

**THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

Meeting No. 1, 2009

Meeting No. 1, 2009, of the University Research Committee will be held on

Tuesday 3 March 2009

at 9.30 am in the

R C Mills Room of the Chancery

Apologies:
Ext.54080

J A Bruce
Secretary to the Committee

AGENDA SUMMARY

PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- *1. Minutes**
- *2. Matters Arising**
- *3. Announcements and Apologies**
- *4. Starred Items**
- *5. Membership and Committee Operating Procedures**

PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY ITEMS

- *6. Reconciliation Action Plan**
- *7. Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**
- *8. Report from Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)**
- *9. New Institute of Advanced Studies**
- *10. Research Support Planning Day 2008**
- 11. Discovery, Future and Australian Laureate Fellowships**
- *12. Research Related Policies**
- 13. Reports from ANU Colleges**
- 14. Report on Centres**

PART 3: ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

- *15. Other Business and Question Time**

Procedural Matters for Members to note:**OPERATING PROCEDURES**

The operating procedures of the University Research Committee are detailed in paper 138/2009 (at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/Committees/060PP_Research).

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Consistent with the policy and practice of Council, all matters in the agenda of the University Research Committee relating to individual persons, including appointments, enrolment, candidacy for degrees, personal details, performance and conduct are declared to be confidential. If any member wishes to raise a confidential matter in relation to any other item, he or she should do so under Item 3.3. After consideration of the confidential items, observers will be admitted to the meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY OR MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

Sections 27F to section 27H of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* <http://scaleplus.law.gov.au/html/pasteact/2/3067/top.htm> impose a duty to disclose any material personal interest in a matter which relates to the affairs of the University. This disclosure must give details of the nature and extent of the interest, the relation of the interest to the affairs of the University, and be given at a meeting as soon as practicable after the person becomes aware of the interest. The nature and extent of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Unless the meeting determines otherwise, a person who has a material personal interest in a matter must not be present while the matter is being considered at the meeting, and must not vote on the matter.

USE OF INSIDE INFORMATION OR POSITION

Under sections 24 and 25 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, a member of the University Research Committee must not make improper use of his or her position or of inside information to gain an advantage for himself or herself or to cause detriment to the University or to another person.

jab/23 February 2009

PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS***ITEM 1. MINUTES**

The unconfirmed minutes of Meeting No. 4, 2008 of the University Research Committee (1253/2008 attached) held on 7 November 2008 have been circulated (published at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/Committees/060PP_Research/meetings).

For confirmation***ITEM 2. MATTERS ARISING*****ITEM 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES****3.1 Apologies****To be received****3.2 Announcements****For noting****3.3 Confidential Items**

Confidential Items will be dealt with in this part of the agenda.

For consideration***ITEM 4. STARRED ITEMS**

The starred items are: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12.1, 12.2, and 15. The Chair will ask whether any member wishes to star other items. The Chair will then ask for a motion that the unstarred items be approved without debate as set out in the agenda.

ITEM 5. MEMBERSHIP AND COMMITTEE OPERATING PROCEDURES*5.1 Membership Changes from 2009 are:**

- Early Career Researcher: Dr Alessandra Capezio for two years to 31 December 2010
- ANU College of Law: Professor Margaret Thornton
- ANU College of Medicine, Biology and Environment: Professor Frances Shannon; Alternate: Professor John Gibson
- Undergraduate Student Representative: Mr Tom Galvin, Vice-President

For noting**5.2 Operating Procedures**

The statement of the operating procedures for the University Research Committee are attached ([138/2009](#)).

For noting

PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY MATTERS

***ITEM 6. RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN**

PURPOSE

For consideration of the draft *ANU Reconciliation Action Plan*.

BACKGROUND

Attachments (published at the website

http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/Committees/040PP_Education/discussion):

- Draft *ANU Reconciliation Action Plan* (1389/2008) (at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/assets/uecmtg1_2009/1389ANURAPDraft26nov08.pdf)
- *ANU Reconciliation Action Plan Audit Report* (1402/2008) at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/assets/uecmtg1_2009/1402RAPAuditReportMD.pdf

The draft RAP has been discussed in some other forums including by Deans and Directors, and the University Community Equity and Education Committees (see UCEC comments at

http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/assets/uecmtg1_2009/1401RAPrespondec08.pdf).

Once finalised, it is expected that the Plan will be presented to the meeting of Council to be held on 27 March and launched in May-June 2009.

Chairs of ANU College Research Committees have been invited to submit any responses on the draft *Plan* and *Audit Report* in advance of the meeting or provide commentary in the discussion of the item.

Professor Mick Dodson, Director, ANU National Centre for Indigenous Studies, has been invited to attend the meeting to present the *Plan*.

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee provide a response to the draft *Plan* for submission to the Vice-Chancellor.

***ITEM 7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR**

PURPOSE

For the Deputy Vice-Chancellor to report on matters of interest to the Committee.

BACKGROUND

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor will report on current issues:

- Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)
- Review of Australian Higher Education Update
Report published at [Review of Australian Higher Education](#)
- University Leadership Retreat
See overheads from presentations at:
http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/Executive/070PP_Reports_and_Papers
- Education Investment Fund
- Tropical Research
- Prime Minister's Prizes for Science
Entries close 8 May 2009
- Appeal Body for Serious Research Misconduct
- AUQA Audit: Implementation of R5 which reads:
"AUQA recommends that ANU, in order to achieve a seamless research structure with effective planning and monitoring, ensure that college research committees have consistent terms of reference that link directly to those of the University Research Committee."
- University Research Committee 13 May 2009: Seminar on Grants Rounds

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

***ITEM 8. REPORT FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)**

PURPOSE

To receive a report from Professor Thomas, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research).

BACKGROUND

- HDR Enrolments
- 2007 Review of Higher Degree Research at ANU: Update on implementation
Reference: Implementation of the Report of the 2007 Review of Higher Degree Research (142/2009 at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/assets/Committees/040PP_Education/uecmgt1_2009/142HDRrevimplrepfeb09.pdf)

SPONSOR: Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the report.

***ITEM 9. NEW INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES**

PURPOSE

For the Pro vice-Chancellor (Research) to discuss the principles to be explored for reconceptualising the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) and how it supports excellent researchers at ANU.

BACKGROUND

Attachment:

- [2009 Retreat Outcomes](#) (email to staff from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research))

The proposed timeframe for discussion of a new IAS model is:

- February: Working Party established convened by Professor Thomas
- 25 February: Presentation of principles at an All-staff meeting in Llewellyn Hall
- End of March: Discussion paper to be finalised
- April: Consultation with staff
- May: Preparation of penultimate version of the 'New IAS' paper for further discussion
- By 30 June: The 'New IAS' final document to be sent staff
- If there is broad agreement to proceed, implementation of the new model will commence from 31 October 2009.

SPONSOR: Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note matters arising in discussion.

***ITEM 10. RESEARCH PLANNING DAY**

PURPOSE

For the Committee to provide advice on the proposed actions from the 2008 Research Support Planning Day.

BACKGROUND

Attachments:

- ANU Research Support Planning Day Summary ([137/2009](#))
- [ANU Business Development, Past, Present, Future](#) from Dr Keat Nelms (linked)
- [Session: Leadership and Collaboration](#) (linked)

Action Items for discussion:

- Responsibilities of Research Office, College Research Offices and interactions with researchers and their responsibilities to be determined through the review of the *Externally-Funded Grants, Consultancies and Contracts* Policy by the Research Office.
- Develop a better understanding of risk management in a research management context.
- Develop a clearer understanding of the performance indicators for research management as opposed to research performance.
- Develop an ANU Leadership and Management program to facilitate research collaboration that leads to successful bids for ARC Centres of Excellence, Special Research Centres, and other large collaborative research centres.
- Opportunities for allowing researchers to make inter-disciplinary connections and meet potential industry partners are required.

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- (i) note the Summary of the ANU Research Support Planning Day and related papers;
- (ii) note comments and advice arising from the discussion of the Action Items.

ITEM 11. DISCOVERY, FUTURE AND AUSTRALIAN LAUREATE FELLOWSHIPS

PURPOSE

To note a summary of applications for fellowships from ANU staff.

BACKGROUND

Attachment:

- Discovery Project, Future Fellowships and Australian Laureate Fellowships (table [150/2009](#))

Information about the schemes is available at the following websites:

- http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/dp/dp_default.htm
- http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/futurefel/future_default.htm
- http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/laureate/laureate_default.htm

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the summary of applications.

*ITEM 12. RESEARCH RELATED POLICIES

PURPOSE

- (i) To brief members of the Research Committee on work to develop a draft *Intellectual Property Statute* and invite stakeholder input.
- (ii) For consideration of policies currently under development.

BACKGROUND

*12.1 *Intellectual Property Statute*

Attachment:

- [Background to IP Statute](#)

Reference:

- Draft *Intellectual Property Statute* at legalwiki.anu.edu.au (Members may wish to copy the draft and bring it to the meeting)

The Australian National University has for many years maintained an intellectual property policy. In recent years (particularly in light of judicial pronouncements bearing on intellectual property within universities), concern has been growing as to whether a policy (as opposed to a legal instrument) provides a sufficiently robust legal foundation for management of intellectual property. Also recent years have seen increasing reflection on the scholarly context of university IP, leading to documents such as *Nine Points to Consider in Licensing University Technology* (which has been endorsed by over 60 research institutions including the ANU).

The Legal Office has been tasked by the Deputy Vice Chancellor to prepare a draft for an *Intellectual Property Statute*, resulting in the attached background paper and draft *IP Statute*. In considering the approach to be taken the draft has sought to emphasise the development of a framework which is coherent with the University's mission of generating new knowledge through teaching and research. It has also focussed on the dissemination of that knowledge for the benefit of society. In the context of this general objective the University is the primary holder of intellectual property rights. The individuals who generate intellectual property are however identified as principal actors in the process of such dissemination. They are in the best position to consider and identify the dissemination routes that may be optimal for the innovation involved (whether by way of publication, commercialisation or otherwise).

Broadly, the draft *Statute* does not change substantive rights and obligations or alter benefit sharing arrangements (other than providing a mechanism for the University to accord a greater share of benefit to the creators of intellectual property). Notable variations on current approaches include:

- (a) built in licensing mechanisms for academic purposes;
- (b) options for the University to take up ownership of post-graduate student or visitor IP, where this fosters the objects of the Statute;
- (c) greater controls on contractual provisions which have the effect of stifling the dissemination of new knowledge;

- (d) reversal of ownership of copyright material generated within a University context, but with full licensing to academics for purposes of research, teaching and publication.

As a mechanism for consultation, the Legal Office has established a wiki site at legalwiki.anu.edu.au to which members of the Research Committee have been provided login access. The attached documents have been extracted from that site. The Legal Office is separately emailing members of the Committee with further details of the wiki site. Input to the drafting process may be directed to either the Deputy Vice-Chancellor or the Legal Office, or through the Legal Wiki site at legalwiki.anu.edu.au.

***12.2 Policy on Human Tissue**

Attachment: Draft Policy: *Collection, Storage and Disposal of Human Tissue in Research* ([145/2009](#))

Relevant stakeholders have been consulted in the drafting of the policy which has also been sent for comment to the human ethics Managers for distribution for the February HREC meeting and to ANU College Deans and Chairs of College Research Committees. Any comments on the draft Policy are expected to be available at the meeting.

12.3 Responsible Practice of Research (Part B)

A draft of Part B relating to research misconduct is currently in progress. (see *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research - Part B* at http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/_files/r39.pdf)

12.4 Human Research Ethics Committee

The Terms of Reference for the Committee are being revised to reflect that adjunct ANU appointments who are primarily employed by ACT Health do not need ANU HREC approval unless they are working with ANU students. ANUMS students working within the ACT health system will require ANU HREC approval.

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- (i) note discussion of the draft *Intellectual Property Statute*;
- (ii) endorse the draft Policy: *Collection, Storage and Disposal of Human Tissue in Research* (145/2009);
- (iii) note the remaining items.

ITEM 13. REPORTS FROM ANU COLLEGES

PURPOSE

To receive reports from the Chairs of ANU College Research Committees and provide an opportunity for areas to raise research related issues.

BACKGROUND

Reports have been received from:

- ANU College of Medicine, Biology and Environment ([148/2009](#))
- ANU College of Business and Economics ([151/2009](#))

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the reports and any matters arising in discussion.

ITEM 14. REPORT ON CENTRES

PURPOSE

To note the establishment or closure of Centres at ANU.

BACKGROUND

The policy *Establishment, Management and Closing of Academic Centres* (at http://policies.anu.edu.au/policies/establishment_management_and_closing_of_academic_centres/policy) and procedures which took effect from 1 December 2008 provide that all centres should be registered by the proponents after endorsement by either the University Research or Education Committee, and approval by the Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the following:

New Centres:

- Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis (CAMA) as an Academic Organisational Unit in the ANU College of Business and Economics with effect from 1 January 2009.
- National Institute for Rural and Regional Australia. The Institute will be hosted by CASS with the Director and Deputy Director located in RSSS, with a start date of 1 January 2009. This Institute will not be established as an Academic Organisational Unit but will act in the same way as other 'virtual' centres.

Closure of Centres

- Disestablishment of the North Australian Research Unit as an academic organisational unit in the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific. The Unit has been transferred to the Facilities and Services Division.
- Disestablishment of the Program for the Study of Asian Business Cultures as an Academic Organisational Unit in the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific.

A Schedule of Amendments to the University's Academic Organisational Structure is maintained at the Statistical Services website:

<http://unistats.anu.edu.au/General/Structure/Tree/changesched.pdf>

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the establishment of new Centres and the disestablishment of units since 1 December 2008.

PART 3. ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

***ITEM 15. OTHER BUSINESS AND QUESTION TIME**

PURPOSE

For Committee members to ask questions and raise items of other business.

BACKGROUND

15.1 Grants and Consultancies

A report on Grants and Consultancies for the period 1 October 2008 to 31 January 2009 has been published at the website ([130/2009](#) and [152/2009](#)).

15.2 University Research Committee Meetings for 2009

- Tuesday 3 March 9.30 am – R C Mills Room, Chancelry
- Wednesday 13 May 9.30am - Ross Hohnen Room, Chancelry
- Thursday 9 July 9.30 am - Ross Hohnen Room, Chancelry
- Thursday 17 September 9.30 am - Ross Hohnen Room, Chancelry
- Thursday 19 November 9.30am – Ross Hohnen Room, Chancelry

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the matters raised and the responses.