From the Associate Dean Research

Welcome to 2015! Looking back, 2014 had many research highlights for BE.

Over $1.4m in external grants was secured in ARC Discovery, AHURI, CRC projects and contract research together with around $100,000 in research infrastructure funding from UNSW.

The DVC welcomely supported our submission for central funding in the urban informatics area and we will be joined in a few months’ time by Professor Chris Pettit from the University of Melbourne to lead this initiative. In addition, the groundwork is being laid for support to enhance research and related teaching opportunities in high performance architecture.

On the publication front, there were several edited books, including Leisure Space by Paul Hogben and Judith O’Callaghan, leading the History & Theory Research Cluster, and Christine Steinmetz’s (Sub)Urban Sexscapes, plus a number of AHURI reports on housing markets. These books sit atop a list of outputs that sustained our publication performance from 2013.

In both publications and especially grants, key roles are played by projects connected to City Futures and the affiliated CRC for Low Carbon Living. Both make significant contributions to public debate and policy in diverse ways: interacting with and advising decision-makers, submissions to inquiries, and generally helping to maintain our profile in applied research.

There were several research symposia held last year: the Utzon Symposium in March, HBEP’s ‘Making it Happen’ on World Health Day in April, and the People & Place Research Cluster’s ‘Place And Placelessness’ Seminar in September, a joint venture with UCL’s Bartlett School. In addition, 19 seminars were organised by City Futures on behalf of the faculty with speakers from all over the globe, including Chile, Hong Kong, US, UK, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates. There were also more targeted ‘in-house’ workshops on writing, ethics and grant applications.

HDR students contribute vitally to the research culture of the faculty, and in 2014 there were 13 degree completions, all but one at the doctoral level.

Last year was a challenging year in many respects with resources constrained, a situation which continues into 2015. At the same time the Faculty will be able to support faculty researchers both individually and collectively through a variety of programs this coming year. The productivity and achievements of 2014 augur well for the year ahead.

Rob Freestone
Associate Dean Research
Research Highlights

Dean’s Research Excellence Awards Announced

At the end of year faculty lunch, held just before we broke up for Christmas, Rob Freestone announced the annual recipients of the Dean’s Research Excellence Awards. These awards are made each year to recognise our top performers across publications, research grants and HDR supervision.

Congratulations to the 2014 recipients:

Level A: Shanaka Herath  
Level B: Riza Sunindijo  
Level C: Ilan Vizel  
Level D: Catherine Bridge  
Level E: Hal Pawson

Meet the Researchers – Vivienne Milligan

Associate Professor Vivienne Milligan joined the City Futures Research Centre six years ago as a part time researcher. A geographer by training, Vivienne has spent much of her professional life driving innovation in housing policies and programs working at different times in almost all Australian jurisdictions. Her work in this field in Queensland was recognised with the award of a Public Service Medal in 1993.

Following completion of her PhD at Utrecht University in 2003, Vivienne returned to academia to pursue her passion for achieving a fairer housing system through applied research. Prior to taking up her current position she was the Director of the AHURI Sydney Research Centre at the University of Sydney. Since joining BE, Vivienne has led five research projects and has been a contributing researcher on another dozen projects, which have attracted funding from AHURI, the faculty, governments and private organisations.

Recent projects have been concerned with culturally adapted housing service frameworks for urban Aboriginal households, third sector models of housing provision, financing sources and mechanisms for supplying additional affordable housing, public housing transfer models and benchmarking social housing management costs and tenant outcomes. Comparative research features strongly in Vivienne’s work and while at UNSW she has contributed to several international comparative studies of affordable housing policies, financing and regulation.

Vivienne also teaches in the newly developed Housing Policy and Finance Course for BE Masters students. Over her career she has served on numerous high level national and state advisory committees and she is regularly asked to advise governments on housing policy and practice matters drawing on both her research outcomes and her extensive knowledge of national housing systems. This year she has provided evidence to three parliamentary inquiries concerned with housing matters.
BE Research in the News

Bill Randolph: *A quarter of Sydney suburbs now in million-dollar club.* The Sydney Morning Herald, 8 February 2014.  View article.

Hazel Easthope: *Home Building Amendment Act: Sydney apartment owners say law changes are ‘draconian’.* The Sydney Morning Herald, 15 January 2015  View article.

Bill Randolph: *Is it Really Fair that Young People Can't Buy a Flat Because their Parents Bought too Many?* The Guardian, 9 January 2015.  View article.


News from the Centres

CRC Low Carbon Living

The CRCLCL HQ has been rather busy already in 2015. So far, we have welcomed two new team members. Sara Fagir is taking on the role of office manager and Julie Wheway is joining us as our new communications manager.

We will have some great stories to tell in 2015 as projects deliver on their outcomes. This year we are focused on communicating our outcomes in a consistent and cohesive manner. We have recently rolled out new branding guidelines which are available on our website. These guidelines show how we come together; industry, government and research.

We are well into our third year and are now very much engaged in end user driven research. We are keen to work with our participants in better defining research needs and have embarked on a series of 'sand-pit' conversations with industry and government to explore projects which will have the most positive impact and improve our global competitiveness.

Upcoming BE Events

**BE ROS Workshop**

Thursday 26 February 2015, 1.00 – 2.00pm (lunch available from 12.45pm), AGSU (2001), Level 2, Red Centre.

Amy Barker from the library will be updating us on the latest changes to ROS (Research Outputs System) and how you can use it to maximise the profile of your research outputs. Main topics to be covered include:

- How to upload various documents into ROS and UNSWorks and how this can help you expose your research outputs to the world.
- How to easily check if your journal allows you to upload full text into UNSWorks.
- How to link grants to research outputs.

**RSVP**
Reminders

HERDC Return – Time to Record and Check Your 2014 Publications

The annual checking process of publications for the Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) return has begun. The return includes research income and publications information and impacts the annual funding we receive for research activities.

If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to log into ROS and check your 2014 publications. There are four important tasks to cover off:

- Check for any “Pending” publications and claim or reject them as appropriate.
- Look at your 2014 publications list and make sure it’s complete. If it isn’t, add any relevant publications and nominate them for HERDC consideration.
- Go to “HERDC” >> “My Nominations” and check if any of your nominated publications require further information.
- Also in “HERDC” >> “My Nominations”, check for any publications that say not nominated and nominate them if they are eligible for HERDC.

More information on the HERDC return, including the criteria for nominating a publication for the HERDC collection, can be found on the faculty’s research intranet.

If you have any questions regarding ROS contact Amy Barker, our outreach librarian, or faculty research manager, Toni Hodge. Please aim to have all of your updates completed by the end of March.

Did You Know…

A study out of Finland which looked at over a million published academic articles and found that over “80.4% could be uploaded either as an accepted manuscript or publisher version to an institutional or subject repository after one year of publication” source. With the ROS/UNSWorks integration and the prevalence of publishers who will allow researchers to deposit their full text articles, UNSW researchers can now more than ever make their outputs easy to find online.

Research Training – Upcoming UNSW Events

Excel Fu
Friday 27 February 2015; 9.30am – 5.00pm
Attendees will leave with two key skills – how to handle their research data within Excel, and how to use advanced features of Excel to answer research questions pertaining to their data.

More information and registration link.

Publications

The following 2014 and 2015 research activities have been entered into ROS since the release of the last newsletter.
Books


Book Chapters


Journal Articles


Conference Papers


Other


Current Funding Opportunities

James N. Kirby Foundation | Small Grants (<$15K)
Distributions within Australia only, with priority given to organisations in NSW or to national level programs whose work primarily benefits NSW …more

External Deadline: 28 February 2015
Related Links

BE Research Resources
UNSW Research