

ORD UPDATE (RESEARCH UPDATE) 08-2007

Dear Colleagues

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1. NHMRC PROJECT GRANT APPLICATIONS – FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM NHMRC

NOMINATION OF ASSESSORS FOR YOUR APPLICATION

For Project Grant applications submitted in 2007 (for funding beginning in 2008), applicants are permitted to nominate a preferred assessor. The NHMRC Project Grants Peer Review Guidelines for Funding Commencing in 2008 document states that where possible and appropriate the applicant's nominated assessor will be used.

Unfortunately this advice is incorrect. There should be no expectation that the nominee will be used unless, in the view of the assigner, that person is the most appropriate to provide scientific review of the application. NHMRC apologises for any confusion that may have arisen.

FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF SECTION 4.10

On 25 January 2007 the NHMRC sent out advice about Question 4.10 on the NHMRC Project Grant and Development Grant Application form. Applicants were being asked to provide references to publications for the past 6 years and to cross reference these to their publications list in Section 10, where only publications for the past 5 years (2002 onwards) were required.

This has led to some confusion and the initial email sent may not have been clear. The notice sent out seemed to suggest that applicants need only provide references to publications for the last 5 years but that they did not need to amend their list of grants from those awarded over the past 6 years.

The NHMRC would like to clarify:

All Applicants are to list only those grants for which they received funding in **the last 5 years** (from 2002 onwards) and to cross-reference the publications arising from these grants to the publications list in Section 10.

Please Note:

Applications that list funding and cross reference publications received over the past 6 years, will only have 5 years considered by the Grant Review Panels.

2. CANCER AUSTRALIA WILL SOON CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PRIORITY-DRIVEN GRANTS

The Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme will soon be inviting researchers working in Australia to apply for grants up to a maximum of \$600,000 over three years with a maximum, in any one year, of \$200,000.

The Scheme is a **new** funding program to support collaborative priority-driven cancer research and foster Australian researchers to work collaboratively to generate evidence, increase knowledge, improve the translation of research into policy and practice in identified priority areas, reduce the impact of cancer on the community and improve outcomes for

people affected by cancer.

The grants will be offered by Cancer Australia in partnership with the National Breast Cancer Foundation and other funding partners. More information with regards to cancer research priority areas and guidelines for applicants will shortly be available on the NHMRC website.

Please note that application will be via the NHMRC Project grant process which means one hard copy of the application is to be delivered to ORD by **Friday 23 February 2007**.

3. PRIME MINISTER'S PRIZES FOR SCIENCE

DEST are seeking nominations to the 2007 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science. The Prizes are awarded to those who have made outstanding contributions to science and science teaching and who are currently active in research or teaching. Nominations close at **5.00 pm AEST, Friday 27 April 2007**.

Information on Nomination Guidelines and the online nomination process are available on the Science Prizes website at <http://www.dest.gov.au/scienceprize>

For further information, please contact:
Science Prizes Secretariat
Department of Education, Science and Training
Tel: (02) 6240 5066
Fax (02) 6123 6168
Email: pmprize@dest.gov.au

4. EUREKA PRIZES

Nominations and entries are now open for the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes in the following categories:

- Research and Innovation
- Leadership
- Science Communication and Journalism
- School Science

Nominations and entries close on **Friday 4 May 2007**.

For more information see www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka

5. GOLDEN GECKO PRIZES – AWARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

The Golden Gecko Awards have grown to become the most prestigious awards for environmental excellence in the Western Australian mineral and petroleum industries.

Inaugurated in 1992, the awards recognise environmental excellence and leadership in responsible resource development. They also acknowledge a company's or an individual's commitment to go beyond basic environmental compliance to promote responsible development and to improve environmental performance across the State's resource industry.

Receiving a Golden Gecko Award also helps build an organisation's reputation as a good corporate citizen with a responsible attitude to the environment.

Companies and individuals with innovative environmental achievements are strongly urged to nominate for the Golden Gecko Awards.

Nominations close **4pm Friday 16 March 2007**

For more information please see - <http://www.doir.wa.gov.au/goldengecko/>

Regards

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