

Faculty of Education and Arts: Research Plan 2015 - 2017

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Research Vision

Researchers in the Faculty of Education and Arts are passionately committed to research for positive and creative futures. We will ensure regional research is recognised as a national strategic research priority through excellent, creative, community-engaged critical enquiry.

Context

The Faculty incorporates Education, the Creative and Performing Arts, and the Humanities and Social Sciences. This breadth fosters interdisciplinarity in academic and higher degree by research (HDR) projects, and specialisation within these disciplines.

The FEA research plan aligns with the Federation University Australia charter (<http://federation.edu.au/about-us/our-university/charter>). Our research is underpinned by the values of excellence, respect, responsibility, access and engagement, and informed by the University's research vision. This plan articulates our strategic research direction, and identifies how we will implement the FedUni vision and core research strategies:

1. Research infrastructure and support
2. Recruiting, enhancing and mobilising talent
3. Translating research for impact
4. Community and societal engagement.

Strengths

FEA has many research strengths; our academics are engaged in creative, scholarly enquiry to address issues of equity, inclusion and social justice. Much of our research is applied and builds on our commitment to regional engagement and community partnerships. Our research has gained a reputation locally, nationally and internationally for excellence and impact through outputs including competitive grants, commissioned research, visiting scholar programs, conference presentations, journal publications, exhibitions of creative artworks and performances, and journal and manuscript publications.

Challenges

As described in the FEA research planning discussion paper, we face a range of challenges that must be addressed creatively and courageously if we are to build a vibrant, world-class research culture.

Faculty of Education and Arts Research Plan 2015-2017

Excellence	Respect	Responsibility	Access	Engagement
Federation University Australia (FedUni) Research Vision				
FedUni is inspired by curiosity and passion to make a positive difference to the world we live in. Our research aims to Engage, Create and Transform. We are proudly regional, but our research is national in scope and international in reach.				
Faculty of Education and Arts (FEA) Research Vision				
Researchers in the Faculty of Education and Arts are passionately committed to research for positive and creative futures. We will ensure regional research is recognised as a national strategic research priority through excellent, creative, community-engaged critical enquiry.				
Fed Uni Core Strategy 1: Research infrastructure and support				
Faculty strategy	Actions	Leading staff	Target date	
1. Strengthen research support				21/8/15
1.1 Embed research leadership across FEA	Appoint key positions: HDR Director, RLS	Dean, ADR	August 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Establish HDR sub-committee	ADR, HDRD	Achieved	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Promote FEA research achievements	Revise on-line presence of FEA researchers	ADR, Website sub-committee	End 2015	Need to form s/c
	Celebrate & promote research achievements	All	Continuous	In process
	Presentations, seminars & research sharing days	ADR, RLS, RG leaders, Professors	Continuous	In process
1.3 Establish research enabling processes	All research active staff to develop 3yr research plans	ADR, HoS, DHoS	mid 2016	About to start
	Establish research mentoring & support groups & activities	ADR, RLS	Continuous	In process
	Clarify & communicate University research services processes	ADR, Research Services, RLS	Continuous	In process
	Identify & introduce cost-neutral strategies to foster research	Dean, HoS, DHoS	Feb 2016	In process
	Establish research OSP plans for Research/Teaching (R/T) staff	Program leaders, HoS, DHoS	January 2016	Started
	Establish induction & support processes for HDR students	HDRD, Fred Cahir, Carole Wilson	Dec 2015	Started
1.4 Establish research accountable processes	Clarify appropriate research active targets	Dean, ADR, HoS	Dec 2015	About to start

3 year research plans reviewed annually in PRDP	HoS, DHoS	mid 2017	About to start
All JRE funded research to demonstrate HERDC and/or ERA outputs	ADR, RC	mid 2017	In process
Audit HDR students on leave & TD grade	HDRD	Sept 2015	In process
All HDR students have appropriate supervision teams	HDRD, ADR, HDRCs	Dec 2015	In process
Honorary & adjunct research fellows are research active	ADR	Continuous	In process

FedUni Core Strategy 2: Recruiting, enhancing and mobilising talent

Strategy	Actions	Leading staff	Target date	21/8/15
2. Build research capacity				
2.1 Increase research-active academics across FEA	Recruit world-class researchers in priority research areas (PRAs)	Dean, HoS, DHoS	mid 2016	In process
	Support ECRs & mid career researchers	ADR	Continuous	In process
	Target postdoc & visiting scholar grants	ADR	mid 2016	Not yet
	Recruit research active honorary & adjunct appointments	ADR	Continuous	In process
2.2 Implement HDR reviews' recommendations	Implement actions arising from HDR reviews	HDRD, ADR	mid 2016	In process
	Establish writing workshops & annual retreat for HDR students	HDRD	Nov 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Introduce supervisor PD opportunities	HDRD	March 2016	Not yet
2.3 Provide career development opportunities	Support HERDC & ERA output & income generating research	ADR, Dean, HoS & DHoS	Continuous	In process
	Establish grant writing & publishing opportunities	ADR	Nov 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Support international visiting scholar fellowships for FEA staff	Dean, HoS, DHoS	Continuous	Not yet
	Establish index for R/T staff on OSP leave each semester	Dean, HoS, ADR	Dec 2015	About to start

2.4 Establish and support research partnerships	Establish cross-faculty collaborations & resource sharing	ADR	August 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Strengthen interdisciplinary & inter-faculty collaborations	ADR, RLS, HoS	mid 2016	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Identify & support opportunities for honoraries & adjuncts	ADR, RC, RLS	Dec 2015	In process
	Foster international & inter-university collaborations	ADR, RLS, all FEA R/T staff	Continuous	In process
	Promote & support community-based research activity	ADR, all FEA R/T staff	Continuous	<input type="checkbox"/>

FedUni Core Strategy 3: Translating research for impact

Strategy	Actions	Leading staff	Target date	21/8/15
3. Achieve research excellence, impact and engagement				
3.1 Establish FEA priority research areas (PRA)	Identify PRA based on 2015 ERA outcome, outputs & FEA research vision	All	Nov 2015	In process
3.2 Promote a culture of research excellence	Identify & communicate indicators of excellence & impact	ADR, RC, HoS	end 2016	Not yet
	Commence positioning for future ERA rounds	ADR, RC, RLs	mid 2015	In process
	Promote FEA 2 & 4 digit FoR codes with potential for 3+ rating. <i>(eg. Education 13; Studies in Human Society 16; Studies in Creative Arts & Writing 19; Language, Communication and Culture 20; History and Archaeology 21; Philosophy and Religion 22)</i>	Dean, ADR	Continuous	In process
	Encourage research aligned with national strategic priorities	ADR, RLs	Continuous	In process
	Value, foster and support excellence & diversity in research	Dean, ADR, RLs	Continuous	In process
	Increase quality publications outputs	All	mid 2017	In process
3.3 Foster research with positive impacts for regions, communities and societies	Identify regional, community & societal research needs	ADR, RLs	mid 2016	In process
	Support 'engaged' research for positive impact	Dean, ADR	Continuous	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Achieve category 1, 2 & 3 grants	Support development of expertise in cat 1, 2 & 3 grants	Dean, RLs, ADR	Nov 2015/ Continuous	In process
3.5 Strengthen research/teaching nexus	Identify strategies for better aligning research and teaching	ADR, HoS, DHoS, PLs	Nov 2015	In process
	Facilitate PD opportunities	ADR, HoS, DHoS, PLs	Continuous	<input type="checkbox"/>

FedUni Core Strategy 4: Community and societal engagement

Strategy	Actions	Leading staff	Target date	21/8/15
4. Establish Community-engaged research as a Faculty priority				
4.1 Promote and support community-engaged research	Identify communities that we engage with in research activity	All research active staff	Early 2016	In process
	Develop community-based research knowledge & expertise	Dean, ADR, RAs	Dec 2016/ Continuous	In process
	Promote community-engaged research	ADR	Continuous	<input type="checkbox"/>
	JRE grant scheme to support community-engaged research	Dean, ADR, RC	July 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inter-discipline collaborations in community-based research	All research active staff	mid 2016	In process
4.2 Engage with regional industries and organisations, locally, nationally and internationally	Partner with local, regional and wider external organisations on category 1, 2 & 3 grant applications	Dean, ADR, all R/A staff	mid 2017	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Ensure community-engaged research is valued locally, nationally and internationally	Lobby University, ARC & peak bodies to recognise & support community-based research	Dean, ADR	mid 2017	In process
	Develop multi-disciplinary research teams	ADR, RAs, HoS, all R/A staff	mid 2016	Not yet??
	Establish multi-disciplinary 'community-based' research centre	Dean, ADR	mid 2017	Not yet??
4.4 Focus our research on issues of local, regional, national and international significance	Communicate & promote national strategic research priorities	ADR	Continuous	In process
	Promote & support 'big issue' topics	ADR	mid 2017/ Continuous	In process