



Australian Government  
Australian Research Council

# Australasian Research Management Society 2009 Conference



## Internationalisation of ARC schemes and policies

# Contextual Factors

**Desirables: Minister Carr March 2009**

- 1. Seeking applications to build on university's research strengths, based on thinking strategically, playing to key strengths**
- 2. Collaboration needed between universities and business and public sector research agencies**
- 3. Develop PhDs, supporting research students**
- 4. Collaboration across universities, especially international collaboration by researchers**
- 5. Collaboration across natural and human sciences**

**New Objective** in *Discovery Projects* Scheme:

**Enhance international collaboration in research**



# Major ARC Schemes

## *Discovery Projects –*

- Excellent fundamental research by individuals and teams

## *Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development –*

- Develop research expertise of indigenous Australians

## *Australian Laureate Fellows -*

- For outstanding researchers to stay in or return to Australia

## *Future Fellows –*

- Rewards best mid-career Australian researchers and outstanding international researchers
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## *Linkage Projects –*

- Collaborative research between universities and industry/government/community

*Centres of Excellence* – Large outstanding research teams conducting focussed, sustained investigations on important challenging problems

## *Linkage infrastructure, equipment and facilities (LIEF) –*

- Collaboration across universities & partner organisations to fund major infrastructure



# Funded ARC Projects with International PIs: 2002 to 2008

Which countries have the most frequent collaborations?

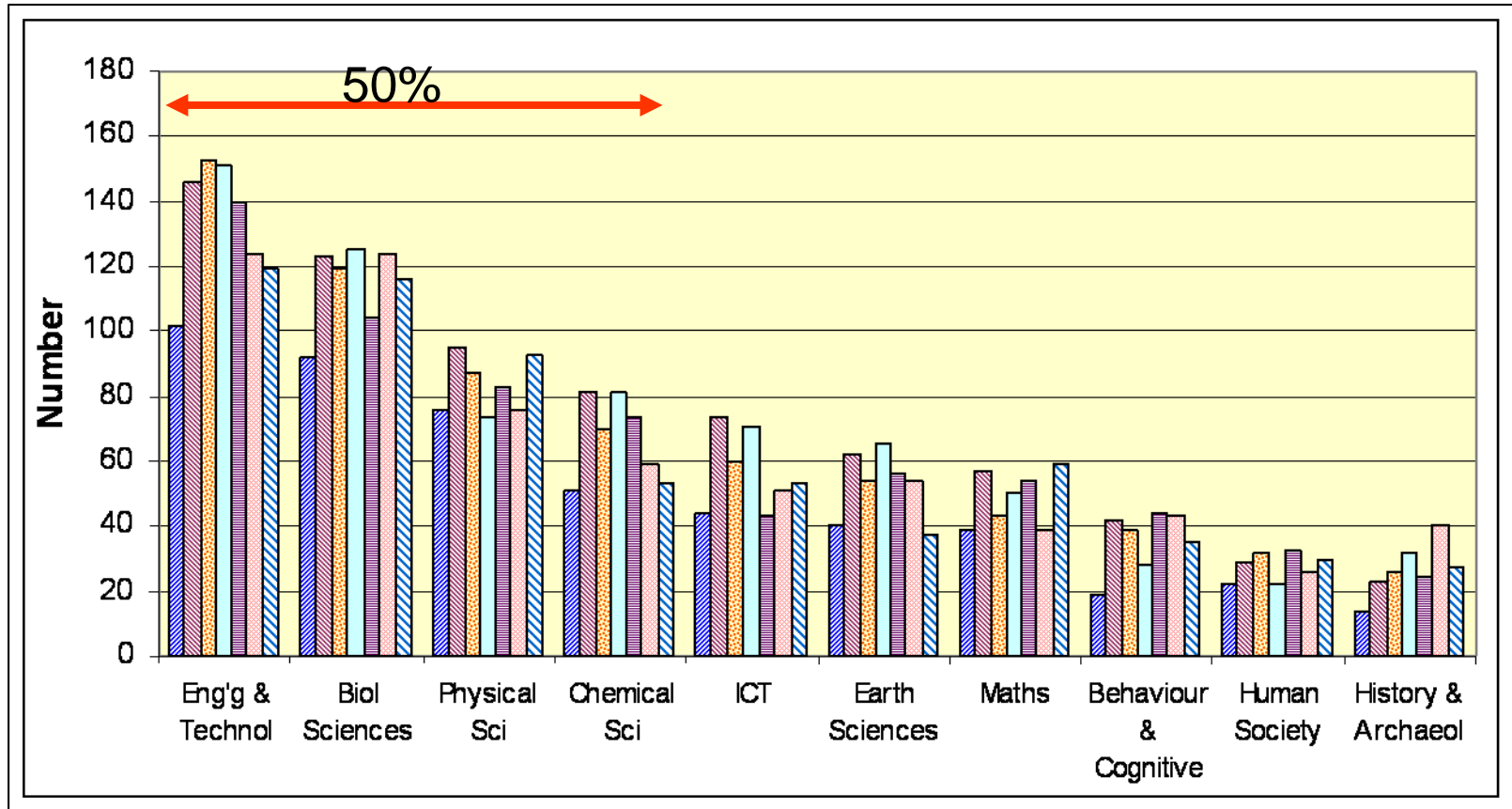
- *United States (24%), Canada (6%)*
- *United Kingdom (15%)*
- *Germany (8%), Italy (3%), Netherlands (2.5%), Sweden & Switzerland (2% each)*
- *Japan (5%), China (4%)*
- *New Zealand (3%)*

Which schemes have the most frequent collaborations?

- *Discovery Projects (43% of \$)*
- *ARC Centres of Excellence (43% of \$)*



# Major Research Fields – International Collaboration 2002-2008: ARC Funded Projects



# Opportunities

**ARC schemes are open to international applicants:**

- (a) If apply through one of the eligible organisations**
- (b) If successful, must reside predominantly in Australia**

## ***Discovery Projects***

- Partner Investigators (PIs) can be working overseas**
- ‘International Collaboration Awards’ available for Australian Chief Investigators (CIs), Fellows, and Overseas PIs to work together on the project overseas or in Australia**
- Travel support can be applied for overseas Partner or other research personnel to travel to Australia if justified against doing the project**
- PhD stipends and Fellowships open to international candidates**



# Opportunities

## *Linkage Projects*

- Overseas organisations can be partners
- Overseas higher education organisations eligible to be Partner Organisations if application has at least one Australian Partner Organisation
- PhD scholarships can be for international candidates
- All research personnel can apply for funds for domestic & international travel justified against the project

## Information on International Collaboration in ARC schemes:

[http://www.arc.gov.au/general/international\\_collaboration.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/general/international_collaboration.htm)



# ARC Future Fellowships

- Supports career paths for talented national and international researchers
- Addressing the lack of opportunities for mid-career researchers in Australia
- Encourages applications from outstanding Australian and international mid-career researchers
- First 200 Fellows announced last week
  - 22 international researchers
  - 19 returning Australians
  - 159 Australian residents
- Each fellowship is worth up to \$185 000 each year over four-years.





# Objectives of Excellence in Research for Australia

1. establish an **evaluation framework** that gives government, industry, business and the wider community assurance of the excellence of research conducted in Australia's institutions;
2. provide a national **stocktake** of discipline-level areas of research strength and areas where there is opportunity for development in Australia's higher education institutions;
3. **identify excellence across the full spectrum of research** performance;
4. identify **emerging research areas** and opportunities for further development; and
5. allow for **comparisons of Australia's research nationally and internationally** for all discipline areas.

