THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Policy:

Research Funding Schemes

Effective: 20 September 2024

Audience: Employees

Policy Category: Academic
Policy Sub-category: Research

Key words:	Research, Funding, Grants
Policy Owner:	Pro Vice Chancellor, Research
Responsible Officer:	Director, Research Office
Review Date:	September 2027

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1 OBJECTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University's Objects are defined in Section 5 of its Act of Parliament:

The Objects of the University are:

(a) the provision of university education, within a context of Catholic faith and values; and
(b) the provision of an excellent standard of -
    i. teaching, scholarship and research;
    ii. training for the professions; and
    iii. pastoral care for its students.

2 PURPOSE

This Policy sets out the principles for Research Funding Schemes that the University may provide, from time to time, to support research by Academic Staff Members in alignment with the University Strategic Plan, Transformative Research.

3 SCOPE

3.1 This Policy applies to Academic Staff Members applying for funding under eligible Research Funding Schemes.

4 PRINCIPLES

4.1 The University's Research Funding Schemes:

4.1.1 Support Transformative Research, in alignment with the University Strategic Plan (2022-26) and the University Research Strategy (2023-26).

4.1.2 Provide targeted research funding to Academic Staff Members with a track record of research performance (commensurate with career stage and research opportunity) and the capacity to build national and international research collaborations.

4.1.3 Enable the development of research projects that produce high quality research outputs and/or secure external grants where the University is an Administering Institution.

4.1.4 Support strategic research partnerships with industry and community to address national and global challenges and deliver positive impact to beneficiaries.

4.1.5 Enhance opportunities for high-performing researchers at all career stages, including promising early career researchers.

4.1.6 Foster a thriving research environment that celebrates excellence and drives innovation.

5 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 The ***Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)*** has overall responsibility for the Research Funding Schemes**.**

5.2 The ***Research Office*** manages the administration of this Policy including but not limited to management of the budget, assessment and approvals.

6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

6.1 Applicable governing instruments

6.1.1 *University of Notre Dame Australian Act 1989 (WA)*

6.1.2 *University Statutes*

6.2 This Policy must be read in conjunction with any relevant regulations, codes, policies, procedures and guidelines as may be in force from time to time including, but not limited to, the following:

6.2.1 *Procedure: Research Funding Schemes*

6.2.2 *Policy: Academic Integrity (Staff)*

6.2.3 *Policy: Travel*

6.2.4 *Guideline: Travel*

6.2.5 *Employee Code of Conduct and Ethical Behaviour*

6.2.6 *Policy: Code of Conduct Research*

6.2.7 *Procedure: Financial Grant Management*

6.2.8 *Policy: Research Funding and Agreements*

7 DEFINITIONS

7.1 For the purpose of this Policy, the following definitions apply*:*

Academic Staff Member has the same meaning as in *The University of Notre Dame Australia Staff Enterprise Agreement* or such other enterprise agreement as may be in force from time to time.

Research is the creation of new knowledge and/or use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings, including synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative. This definition of research is consistent with a broad notion of research and experimental development comprising "creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge – including knowledge of humankind, culture and society – and devise new applications of available knowledge" (ERA 2023 Submission Guidelines).

Research Funding Schemes means the funding schemes established by the PVCR to support the University Research Strategy, including:

- Early Career Researcher (ECR) Award
- Research Development Grants (RDG)
- Big Ideas – Pro Vice Chancellor Research (PVCR) Strategic Initiatives Fund

Transformative Research refers to the 'Transformative Research' pillar in the University Strategy, 2022-2026.

Version	Date of approval	Approved by	Amendment
1	7 June 2018	Vice Chancellor, following endorsement by Executive Council	Effective date – new Policy.
2	28 June 2018	Vice Chancellor, on recommendation of the PVC, Research.	Amended definition of Staff Member to remove reference to two year contract.
3	3 August 2022	Vice Chancellor, On recommendation of the PVC, Research.	Align the RFS Principles and schemes with the new University Strategic Plan (2022-2026); converted to current template.
4	20 September 2024	Vice Chancellor	Minor updates to align with current University Research Strategy 2023-26 and policy documents.