

## Industry Liaison and Promotion

Promotion and marketing of ECU's research capability is another service provided by ORI through

- Raising the profile of research at ECU by managing research promotional initiatives.
- Promoting and marketing the University's expertise in research and development by strengthening existing links and developing new links with research partners and sponsors.
- Developing and updating promotional research publications and brochures.
- Coordinating public lectures, networking events, research expos and Industry engagement events etc.

## ECU Funding Schemes

ORI also administers two ECU funding schemes:

- **ECU - Industry Collaboration Scheme**, which provides funding towards research collaborations with external organisations. Recent results demonstrate the effectiveness of the scheme to attract new research partners to ECU.
- **Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme**, which is a "seeding" grant designed to provide an opportunity for new researchers to gain experience in grant application, research methodology, project implementation and reporting procedures. It is also designed to assist new researchers to establish a grant record as a Chief Investigator as a preliminary step to competitive grant funding opportunities.



## Summary

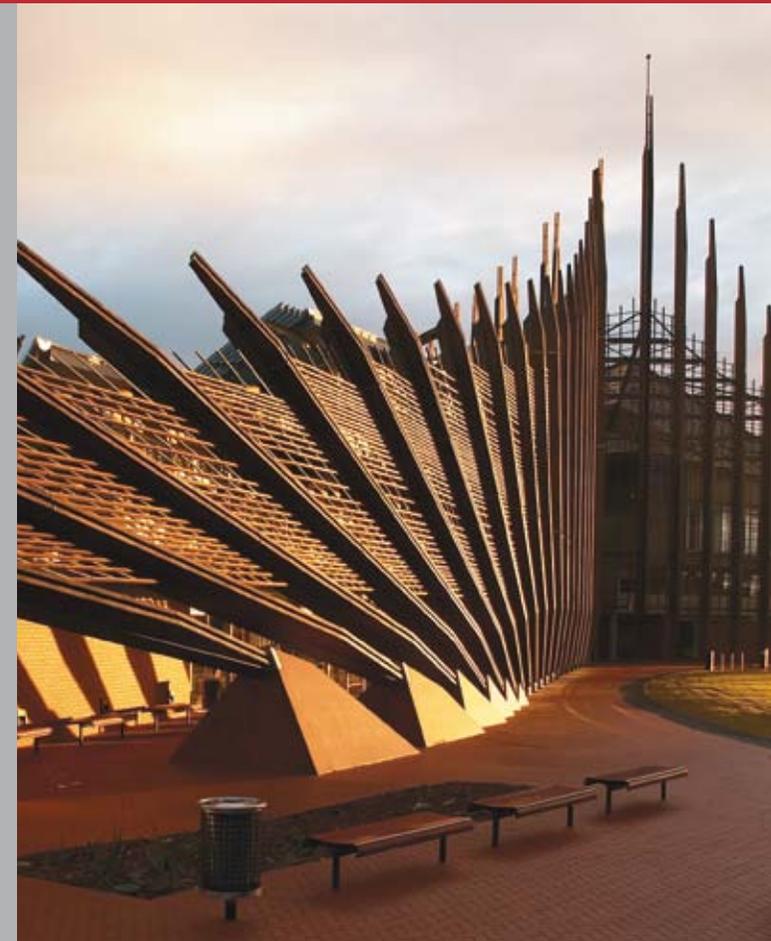
ORI provides support to researchers throughout the spectrum of research related activities. As a **SERVICE**, we are available to answer queries and assist in any way possible to further develop research at ECU. If you have any research-related questions please do not hesitate to call extension 5401.

Alternatively you are encouraged to visit the ORI web site at:  
<http://www.research.ecu.edu.au/ori/>

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# Office of Research and Innovation

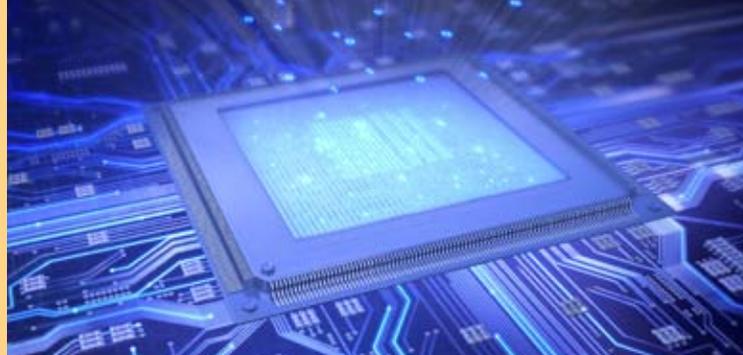
## Information for Researchers at ECU



## Role

The Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) provides strategic and operational support to the University's research program, and has a crucial role in facilitating the University's research outcomes. The Office is involved in developing the University's research profile and in developing and implementing research policies. The Office also provides the University with strategic and operational links with external agencies, including funding bodies.

- ORI is the first point of contact for staff seeking assistance in identifying funding opportunities.
- Responsible for administering all externally funded research awards, as well as central University research funding schemes.
- Advises on applications and arranges submission to funding agencies.
- Manages the administration of grants once awarded, including contractual requirements.
- ORI deals with funding bodies on all pre and post-award matters, including progress and final reports and the preparation of financial statements.
- The innovation arm of the Office assists researchers in assessing their inventions for commercial potential, and provides guidance on Intellectual Property protection, and commercialising inventions.



## Services

### Communication with the ECU Research Community

ORI Notices is a list server administered by ORI to keep researchers informed of funding opportunities, conferences, seminars and other information of importance to the research community at ECU. Subscribe through the ORI website.

### Research Funding

#### EXTERNAL FUNDING SCHEMES

University staff have access to the COS database which is designed to locate appropriate funding opportunities. Within COS you may create a personal profile of interests and customise the "COS Funding Alert" to ensure a close match between your interests, available funding opportunities and potential collaborators. COS Funding Alert subscribers receive a weekly e-mail with customized list of funding opportunities based on previously specified criteria provided by the individual COS members.

ORI supports application preparation for funding at all stages. This includes reviewing an application, checking that assessment criteria are addressed, ensuring compliance with Guidelines and checking a project budget. ALL applications for research funding must be submitted via ORI, and not directly to the funding agency.

For all research projects, contracts or agreements are drawn up between the funding agency/partner and ECU (not the individual researcher). ORI undertakes contract negotiation and/or amendments on behalf of the researcher, ensuring that contracts are representative of the research activity, cover intellectual property issues, are risk-managed, and provide sufficient indemnity for the researchers involved. ALL contracts/agreements and contract related communications are handled by ORI staff in conjunction with the relevant researcher(s). Only staff with appropriate delegations from the University may enter into legal agreements on behalf of the University.

Financial Project Accounts for all research projects are allocated through ORI. These codes are released only on receipt of evidence of clearance by the appropriate ECU Ethics Committee and execution of an agreement.

All research projects will require periodic and/or final reports. ORI receives reports, which are logged, checked for compliance and forwarded to the funding agency. Financial reporting for research projects is also carried out within ORI via the Research Accounts Manager. ALL research reports should be sent to ORI.

### Research Data Collection and Management

ORI is responsible for collating research performance data annually for the Federal Government for the purposes of the Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) and the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative. ORI runs a related exercise known as the Research Activity Index (RAI) whereby active researchers are allocated points for publications, research income and/or higher degree by research completions. For non-traditional research outputs, a similar process is facilitated by the Faculty of Education and Arts called the Creative and Performing Arts Index (CPAI). Currently, RAI and CPAI points attract ECU funding to enhance individual or team research. All data are collected via the University's Research Activity System (RAS), which is accessible via the Student & Staff Portal at <https://portal.ecu.edu.au>.

### Commercialisation

Intellectual Property produced from research can provide benefits to both the researcher and the University. The Research Commercialisation arm of the Office of Research and Innovation works in partnership with researchers to identify potential research outcomes that can be commercialised. ORI can assist with:

- Assessment of the invention for Commercial potential
- Advice on Intellectual Property protection.
- Determining the most appropriate Commercialisation strategy
- Assistance in finding industry partners.
- Marketing new inventions and discoveries to industry
- Negotiating Contracts and Licensing Agreements
- Facilitating Material Transfer Agreements
- Support for financing commercialisation

