ARC DISCOVERY PROJECTS
For Funding Commencing in 2018

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Manager, Sponsored Research
UQR&I – January 2017

Agenda

• UQ performance in ARC Discovery Projects
• Scheme Overview
• Major Changes and Key Issues
• General Tips and Strategies
• UQ Application and Submission Process
• Q&A
Cumulatively over the last five rounds, UQ is ranked:

- 1st nationally in total $$$ awarded; and
- 2nd nationally in total number of projects awarded

UQ ranked 4th nationally in DP17 for both number of proposals and $$$ awarded.

- 55 successful proposals and just over $21M in ARC funding.
### National Top Ten – Discovery Projects (DP) 2017 outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administering Organisation</th>
<th>Proposals considered</th>
<th>Proposals approved</th>
<th>Success rate</th>
<th>ARC approved funding over project life (approved proposals)</th>
<th>Rank by no of projects</th>
<th>Rank by ARC $</th>
<th>% of National Funding Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNSW</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>22.17%</td>
<td>$32,091,545</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>21.62%</td>
<td>$26,702,356</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monash</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>20.74%</td>
<td>$24,006,553</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>17.24%</td>
<td>$21,782,500</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uni Sydney</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>19.29%</td>
<td>$18,481,061</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANU</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>21.40%</td>
<td>$18,887,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UWA</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>$12,260,574</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uni Adelaide</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17.69%</td>
<td>$9,117,000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macquarie</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17.54%</td>
<td>$6,582,198</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griffith</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19.75%</td>
<td>$5,616,738</td>
<td>Equal 10th with Woolongong and QUT</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Total</td>
<td>3540</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>17.80%</td>
<td>$234,660,652</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UQ Discovery Projects Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>National</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>3425</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>3534</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>3689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Rate</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Graph showing UQ Discovery Projects Success Rates 2013-2017](image)
DP18 – Proposal Information

• ARC Funding $30,000 to $500,000 per year, per Project.

• Project duration up to five consecutive years *(UQ submitted comparatively few five year DPs in previous rounds).*

• Funding for successful Projects commences 1 January 2018.

• Research projects can be undertaken *by individual researchers or research teams*
DP18 - Scheme Objectives

• support excellent basic and applied research by individuals and teams;

• encourage high quality research and research training;

• enhance international collaboration in research;

• expand Australia’s knowledge base and research capability; and

• enhance the scale and focus of research in the Science and Research Priorities.

DP18 - Selection Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DP17</th>
<th>DP18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigators: 40%</td>
<td>Investigators: 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Quality and Innovation: 25%</td>
<td>Project Quality and Innovation: 35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility and Benefit: 20%</td>
<td>Feasibility (including research environment): 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Research Environment: 15%</td>
<td>Benefit: 15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Investigators – 40%**

- Research opportunity and performance evidence (ROPE); and
- Time and capacity to undertake the proposed research.

**Part F Tips - ROPE**

- F12 – provide context in terms of your career and employment
- F13/F14 – provide context in terms of your discipline (publishing practices, citation counts, journal impact factors vary widely) and the impact of your work
- Generally CI time commitment to the grant at min. 20% (0.2 FTE) and PI min.10% (0.1 FTE)

**Project Quality and Innovation – 35%**

- Significant problem?
- Innovative and original?
- Science and Research Priorities?
- Will the aims, concepts, methods and results advance knowledge?
- International collaboration?
- Research Environment - Dissemination, commercialisation (if appropriate) and promotion of research outcomes?

**Part C Tips – Research Project**

- Significance – why is the research important?
- Innovation – how will your project advance the knowledge base? What makes it novel and leading edge?
- Increased emphasis on international collaboration
Feasibility – 10%

- Do the Project’s design, participants and requested budget create confidence in the timely and successful completion of the Project?
- Is there an existing, or developing, supportive and high quality environment for this Project and for Higher Degree by Research students where appropriate?
- Are the necessary facilities available to complete the Project?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part C and Part D Tips – Feasibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Ensure that Investigator roles/responsibilities align with the project design, and that the budget reflects scope of work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide context when discussing research environment – Don’t use ‘cookie cutter’ responses)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Benefit – 15%

- Will the completed Project produce significant new knowledge and/or innovative economic, commercial, environmental, social and/or cultural benefit to the Australian and international community?
- Will the proposed research be cost-effective and value for money?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part C and Part D/E Tips – Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Highlight IMPACT of the project – beyond academia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feasibility needs to be clear before the benefit argument is made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Budget should reflect scope of work to be undertaken</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARC Discovery Projects –
Major changes & key issues

2018 Funding Rules - Changes

- **Selection Criteria** updated

- **Participant General Eligibility Requirements** – Final Report obligations must be up to date

- **Active Projects** – Count toward the Discovery Programme grant limits

- **Budget items** - Reasonable essential extraordinary costs for carers now permitted.
2018 Instructions to Applicants – Changes

• Part A4/A5 – ARC have provided guidance on how to structure the Summary and Impact Statements

• Part C – 8 pages. Headings and required information restructured to align with Selection Criteria

• F13 – 4 pages. Be selective in choice of publications to list (most significant and closely related to the area of work). UQR&I has submitted feedback to the ARC regarding the new page limit – Further advice coming soon.

Discovery Programme limits

• Only two projects as CI, Fellow or Awardee, may be held or applied for under the Discovery Programme

• All Active Projects count toward grant limits – i.e. any Project that is receiving funding according to the terms of the original ARC Funding Agreement, or has any carryover of funds/extension of end date approved by the ARC

• Review your current project (and their end dates) in your RMS Person Profile

• Refer to the Cross Scheme eligibility FAQs, or check your eligibility with UQR&I.
Discovery Programme Limits – Contd.

- 2017 ARC Future Fellowships and Australian Laureate Applicants are able to submit/hold a further two DP grants, until the FT17/FL17 outcome is known.
  - UQR&I is confirming with the ARC that DP18s will be able to proceed through the entire assessment if the Fellowship outcome is successful (as was the case in the previous round).

- FT17/FL17 applicants should evaluate existing projects which may require carry-forward before submitting DP18 applications

- Sole CI projects should be carefully considered – less flexibility

Discovery International Awards (DIA)

- For up to two researchers (CIs or PIs) per proposal.
- No funding or time limit
- Preference to overseas-based PIs to travel to Australia for collaborative research
- DIA Funding can be used for: International return economy class airfares, reasonable local travel, a living allowance and consumables.
- Awarded as a special condition
- Success rates (DIAs and ICAs):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Requests</th>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Investigator Eligibility

**CI Eligibility:** CIs must;
- be an employee for at least 0.2 FTE at an Eligible Organisation; or
- be a holder of an emeritus appointment at an Eligible Organisation (CI must meet criteria at 1 January 2018 and for duration of Project)
- Cannot be undertaking a research higher degree
- Must reside predominantly in Australia

**PI Eligibility: PIs Must;**
- not meet the eligibility criteria for CI
- take significant intellectual responsibility for the conduct of the Project...

Medical Research Policy

- The ARC’s Medical Research Policy was last revised in August 2014; [http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-medical-research-policy](http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-medical-research-policy)
- *Research which has human health and/or medical goals is unlikely to be eligible for ARC support.* Contact UQR&I with any queries or concerns.
Application Form

G1 - Research support for all participants
- Includes two separate tables;
  - one for ARC Proposals and newly funded ARC Projects which are not yet active; and
  - One for Funding from non-ARC sources
- Template available on the UQR&I website

G2 – Statement on Progress
- Statements required from each participant on the proposal, who is nominated as a CI/PI on a currently funded DP, DI/IN, DECRA, LP, IH, IC or any Fellowship scheme.
- Currently funded projects appear at F16 for each CI/PI
- If the Final Report has recently been submitted, a short explanation must be provided.
- Template available on the UQR&I website
Application Form

F12 and 13 - ROPE Questions:
• No longer required to limit details of career and opportunities for research (F12), or significant research outputs (F13), to the previous ten years.
• Note that the list of ARC grants should be limited to those awarded over the past ten years.

Part C:
• New heading structure – See ITAs

ORCID
• Not required and will not appear in DP18 Application Form. However, the ARC encourage all researchers to create an account (may be compulsory in the future).
  - link ORCID to your profile at UQ

Commonwealth-funded Research Centres and ‘non-duplication’
• Under the DP Funding Rules, the ARC will not duplicate funding for research or research infrastructure funded by the Commonwealth.
• Certification is required that the Project does not duplicate the work of a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre – this is needed to underpin UQ’s institutional submission of your proposal.

Helpful templates are available on the UQR&I DP18 webpage:
Budget and justification tips

- CI and PI salaries are entered as in-kind contributions
- Do not include in-kind CI salary value if funded by ARC funds. But, articulating FTE % committed is still important
- UQ salary scales are listed on the UQR&I website - http://www.uq.edu.au/research/research-management/arc-discovery-projects
- Do not include indexation in your budget
- $50,000 ARC limit on travel (over the life of the Project)
- Costs related to Field Research and DIA are not included in $50,000 limit on travel. See Field Research definition in Funding Rules
- Budget justification – use the same headings as the budget
- RHD stipends are now entered using a dropdown menu (set rate: $26,300 per annum). Top-ups cannot be requested.
- Download the RMS Budget Tip Sheet from the UQR&I website

ARC Discovery Projects – UQ Application and Submission Process
Getting started

Join the UQR&I Mailing List

Familiarise yourself with the DP18 documentation

Ensure you have access to RMS

http://www.arc.gov.au/discovery-projects

RMS Access: https://rms.arc.gov.au

Submitting your application to UQR&I

1. Complete the application in RMS then “Submit to Research Office”

2. e-mail arc-discovery@research.uq.edu.au with a copy of your completed UQ Funding Application Coversheet. Please note that this must be received to initiate UQR&I internal review of your application.
   - The UQR&I internal closing date is 1 February 2017 – Advanced draft proposals and Request not to Assess (if applicable)

3. A UQR&I DP18 pre-award team member will be assigned to you and will review your application.
   - They will work with you in the feedback cycle
   - Forward your Certification Forms to your assigned reviewer

4. On completion of feedback cycle your application is queued for submission to the ARC. UQR&I submits your proposal to the ARC on behalf of the University.

Contacts

UQR&I:
- For all enquiries, please contact the UQR&I DP18 team at: arc-discovery@research.uq.edu.au

Faculty/Institute:
- Faculty and Institute Research Liaisons may be able to assist with local submission/approval processes and with local readership programs: http://www.uq.edu.au/research/research-partnerships/contact-firl
Questions?