

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-001128**

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 116

***NCRIS***

**Question**

Senator O'NEILL: On what date will they know?

Ms Zizi: Once the road map is provided to the government, after that point the funding will come on line.

Senator O'NEILL: If you could take on notice to give us the outline of that timing, that would be helpful. Last time the funding issue was left unaddressed up until the last moment, Australia lost highly educated, talented people, who needed to ensure the continuity of their employment. Isn't that right?

Ms Zizi: My understanding, unless you have a specific example, is that we were able to maintain the staff that were currently in the facilities. There is a high level of turnover. They are very sought after, particularly internationally, and so movement does take place and that happens at any time.

**Answer**

The timing of a decision about National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) funding is a matter for Government. This funding will be provided by ongoing funding of \$150 million per annum (indexed) for NCRIS project operations announced as part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda on 7 December 2015. This represents \$1.5 billion over the ten years from 1 July 2017.

NCRIS projects will continue to be supported from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017 through Government funding of \$300 million.