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| Monthly Bulletin |

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Dear colleague,Welcome to the September edition of the Research Office Bulletin.The Research Office team contacts can be found [here](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/researchers/contacts) and the Reception hotline is 03 9479 **1144**, please contact us any time between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.This, our second Bulletin includes news about:* Grants Updates
* Research Master Upgrade
* New Senior Biosafety Advisor
* Big Bids Expressions of Interest Outcomes
* LARTF Projects.

With best wishes Dr MaryAnne Aitken, Executive Director, Research Office.**Grants Updates**We have collated this PDF of [funding opportunities](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/743825/Funding-Calendar-August-to-September-2016.pdf) from now until the end of 2016. This list will be updated in future Bulletins. Please note that the dates listed may be when applications *open* or *close*, so please check the relevant websites for up-to-date information. The Grants team is very happy to assist you with all of your research applications; individual contact details are listed [here](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/researchers/contacts), or try researchgrants@latrobe.edu.au**Research Master Upgrade**The system that supports the University’s research management information, Research Master, is currently undergoing a long-awaited upgrade and is scheduled to go live on Tuesday 18 October. The upgrade was initiated to mitigate risk and stabilise the system ahead of the ERA *return* in March 2018 (cut-off date for being counted in the ERA submission is 31 March 2017). The benefits of the upgrade include a new web-based interface, greater flexibility in reporting, and enhanced ICT support for the applications.Staff who use the system or who have responsibility for approving applications for external funding will be contacted for familiarisation and training.Alongside the upgrade, the University is looking to renew the systems that currently support research information management. Consultation on a long-term solution will take place throughout September and October of this year. To have your say, contact Dr Jeska Rees.**New Senior Biosafety Advisor in Ethics, Biosafety and Integrity**Please welcome Ms Dulani Gamlaksha, who is joining us as a Senior Biosafety Advisor. She will be providing biosafety and biosecurity advice to non-GM biological research work. Dulani is part time in this role and spends the remainder of her working week in a similar role at Deakin University. Dulani is originally from Sri Lanka, but lived in Singapore for 7 years where she worked as a safety officer before migrating to Australia in 2014. **Big Bids Expressions of Interest Outcomes**Mid-year, we opened our first call for EOI and received 23 diverse and interesting applications, from which eight projects were chosen as our first round of Big Bid projects. Each successful big bid has been allocated up to $250,000. Over the next 18 months the work on these projects will:* engage in collaborations between researchers and a wide variety of organisations nationally and internationally
* directly employ more than 11 staff (not including CIs)
* host more than six symposiums/conferences
* produce over 24 publications
* aim to submit 16 external grant applications
* ultimately, submit eight big bids in large external funding schemes.

This initiative extends the RFAs impact on La Trobe’s strong competitive research advantage and enables our lead researchers to think big and aim high. The co-ordination of the big bid projects is based within the Strategic Partnerships team under the direction of the PVC (Research Development).If you need to get in touch, please email us directly or use our business address: ResearchPartnerships@latrobe.edu.au We are always available to talk to you about your research partnership needs.**La Trobe Animal Research and Teaching Facility (LARTF) Projects**LARTF are making progress on a number of significant projects to expand and improve the service offered to researchers.Zebrafish – plans are progressing for development of an aquatic PC2 space for Zebrafish holding and experimental work.Zoology Annexe Project – user consultation is underway for draft plans of buildings to be located adjacent the Zoology Annexe for the holding of Avian and wildlife species. Facility Management Software Project – Thank-you to all who provided input in the scoping of business requirements for a software product to replace our current animal management system. A Project Steering Group has been formed for the next stage of the project.Agribio – Restocking of the Agribio Small Animal House for use as a breeding and stock holding facility has commenced and the mice are breeding well. User consultation regarding the movement of colonies to Agribio is ongoing; colonies will only be relocated after discussion with the colony owner.  |

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