The objective of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) national assessment is “to identify and promote excellence across the full spectrum of research activity in Australia’s higher education institutions” by evaluating quality across a range of indicators, notably publication, against national and international benchmarks. 2015 marks the third iteration of this assessment.

Preparations are now in hand across the university. BE is naturally at the centre of the “Built Environment and Design” (Field of Research FOR: 12) research area for UNSW but in terms of outputs there is a supplementary range of books and book chapters, journal articles, conference papers and non-traditional outputs from other faculties (Art & Design, FASS, Engineering, Science and UNSW Canberra) to be considered.

The assessment covers the last six years (2008-2013) requiring over 1300 outputs to be reviewed and checked for accuracy and appropriate coding to FOR12 in the first instance. We also have to identify a representative one third sample of outputs for peer review, a key part of the assessment process for all social science and humanities disciplines. A short report covering our activities, strengths, and achievements is also required.

The process of putting together our submission required by early 2015 will take some weeks. Vitally assisting in this key task is a faculty working party looking at our key ‘four digit’ fields of research: 1201 Architecture (Paul Hogben, Deo Prasad and Xing Ruan), 1202 Building (Cynthia Wang and Sid Newton), 1203 Design Practice (Rina Bernabei, Katrina Simon and Hank Hauesler), and 1205 Planning (Simon Pinnegar and Bill Randolph).

The ultimate goal is reputational with our aim to maintain or improve where possible the ratings received in 2012. At the aggregate level, UNSW ‘Built Environment and Design’ received a rating of 4 (characterised by evidence of performance above world standard) and was one of only three universities to receive this maximum score.

Rob Freestone
Associate Dean Research
Research Highlights

Visitors to the Faculty

In late October the Faculty hosted a panel of international visitors invited to discuss current capacities and future potentialities for focused research and teaching in the area of ‘urban informatics’. On Thursday afternoon 23 October the three members of the panel presented their ideas to a faculty workshop and later met with the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Les Field.

Pictured with Professor Field (front left) are Sarah Williams (front centre), Chris Webster (front right) and Luc Anselin (second from right at rear) along with Professor Alec Tzannes (Dean), Professor Alan Peters (Deputy Dean) and Professor Robert Freestone (Associate Dean Research). Professor Williams is Director of the Civic Data Design Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Anselin is Director of the GeoData Center for Geospatial Analysis and Computation at Arizona State University; and Professor Webster is Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Hong Kong.

Academy Honours for Sustainability Leader

Scientia Professor Deo Prasad has been elected as a Fellow of the prestigious Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

The 25 Fellows elected by their peers in 2014 include Australia's Chief Scientist, Professor Ian Chubb, as well as leading academics, prominent commercial innovators, professional and business leaders and high-ranking public sector figures.

Professor Prasad was commended for his work as “a passionate advocate of sustainable development who has demonstrated national and international leadership through his work as an architect, academic and expert with organisations like the UN Environment Program”.

The full list of 2014 Fellows is available on the ATSE website.

Smart Cities and the Korea Australia Free Trade Agreement

Hoon Han recently visited South Korea with Mr Andrew Robb, the Minister of Trade for the Korea Australia Free Trade Agreement meeting. During this event Hoon gave a plenary speech on ‘Smart Cities’ and a possible collaboration between two nations. The ‘smart cities’ is now recognised as one of the four major service sectors (financial, legal, film and smart cities services) in the Free Trade Agreement. More...

Important Changes to UNSW’s Research Output System (ROS)

A new grants module will be available within ROS. This module will allow you to link your publications to the associated grants based on a feed of UNSW grant information from InfoEd.

The grants module is being introduced in preparation for linking ROS to UNSWorks, UNSW’s institutional repository, which will streamline the process for uploading publications to meet the ARC
and NHMRC open access mandate requirements. If you link a publication to a grant in ROS, the metadata about that publication and the associated grant will be automatically sent to UNSWorks, once the integration with ROS is completed.

For more information about using the grants module please see the ROS Online Guide or contact your Outreach Librarian.

Call for Nominations to the UNSW Early Career Academic Network Executive Committee
The early Career Academic Network Executive Committee is seeking a representative from the faculty to join them in 2015.

The Early Career Academic Network aims to provide a supportive platform for Early Career Academics (ECAs) to network, learn, and develop in order to become highly successful academics at UNSW Australia. Membership of the Network is offered to all academic staff at levels A-C, who are currently undertaking a PhD or who have completed a PhD in the past 7 years.

If you are interested in being involved and completed your PhD no more than six years ago, check out the Early Career Academic Network website for more information, including the information pack. Nominations close at 5.00pm on 14 November.

Meet the Researchers – Katrina Simon

I am a Senior Lecturer in Landscape Architecture. My academic background is across the interconnected disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture and fine art, and my research contributes to ideas relating to mapping and memory. These are explored through research projects on the use and manipulation of maps in landscape design, on cites and their historical development, particularly post-disaster environments, and on cemetery history and design.

My PhD research was carried out by creative practice and thesis, using the process of experimental drawing to extend the repertoire of landscape architectural design.

My current projects extend this mode of working. These include an installation in an upcoming curated exhibition on design research at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University in Suzhou, China, and also invited work with curator Simon Twose on the New Zealand submission for the Space Exhibition as part of the NZ national entry for the 2015 Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space.

I have supervised HDR students in research by design methods, and have been invited to examine and review research by design projects at RMIT University, Melbourne University and Victoria University of Wellington. I am also part of the organising committee for the proposed DO Design Research cluster exhibition.

Last but not least there is my strong competitive track record in hat design, using materials recycled from design research projects - especially for the keenly fought Faculty of Built Environment’s prestigious Melbourne Cup Hat competition!

News from the Centres

CRC Low Carbon Living
The CRC for Low Carbon Living has set its meeting dates for 2015. If you are planning on submitting a project proposal next year the Research Advisory Committee meetings will be held on:
City Futures Research Centre – Enabling Built Environments Program

In September A/Prof Catherine Bridge was a Keynote Speaker on “Resilience and Ageing: Experiences” at the Resilient Communities Summit, Blenheim, New Zealand. She has also been invited to be one of the main speakers in the “Symposium on Trends in Universal Design 2014: Tourism for the Ageing Population (STUD2014) that will be held in Kuala Lumpur in December. The symposium is held in conjunction with the Official Launching of MS 1184: 2014, Universal Design and Accessibility in The Built Environment - Code of Practice (Second Revision) and The International Day of People with Disability that is celebrated on 3 December annually.

For further information on EBEP see the webpages at:
http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programmes/enabling-built-environments-program/about

Upcoming BE Events

BE Research Seminar
Value Capture – Can it help fund urban renewal?
Martin Locke; Lidunian Partners Pty Ltd

Wednesday 5 November 2014, 12.00pm (lunch provided), Room 4035, Red Centre.

More information RSVP

BE Research Seminar
Reframing the Economy: An economic future for marginalised communities?
Emeritus Professor Dave Adamson, UNSW

Wednesday 19 November 2014, 12.00pm (lunch provided), Room 4035, Red Centre.

More information RSVP

Did You Know…?

…the University has finalised its 2014 list of Top Quality Research Outlets
As part of its new Measure of Research Performance (being trialled in 2014), the university has finalised its 2014 list of top quality research outlets. These outlets will be used as multipliers when scoring research active staff into one of three performance tiers which will then be used to benchmark faculty research performance and funding.

- The full lists can be accessed from the UNSW research website.
- Journals and conference proceedings in FOR 12xx have been extracted into separate lists and are available on the faculty’s research intranet page.
Other University Events

Women in Research Network (WiRN)
Next session Wednesday 19 November, 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Click here for details.
Join the WIRN discussion on LinkedIn - search for “UNSW Women in Research Network”

Women in Research Network: Testimonials: Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs
Wednesday 5 November 2014; 3.00pm, Lecture theatre G02.

Professors Rose Amal and Denise Doiron (spanning the HASS and STEM disciplines) will share their experiences traversing their careers as female researchers. They will share not only their highs, but also their lows – and the skills they picked up to manage these along the way.

More information and RSVP details.

HDR News

Events

1. **PGRS Yearly Conference - Thursday 6th November 9am-5pm.**
The day will be split up into two parts:-

   Part 1: Morning workshop by Sue Starfield from the Learning Centre (9:30am-12:30pm).
   Topics that will be covered are:-
   - Writing for publication – getting feedback before submitting, the review process, responding to reviewers
   - Barriers to writing/writer’s block and how to overcome it

   Lunch will be provided: 12:30pm-2pm

   Part 2: Poster and Paper Presentations from members of the cohort (2pm-5pm).

2. **The Cohort Cultural Day - Friday 21st November (10am-1pm)**
The whole cohort is very excited about the cultural day, this has become a much anticipated event. We will gather at 10am to share wonderful stories about food, culture and fashion from around the world. Then will stop for a delicious lunch, some students have also offered to bring a plate of their national food to share with the rest of the cohort. Students will come dressed in their national costume; national wear is encouraged but is optional.

3. **End of Year PGRS Dinner - Friday 28th November (6pm till late)**
This year we have organized a night out at Govinda’s in Paddington. It’s a dinner plus movie package, students will first enjoy a vegetarian buffet and then sit back and enjoy a private screening in the cinema room.
Research Training – Upcoming UNSW Events

Supervisor Development: Supporting HDR students’ thesis writing (repeat)
Wednesday 5 November 2014; 10.00am – 1.00pm
The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with some tools that help with organising and structuring a research thesis and to discuss solutions to issues that often impede timely completion.
More information and registration link.

Managing Your Grant Budget – Utilising the Grants Management Office and Finance Tools
Tuesday 18 November 2014; 10.00am – 1.00pm
The aim of this workshop is for researchers to recognise their responsibilities and liabilities in managing funding money for the life of the project, including the project closeout.
More information and registration link.

New External Grants

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

Hal Pawson
Sponsor/Grant: Payce Communities Pty Ltd Contract
Value: $233,384
Longitudinal evaluation of Riverwood North Regeneration Project

Hal Pawson
Sponsor/Grant: AHURI Postgraduate Top up Scholarship
Value: $14,000

Simon Pinnegar
Sponsor/Grant: AHURI Postgraduate top up Scholarship
Value: -

Ilan Vizel
Sponsor/Grant: University of Tasmania/AHURI Shared Grant
Value: $2,740
Individualised forms of welfare provision and reform of Australia’s housing assistance system.

Katy Bridge
Sponsor/Grant: NSW Home Modification and Maintenance State Council Contract
Value: $12,500
Systematic review of home modification evidence base.

Publications

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

Books

Books


Journal Articles


Conference Papers


Other


Current Funding Opportunities

Office for Learning & Teaching – Innovation and Development Grants
Innovation and Development grants support research, development and innovation related to the enhancement of learning and teaching in higher education. A wide range of priority areas is covered including assessment, curriculum design, employability skills and improving institutional pathways across higher education.

Internal deadline: 14 November 2014 More information

5th Universitas 21 Early Career Researchers’ Workshop
The 5th U21 Early Career Researchers workshop will be held at University College Dublin from 4-6 March, 2015. Each workshop’s main aim is to encourage international networking, but also tackles career developmental topics such as grantsmanship and journal editing. In addition there is a core theme each year and for 2015 the theme is “Innovation and Entrepreneurship”.

The Division of Research will provide funds to support up to four UNSW ECRs to attend the workshop. If you would like to be considered for nomination, and you are within 8 years of your PhD being awarded, forward an email to Toni Hodge, detailing the year your PhD was awarded and your research interests, by Friday 29 November 2014.

More information on the workshop series can be found here.

Durham University - 2015/16 International Fellowships for Research & Enterprise
Durham University is delighted to announce the next round of the Durham International Fellowship Scheme, designed to attract the most talented researchers in Europe and beyond and across the full spectrum of science, social science, arts and humanities, to build international networks of scholars with a common passion for today’s most important research challenges.

Up to 21 postdoctoral Junior Research Fellowships are available commencing between 1 July 2015 and 1 October 2015. The closing date for applications is 05 December 2014. The normal period of the Fellowship will be 2 years with starting salaries in the range £31,342 - £35,256 p.a.

In addition, up to 16 Senior Research Fellowships and eight Policy & Enterprise Fellowships are available. The closing date for applications is 09 January 2015. Fellowships are available for
periods of 6 weeks to 6 months between October 2015 and September 2016 (with a typical stay of 3 months). Applications are considered from researchers with an established or emerging international reputation for scholarship or research leadership.

Details on the scheme and how to apply can be found at: [www.durham.ac.uk/ias/diferens/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/ias/diferens/).

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**Related Links**

[BE Research Resources](#)

[UNSW Research](#)