important issues affecting researchers at UNSW. If you missed the previous bulletins – the contents are available at <http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/newsletter.html>.

1. RESEARCH SHOWCASES

All researchers, research students, and interested staff are reminded that they are invited to attend the following two UNSW Research Showcases to be held in the Scientia Building:

- **Creative Media Showcase** - Wednesday, 3 December 2008
- **Energy Showcase** - Friday, 5 December 2008

Events such as these can identify opportunities for collaboration that might otherwise go unrecognised – even within the one faculty – and lead to novel collaborations and partnerships. Certainly, extending the multidisciplinary research base can translate into a higher success rate in grant applications by promoting more broadly based research as well as helping our efforts to attract industry partnerships.

While RSVPs (research-showcase@explode.unsw.edu.au) are not essential – they would be appreciated for catering purposes. Further information can be found at: <http://www.unsw.edu.au/research/res/researchshowcases.html>.

2. APA SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOCAL STUDENTS FOR SEMESTER 1, 2009

The government has implemented its Scholarships for a Competitive Future initiative through the 2008-09 budget with the result that APA places will double by 2012. The first tranche of approximately 1,000 additional new places will be available in 2009 bringing the total new places for the year to approximately 2,580. The additional places will be incorporated into the total pool without differentiation and will therefore be allocated with the current APA formula under the same eligibility criteria and conditions of grant. The APA stipend rates for 2009 have been determined Full-time: \$20,427; Part-time: \$10,957. UNSW first round APA offers (including over-offers) will be released from 11 December 2008. Second round offers (if required) will be released 12-16 January 2009. Research Excellence Scholarships (University Medallists, First in Hons year), that are awarded in addition to APA scholarships, will be released on 12 January 2009.

3. GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SEMESTER 1, 2009

Researchers who were awarded ARC and NH&MRC grants in the recent rounds and wish to advertise scholarships for new PhD/Masters students should work on advertisements immediately and arrange to have their ads placed on their School/Faculty web sites by late November so that these scholarships can be linked to the Graduate Research School web site (contact Dominic Mooney d.mooney@unsw.edu.au for assistance). Unsuccessful APA/UPA a scholarship applicants will be directed to this scholarship list automatically in mid-December/January.

4. NEW PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW OF CENTRES

There are new Procedures which cover the principles and process for the establishment, management and review of all centres and institutes involving UNSW including UNSW Research Centres, UNSW Program Centres, UNSW Community Centres, UNSW Research Institutes, Commonwealth/State Funded Centres, and other Centres involving external parties.

The new Procedures can be found at: <http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/centres.htm>.

The University limits the use of the title “centre” and “institute” to those entities that have been approved by the processes covered in this new Procedure. Dr Leigh Schwartzkoff (l.schwartzkoff@unsw.edu.au), from the Centres Secretariat in the Research Strategy Office can provide assistance on any aspect of the new Procedure, which replaces the existing Centres Policy.

5. STRATEGIC RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

A reminder that UNSW has the following two Strategic Research Fellowship Support Schemes:

- ***Bridging Support Fellowships*** – these are for those researchers who have been awarded an ARC/NHMRC research grant but do not have salary support. The Fellowship will generally run for the duration of the research grant.
- ***Safety Net Support Fellowships*** – these provide a fellowship support safety-net for researchers who are coming off an ARC/NHMRC research fellowship. Support is limited to 1 year (beyond the term of a 3-year Fellowship) or 2 years (beyond the term of a 5-year Fellowship). During the tenure of the safety-net support, recipients must actively seek further fellowship funding (through the ARC, NHMRC or other sources). Note that for those holding 5-year ARC/NHMRC fellowships, this effectively guarantees them 2 extra years of fellowship support at UNSW.

Both of these Fellowships are designed to support the salary and payroll costs of staff who have a strong research program at UNSW but do not have fellowship support. They are co-funded 50% central: 50% Faculty/School.

Any potential applicant for the above fellowships must be sent to Andrea Burns, Executive Officer (Budget & Operational), Office of the DVC (Research), (a.burns@unsw.edu.au), **via** the Head of School and Dean, and must come with their strong support. There is limited funding available for these fellowships so all nominations for these fellowships will be reviewed and assessed carefully.

6. NEW GRANTS ADMINISTRATION FORMS

The paperwork UNSW requires of you when you submit and accept a grant has now been simplified and streamlined. The RA1 form has been replaced by the Grant Application Lodgement Form (GALF) and the RA2 and Acceptance forms have been replaced by the Grant Acceptance Form (much of the information on which is pre-populated for you to simply check). Go to http://www.gmo.unsw.edu.au/NowIveGotFunding/Forms/Forms_index.html for further details and to download the GALF.

7. GRANT REPORTING SEASON BEGINS

An important part of managing your external grants is reporting to the funding body. Please note the following reporting deadlines:

- ***ARC Progress Reports – Due 31 January***

Failure to report your progress on current grants can make you ineligible to apply for further grants.

- ***Vice Chancellors Fellowships Progress Reports – Due 31 January***

Progress Reports for these Fellowships should be submitted to your Faculty's Associate Dean (Research). These reports are an important opportunity for mentoring and performance monitoring, and planning your upcoming program of activities.

- ***NHMRC Progress Reports – Due 31 March***

Requests for carry-forward of ARC Funding – Due 31 March

Ensure you put through all expenditure prior to 18 December as UNSW reports the general ledger balance, and not your understanding of commitments, to the ARC] Carry forwards of greater than 75% of your annually awarded funding require a substantial justification and formal approval by the ARC.

- ***ARC LIEF Final Reports - Due by 1 November if awarded for 2007***

Please ensure you have acquitted your obligations in this regard **THIS MONTH** if you have not already done so.

- ***Final Reports for other ARC schemes and NHMRC schemes***

These are due within six months of the final year or approved carry-forward.

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The Grants Management Office provides more details on how and when to complete reports at http://www.gmo.unsw.edu.au/NowIveGotFunding/ReportingOnActivity/ReportingOnOutcomes_index.html. Enquiries should be directed to your Grants Team or to mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au.

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