



Australian Laureate Fellowships scheme

The *Australian Laureate Fellowships* scheme provides funding for outstanding researchers from Australia and around the world.

The scheme is designed to support excellence in research by attracting world-class researchers and research leaders to key positions, and creating new rewards and incentives for the application of their talents in Australia.

The scheme is providing \$239 million over five years for up to 75 talented research leaders.

The *Australian Laureate Fellowships* scheme aims to:

- attract and retain outstanding researchers and research leaders of international repute;
- build and strengthen world-class capability in Australia;
- provide an excellent research training environment and exemplary mentorship to nurture early-career researchers;
- expand Australia's knowledge base by supporting ground-breaking, internationally competitive research;
- forge strong links among researchers, industry and the international research community; and
- support research that will result in economic, environmental, social or cultural benefits for Australia.

Up to 15 fellowships at a value of up to \$3.1 million will be awarded each year. The first cohort of 15 fellows were announced on 22 June 2009 and the second cohort of 15 fellows on 6 July 2010.

Working with Australian universities, Australian Laureate Fellows undertake important research that will deliver significant national benefit to Australians. Each Australian Laureate Fellow also leads and mentors a team of postdoctoral and postgraduate researchers, building Australia's next generation of research leaders and increasing its research capacity.

The *Australian Laureate Fellowships* scheme was announced by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Kim Carr, on 3 September 2008 at an address to Humanities and Social Sciences sector at the National Press Club, Canberra.

The scheme is administered by the Australian Research Council (ARC) alongside the new *Future Fellowships* scheme for mid-career researchers, and *Super Science Fellowships* scheme for early-career researchers.

Biographies on all Australian Laureate Fellows are available on the ARC website at www.arc.gov.au > *National Competitive Grants Program* > *Australian Laureate Fellowships*.

For more information about the *Australian Laureate Fellowships* scheme visit
www.arc.gov.au > *National Competitive Grants Program*,
email ARC-AustralianLaureateFellowships@arc.gov.au or phone +61 2 6287 6600.



Australian Research Council (ARC)

The mission of the ARC is to *deliver policy and programs that advance Australian research and innovation globally and benefit the community.*

The ARC was established by the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*. It is a statutory authority under the *Public Service Act 1999* and a prescribed agency under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

In 2010-11 the ARC has a total operating budget of \$26.191 million including funding of \$5.688 million for implementation of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative. The ARC has also received \$2.574 million to fund IT systems to support the ERA initiative.

The ARC administers the Australian Government's *National Competitive Grants Program* (NCGP). In 2010-11 NCGP funding will total around \$708.733 million. Together with the ERA funding, this accounts for 8.3 per cent of the Australian Government's 2010-11 \$8.923 billion commitment to science and innovation.

- The ARC is currently administering funding provided to almost 4650 research projects Australia-wide, involving more than 10 200 researchers.

The ARC is responsible for the development and implementation of the ERA initiative. The initiative will evaluate research quality within Australia's higher education institutions using a combination of indicators and expert review by committees comprising experienced, internationally-recognised experts.

Submissions for the full ERA process opened on 1 June 2010 and close on 29 July 2010.

For more information visit www.arc.gov.au