

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Agency - Australian Research Council

Department of Education Question No. ED0317_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

ARC - Research Funding

1. What is the impact of the funding cuts to ARC identified in the MYEFO?
2. What will be the loss of grant funds to universities and research institutions?
3. What will be the results of cuts to the Discovery programme over the forward estimates in regards? Including number of grants, number of supported individual researchers and staff?
4. What will be the results of cuts to the Linkage programme over the forward estimates in regards? Including number of grants, number of supported individual researchers and staff?
5. What will be the results of cuts to the Centres of Excellence programme over the forward estimates in regards? Including number of grants, number of supported individual researchers and staff?
6. What plans does the ARC have to reduce the impact on early career researchers and female scientists and researchers?
7. Does the government determine which areas of research the ARC will fund?
8. Prior to September 2013 did the ARC provide grants for medical research such as "Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes — clinical research" in its discovery grants?
9. Prior to September 2013 did the ARC provide grants for medical research such as applied dementia research in its discovery grants?
10. Is the ARC administering the "Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes — clinical research" grants and fellowships? What experience does the ARC have in administering and judging medical research?
11. What costs to the ARC administering the "Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes — clinical research" grants and fellowships? What experience does the ARC have in administering and judging medical research?
12. How much funding for dementia related research was funded by the ARC including all grants and fellowships in the past three years?

Answer

The Australian Research Council has provided the following response.

1. The MYEFO process identified a reprioritisation of research funding and commitment to support research in a particular area. The impact of the \$103 million reprioritisation cannot be determined until the outcomes of the May budget process are known.
2. See answer to Question 1.

3. See answer to Question 1.
4. See answer to Question 1.
5. The reprioritisation had no impact on the number of and funding awarded to ARC Centres of Excellence awarded in the selection round for funding commencing in 2014.
6. The ARC will continue to provide access under its granting schemes to the mechanisms it has in place to support female researchers, for example, the ability to extend eligibility timeframes for career interruptions such as pregnancy, access to part-time arrangements under its fellowship and award schemes and access to maternity leave.
7. While enhancing the scale and focus of research in areas of priority identified by the Government is an aim of the ARC's funding schemes, funding is not specifically directed to these areas, except under specific initiatives.
8. No. Prior to September 2013 the ARC did not fund for clinical medical research.
- 9: Yes.
10. Yes, the ARC is administering the 'Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes – clinical research' initiative. The ARC has always funded a range of medical research under the National Competitive Grants Program. Assessment is undertaken by expert assessors in the appropriate area.
11. The ARC has not calculated the cost of administering this initiative. See answer to Question 10.
12. \$21.7 million between 2011 and 2014.