



ALERT 5: ARC DISCOVERY ROUND

Budget Issue

This Bulletin is the fifth of the regular alerts that are issued by the Grants Management Office in the lead-up to the closing date for this year's ARC Discovery Round.

TOPICS COVERED

1. Monday 9 February – GMO Deadline For Full Compliance Check
2. DP10 Current Statistics
3. International Collaboration Awards – Making the most of Partner Investigator Contributions
4. Travel
5. PhD Stipend Rate
6. How To Cost Travel That Will Occur in Future Years

1. MONDAY 9 FEBRUARY - GMO DEADLINE FOR FULL COMPLIANCE CHECK

Monday 9 February is the GMO's deadline for guaranteeing your application will receive a full compliance check. Applications received after this date will receive our attention and we will do our best for you but the level of service we can give will depend on how many applications we are dealing with at the time. For those who do get their applications in on time we undertake to give detailed written feedback on or before 20 February in time for you to amend your final application and submit to us by 26 February. Checklists and Tools which may assist can be found on our website at <http://www.gmo.unsw.edu.au/ApplyingForFunds/ARC/Discovery2010.html>

2. DP10 CURRENT STATISTICS

As at today, 296 applications have been registered on GAMS and 23 drafts have been received. For a breakdown by Faculty and comparisons with last year, see http://www.gmo.unsw.edu.au/ApplyingForFunds/ARC/weekly_dp09_vs_dp10.xls

3. INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AWARDS – MAKING THE MOST OF PARTNER INVESTIGATOR CONTRIBUTIONS

With the increased focus on international collaborations and the inclusion of ICAs in this year's funding rules, it is important that Partner Investigators demonstrate a significant contribution of funds (other than salary/time commitments) or material resources from the PI's Institution, relative to the total cost of the project and the relative contribution of each investigator. This contribution is to support the participation of the PI for their aspects of the project: it does not come to UNSW. As a guide, PI contributions should be at least 20% of the ARC request. The PI contribution may comprise a costing of the PI's time on the project, use of equipment/facilities at the PI's institution, PI funded travel or grant funding secured by the PI from another agency for a related project. The PI

contribution should be clearly specified in the budget (C1 col 4) and described in Part C3. (Sec 8.2 of the funding rules)

4. TRAVEL FOR COLLABORATORS WHO ARE NOT NAMED AS PIs

The ARC's Frequently Asked Questions http://www.arc.gov.au/pdf/DP10_FAQ.pdf has been recently updated to include the following:

Q [UPDATE JANUARY 2009] Can a proposal request travel costs for international collaborators who are not PIs? e.g (i) international airfares for keynote speakers who are not working directly on the project to attend conferences being organised by CIs as part of their project; e.g.(ii) international airfares for visitors?

A Requests for international travel can be submitted for CIs, PIs living overseas, ARC Fellows, and research personnel working directly on the project. A proposal cannot include items such as international airfares for keynote speakers who are not working directly on the project to attend conferences organised by CIs as part of their project or international airfares for visitors.

To further clarify the above we went back to the ARC to specifically ask whether there were any provisions for international collaborators who were not named PIs but who were working directly on the project to be funded for international travel to Australia to collaborate with the named CI on a DP proposal. The advice received back was:

“There is some scope for this. Essentially the researcher needs to be involved in the project and there needs to be a sound justification for the request.”

This may offer some window of opportunity and as always the essential part is to make a strong justification.

5. PHD STIPEND RATE

The ARC have not set a rate for PhD stipends this year and therefore we are advising you use \$26,000 for each year applicable which is the institutional rate agreed with the Graduate Research School.

6. HOW TO COST TRAVEL THAT WILL OCCUR IN FUTURE YEARS OF THE GRANT'S LIFE

This question arose at our recent budget seminar: the answer is to use current pricing.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

Email mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au

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