Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) and Research Block Grant Funding

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July 2012
Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC)

- HERDC – annual process to report research income and publications data to DIISRTE.

- Research block grant funding is determined through UTAS performance relating to:
  - HERDC
    - Research Income
    - Publications
  - Higher Education Student Data Collection (HESDC)
    - Research Higher Degree (RHD) completions
    - RHD load
Funding relates to a number of schemes:

- **Research Training Scheme (RTS) - $15.1m**
  - Supports research training for students undertaking research doctorate or research masters

- **Joint Research Engagement (JRE) - $8.4m**
  - Supports research training activities

- **Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBG) - $4.8m**
  - Supports development and maintenance of research infrastructure
Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) - $2.9m
- Addresses the gap in funding for indirect costs of research

Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) - $5.5m
- Scholarships to students undertaking a Higher Degree by Research (HDR). Stipend to assist with general living costs.

International Postgraduate Research Awards (IPRS) - $484k
- Scholarships to international postgraduate students, to cover tuition fees and health cover.
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Allocations are based on:

**RTS, APAs, and IPRS**
- Total Research Income Categories 1-4
  - 40%
- HDR Completions
  - 50%
- Publications
  - 10%

**JRE**
- Total Research Income Categories 2-4
  - 60%
- HDR Student Load
  - 30%
- Publications
  - 10%

**RIBG**
- Category 1 Income
  - 100%
- HDR Student Load
  - 30%
- Publications
  - 10%

**SRE**
- Category 1 Income
  - 100%
Issues from 2011 HERDC

- Total funding received by UTAS in 2012 is $37.4M (2.29%) from national pool of $1.632B.

- Cat 1
  - $1.00 income
  - = $0.40 funding

- Cat 2-4
  - $1.00 income
  - = $0.23 funding
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- HERDC Research Income reporting for 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cat 1 – Aust competitive (ACGR)</td>
<td>34.9m</td>
<td>27.3m</td>
<td>26.4m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat 2 – Other Public Sector</td>
<td>18.5m</td>
<td>20.5m</td>
<td>18.8m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat 3 – Industry &amp; Other</td>
<td>18.3m</td>
<td>19.1m</td>
<td>15.6m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat 4 – CRC</td>
<td>7.6m</td>
<td>8.5m</td>
<td>7.0m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>79.3m</td>
<td>75.4m</td>
<td>67.8m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Overall increase 5.2% and 27.9% in Cat 1.
- However funding is a fixed pool – allocation dependent on our relative performance to other Universities.
Issues from 2011 HERDC

- Reportable research categorised as Do Not Report
- Category 1 projects incorrectly categorised
- Research projects/income with no record in RMDB
- Research projects recorded in Operating ledger
- Reportable income allocated to non-reportable income natural accounts
- Payments for collaborative research incorrectly coded
How can budget centres help?

- Ensure that ALL external funding for research activity and positions (including consultancies) is notified to Office of Research Services (ORS), and captured on RMDB
- **No RMDB record = not included on HERDC return**
- All research income must be recorded in projects in the Research and Trusts (RT) ledger of TechOne
Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC)

How can budget centres help?

- Understand ‘reportable’ and ‘non-reportable’ revenue natural accounts if raising invoices for research projects.
- Ensure that all external funding for research students is notified to ORS. Note: Honours is not eligible for inclusion.
- Monies donated for research can be included in HERDC – all donations should be received via the Foundation.
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How can budget centres help?

- Ensure that all payments for collaborative research, and only payments for collaborative research, are coded to 37004. Can be complex to assess.

- HERDC reporting allows reporting of prior year omissions – if you become aware of any missed income for 2011 – we can still report next year.

- Get involved in Research Administrators Network (RAN)
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Other initiatives

- Enhanced reporting of information through TechOne – HERDC income category displayed in reports
- Chart of Accounts to be updated to clearly highlight those revenue accounts included for HERDC
- Notification email for new RMDB research projects (with TechOne project number) will now include the HERDC income details.