

WORKSHOPS ON ARC DISCOVERY GRANT APPLICATIONS - 10th to 14th OCTOBER

Professor Alan Johnson AM, a previous member of the ARC College of Experts and previous ARC Executive Director will be visiting Murdoch from 10th to 14th October to facilitate three workshops on improving the competitiveness of future ARC Discovery Projects applications.

Professors Helena Grehan (current ARC College of Experts member) and **Giles Hardy** (previous ARC College of Experts member) will provide expert advice from their experience as a College member, including how to address crucial aspects of the application (including FOR codes, Title, Summary) and current ARC issues and assessment processes

The workshops will cover all research disciplines and be interactive with opportunities to discuss your specific situations (you can email questions beforehand – see below).

Each workshop will be offered twice during the week to give staff maximum opportunity to attend. **Participants, particularly those submitting to the next Discovery Projects round are strongly encouraged to attend all three workshops.**

The three workshops will focus on:

- 1) “*Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) of named investigators*”,
- 2) “*Project Research Environment*”
- 3) “*Project Quality and Innovation/Feasibility and Benefit*”

Please register below –

Workshop	First offer	Second Offer
Workshop 1 : ARC Discovery Projects - Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) of named investigators	10th October 2016 08:30 to 10:30 ECL 1.031 <u>Register</u>	13th October 2016 08:30 to 10:30 Senate Conference Room <u>Register</u>
Workshop 2: ARC Discovery Projects - Project Research Environment	10th October 2016 13:00 to 15:00 ECL 1.031 <u>Register</u>	11th October 2016 08:30 to 10:30 Senate Conference Room <u>Register</u>
Workshop 3: ARC Discovery Projects - Project Quality and Innovation/Feasibility and Benefit	12th October 2016 08:30 to 11:30 Senate Conference Room <u>Register</u>	14th October 2016 08:30 to 11:30 Senate Conference Room <u>Register</u>

Participants with specific challenges or questions in these areas are invited to send them to Jane Crier – j.crier@murdoch.edu.au by 3rd October so they can be incorporated, anonymously if required, into the workshops and addressed by the presenters.

Details:

Workshop 1: Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) of named investigators

This is the highest scored selection criterion used in the Discovery scheme so is probably the most important. The workshop will address issues such as;

- Am I at the right stage to apply?
- How to promote your outputs and outcomes to maximum effect;
- Project team - Why/how/who to include as other Chief or Partner Investigators; and
- Applicant order.

Workshop 2: Project Research Environment

The Research Environment section of Part C is worth 15% of the grant assessment for Discovery Projects. This assessment criterion was introduced to encourage universities to put their internal resources in areas that they wished to excel in and therefore would be of more interest for ARC funding by providing research depth.

This workshop will provide advice on how to address this section and the many elements that could be included here to establish and provide evidence and indicators of a strong and viable research environment specific to the research project.

Workshop 3: Project Quality and Innovation/Feasibility and Benefit

Research grant applications are unlike writing a paper where you are describing what you have done. To make your application as competitive as possible you must explain clearly and simply but with sufficient detail, what you will do. It is a funding prospectus which must convince assessors who do not know the area to invest the sparse dollars available in your project rather than 80% of the other applications. It must be innovative and worthwhile in a research output sense and ideally with social, economic and environmental outcomes. And in addition to these benefits it must be feasible in a research management sense so that you and your potential additional investigators can achieve the clearly described Aim.

This workshop will cover the major points to consider in order to make your application as competitive as possible.