Research School of Humanities and the Arts

Guidelines for the re-allocation of National Institute Funds 2012 for research performance

The Research School of Humanities and the Arts will receive an allocation of $281,907 for 2011 National Institute Funding (NIF) Performance Funding in 2012 from the Vice-Chancellors office. These funds will go directly to the RSHA Directorate for distribution within its Schools.

At its meeting on Friday 24 February the RSHA Executive agreed on the following principles and guidelines for the allocation of these funds.

- The funding cannot be used for recurrent purposes;

- Funding will not be distributed pro-rata nor on the basis of research performance of individual schools;

- Funding will be used to facilitate successful research performance;

- There will be no closing date. The part purpose of the funding is as a contingency pool to support research activity as it develops during the year, so funds will remain available throughout the year and will not all be spent early in the year;

- The Director, RSHA, will consider applications and report back on his recommendations to the RSHA Executive, who will endorse these recommendations at its fortnightly meetings;

- Areas of support include:
  
  - Staff conference support to fund Early Career Researchers (ECR) to attend international conferences as a key area of research development, if they are presenting a refereed paper that will result in a publication down the track. In this case an ECR is a contracted academic at level A or B. A strong written case will be made by the Head of School to the Director in nominating their ECR staff member.
    - By recommendation from Head of School and written application to RSHA Director.

  - Allocation to CASS/RSHA Postdoctoral Fellows who have not been allocated fieldwork funding as part of their fellowships.
    - By recommendation from Head of School and written application to RSHA Director.

  - Co-contribution to AOUs if they have a salary gap that prevents them from accepting an ARC application where the shortfall could not be anticipated.
    - By recommendation from Head of School and written application to RSHA Director.
Allocation of pilot funding for non-ARC research grants which are of strategic significance to the RSHA, and for example result in collaboration between Schools, facilitate early career development or that are designed to create external research funding opportunities and partnerships.
  - By recommendation from Head of School and written application to RSHA Director.