# 2009 CENTRAL RESEARCH ALLOCATION BUDGET REQUEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Item</th>
<th>2008 Allocation ($'000)</th>
<th>2009 Request ($'000)</th>
<th>Variance (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Research and Research Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Schemes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. UWA Research Grants</td>
<td>1.575</td>
<td>1.575</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. UPRFs</td>
<td>0.824</td>
<td>0.864</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Re-Entry Fellowships</td>
<td>0.275</td>
<td>0.288</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Travel for New Staff</td>
<td>0.030</td>
<td>0.030</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Salary Supplement</td>
<td>0.950</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Committee Support and Contingency</td>
<td>0.070</td>
<td>0.100</td>
<td>42.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Publications</td>
<td>0.040</td>
<td>0.040</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Subscriptions</td>
<td>0.150</td>
<td>0.164</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Research Development</td>
<td>0.230</td>
<td>0.350</td>
<td>52.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Whitfield Fellowships</td>
<td>0.125</td>
<td>0.159</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Safety Net Scheme</td>
<td>0.200</td>
<td>0.200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. UPAs</td>
<td>6.430</td>
<td>7.779(^1)</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. SIRFs</td>
<td>1.600</td>
<td>1.600</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Postgraduate Travel Awards</td>
<td>0.415</td>
<td>0.413</td>
<td>(0.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Graduate Association Travel Awards</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p. Graduate Education</td>
<td>0.310</td>
<td>0.430</td>
<td>38.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>q. Postdoctoral Coordinator</td>
<td>0.105</td>
<td>0.115</td>
<td>9.5</td>
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<td>r. Competitive Small grants</td>
<td>0.100</td>
<td>0.100</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>for HDR students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>13.449</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.227</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.2</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) The actual cost of commencing and continuing scholarships and awards is $9.779 million, but this has been offset by $2 million of carry forward of unspent funds.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Item</th>
<th>2008 Allocation ($'000)</th>
<th>2009 Request ($'000)</th>
<th>Variance (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Salaries</td>
<td>0.300</td>
<td>0.404</td>
<td>34.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Maintenance</td>
<td>0.050</td>
<td>0.070</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Programme Support</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>0.478</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.602</strong></td>
<td><strong>25.9</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Initiatives)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Salaries</td>
<td>0.385</td>
<td>0.404</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Maintenance</td>
<td>0.050</td>
<td>0.070</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Programme Support</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>0.563</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.602</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.9</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Institute of Advanced Studies</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Office of Director</td>
<td>0.420</td>
<td>0.420</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Maintenance</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>0.022</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Programme Support</td>
<td>0.150</td>
<td>0.159</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>0.590</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.601</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.080</strong></td>
<td><strong>17.032</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BUDGET RATIONALE**

1. Research and Research Training Support Schemes

   a. UWA Research Grants Scheme

   In 2008 the UWA Research Grants Scheme had two components: Research Development Awards to support early-career researchers, which was allocated $1.3 million, and a Seeding Grant Scheme to support pilot projects for experienced researchers, which was allocated the remaining $275k.

   **Recommendation:** That the same amount of $1.575 million be allocated in 2009 to support Research Development Awards and the Seeding Grant Scheme, with this amount to be reviewed in the following round once there is a better understanding of the demand for both schemes.

   b. University Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

   University Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (UPRFs) are costed at $96,000 per annum per fellowship in 2009, which includes a $6,000 per annum fellowship support grant and an allowance for relocation costs of between $3,000-$7,000 for up to three people moving from interstate or overseas.

   **Recommendation:** To allocate $664,000 in 2009 to support the continuation of the award of three three-year UPRFs each year.

   c. Re-Entry Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

   Re-Entry Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are costed as for the UPRFs at an average rate of $96,000 per annum per fellowship in 2009.
Recommendation: To allocate $288,000 in 2009 to support the award of one three-year Re-Entry Postdoctoral Fellowship each year.

d. Travel for New Staff

Recommendation: To allocate $30,000 in 2009 to fund Travel Awards for New Academic Staff.

e. Salary Supplement

Recommendation: To allocate $1.0 million in 2009 to fund the salary shortfall for ARC and NHMRC grants and fellowships due to UWA salary increases through enterprise bargaining negotiations.

f. Committee Support and Contingency

Recommendation: That $100,000 is provided in 2009 for committee support, including attendance of committee members at national training workshops, and other contingencies.

g. Publications

Recommendation: To allocate $40,000 in 2009 for research publications, including major stories in UniView and for the production of UWA Imprint.

h. Subscriptions

In recent years there has been a notable increase in the number of subscription costs for accessing databases for research and research training purposes. These include COS at $20,000, AusScope at $25,000, SPIN at $5,000, the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) at $6,000, the Thomson ISI citation databases at $42,000, Scopus at $56,000 and the JASON website and Supervision Development Consortium at $10,000.

Recommendation: To allocate $164,000 in 2009 to fund subscriptions costs of research and research training databases.

i. Research Development

Two Research Development Officers (RDOs) were appointed in 2003 to help build research capability at UWA.

In 2006 the Faculties of Life & Physical Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Law committed to co-funding joint RDO appointments, with the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences also co-funding in 2008. At the end of this year it is hoped that there will be further co-investment by other research-intensive faculties.

Recommendation: To allocate $350,000 in 2009 to fund the continuation of the equivalent of two full-time RDOs plus support costs, plus an additional full-time RDO to match the co-investment of other research-intensive faculties. This additional RDO position will also allow appropriate resources to target researchers for national and international awards and prizes, which ultimately improve UWA's reputation.

j. Whitfeld Fellowships

Whitfeld fellowships are for PhD students who have submitted their thesis to prepare publications arising from their thesis and to write a grant application. The fellowship is costed at 0.5 FTE of a Lecturer level A (step 1) for six months, which is $15,889 for each fellowship

Recommendation: To allocate 158,890 in 2009 to fund 10 Whitfeld Fellowships in this year.
k. Safety Net Scheme

**Recommendation:** To allocate $200,000 in 2009 for the UWA Safety Net Scheme.

l. University Postgraduate Awards (UPAs)

The cost of 100 new UPAs in 2009 plus continuing scholarships is $6,320,235 (*Attachment A*). At the May 2008 meeting of the Scholarships Committee it was resolved to recommend an increase in the minimum vale of postgraduate research scholarships offered by UWA from 2009, by offering top-up scholarships to all new and current scholarships holders. The cost of top-ups for commencing and continuing UPAs is an additional $2,955,750 in 2009. Also requested in 2009 are forty $7,831 completion scholarships (equivalent to a UPA for up to 20 weeks) to assist non-scholarship holders write their thesis, twelve $2,000 establishment (relocation) allowances for interstate candidates, five $2,000 scholarships to support co-tutelle candidates, and five new prestigious Prescott scholarships costing at $30,660 each to support the very best postgraduate research students, at a total cost of $502,540. The cost of all new scholarships and continuing awards in 2009 is therefore $9,778,525.

**Recommendation:** To allocate $7.779 million in 2009 (offset by a $2 million carryover of unspent funds) to fund 100 new UPAs and continuing awards plus top-ups, as well as 40 completion scholarships, 12 establishment scholarships, five co-tutelle scholarships, and 5 new Prescott scholarships.

m. Scholarships for International Research Fees (SIRFs)

**Recommendation:** To allocate $1.6 million in 2009 to fund Scholarships for International Research Fees (SIRFs).

n. Graduate Travel Awards

Travel Awards are available to all on-shore candidates enrolled in degrees for which the University receives funding under the Research Training Scheme. The Board of the Graduate Research School proposed in 2007 that in 2008 all HDR students should be eligible to receive a maximum of $1,750 under the scheme in 2008 and that the awards should be indexed annually. In 2009 it is recommended that the awards be adjusted by 2.1% (CPI) to $1,790 and that the figure on which the allocations is based also be adjusted by this amount to be $269.50 per doctoral enrolment.

**Recommendation:** To allocate $413,000 in 2009 for Travel Awards for Graduate Research Students based on enrolments in doctoral degrees at 31 March 2008 of 1,534.

o. Graduate Association Travel Awards

**Recommendation:** To allocate $20,000 in 2009 to support the UWA Graduates Association Postgraduate Research Travel Awards.

p. Graduate Education

In order to promote generic skills development in HDR students at UWA two Graduate Education Officers have been funded since 2004. The recent rapid growth in numbers of international HDR students warrants an additional GEO appointment. In addition, funds have been set aside for generic skills development ($20,000), supervisory training ($10,000) and a Statistics Clinic ($50,000).

**Recommendation:** To allocate $430,000 in 2009 to support the continuation of two Graduate Education Officers and related support, plus an additional full-time GEO to support the particular needs of international HDR students.

q. Postdoctoral Coordinator

**Recommendation:** To allocate $115,000 in 2009 to support a Postdoctoral Coordinator.
r. Competitive Small Grants for Graduate Research Students

Recommendation: To allocate $100,000 in 2009 to support the Competitive Small Grants Scheme for Graduate Research Students.

2. Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training)

a. Salaries

Recommendation: To allocate $404,000 in 2009 to support the salaries of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training) and secretarial support.

b. Maintenance

Recommendation: To allocate $70,000 in 2009 to fund travel and office expenses.

c. Programme Support

In 2008 provision was made for an annual prize giving and poster competition ($7,500) Graduate Research Inductions and Graduate Research Coordinator Forums ($20,000), and on-going improvements of electronic and hard copy information resources ($60,000). Additional support of $40,000 was given for a part-time research officer to assist with project work, including a project on measuring thesis quality.

Recommendation: To allocate $127,500 in 2009 to fund programme support.

3. Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Initiatives)

a. Salaries

Recommendation: To allocate $404,000 in 2009 to support the salaries of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Initiatives) and secretarial support.

b. Maintenance

Recommendation: To allocate $70,000 in 2009 to fund travel and office expenses.

c. Programme Support

Research initiatives requiring support include funds to develop industry relationships, partnerships with Commonwealth agencies, research and business support for the development of databases or tools to measure research performance and cross institutional relationships, and support for early career researcher development initiatives.

Recommendation: To allocate $127,500 in 2009 to fund programme support.

4. Institute of Advanced Studies

a. Office of Director

Recommendation: To allocate $420,000 in 2009 to support the salaries of the office of the Director of the Institute of Advanced Studies.
b. Maintenance

**Recommendation:** To allocate $22,000 in 2009 for office and Board expenses.

c. Programme Support

**Recommendation:** To allocate $159,000 in 2009 to fund programme support, including Professor-at-Large appointments and postgraduate activities.
The University of Western Australia
PROVISIONAL BUDGET 2009
UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE AWARDS
Ref. 10/12/002/021

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE 2008

**SCHOLARSHIPS BUDGET – 2008**
Carried forward from 2007
Total allocation received from Central Research Budget for 2008
Funds available for 2008

Estimated expenditure for 2008

- Commencing & continuing scholarships
  - 10 Establishment (Relocation) allowances @ $2,000 each: $4,902,090
  - 40 Completion Scholarships @ $7,680 each: $307,200
  - Whitfield Fellowships completing: $68,128
  - 5 Co-Tutelle Scholarships @ $2,000 each: $10,000
  - 5 Prescott Scholarships including pipeline @ $106,230 each: $531,150

Total: $5,838,568

Estimated balance at 31.12.08: $2,871,941

**PROVISIONAL BUDGET – 2009**

1. COMMITMENT FOR UPA RENEWALS, EXTENSIONS, ALLOWANCES AND PAID LEAVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006 Commencements</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 Commencements</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Commencements</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $6,320,235

2. NEW UPA AWARDS in 2009 (at the level of an Australian Postgraduate Award)

Average cost – 100 candidates @ $21,087 each: $2,108,700

Total: $2,108,700

3. ESTABLISHMENT ALLOWANCES FOR INTERSTATE/INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATES

12 Establishment (Relocation) Allowances for applicants who relocate to take up awards at UWA: $24,000

4. COMPLETION SCHOLARSHIPS

40 Completion Scholarships @ $7,831 each: $313,240

5. CO-TUTELLE SCHOLARSHIPS

6 Co-Tutelle Scholarships @ $2,000 each: $12,000

6. NEW PRESCOTT SCHOLARSHIPS in 2009

5 Prescott Scholarships @ $30,660 each: $153,300

Total: $502,540

7. NEW UNIVERSITY TOP UP SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2006 Commencements: 129: $328,950
- 2007 Commencements: 171: $872,100
- 2008 Commencements: 169: $861,900
- 2009 Commencements: 160: $816,000
- 2009 Completion Top Ups: 40: $76,800

Total: 669: $2,955,750

Total expected 2009 expenditure: $9,778,525

Total requested from the Central Research Allocation: $7,778,525

Karen Muir
Scholarships Administrative Officer (Finance)
1/7/2008