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Research Update
From the Office of Research & Development

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Please see this section for useful contacts, tools and tips.

For more information on Research at Curtin please visit the research website www.research.curtin.edu.au
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1. GLAXOSMITHKLINE AUSTRALIA POST GRADUATE SUPPORT GRANT
GSK Australia is pleased to offer grant awards of up to $15,000 per annum for two years to PhD or Post Doctorate students in the field of human health.

These awards will provide additional financial support to PhD or Post Doctorate research students who are currently in receipt of a research grant from a non-commercial body.

Applications are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Development, along with a Research Project Application Tool (RPAT) no later than Friday 18th July 2008.

For further information and application forms, please visit www.gsk.com.au/research

2. NHMRC ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS SCHEME
The NHMRC have announced a new Partnerships Project scheme. The aim of the NHMRC Partnerships initiative is to build more effective connections between policy makers and researchers, and to improve the availability and quality of research evidence to help inform the policy process. The initiative will provide funding and support for researchers and policy makers in defining research questions, undertaking research, and interpreting findings.

It is anticipated that the NHMRC Partnerships will initially fund two types of awards:
- NHMRC Partnership Projects; and
- NHMRC Partnership Centres for Research Excellence.

NHMRC Partnership Projects will support collaborations between researchers and policy or practice agencies. Applications for these awards will be a joint effort by researchers and agencies and the NHMRC will ensure that parties have appropriate formal agreements regarding matters such as intellectual property and publication of findings.

These awards are envisaged as being similar in value and conditions to the NHMRC Project Grants. It is anticipated that cash and/or in-kind contributions would be provided by the policy/practice partner organisation. Researchers, in collaboration with partner organisations, will have about four and a half months in which to prepare applications following a formal call for proposals.

It is anticipated that there will be a call for proposals on Saturday 26 July 2008. In the meantime, enquiries about NHMRC Partnerships can be directed to michael.nutt@nhmrc.gov.au

3. GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH INTO MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE
Researchers working in Australia in fields that are relevant to motor neurone disease are invited to apply for funding to support research in the calendar year 2009.

Grants-in-Aid for research into Motor Neurone Disease in 2009
The MND Research Institute of Australia regards its role as one of providing seed-funding for research that is innovative and having a clear relationship to the causes, treatments and cures of MND, or the support of people living with MND. Applications for projects in biomedical and health care research are encouraged. A range of grants, including the named grants below, are offered. In recent years, grants-in-aid have ranged from $15,000 to $35,000 with an average around $25,000.

The MND Research Institute of Australia regards its role as one of providing seed-funding for research that is innovative and having a clear relationship to the causes, treatments and cures of MND, or the support of people living with MND. Accordingly, the majority of funds available through the Institute are for grants-in-aid of MND research in Australia.

Some of the grants-in-aid are awarded as named grants with funding provided by sponsors. Some of these grants have special conditions. In recent years, general grants-in-aid have ranged from $15,000 to $35,000 with average around $25,000. Nine grants-in-aid were awarded for 2008.
**Bill Gole MND Postdoctoral Fellowship (2009 - 2011)**
The Fellowships of the MND Research Institute of Australia aim to encourage young researchers to focus their interest on MND. The Bill Gole MND Postdoctoral Fellowship is directed towards postdoctoral scientists with a track record in areas of neuroscience related to motor neurone disease. Salary will be funded for up to **three** years at $72,500 per year.

**MND PhD Scholarships**
Two postgraduate PhD scholarships (3 years) will be offered commencing in January 2009. The **NHMRC / MND Research Australia Scholarships** for biomedical or public health research in motor neurone disease are offered through NHMRC and are funded jointly by the MND Research Institute of Australia and NHMRC.

Application for the MND PhD Scholarships must be made through the **NHMRC**.

Applications for the Grants and Fellowships are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Development, along with a Research Project Application Tool (RPAT) no later than **Friday 22nd August 2008**.

Applications for the scholarships should be submitted to the Scholarships Office no later than **Friday 25th July 2008**.

For more information and application details, please go to the MND Research Institute of Australia website at [www.mndresearch.asn.au](http://www.mndresearch.asn.au)

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**4. NSW CANCER INSTITUTE RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**
The Cancer Institute NSW is the NSW Government agency dedicated to the control and cure of cancer through prevention, detection, innovation, research and information. The Cancer Institute NSW Research Program develops cancer research capacity in NSW by increasing the number, quality and international competitiveness of cancer researchers in NSW.

Although research must be undertaken within NSW (except for the International Clinical and Research Fellowships) applications are encouraged from interstate and international researchers as well as those currently working in NSW.

Applicants may be engaged in any discipline of research relevant to cancer, including, but not limited to: Behavioural; Biomedical; Clinical; Epidemiological; Health Economics; Psychosocial and Health Services.

Applications will open on the 7th July for the following Research Grants:

- **International Clinical and Research Fellowships**: to provide the opportunity for outstanding cancer clinicians and researchers to work in centres of clinical and research excellence overseas. Up to $100,000 p.a. for 6 months to 2 years.

- **Early Career Development Fellowships**: to support the very best researchers to choose cancer as their selected field of research endeavour. Applicants must have no more than a total of 5 years post doctoral experience. Up to $200,000 p.a. for 3 years.

- **Clinical Research Fellowships**: to provide the opportunity for cancer clinicians to have dedicated time for cancer research that can be applied within a clinical setting. Salary of the Fellow plus up to $100,000 project costs p.a. for 3 years.

- **Research Scholars Awards**: to provide funding opportunities to develop and support outstanding students enrolled in a higher degree with the potential to develop highly significant careers in cancer research. Applicants must have secured a scholarship from the NHMRC, their University of enrolment or other source by commencement of the grant. Funding for a small top-up and project funds. Up to $25,000 p.a. for 3 years.

Curtin-led applications are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Development, along with a Research Project Application tool (RPAT) no later than **Friday 29th August 2008**.

5. 2008 AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AWARDS/GRANTS

AusAID, the Australian Agency for International Development, manages the Australian Government's official overseas aid program. As a part of AusAID’s Development Research Strategy, which aims to increase the role of research in contributing to the effectiveness of the aid program, a competitive funding round has been established. AusAID is currently advertising the 2008 Funding Round for the Australian Development Research Awards.

The aim of the Australian Development Research Awards (ADRA) is to attract high quality research that informs policy development and increases the general stock of knowledge around development issues.

The 2008 ADRA Funding Round is open to all Australian and international not-for-profit institutions or organisations where research is a core component of the organisation's mandate.

Proposals should address pertinent and cutting edge questions in development research in the following areas of high priority:

- Development Effectiveness
- Disability
- Economics
- Education
- Environment
- Food Security
- Gender
- Governance and State Building
- Health

Applicants can apply for funding for projects up to three years in duration, with successful proposals eligible to receive between A$50,000 and A$250,000 per year.

Applications are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Development, along with a Research Project Application Tool (RPAT) no later than Friday 22 August 2008.

Guidelines and an Application Form for the completion of research applications are available on the AusAID website. For all further information please see the research section of the AusAID website http://www.ausaid.gov.au/research/default.cfm or email any enquiries to research@ausaid.gov.au or by fax (02) 6206 4570.

6. THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING (ATSE) CRAWFORD FUND AGRICULTURE FELLOWSHIP FOR 2009 - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The ATSE Crawford Fund Fellowship was established in 2002 with the support of Dr Brian Booth AM FTSE.

The aim of the Fellowship is to provide further training of an agricultural scientist from a selected group of developing countries whose work has shown significant potential. The training will take place at an Australian agricultural institution and will emphasize the application of knowledge to increased agricultural production in the Fellow's home country.

The Fellowship will be offered annually to an agricultural scientist below the age of 35 years who is a citizen of, or who is working in, one the following countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, East Timor, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu and Kirabati, Vanuatu, Viet-Nam.

The Recipient shall be entitled to a return economy airfare to and from Australia, graduate student standard accommodation and subsistence during the tenure of the Fellowship and comprehensive medical insurance for the period of the Fellowship.

Nominations supported by two proposers, one of whom must be an Australian, should be made on the nomination form obtainable from The ATSE Website http://www.crawfordfund.org

Applications are to be submitted to the Office of Research and Development, along with a Research Project Application Tool (RPAT) no later than Monday 25th August 2008.
1. **UPDATE ON THE ARC's NEW ONLINE APPLICATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (GAMS REPLACEMENT)**

The ARC have advised that the Research Management System (RMS), which will replace GAMS as the online application system, is scheduled to go live for the Linkage Projects Round 2 proposal round. All current active users from GAMS will be migrated into the RMS system to enable ease of use.

Details on fully electronic submission processes will be available closer to the release date however the ARC will provide researchers with Funding Rules and Instructions to Applicants’ documents via the ARC web site. In addition, online help in the RMS system will be available to assist researchers and research office staff with the new system. ORD will also provide support and training to staff.

2. **CLINICAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE – AUGUST 2008**

The 2008 Clinical Research Excellence Conference, CRX08, provides a forum for extensive discussion surrounding a wide range of clinical research issues that are of key relevance to researchers, practitioners and industry.

The conference will be held in Brisbane from 7th to 9th August 2008. The venue will be the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Calls for posters closes on **Friday 25th July 2008**.

NHMRC's CEO Professor Warwick Anderson will make a presentation about the NHMRC at this event and Professor Michael Good, Chair of the National Health and Medical Research Council, will speak about Translating Research into Policy.

For more information please see the conference website at [http://www.crx08.com/](http://www.crx08.com/)

3. **ANU WORKSHOPS RELATED TO THE REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEM**

The Australian National University has organised a number of workshops to support the Review of the National Innovation System. Some of these workshops have been organised in partnership with other bodies, namely the Group of Eight, the University of Melbourne, the ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation (CCI) and the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS).

The series of policy dialogue workshops is outlined below:

- **Supporting risk-aware research**
  - **Friday 11 July:** 9.00am - 5.30pm
  - Members Dining Room, Old Parliament House, Canberra
  - Workshop attendance - open participation
  - Hosted in conjunction with the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies

- **International symposium on costs and compacts**
  - **Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 July:** Mon 8.30 - 6pm, Tues 8.30 - 5pm
  - Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton, Canberra
  - Workshop attendance - invitation only
  - Hosted in conjunction with the University of Melbourne and The Group of Eight

- **Public sector innovation**
  - **Monday 15 September:** 9.30am - 5pm
  - Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton, Canberra (TBC)
  - Workshop attendance - open participation
  - Hosted in conjunction with the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies
The economic and social importance of innovation in services
Tuesday 16 September: 9.00am - 5pm
Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton, Canberra (TBC)
Workshop attendance - open participation

A more detailed topic brief, program, resources and additional details for each of these workshops, and on the policy dialogues of which they are a part, are available on the following website:
http://repp.anu.edu.au/ripp/

There is also a policy dialogue underway aimed at learning from different Central Economic Ministry Perspectives on research and innovation – to be conducted via a series of smaller meetings. These discussions will place a particular emphasis on examining the UK experience of closer involvement of the Treasury in research and innovation policy formulation and seek to identify any lessons for Australia.

4. CURTIN RESEARCH FORUM – BLOG LAUNCHED FOR WORKSHOP TOPICS
The 2008 Curtin University Research Forum will be held at the Burswood Hotel complex on Monday 21st July 2008. In response to feedback from last year’s Forum, a blog has been created where staff can post topics they would like discussed at the Forum workshops. The Office of Research and Development will then use this information to determine the afternoon workshop sessions.

The deadline for suggestions is 5pm Monday 14 July 2008.

The blog is available at - https://blog.curtin.edu.au/ORD_Research_Forum/


5. ORD RESEARCH TRAINING SEMINARS
Upcoming ORD Research training seminars is now available at - http://research.curtin.edu.au/global/training.cfm

Powerpoint slides and links to lecture recordings of past seminars are also available at this site. Semester 2 seminars will be posted on this site in due course.

The following seminars are coming up in the next few weeks:

Animal Ethics Committee - Animal Welfare Training Module 1
9.30am to 12.00pm, Friday 11th July 2008
Bankwest Theatrette
This is an Introductory course covering principles of biomedical ethics, legislation and institutional requirements governing the use of animals for research and teaching at Curtin University of Technology.

Attendance of this module is compulsory for Curtin Staff and research students who conduct research or teaching involving animals on Curtin premises.

RSVP: Attendance at this course can be booked via the Seminar Booking system - http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=55

Human Ethics Committee: Reviewer training
10am to 12pm, Tuesday, 15th July 2008
Rm 201.412 (Architecture and Planning)

This session is designed specifically for Reviewers of Ethics applications and staff interested in becoming Ethics application reviewers. It will cover topics such as:
- legislation and regulations;
- the role of the reviewer;
- how to review applications;
- committee processes

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**TOOLS AND TIPS**

**LINKS**
Community of Science (COS)
[www.cos.com](http://www.cos.com) – for funding opportunities

Research Project Application Tool (RPAT)

**New Research Codes**
The codes can be found on the [ABS website](http://www.abs.gov.au). You may also find the University of New England’s [Conversion Tool](http://www.unenglish.com/conversion) useful.

**TIP OF THE WEEK**

**Costing Research Projects**
All Research Project budgets (including those for grants, tenders and contracted research projects) need to be properly costed. There are different rules depending upon the funder and application guidelines.

The key is to determine the correct level of overheads (Cost Recovery) to include in the budget. The [Research Project Application Tool (RPAT)](http://research.curtin.edu.au/grants/tools.cf) assists in calculating the budget, but the applicant needs to be clear about which level of overheads to include in which circumstances.

If you are unsure, contact your Research and Development Officer. An under costed project can result in insufficient funds to complete the project. An overcosted project may be non-competitive.