

ORD UPDATE (RESEARCH UPDATE) 01/2007:  
ARC DEADLINES; COMMONWEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH  
FACILITIES (CERF); HEALTHWAY GRANTS

Dear Colleagues,

The following information is provided for your consideration and action as necessary.

**1. ORD UPDATE IS NOW AVAILABLE ON R&D WEBSITE**

In order to further enhance the distribution of funding opportunities and research grant related information copies of the ORD UPDATE are now available on the R&D website, this also includes copies of past Updates. The web address is:  
<http://research.curtin.edu.au/reporting/update/index.html>.

**2. ARC DEADLINES**

**DISCOVERY PROJECTS NOW OPEN (Reminder)**

The Funding Rules and Instructions to Applicants for Discovery Projects commencing in 2008 are now available on the ARC's website  
([http://www.arc.gov.au/apply\\_grants/discovery\\_projects.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/apply_grants/discovery_projects.htm)).

Applications can now be started on GAMS.

**The internal deadline for applications is Monday 5 February 2007.** One hard copy of the full application is to be delivered to ORD by this date.

**LINKAGE INTERNATIONAL Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008' are now available from the ARC website <http://www.arc.gov.au>.**

Linkage International proposals submitted in 2007 (for funding commencing in 2008) include **one round only of Awards** (this is a change from 2006 which had 3 rounds), ARC International Fellowships and two Internationally Coordinated Initiatives.

The closing times are:

- \* Linkage International Awards - 17:00 (AEST) Friday 20 April 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: Wednesday, 11 April 2007**
- \* ARC International Fellowships - 17:00 (AEST) Friday 20 April 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: Wednesday, 11 April 2007**
- \* Social Sciences Collaboration ICI - 17:00 (AEST) Friday 1 June 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: Wednesday, 23 May 2007**
- \* Materials World Networks ICI - 17:00 (AEDT) Friday 30 November 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: Wednesday, 21 November 2007**

Changes to the Linkage International Funding Rules from the previous year (proposals submitted in 2006) are summarised at Section 2 of the rules. The ARC will provide further notification advising when Application Forms and other relevant documentation become available.

**LINKAGE PROJECTS Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2008' are now available from the ARC website <http://www.arc.gov.au>.**

Linkage Projects proposals submitted in 2007 (for funding commencing in 2008) are due for submission at the following closing times:

Round 1 - 17:00 (AEST) Friday 4 May 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: Monday, 23 April 2007**

Round 2 - 17:00 (AEDT) Friday 23 November 2007 - **OR&D Internal Deadline: – Monday, 5 November 2007**

The main changes to the Linkage Projects Funding Rules from the previous year (proposals submitted in 2006) are summarised at Section 2 of the rules. The ARC will provide further notification advising when Application Forms and other relevant documentation become available.

**GAMS PERFORMANCE - DP 2008 (Reminder)**

Now that the DP 2008 application form is available on GAMS, we would like to remind you about the issues with GAMS performance during the upcoming peak processing period (mid January - Early March) and the best times to use GAMS to avoid or minimise processing delays.

While we have made every effort to improve GAMS performance, we are limited by the capabilities of the legacy software. The solutions we have implemented have only resulted in minor performance improvements. The ARC's new Research Management System (RMS) is currently in development and is expected to address the performance issues in the existing system. (See page 4 of the Spring 2006 issue of the Discovery Newsletter for more information on RMS)

As a result of the GAMS performance issues, users can expect the system to run slowly and have poor response times (especially in February), and users may not be able to connect to the system at times. We recognise that this can be frustrating, especially when trying to save, validate or submit a proposal.

We offer the following suggestions for GAMS use during the upcoming peak processing period, and ask that research offices to pass this information onto all their applicants:

- Applicants should make every effort to complete as much of the on-line proposal form as possible between early December and mid January. In particular, requests for new GAMS accounts should be identified and requested as early as possible.
- User load in GAMS is at its lowest in the early morning and outside of standard business hours (for the Australian time zones), and particularly on weekends.
- Applicants should try to submit the proposals to their research office well in advance of their organisation's internal closing date. Most research

offices set their internal closing dates during the first 2 weeks of February and during this period it could take up to several hours to validate/submit a proposal.

- If when logging on a message appears indicating 'the System is heavily loaded' please do not make repeated attempts to log-on. Wait at least
- 15 minutes before trying again. Continuous login attempts will only slow the system even more and will not provide you with any greater access to the system.
- If the system responses are extremely poor we may bring the system down with limited notice to perform remedial maintenance on GAMS.
- However, the performance gains from this action will be noticeable only for the first few hours.

The ARC is aware of compatibility issues between GAMS and various hardware and browser combinations. Please refer to the ARC website for details of GAMS compatibility

([http://www.arc.gov.au/gams\\_login/gams\\_minreq.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/gams_login/gams_minreq.htm)).

Other information relevant to all GAMS users has been placed onto the ARC Website at [http://www.arc.gov.au/gams\\_login/default.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/gams_login/default.htm)

ARC staff would appreciate it if the information on these pages is consulted before sending a query to the ARC, especially during this upcoming busy period.

### **3. COMMONWEALTH ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH FACILITIES (CERF)**

The second round of funding for the Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities (CERF) programme was advertised in the major press Saturday 6 January 2007. This CERF funding round will be for Fellowships and Significant Projects.

The CERF website is now updated with the online Application forms, 'CERF-Fellowships and Significant Projects programme outline and application guidelines - January 2007' and 'Priority Research Areas - Fellowships and Significant Projects'.

Applicants are required to submit an online application form (see web link below) for:

\* Fellowships by close of business on Friday 16 February 2007 – **OR&D Internal Deadline Monday, 12 February 2007**

\* Significant projects by close of business on Friday 16 March 2007 – **OR&D Internal Deadline Monday, 12 March 2007**

**All applications should be accompanied by a completed and signed RPAT.**

Please check the website: <http://www.deh.gov.au/programs/cerf/application-process.html>

### **4. HEALTHWAY GRANTS NOW OPEN (Reminder)**

Guidelines and Application forms are now available for the following Healthway grants:

Health Promotion Research Project grants  
Health Promotion Starter Grants  
Special Initiative Grants - Social Determinants of Health

Please see the weblink - <http://www.healthway.wa.gov.au/internal.aspx?MenuID=464>

The internal deadline for applications is **Wednesday 14 February 2007**. One hard copy of the full application is to be delivered to ORD by this date.

Regards

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