PARTNERING IN

ARC INDUSTRIAL
TRANSFORMATIONS

for next-generation
Australian industries
PARTNERING WITH UQ IN ARC INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

In research-industry partnerships that are generating transformative processes and human capability for Australian industry, partners are joining forces with UQ in a series of ARC Industrial Transformation Research Programs (ITRPs).

UQ’s leading role in ARC ITRPs – both Research Hubs and Training Centres – demonstrates the depth and breadth of the partnerships we share with industry and our commitment to work together to address some of today’s most significant industrial challenges.

For example, the ARC Research Hub for Advanced Solutions to Transform Tall Timber Buildings is creating innovative engineering solutions to the crucial barriers hindering the use of structural timber in the fast-growing medium-rise tall building market. Australia’s multi-billion dollar medical technology sector is the focus of the ARC Research Hub for Advanced Manufacturing of Personalised Medical Devices, developing cost-competitive technologies for the rapid production of personalised devices for endovascular aneurysm repair.

We are working to transform Australia’s growing biopharmaceutical and advanced manufacturing capability by training specialist biotechnologists and bioengineers via the ARC Training Centre for Biopharmaceutical Innovation. The Agents of Change Training Centre is building a cohort of innovation scientists to bolster the Australian food industry, including manufacture, processing, and value-chain analysis. The recently-awarded ARC Training Centre for Uniquely Australian Foods aims to transform the native food and agribusiness sector through development of selected crops, foods and ingredients using an Indigenous governance group to oversee the process of converting traditional knowledge into branded products.
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ABOUT THE ARC INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION RESEARCH PROGRAM

By bringing together the expertise, capability, skills, and high-tech facilities of research and industry partners, ARC ITRPs drive growth, productivity, and competitiveness in Australian Industrial Transformation Priorities. These Priorities, which align with the national Industry Growth Centres, are:

• Advanced Manufacturing
• Cyber Security
• Food and Agribusiness
• Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals
• Mining Equipment, Technology and Services
• Oil, Gas and Energy Resources

ITRP applications must be made under one (or more) of the Priorities, either as an ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hub or an ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre. Hubs and Centres approach the same goal of industrial transformation in different ways.

What is a ‘Research Hub’?
Research Hubs support collective, partnered, disruptive research programs able to break through obstacles facing an industry sector. Research Hubs are between 3 and 5 years in length and have strong support from national and/or international investment, including from industry and end-user partners involved in the collaboration. The program outcomes generated by Hubs lead to economic, commercial, and social transformation.

What is a ‘Training Centre’?
Solving problems that hold back productivity and growth can also be achieved by training emerging researchers within the Industrial Transformation Priorities. Training Centres are 4 to 5 year initiatives where students and postdoctoral fellows pursue industry-focused research, generating key human capacity for Australia. No fewer than 10 doctoral and 3 postdoctoral researchers build industry-facing skills and experience in a Training Centre, along with driving applied research outcomes directly relevant to the industry sector.

WHO CAN BE A PARTNER ORGANISATION?

Almost all public, private, community, government, and not-for-profit organisations (both Australian and international) are eligible, but each ITRP must include at least one Australian Partner Organisation. Above this minimum, international organisations, universities, and research institutions are able to participate; however clear benefits to transform Australian industry must be demonstrated.
WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO THE PARTNER ORGANISATION?

- Strengthened and transformative technological and/or manufacturing capabilities within the industry
- A highly skilled cohort of research scientists – trained in breakthrough science as well as skills aligned with various Australian industries
- Leveraging of Partner Organisation investment to deliver larger scale benefits
- Enhanced competitive research collaboration with the university sector
- Collaboration and leading-edge expertise to tackle industry problems
- Cost-effectiveness through Commonwealth funding to support research
- Access to UQ’s state-of-the-art laboratories, equipment, and facilities
- Capacity building, including Partner Organisation staff development opportunities and early career training at the research-industry interface
- Demonstration of company involvement in independent, peer-reviewed research
- Possible eligibility for the Australian R&D tax incentive (see www.business.gov.au/assistance/research-and-development-tax-incentive)

What Partner Organisations are saying:

“Our primary goal is to improve patient health outcomes, but we are also growing workforce capability in the medical device industry and increasing the translation of new technology. By partnering in the AMMD Research Hub we aim to increase export opportunities through the IP derived from manufacturing process improvements which, in turn, translates into more jobs and increased global market share for Australian manufactured medical technologies.”

DR SAMIH NABULSI
General Manager
Cook Medical Australia

“There is a need for us to work more collaboratively together as an industry and it is great to see the ARC Training Centre for Biopharmaceutical Innovation brings together academia and industry to not only further advance how we manufacture biopharmaceuticals, but also result in the training and growth of our future workforce for the sector.”

DR KYM BAKER
General Manager
Pharma Services at Patheon Biologics (part of Thermo Fisher Scientific)

HOW IS THE PROJECT FUNDED?

For Research Hubs, the ARC will provide funding of $500,000 to $1 million per year for projects of 3 to 5 years’ duration. For Training Centres, the ARC will provide funding of $650,000 to $1 million per year for the first 3 years, and $150,000 to $1 million in the 4th year. There is no minimum in the 5th year. Project funding may be used for direct program and training centre costs such as eligible personnel, student stipends, access to research and infrastructure facilities and technical workshop services, field research, expert services, equipment and consumables, publication/dissemination/outreach, specialised computer equipment/software, web hosting/development; workshops, and essential travel costs.
WHAT CONTRIBUTION IS THE PARTNER ORGANISATION REQUIRED TO MAKE?

For Research Hubs, the Partner Organisation(s) must collectively provide a minimum cash contribution of 75% of the funds being requested from the ARC – when any of the Partner Organisations has more than 100 employees. In cases where the largest Partner Organisation has 100 employees or less there is no minimum cash contribution. There is no upper limit on the combined Partners cash and in-kind contributions.

For Training Centres, minimum cash contribution levels for Partner Organisations are not specifically mandated. Instead, the proposal must demonstrate that the combined cash and in-kind is sufficient to support all the research projects described in the proposal and particularly those of the students and postdoctoral fellows in the Centre. Additionally, Partners will normally host one or more doctoral (HDR) students for visits totalling one year within the duration of the Centre, in order to train them in research that is relevant to the industry.

In-kind contributions from Partner Organisations for these schemes may include:

- Staff time of Partner Investigator(s)
- Access to facilities, equipment and databases
- Analytical and other services
- Equipment
- Materials and consumables
- Patents and licences
- Contribution of software
- Travel

WHO OWNS THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY?

Should the Hub or Centre be funded by the ARC, collaborative research agreements including arrangements regarding Intellectual Property (IP) are negotiated on an individual project-by-project basis, taking into consideration the proposed research and contributions of each party. UQ has significant experience in this area, including building relationships at application stage and working proactively on post-award contracts, to enable beneficial results for all types of partners.
WHO AT UQ CAN HELP?

UQ Research and Innovation can provide advice on:
- Suitability of proposals for ITRP Hubs or Centres
- Bid development and strategy, including connecting with Industry Growth Centres
- Checking eligibility
- Interpreting ARC Funding Rules and scheme requirements
- Levels of Partner Organisation contributions required (including in-kind)
- Enhancing application competitiveness and success

UQ Research Partnerships Managers can provide advice on:
- Connecting industry partners with the researchers best suited to the needs of their organisations
- Capacity at UQ to engage in end-user focussed research
- Alternatives to ARC ITRP for research-industry engagement
- Intellectual Property opportunities or questions
- Contractual requirements

FURTHER INFORMATION

How to partner:
Director, UQ Research Partnerships Office
Email: director.partnerships@research.uq.edu.au
Phone: 07 3365 3559

How to apply:
UQ Research and Innovation
Email: industrycentres@research.uq.edu.au
Phone: 07 3346 0737
https://research.uq.edu.au/research-support/research-management/funding-schemes/industry-schemes

Useful links:
Industry Growth Centres

Australian Research Council
www.arc.gov.au/industrial-transformation-research-program

The University of Queensland acknowledges the industry partner feedback on page 4.

September 2018 edition (current to December 2018)