• Academic contribution of the applicant to the proposed conference paper.

I presented a paper entitled ‘Graduate Recruitment in the Australian Public Sector: the Role of Management’ in the 2008 International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Conference. I made sure that my powerpoint presentation had the UWA by-line. My presentation was well-received by the audience, which include several distinguished national and international scholars in public management and policy.

• Academic significance of the conference.

The International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) is an international network with a focus on research in public management and public policy. It is thus aligned with my area of research interest. IRSPM produces the international, peer reviewed journal, Public Management Review, which focuses on new developments in empirical research or theoretical understanding about public management and public policy implementation. More importantly, IRSPM members come from universities all over the world – Europe, North and South America, Australia and Asia – so the annual conference is an excellent meeting place to share and test ideas. The annual conferences have always been well-attended; they attract a reasonable number of participants (in the hundreds), including distinguished academics from around the world. This year, the XII Annual Conference of the International Research Society for Public Management, was held in Australia (Brisbane) and attracted over 180 participants.

• Value of attendance by the applicant to their school.

My attendance of presentations by several prominent national and international scholars in the conference provided me with ample opportunities to not only update my knowledge in public management and public policy but also network with these people. I have established potential research links with national and international scholars who share similar research interests. I have also received useful feedback on my conference paper; I will incorporate these suggestions when revising my paper in preparation for submission to an international refereed journal.
Jay Ebert

The conference attended was the 2008 annual conference for the ‘Australian Association for Exercise and Sports Science (AAESS)’, titled ‘Exercise Sport and Nutrition Sciences - From Research to Practice’. The conference was held at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Melbourne Australia, from Thursday the 27th to Sunday 30th March 2008.

Addressing the selection criteria;

1. Academic contribution of the applicant to the proposed conference paper;

My role at the conference was to firstly coordinate a three-hour theoretical and practical workshop for treating therapists on rehabilitation following Matrix-induced Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (MACI), an orthopaedic a surgical technique established for the treatment of large articular cartilage defects, primarily in the knee.

Secondly, I presented a paper from my PhD research, which was based on the early research outcomes of a randomised, controlled trial that investigated the advantages of accelerated versus traditional rehabilitation following MACI.

2. Academic significance of the conference;

AAESS is the peak professional organisation in Australia promoting excellence in, and recognition of, tertiary-trained Exercise Scientists, Exercise Physiologists and Sports Scientists who are in turn committed to best practice and client well-being. It is this group of treating therapists who are in regular contact with these MACI patients throughout their pre- and post-operative rehabilitation period, and who need to be informed and updated on the development of ‘best practice’ rehabilitation protocols for this patient group.

3. Value of attendance by the applicant to their school;

The research presented at this conference (workshop and podium presentation) has been undertaken through the School of Sports Science, Exercise and Health within the University of Western Australia. Furthermore, the School of Sports Science, Exercise and Health is a leading institution in the education and training of accredited exercise physiologists. Presentation of this research at the AAESS conference, the national accrediting body, has aimed to strengthen this link for the school, and ensure the School of Sports Science, Exercise and Health remains as one of the leading educational institutions.
Supplementary Travel Grant for New Academic Staff

Report by Dr Jonathan McIntosh, UWA School of Music

The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) and the Sociological Association of Aotearoa New Zealand (SAANZ) Joint Conference was held at the University of Auckland from the 4-7 December 2007. This occasion first time that these two organizations had held a joint conference for a considerable number of years and, as a result, the conference provided me with the opportunity to meet and network with sociologists and social scientists from not only from Australia, New Zealand but also other parts of the world.

Academic Contribution of the Applicant to the Conference Paper
My attendance at the conference stemmed from a personal invitation to present a paper on my current research by Professor Andy Bennett who has recently been appointed the inaugural Chair of Cultural Sociology at Griffith University. The presence of Professor Bennett, who has a distinguished research and publications record in the area of popular music research, at the conference meant that for the first time streams in popular music were scheduled in the conference programme. My paper, entitled ‘Dancing to a Disco Beat: Children, Teenagers and the Localising of Popular Music in Bali’, was scheduled in the popular music stream alongside presentations by Professor Andy Bennett and Dr Joanne Cummings, University of Western Sydney. The popular music stream provided a very broad perspective on social science popular music research. I feel that my paper was well received judging the number of questions asked of me by other delegates and the numerous conversations with others following the close of the panel.

Academic significance of conference
The conference was the largest gathering of sociologists and affiliated social scientists in Australasia in 2007 and, therefore, was highly significant. The conference was invaluable for developing contacts with other academics working in the areas of popular music and youth studies – two areas where I have research and teaching interests. In particular, I networked with numerous members of staff from the School of Humanities and Social Science at the University Newcastle, including Dr Margot Ford and Associate Professor Pam Nilam. Associate Professor Pam Nilam is working currently on an ARC-funded project with Associate Professor Lyn Parker from Asian Studies at UWA (Lyn Parker is one of my academic supervisors at UWA). Associate Professor Nilam will be visiting Perth in 2008 and has asked to meet with me during this time to discuss my current research and to discuss possible future applications for the ARC in 2009. I believe these meetings will be highly significant to the development of my career at UWA. There is also the possibility that I may be invited by the School of Humanities and Social Science to present a seminar paper at the University of Newcastle in 2008.

Value to School
It must be noted that I was the only ethnomusicologist present at the conference and, therefore, it can be said that I was not only representing the UWA School of Music but also the wider ethnomusicological community in Australia and New Zealand. In addition, in the School of Music I am responsible for the teaching of popular music and the introduction of music-based courses to be taught from a wider social science perspective at undergraduate levels. I feel that my attendance at the conference has helped to develop and broaden my approach to the development of such units of study.