MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) (Professor D McEachern) - Chair
Nominee of the Chair of the Academic Board (Professor K Simmer)
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training) (Professor R Owens)
President of the Postgraduate Students’ Association (Ms B Crowe)
Mr S Anderson
Professor H Barrett
Professor J Cordery
Professor B Giles-Corti
Professor J Finlay-Jones
Professor S Houghton
Associate Professor A Lynch
Professor N Morgan
Dr G Parish
Professor S Powles
Professor C Raston
Professor Z Rengel
Mr M Thomas
Professor G Yeoh

By invitation:
Dr E Chapman
Professor K Croft
Associate Professor J Gregory
Professor S Dunlop
Professor P Handford
Dr J Lee
Associate Professor I McArthur
Associate Professor I McLean
Professor D Sampson

RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING – 1 November 2007

The next meeting of the Research Committee will be held in the Economics and Conference Room on Thursday 1 November 2007 at 2.15pm. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF VENUE.

Dr Campbell Thomson
Executive Officer, Research Committee

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES – F41660

   Confirmation

   Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of the Research Committee held on 9 August 2007.
3. DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

PART 1 – ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION TO BE DEALT WITH EN BLOC

4. RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING DATES IN 2008 – REF F14662

The meeting dates of the Research Committee in 2008 are as follows:

- Thursday 14 February
- Thursday 8 May
- Thursday 14 August
- Thursday 13 November

For noting.

5. MAJOR GRANT ROUND 2008 OUTCOMES – REFS RA/1/54/1, RA/1/31/1

Attached (Attachment RC1) for noting is a summary report of the 2008 funding outcomes for UWA in the major grant rounds of the ARC and NHMRC. The Report provides comparisons with the previous five years.

Of particular note is the strong result for ARC Linkage Projects with UWA winning more in the first round than any previous round (there are two rounds of funding each year). This reflects progress on an 18-month project undertaken by Research Development Officers focussing on linking research with industry as a foundation for competitive ARC Linkage grants.

6. UWA SUPPLEMENTARY TRAVEL GRANTS FOR NEW ACADEMIC STAFF – REF F896

Attached (Attachment RC2) for noting are the Final Reports of Dr Brad Slappenbelt School of Oil and Gas Engineering, Dr Martina Kocan Centre for Medical Research, Dr Mark Edele School of Humanities, Dr Peter Noble School of Biomedical, Biomolecular and Chemical Sciences, Dr Kevin Pilger Centre for Medical Research, Dr Kyungrock Paik School of Environmental Systems Engineering, Dr Lisa Nimmo School of Psychology, Dr Jacqueline Van Gent School of Social and Cultural Studies, Dr Romola Bucks School of Psychology, Dr Joseph Clare School of Law, and Dr Min Zhang School of Population Health, for their Supplementary Travel Grants for New Academic Staff.

PART 2 – ITEMS FOR DECISION TO BE DEALT WITH EN BLOC

7. ESTABLISHMENT AND REVIEW OF UWA CENTRES

(a) Proposal to Establish a Centre for Integrated Human Studies

Attached (Attachment RC3) is a proposal to establish the Centre for Integrated Human Studies as a UWA Research and Training Centre in the School of Anatomy and Human Biology, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences. The proposed Centre is interdisciplinary in nature and involves collaboration with staff in the UWA Schools of Psychology (FLAPS), Social and Cultural Studies (FAHSS), Animal Biology (FNAS) and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), and has the support of all parties. The Centre has financial support for three years from the Vice-Chancellor’s Discretionary Fund (VCDF).
For endorsement of the establishment of the Centre for Integrated Human Studies for three years from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010.

(b) Proposal to Establish the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases Research and Training – Ref F15628

Attached (Attachment RC4) is a proposal to establish the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases Research and Training as a UWA Research and Training Centre in the School of Biomedical, Biomolecular and Chemical Sciences, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences. The stimulus for this Centre was the award of the Nobel Prize in 2005 to Professor Barry Marshall and Emeritus Professor Robin Warren for their work on the causative role of *Helicobacter pylori* in peptic ulcer. The proposed Centre will build on the existing strength in infectious disease at UWA. It involves collaboration with the Western Australia Department of Heath and PathWest, and will be located in L Block at the QEII Medical Centre. The Centre has the support of all parties and has strong financial support from the Federal Government ($4 million), the Health Department of WA ($2.7 million) and the Vice-Chancellorery ($1.2 million).

For endorsement of the establishment of the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases Research and Training for 5 years from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2012.

PART 3 – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

8. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH AND INNOVATION)

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) will report on items of interest which have arisen since the previous meeting, including an update on the Research Quality Framework (RQF).

9. UWA RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME – REF RA/1/485/1

Members will recall that at the February 2007 meeting of the Research Committee it was decided that as a result of suggested changes to the UWA Research Grants Scheme by the 2006 Subcommittee Convenors, that a working party would be convened to look at the intent of the scheme with the view to recommending changes for future rounds.

The Working Party report is attached (Attachment RC5) and the Chair of this Working Party, Professor Robyn Owens, will talk to this item.

For discussion and endorsement of the Working Party recommendations.

10. REPORT ON CITATIONS, RANKINGS AND RESEARCH QUALITY

The Vice-Chancellor’s International Reference Group requested a paper be written on the issues surrounding the parameters used in the Shanghai Jiao Tong University ranking system. Attached (Attachment RC6) is the paper authored by Professor Robyn Owens, Natalie Mast and Dr David Glance, which focuses primarily on the parameters of citations and journal quality and what UWA could do in order to improve its rank position.

Professor Robyn Owens will talk to this Paper, which recommends a number of strategies and incentives to improve citations, including a financial incentive of $10,000 to the UWA authors publishing an article in *Science* or *Nature*. The Vice-Chancellor announced the implementation of this incentive scheme in an all staff email earlier this week.

For discussion.

11. OTHER BUSINESS