



Research Bulletin – December

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the December edition of the *Research Bulletin*. In this edition we have information on:

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All the best

MaryAnne Aitken, Russell Hoyer and Dan Grant

New Research Centres

We are pleased to announce the establishment of two new research centres at La Trobe as part of the new Research Centres Strategic Framework.

Research Centre for Future Landscapes

Led by Professor Andrew Bennett, the **Research Centre for Future Landscapes** brings together La Trobe's expertise in ecology, biophysical science, soil science, microbial ecology and conservation genetics. The Centre will provide new insights into contemporary and emerging drivers of landscape change, and the consequences for biodiversity, ecosystem services and social values. The Centre will partner with Government, industry and community to test innovative land uses and provide new knowledge to enhance future environmental and social sustainability. Importantly, the Centre will foster the next generation of scientists through active support for research students and research fellows.

The Centre for Livestock interactions with Pathogens

The Centre for Livestock interactions with Pathogens (CLiP) is led by Dr Travis Beddoe in the School of Life Sciences. The Centre will bring together scientists across La Trobe, our international collaborations and industry partners to apply cutting edge research in animal disease and translate these findings to the field, especially in the key areas of diagnostics, vaccine production,

bioinformatics and quantitative analysis. The Centre will provide a platform to increase La Trobe's profile in animal health as well as provide new opportunities for our students.

Reminder re: Support with your new ethics applications

The Ethics and Integrity team will be holding drop-in sessions in Bundoora Library Rm 2.18. to assist anyone needing advice with applications

DATES	TIMES
Fri. 8 December	10 am – 11:00 am
Mon. 11 December	10 am – 11:00 am
Wed. 13 December	2 pm – 3:00 pm
Fri. 15 December	10 am – 11:00 am
Mon. 18 December	10 am – 11:00 am
Wed. 20 December	2 pm – 3:00 pm

Reminder - Annual progress reports to ethics and biosafety committees

Annual progress reports to the La Trobe Institutional Biosafety Committee are due on **Wednesday, 31 January**.

Annual progress reports to the Animal Ethics Committee, University Human Ethics Committee and ASSC/SHE College Human Ethics Sub-Committees are due **Monday 12 February**.

Contact the Ethics and Integrity team if you have any queries:

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/researchers/contacts>

Research Grants Update

As we draw near to the end of the year, the Research Grants Team acknowledges all the hard work our research community put into seeking funding to support research. To date, the Grants Team has supported the submission of 577 grants with (to date) 143 being awarded. Writing grants is time consuming and the number of applications submitted this year represents an enormous investment of researcher's time and energy.

Success rates in Category 1 (ARC and NMMRC funding schemes) is around 20%, while success rates in Category 2 (Australian Federal and State funding that is not Category 1) and Category 3 (Industry, international and philanthropic funding) is close to 30%. We continue to encourage researchers to talk with the Grants Team about suitable funding opportunities to fund their research.

Major Grants 2018 deadlines

We ask researchers who are submitting applications to the ARC or NHMRC in early 2018 to take note of the internal deadlines specific for each scheme.

[ARC](#) and [NHMRC](#) deadlines can be found via the La Trobe Intranet pages.

Please contact researchgrants@latrobe.edu.au if you have not yet notified the Team that you are submitting an application in 2018.

Program for Research Information Management Enablement (PRIME) Update

An all staff Media and Communications update was sent out in early November introducing everyone to the PRIME Program (Program for Research Information Management Enablement), and we thought it was timely to let you all know how each project stream is progressing.

Integrated Research Systems (IRS) is the largest project within PRIME, and will identify and implement a system or mix of systems to manage research information end to end. So far, we've asked relevant companies to propose options, which we narrowed down to two. We've conducted site visits and analysed the cost, benefit, risk and opportunity of each, and negotiated with each of the final two vendors to get the best deal. Next steps will be a recommendation to the Steering Committee as to the preferred vendor in December. A lot of hard work has gone into making sure the right decision is made, and we look forward to sharing the outcomes with everyone soon!

HDR Data Integration will give HDR students much needed access to information and systems currently limited to university staff for research purposes. So far, we have designed a means of giving access, which has now been approved by the University's senior stakeholders, and we have commenced building the integration. Next steps will be completing the integration and Go Live in quarter 1, 2018.

Researcher Profiles will make our researchers easier to find, and better promote La Trobe's research. We have reached agreement on the product we will use in the short term, and consultation on look and feel, and on what information we will display is currently underway. A fair amount of data analysis and clean-up in the Library and Research Office to ensure the new platform works at its full potential is also underway. Next steps will be completion of these activities and transfer of all the information into the new platform - more to come on this early next year.

Research Equipment Management System (REMS) will help us better identify and track our equipment, and make it easier to borrow. We have completed data entry of all the equipment and had some people test it, and received some great feedback on the new interim database. This information will be used to help us create a better long term solution. Next steps will be wider use of the interim solution across all research areas, information about this will be sent out very soon.

Quick Wins – these three projects will be bringing you some fantastic benefits early next year by way of some interim solutions, which will be further improved as a part of the long term project, Integrated Research Systems.

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