

**THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

**Meeting No. 3, 2006**

Meeting No. 3, 2006 of the University Research Committee will be held on

**Thursday 13 July 2006**

**at 9.30 am in the**

**Ross Hohnen Room of the Chancelry**

Apologies:  
Ext.54080

J A Bruce  
Secretary to the Committee

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**AGENDA SUMMARY**

**PART 1: GENERAL ITEMS**

- 1. Minutes**
- 2. Matters Arising**
- 3. Announcements and Apologies**

**PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY ITEMS**

- 4. Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)**
- 5. Reports from ANU Colleges**
- 6. *ANU to 2010***
- 7. Human Research Ethics Committee**
- 8. Annual Reports**
- 9. Research Support Planning Day**
- 10. Policy Review**

**PART 3: ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS**

- 11. Other Business and Question Time**

**Procedural Matters for Members to note:****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/4 July 2006

**PART 1: GENERAL ITEMS**

**ITEM 1. MINUTES**

The unconfirmed minutes of Meeting No. 2, 2006 of the University Research Committee (530/2006 attached) held on 18 May have been circulated (accessible at: [http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/University\\_Research\\_Committee/\\_meetings.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/University_Research_Committee/_meetings.asp))

**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**

## **PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY MATTERS**

### **ITEM 4. DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH) REPORT**

#### **PURPOSE**

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

#### **BACKGROUND**

A report will be made by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) on current issues:

- Research Quality Framework (RQF) and Third Stream Funding  
Attachment: Go8 submission *Assessing Research Impact* (See: <http://www.go8.edu.au/>)  
Minister's Keynote Address to the Knowledge Transfer and Engagement Forum, 16 June 2006 (See: <http://www.dest.gov.au/Ministers/Media/Bishop/2006/06/b001160606.asp>)
- NCRIS: update
- Productivity Commission (See: <http://www.pc.gov.au/>)
- Research Office Matters
  - . New Staff
  - . [Report](#) - ANU 2007 ARC Discovery Program Applications prepared by Jan Massey, Consultant
- ACT Government Focus on Business  
Attachment: [Focus on Business](#) – Master Program as at 1.6.06
- Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS)  
Attachment: [CTS Guidelines](#)
- DEST HERDC Data 2004-05 in Go8  
Attachment: Trend in DEST [HERDC Data](#), 2004-05 in Go8 table

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

## **ITEM 5. REPORTS FROM ANU COLLEGES**

### **PURPOSE**

To receive reports from the Chairs of ANU College research committees and a short presentation on matters related to College research issues and Committee activities.

### **BACKGROUND**

The University Research Committee agreed at its May meeting that one effective means of communication between members of Colleges, ANU College research committees and the URC would be for the URC to receive reports and presentations on matters related to research management and College research committee activities.

Professor Nicholas Glasgow, Chair of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences Research Committee, will give a short presentation about a review undertaken by the College of research strengths.

Reports will also be invited from the representatives from the other ANU College research committees.

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the presentation and the reports from College representatives.

**ITEM 6. ANU TO 2010****PURPOSE**

For the Committee to discuss the current draft of the University's strategic planning framework to 2010, the research statement, and how College Plans will link to the Plan.

**BACKGROUND**

The Vice-Chancellor has emailed all staff inviting comments by 21 July 2006 on the draft of the next phase of strategic planning at ANU, published at [http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/About\\_this\\_Office/Current\\_Issues.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/About_this_Office/Current_Issues.asp)

Attachment:

- Draft Strategic Plan:
  - . Futures statement
  - . Research statement
  - . Education statement
  - . The ANU Experience
  - . ANU Planning
  - . ANU Profile

The draft seeks to capture three ideas: what the ANU should stand for; what it will be like by 2010; and how we will know whether we are any good at what we are doing.

The revised Plan will be considered by Council on 28 July and launched on 1 August, which is ANU Foundation Day. College Plans are in preparation and will be forwarded to Council later in the year.

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the draft University Strategic Plan and comments arising in discussion about linking College Plans in the next stage of its development.

## ITEM 7. HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

### PURPOSE

To open campus-wide discussion of new approaches to ethical review of research involving human subjects.

### BACKGROUND

The formation of Local Ethics Sub-Committees, the creation of an Office of Research Integrity in the Research Office, and the on-going development of the ARIES “Ethics Module” for on-line processing of applications represent important developments of ANU’s approach to ethical review.

Opportunities are emerging (for example, in the forthcoming revised National Statement, and in the way that other universities have shifted their approach to ethical review) to support further development of ANU’s approach to ethical review. Three areas of development that would offer significant potential for improved review and (perhaps) improved attention to ethical matters are:

1. Further development of “tiered review” that places ethical review in contexts that reflect different research cultures, and different ethical considerations for participants; and
2. Improved support for honours and postgraduate students engaged in human research, through increased formal involvement of supervisors in their ethics practices.

The attached paper by Gary Allen, Manager of Research Ethics at Griffith University, represents a thoughtful and extensive analysis of opportunities to develop ANU’s approval to ethical review.

#### Attachments:

- (Draft – Under Review) *Getting beyond form filling: the role of institutional governance in human research ethics*, by Gary Allen (not available electronically)
- [Article](#) “Former UVM professor sentenced to jail for fraud”, by Adam Silverman, *Burlington Free Press*, 29 June 2006

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee comment in relation to approaches to ethical review of research involving human subjects.

**ITEM 8. ANNUAL REPORTS**

**PURPOSE**

To note the 2005 Annual Reports to Council from the University's research ethics committees.

**BACKGROUND**

Attachments:

- Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee Annual Report (74/2006)
- Human Research Ethics Committee Annual Report (529/2006)
- Institutional Biosafety Committee/Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee (IBC) Annual Report (528/2006)

The Chairs of the University research ethics committees will be available at the meeting to answer any questions about the annual reports.

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the Annual Reports to Council for 2005 from the ANU research ethics committees.

**ITEM 9. RESEARCH SUPPORT PLANNING DAY**

**PURPOSE**

For members discuss the format for the Planning Day.

**BACKGROUND**

A Research Support Planning Day will be conducted on Wednesday, 10 August 2006 by the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the forthcoming Research Support Planning Day and the proposed format.

## **ITEM 10. POLICY REVIEW**

### **PURPOSE**

To receive a report on the review and reconstruction of new and existing research policies.

### **BACKGROUND**

University policies may be accessed at: <http://info.anu.edu.au/policies/Policies/index.asp>

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) will speak in relation to work to develop policies or legislation on the following:

- Intellectual Property
- Commercialisation of Research
- Research Equipment/Infrastructure
- Establishment, Management and Closing of Academic Centres

Note: A Working Party is being formed through the Business Solutions Office Managers to consider the implementation of consistent coding to accurately reflect the University's operational and academic structures across all Enterprise Systems. The adoption of a corporate coding structure would assist in improving data integrity and provide a reliable and consistent platform for reporting. Expansion of the policy and procedures relating to the Establishment, Management and Closing of Academic Centres to encompass all academic organisational units may be taken up in these discussions.

**SPONSOR:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

**PART 3. ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS**

**ITEM 11. OTHER BUSINESS AND QUESTION TIME**

**PURPOSE**

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

**BACKGROUND**

- The next meeting of the University Research Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 14 September at 9.30 am in the Ross Hohnen Room of the Chancelry.

**SPONSOR:** Chair, University Research Committee

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee note the matters raised and the responses.