From the Associate Dean Research

The new Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Jacobs has initiated a strategic planning process for the next decade built around three major strategic priorities: Academic Excellence, Social Engagement and Global Impact. He sees the process as emphasizing a focus on people, namely on “how can we ensure that our students and staff perform and achieve to their optimum so that we have the maximum positive impact on our communities here and others globally”.

A multi-stage consultation with stakeholders is being rolled out commencing with an invitation for individual staff suggestions. There will also be a more structured consultation within all faculties. The three major priorities are each elaborated around four sub-themes, several of which have a direct connection to research. Further details are provided in this newsletter.

Professor Jacobs has also expressed a keenness to get regular updates from faculties on new publications, new grants and other research accomplishments with the intention of sharing notable achievements with the broader university community.

The desire to organise very deliberatively toward a world-class university and the importance of sharing ideas and information in that process underlines the importance of this monthly research newsletter in enhancing and advancing our research culture as well as sharing our achievements with a wider audience.

The ability of this medium to keep you informed and up-to-date is only as good as the information sources which can be tapped. We regularly trawl several key information gateways including the Research Outputs System (ROS), the grants register of the Grants Management Office, Bulletins distributed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, and routinely ask the research centres, research clusters and our postgraduate research unit for updates.

But there will be many important activities and achievements which will not be picked up through these channels and so – bottom line – we also remain dependent on staff to send information to us which is suitable for distribution through our research newsletter.

The strong message being sent from the top is the importance of regular, accurate and timely information updates and the onus on all of us to be involved, not only as far as research is concerned, but our many other activities at UNSW.

Rob Freestone
Associate Dean Research
Research Highlights

Faculty Research Grants Announced

With the release of 2015 budgets the latest round of faculty research grants have also been awarded. This scheme is designed to support pilot or smaller projects that may lead to more significant Category 1 grant applications or similar.

Applications in this round did not exceed the assigned budget for the scheme and so a second round is likely to be opened in May. Start thinking about potential projects and keep an eye out on your inbox for updates on this.

This year’s recipients are listed later in the newsletter. Congratulations to all.

Research Workshop – ROS Updates and Integration with UNSWorks

On Thursday 26 February approximately 15 people attended the first faculty research workshop of the year where Amy Barker from the Library provided an update on the latest upgrades to ROS.

The new functionality now brings grant information in from InfoEd and allows staff to link their publications to their grant. This will be of benefit once it comes time to report on grant outcomes with the publication information easily at hand and exportable from ROS.

The update also now allows users to attach their publications as a file to the record in ROS, check for any copyright restrictions, and make it available in UNSWorks, our permanent public repository for publications. Those publications that can’t be made public for any reason can now be attached as administrative documents and these will remain within ROS and not released publicly.

If possible, then, it is our recommendation that you attach your output as a file to your ROS record at the time you enter it. That way any future verification for ERA or HERDC exercises can be undertaken without the need to contact you for additional information.

Contact Amy Barker or Toni Hodge if you would like any assistance with these new features in ROS.

2016 Creative Directors Shortlisted for Australian Pavilion at la Biennale di Venezia

Maryam Gusheh is part of a six-strong team to have been shortlisted for the Creative Directorship of the Australian Pavilion at next year’s la Biennale di Venezia. Their working title for the exhibition is Parlour Live!

The Venice Biennale is the premier architectural forum in the world and it is anticipated that Australia will feature strongly given the opening of its new pavilion in the Giardini in 2015.

All the best to Maryam and her colleagues for the final selection, due to be announced on 21 April. Further information is available at http://wp.architecture.com.au/venicebiennale/creative-directors-and-exhibition/
Meet the Researchers – Peter Kohane

Dr. Peter Kohane teaches architectural history, theory and design in the Faculty’s Program of Architecture. Peter has taught at the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed his PhD. As a scholar, he is primarily concerned with ideas that were formulated in the past but remain vital to debates about architecture in the present. This is addressed in both teaching and research.

Peter’s teaching focuses on theories of design, which are analysed in their historical contexts. This has led to examining principles relevant to our understanding of institutions and buildings; the notion that space can be defined in terms of its fluidity or limits; and the concept of the human body as a type worthy of imitation in architecture.

The significance of these topics is illuminated through historical research, involving the interpretation of buildings and architectural treatises from antiquity to the present. Peter’s area of expertise is nineteenth and twentieth century architecture in America, Europe and Australia. On-going research was prompted by an ARC Discovery Grant, which explored the implications of decorum for architecture. This has led to publications on architects and theorists, including James Fergusson, James Barnet and Louis Kahn, as well as a series of articles on themes associated with decorum. Recent work has appeared in *Architectural Research Quarterly*, *Architecture+Urbanism* and the *Journal of the European Architectural History Network*. Peter is currently working on Kahn’s theory of a room, as well as C. R. Cockerell’s views on empathy and history, as outlined in his Royal Academy lectures.

BE Research in the News

**Hal Pawson:** *Homelessness more widespread than official figures show, charities warn.* BBC News UK, 4 February 2015. [View article.](#)

**Hal Pawson:** *Homelessness “on the rise” amid cuts to benefits.* The Telegraph UK, 4 February 2015. [View article.](#)

**Scott Hawken:** *Angkor Wat’s Hidden Megacity, Jungle Atlantis Episode 1 of 2* BBC Two, 15 October 2014. [View website.](#)

News from the Centres

**City Futures Research Centre**

City Futures was successful last year in being awarded leadership of one of three Evidence-Based Policy Inquiries by AHURI during its 2015 funding round.

**Evidence-Based Policy Inquiry title: The Affordable Housing Industry and Large Scale National Stock Transfer**

The EPI will investigate national and relevant international experience of public housing transformations to inform practicable strategies for restructuring social housing across Australia. It will identify potentially appropriate models for government and industry-led capacity-building strategies and initiatives to foster affordable housing industry with the capacity to substantially improve housing outcomes for lower income Australians.
The overarching questions to be addressed in this research are:

1) What can be learned from Australia’s recent and ongoing housing transfers about how affordable housing industry capacity may act as a limiting factor and how this might be overcome?

2) Bearing in mind experience to date, and factoring in public policy objectives, how can Australian governments and industry players most effectively nurture affordable housing industry development?

3) How can overseas experience appropriately inform Australian approaches to social housing transformation?

If you would like more information about this project, or would like to be involved with it, contact Hal Pawson.

News from the Research Clusters

Design Research Collaboration

The Design Research Collaboration has commissioned the curatorial team of Kathryn Hunyor, Annette Mauer and Stephen Goddard to produce and present an exhibition proposal to Object Galleries, MAAS (Museum of Arts and Applied Sciences, formerly the PowerHouse Museum) and UNSW Galleries. Make Known is a three-part exhibition series that aims to articulate and communicate the value of design research. It goes behind the scenes to reveal the ways that academic designers at UNSW utilise research in its many forms, in order to pursue design excellence and enrich the field of design. After initial discussions with the Powerhouse a formal proposal is now being prepared. The Exhibition planning and production is the major activity for the cluster for 2015.

After two and a half years of industry design research events, initiatives and cultural change within the Faculty. Rina Bernabei and Dr Hank Haesler are stepping down as cluster convenors. Both members look forward to an exciting future and the upcoming exhibition under new cluster leadership. The cluster is opening Expressions of Interest to existing members for the convenor positions and Expressions of Interest for cluster membership to our faculty colleagues practicing design research.

Upcoming BE Events

BE Research Seminar

Adaptive Planning Policy: Building and managing adaptive cities with adaptive policy using dynamic simulation
Dr Elisabete Silva, Cambridge University UK

Wednesday 25 March 2015; 12.00pm, Room 4035, Red Centre.

This presentation links theory of planning, planning support systems and dynamic modelling in order to build the argument that new planning policy requires adaptive planning and models that go beyond snapshots of analysis and scenarios…more

Other University Events

Early Career Academic Network (ECAN)

ECAN provides a platform for early career academics to network, learn and develop. Their first Postdoctoral Academy Seminar Series for 2015 will be held on Thursday 12 March 2015, 3.30-
5.30pm. Their guest speaker will be David Gleeson, academic promotions manager, speaking on *Academic Promotion – Real stories and helpful advice.*

[More information and to register.](#)

**Women in Research Network (WiRN)**

UNSW’s Women in Research Network helps research active women, who are academic members of staff, connect with one another in order to form positive professional relationships. The network is guided by a planning group of women researchers and supported administratively by the Researcher Development Unit. Their first brown bag lunchtime session will be on Wednesday **18 March 2015**, 12.00 – 2.00pm.

[More information and to join the network.](#)

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**UNSW Policy News and Announcements**

**Invitation to Contribute to the UNSW 2015-2025 Strategic Plan**

Our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Jacobs, has invited all staff to contribute ideas to the UNSW 2015-2025 strategy, which is being developed through to October this year. The 10 year plan will be developed around three overarching strategic priorities:

1. **Academic Excellence**
2. **Social Engagement**
3. **Global Impact.**

Research features throughout each priority and specific research-focused questions include:

1c) **Research Excellence:**
   How can we continue to improve our research output and quality? How can we bridge the gap to the top 50 in the major world rankings?

2b) **Establishing UNSW as a leading forum for debate, discussion and policy formulation for the “Grand Challenges” facing our society:**
   Can we establish UNSW as a national and international forum for discussion, debate and policy formulation on the “Grand Challenges” facing society? If so what 4-5 topics in which UNSW has expertise to contribute should we focus on? How should we engage in rising to those challenges?

2c) **Knowledge transfer and driving the discovery-application pipeline**
   How can UNSW engage more with industry, government, employers and other stakeholders to increase knowledge transfer, help diversify the economy and generate prosperity for Australian society?

3b) **Partnerships with other major universities across the globe**
   If UNSW was to create deep, substantive partnerships with just 4-5 universities, one each in Asia, Europe, North America and Africa, which would they be? What should be the criteria? How would we develop and measure the value of those partnerships?

3c) **Advancing our contribution in the developing world**
   How can UNSW’s expertise in teaching and research make a difference to less privileged societies and peoples in the developing world? How can we fund these initiatives and make them both responsible and sustainable? How to measure outcomes?

Comments can be submitted until **31 March 2015** via the [website](#) set up for this process.
**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**.

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**Research Training – Upcoming UNSW Events**

**Orientation to Research**

*Tuesday 17 March 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm*

This workshop is for research academics newly appointed at UNSW. The Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian Jacobs, will open the workshop and senior staff from the Division of Research will provide an overview of the research environment; strategy, expectations, and the support available in developing your career. A panel with the Division’s Directors will conclude the workshop allowing time for discussion.

[More information and registration link.](#)

**Supervisor Development: Supervision – Starting off on the right foot**

*Tuesday 24 March 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm*

The aim of this workshop is to understand the roles and responsibilities of a supervisor during a period from the HDR accepting offer to the confirmation of candidature.

[More information and registration link.](#)

**Supervisor Development: Supporting HDR students’ academic reading and literature review**

*Thursday 26 March; 10.00am – 1.00pm*

The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with some tools that help with providing effective feedback and support to an HDR on academic reading so that timely completion (by census) is achieved.

[More information and registration link.](#)
Cleaning and Exploring your Data with Open Refine  
*Tuesday 7 April 2015; 10.00am – 12.30pm*
Open Refine is a powerful free tool for exploring, normalising and cleaning up datasets. In this tutorial we'll work through the various features of Refine, including importing data, faceting, clustering, and calling into remote APIs, by working on a fictional but plausible humanities research project.

[More information and registration link.]

Data Visualisation with Google Fusion Tables  
*Tuesday 7 April 2015; 2.00pm – 4.00pm*
This two hour workshop introduces Google Fusion Tables and uses a practical example whereby participants create a "heat map" of NSW highlighting crime hotspots by drawing together geospatial data containing Local Government Area (LGA) boundaries together with NSW Crime statistics to illustrate the power of Fusion Tables.

[More information and registration link.]

Excel Fu  
*Friday 10 April 2015; 9.30am – 5.00pm*
"Excel Fu" workshop runs over one day and comprises of a series of hands-on exercises and slide-based background material. 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.]

New External Grants

Congratulations to the following faculty members who have recently been awarded research grants:

**Hoon Han**  
Hanbat National University, Korea: $25,000  
*Human interaction and perceptions to/with the mediaskin/façade in Australia.*

New Internal Grants

**Rina Bernabei**  
Faculty Research Grant: $10,692  
*Weaving Together 3D Digital fabrication and Traditional Handcrafts*

**Matthias Haeusler**  
Faculty Research Grant: $13,478  
*New Forms of Community Engagement: Enabling social networks in an improving public transport for a community through responsive transport interchanges*

**Jinu Kim**  
Faculty Research Grant: $8,666  
*The Dynamics of the Australian Office Market*
Miles Park
Faculty Research Grant: $11,200
Design Development for Three Design Projects: MeerkatGo, This to That and Print to Repair

Russell Rodrigo
Faculty Research Grant: $13,837
Spatialising the Cold War: The Australian context

Publications

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

Book Chapters

Ramirez, M. (2015). Commitments of University Leaders to the Talloires Declaration: Are They Evidenced in Industrial Design Teaching and Learning?. In W. Leal Filho, L. Brandli, O. Kuznetsova, & A. M. F. D. Paço (Eds.), Integrative Approaches to Sustainable Development at University Level (pp. 225-244). Springer International Publishing. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-10690-8_16

Journal Articles


Conference Papers


Other


Simon, K. (2014). The Affordance of Iteration: (Per)forming Landscape’s Ambiguous Surfaces. Design Research Institute, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Suzhou, China.

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**Current Funding/Research Opportunities**

**Australian European University Institute | Postdoctoral Fellowships / Visiting Scholars 2015**
Available to researchers currently undertaking research in history, law, economics, and social and political sciences who are able to identify a direct benefit for their research from a period of residence at the EUI …more

   **External Deadline:** 15 March 2015

**Dept. Trade & Investment | Conference Sponsorship Program**
Available for conferences taking place from June 2015 to July 2016 and successful applicants will be awarded grants of up to $10,000 each …more

   **External Deadline:** 20 March 2015

**Australian Academy of the Humanities | Travelling Fellowships/Publication Subsidy**
- **Travelling Fellowships:** A Fellowship of up to $4000 available to permanent resident scholars in Australia working in the humanities …more | **External Deadline:** 9 April 2015
- **Publication Subsidy Scheme:** Support of up to $3,000 for the publication of scholarly works of high quality in the humanities …more | **External Deadline:** 9 April 2015

**BE Visiting International Scholars**
This program aims to support short term stays in the faculty by distinguished overseas scholars with the aim of encouraging research collaborations and production of research outputs. A total of $20,000 funding has been allocated to support visits by 2-3 visitors.

   **Closing date:** 10 April 2015 | More information

**BE Book Publication Subsidy**
This program provides financial support for the publication of scholarly monographs authored by BE staff by quality commercial publishers (HERDC-eligible books). Edited books where the editor is a BE staff member and where at least five of the chapters are authored by BE staff may also be eligible. A pool of up to $20,000 is available in 2015 with an indicative maximum allocation per grant being $5,000. The expectation is that this support (possibly with any other guaranteed support) will confirm publication.

   **Closing date:** 10 April 2015 | More information
BE Research Symposia/Exhibitions
This new program aims to support the staging of both research symposia and exhibitions through small research grants. A total of $20,000 funding has been initially allocated. Depending on the number of proposals, this is seen as supporting at least four initiatives.

Closing date: 10 April 2015    More information

MAAS Visiting Research Fellowship Program
The Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences (including the Powerhouse Museum) has just launched a fellowship program and invites applications for projects that align with any of their eight disciplines:

- Technologies
- Health and medicine
- Physical sciences
- Engineering
- Architecture and the built environment
- Design and decorative arts
- Fashion
- Contemporary culture.

More information.

Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme
The DAAD scheme funds the exchange of academics (travel and accommodation expenses) between Australia and Germany to work on joint research projects. A particular focus of the scheme is the involvement and development of early career researchers. An information workshop is being held to provide more information on the scheme:

Workshop Summary
Time & Date: 2 - 3:30pm, Monday 30 March
Venue: University of Technology, Sydney
        Building 2, Level 4, Lecture Theatre 10
RSVP: Email Kerrie Thornton (k.thornton@universitiesaustralia.edu.au) by 24 March to RSVP.

Applications for DAAD funding commencing in 2016 open on 9 April and close on 29 June 2015. A detailed application pack will be made available on the Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme webpage in late March.

Related Links

BE Research Resources
UNSW Research