

**THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

Meeting No. 2, 2009

Meeting No. 2, 2009 of the University Research Committee will be held on

Wednesday, 13 May 2009

at 9.30 am in the

Ross Hohnen Room of the Chancelry

Apologies:
Ext.54080

J A Bruce
Secretary to the Committee

AGENDA SUMMARY

PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- *1. Minutes**
- *2. Matters Arising**
- *3. Starred Items**
- *4. Apologies, Announcements and Confidential Items**

PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY ITEMS

- *5. Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**
- *6. Higher Degree Research and Research Training**
- *7. Scholarly Publication**
- *8. Research Strategies**
- 9. Research Integrity**
- *10. Research Related Policy Development**
- *11. Reports from ANU Colleges**

PART 3: ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

- *12. 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 4.3. 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/5 May 2009

PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS

***ITEM 1. MINUTES**

The unconfirmed minutes of Meeting No. 1, 2009 of the University Research Committee (160/2009 attached) held on 3 March 2009 have been published at http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/Committees/060PP_Research/meetings.

For confirmation

***ITEM 2. MATTERS ARISING**

Item 6. Reconciliation Action Plan

Council, at its meeting on 27 March 2009, resolved “that the ANU Reconciliation Action Plan (34/2009) be approved, noting its aspirational nature and recognising that implementation will reflect the University’s reasonable and best endeavours”.

Item 7. AUQA Audit (see Item 10.)

Item 12.1 Policy on Human Tissue

The amended *Policy: Collection, Storage and Disposal of Human Tissue in Research* (145a/2009) has been approved and published at http://policies.anu.edu.au/policies/collection_storage_and_disposal_of_human_tissue_in_research/policy

For noting

***ITEM 3. STARRED ITEMS**

The starred items are: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.1-2, 6.4, 7, 8, 10.2, 11.2 and 12. 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 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES

4.1 Apologies

To be received

4.2 Announcements

For noting

4.3 Confidential Items

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

For consideration

PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY MATTERS

***ITEM 5. 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:

- Government Budget 2009-2010
- Full Funding of Research
- Go8 National Research Strengths Information Services
- Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)
Reference: ERA FAQ at http://www.arc.gov.au/rtf/ERA_FAQ.rtf
- Grant Applications Update
 - LIEF
 - Major Equipment Committee
Attachment: Outcomes of 2009 Funding Round ([523/2009](#))
- Future Research Leaders Program: Introductory Workshop, *Settling In: The Researcher's Guide to ANU*
- Teaching Equipment
- Reviews
 - Review of Australian Higher Education - References:
Review Report:
<http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Review/Pages/default.aspx>
Minister's Speeches:
Universities Australia Conference - 4 March 2009:
http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090304_155721.aspx
Big Skills Conference 5 March 2009:
http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090305_093449.aspx
Australian Financial Review - Higher Education Conference - 9 March 2009
http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Speeches/Pages/Article_090310_141130.aspx
- Alliances and Collaborations
 - IARU – global environmental research
- Communication of Information

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

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

***ITEM 6. HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING**

PURPOSE

To receive reports on current issues in higher degree research and research training.

BACKGROUND

- *6.1 Institute of Advanced Studies** (see website <http://quicklink.anu.edu.au/yt17>)
 Since the March meeting of the Committee, the Working Party's 'Statement of Principals' was circulated for consultation with the University community. In response to concerns raised about the proposed model, an alternative model has been developed that "proposes that the Research Schools be the mechanism through which research excellence is demonstrated and through which the IAS is manifest". Further input on the first model and the 'Statement of Principles II (alternative model)' (attached) was invited by 4 May 2009.

Professor Thomas will provide an update.

***6.2 Reviewing HDR Training**

Following a recommendation of the 2007 Review of HDR, Colleges have been provided with a template for profiling the quality of their research training in 2008. A report of the outcomes was made to the HDR Sub-Committee.

Attachment: Report from the HDR Subcommittee meeting ([526/2009](#))

6.3 Unallocated Scholarships

Ten centrally funded PhD scholarships remained unallocated as of 3 April 2009. It was decided that ANU Colleges could forward recommended candidates to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) at any time. In addition, there will be a small mid-year round, with an application closing date of 31 May 2009.

***6.4 ANU Researchfest** (<http://researchstudents.anu.edu.au/researchfest/>)

ANU Researchfest was held from 20-24 April 2009 to celebrate ANU research students. Events, involving staff and students, included competitions, public lectures, forums/debates and free lunches.

SPONSOR: Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the reports from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and matters arising in discussion.

ITEM 7. SCHOLARLY PUBLICATION*PURPOSE**

To receive an update on scholarly publication at ANU.

BACKGROUND

Attachment:

- *Update on Scholarly Publication at ANU (525/2009)* from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor

Discussion about open access and presentation of research has been continuing in the University with input for stakeholders. At its meeting of 24 July 2008, the Committee received a presentation from the Pro Vice-Chancellor on the open access project which focussed on open access to the University's scholarly work. The meeting of 7 November considered a paper, *Published peer-reviewed papers twice: a contribution to Openness* and broadly supported the approach being put forward. (See http://info.anu.edu.au/ovc/assets/Committees/060PP_Research/urcmtg4_2008/twicepublishednotes7nov08.pdf)

Further developments are captured in the paper *Update on Scholarly Publication at ANU*. The paper introduces Scholar's Keep and Scholar's Gate services foreshadowed in *Published peer-reviewed papers twice: a contribution to Openness*. Both services are to be launched in the near future.

From a policy perspective, this item is closely linked with work in progress to develop the University's *Intellectual Property Statute* (see Item 9.).

SPONSOR: Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stanton

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the developments with scholarly publication and any comments arising in discussion.

***ITEM 8. RESEARCH STRATEGIES**

PURPOSE

For discussion of future directions for ANU.

BACKGROUND

The Committee is invited to discuss strategies in relation to:

- **Future Fellowships**

References (linked):

- [Memo - ANU Process for Recruiting Future Fellows](#)
- [Guidelines](#) distributed to Colleges for completing the Strategic Statement
- [List of Emerging Research Strengths](#)

Process:

- Advertisements nationwide in early September
- Flyers distributed through academic networks
- Interested applicants to submit EoI
- Guidelines released in October and EoI's closed
- Colleges selected candidates for support and notified those applicants
- Template for Strategic Statements distributed late October
- Applicants completed full application
- List of Emerging Strengths finalized late November
- Applications submitted to ARC on 26 November

- **Australian Laureate Fellowships**

The Process was:

- Colleges to submit their list of applicants with a 100 word summary of the proposal, with some information on how they will fund the Level E appointment (what is being requested of Chancelry) by 24 November.
- Applications to be accompanied by a letter of support from Deans and a memo confirming that delegates have discussed the nature of ANU support with applicants and exchanged letters.

- **Linkage Projects Pilot**

References:

- Guidelines* at http://www.anu.edu.au/ro/OSR/Funding/funding_ANU_linkage_pilot.php
Report from previous rounds (attached)

- **Centres of Excellence**

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the discussion and advise the Deputy Vice-Chancellor on future directions.

ITEM 9. RESEARCH INTEGRITY

PURPOSE

For the Committee to note the 2008 Annual Reports from the ANU research ethics sub-committees and revised terms of reference for the AEEC.

BACKGROUND

9.1 Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee

Attachments:

- Annual Report for 2008 ([500/2009](#))
- Terms of Reference ([522/2009](#))
Pertinent to its registration with the Queensland DPI, the ANU Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee was asked to revise four of its Terms of Reference. Phraseology has been added to each term of reference either using words straight from the Code and/or outlining what ANU actually does. The Director, Office of Research Integrity, and the Committee have also taken the opportunity to provide amplification of the Terms of Reference in addition to the requested changes. All changes meet the terms of the *Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes*.

9.2 Human Research Ethics Committee

Attachment:

- Annual Report for 2008 ([528/2009](#))

9.3 Institutional Biosafety Committee/Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee (IBC)

Attachment:

- Annual Report for 2008 ([509/2009](#))

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note:

- (i) The 2008 Annual Reports to Council from the University's research ethics subcommittees;
- (ii) Note the revised terms of reference for the Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee ([522/2009](#)).

ITEM 10. RESEARCH RELATED POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE

For the Committee:

- (i) To note policy reviews in progress
- (ii) To consider the further development of the University's policy on Intellectual Property (IP)

BACKGROUND

10.1 Policy reviews

The Research Office is currently reviewing the following research-related policies:

- *Externally-funded Grants, Consultancies and Contracts*
- *(52 Day Rule)-Undertaking Individual Consultancies and Professional Practice*

***10.2 Intellectual Property Statute**

Attachments:

- Draft *Intellectual Property Statute* (at legalwiki.anu.edu.au)
- [Background to IP Statute](http://legalwiki.anu.edu.au/index.php/Talk:IP_Statute): extract (see paper at http://legalwiki.anu.edu.au/index.php/Talk:IP_Statute)

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- (i) Note the research related policies currently under review;
- (ii) Endorse the University's policy on Intellectual Property (IP) as reflected in the draft *Statute*.

ITEM 11. 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

11.1 Reports

Reports have been received from:

- ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences ([524/2009](#))
- ANU College of Physical Sciences ([527/2009](#) and [641/2009](#))
- ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science ([557/2009](#))

*11.2 College Research Committees: Terms of Reference

R5 of the AUQA Audit “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.”

The paper Research Committee Governance Matters (72/2008) from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Meeting No.1, 2008) suggested a set of “standard” items consistent with *ANU by 2010* along the following lines:

The College Research Committee would advise the Chair, the Dean and the College advisory body on:

- 1) College Research Plans which feature:
 - a) consistency with broader University objectives and values
 - b) indicators and targets relating to research performance
 - c) timetables for monitoring and evaluation
 - d) disposition of resources to support the best activities in selected priority areas
- 2) the quality of research using criteria set out in the College Research Plan
- 3) research administration and research development in the College.

The College Research Committee would engage with the University Research Committee through the CRC Chair or College Dean to:

- 1) remain informed of university wide policies and issues
- 2) discuss and comment on university wide issues raised at the University Research Committee.

Attachment: College Research Committees: Terms of Reference ([643/2009](#))

(Note: ANU CAP arrangements are under review as part of the restructure; CASS and CBE are in progress.)

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor will speak to the location of HDR matters, including recruitment and resourcing.

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- (i) Note the reports from Colleges;
- (ii) Note discussion of the terms of reference for HDR matters;
- (iii) Note that the terms of reference of College Research Committees will be forwarded to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.

PART 3. ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

***ITEM 12. OTHER BUSINESS AND QUESTION TIME**

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

12.1 Grants and Consultancies

A report on Grants and Consultancies for the period 1 February to 31 March 2009 has been published at the website ([520/2009](#)).

SPONSOR: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the matters raised and the responses.