



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

Excellence in Research for Australia

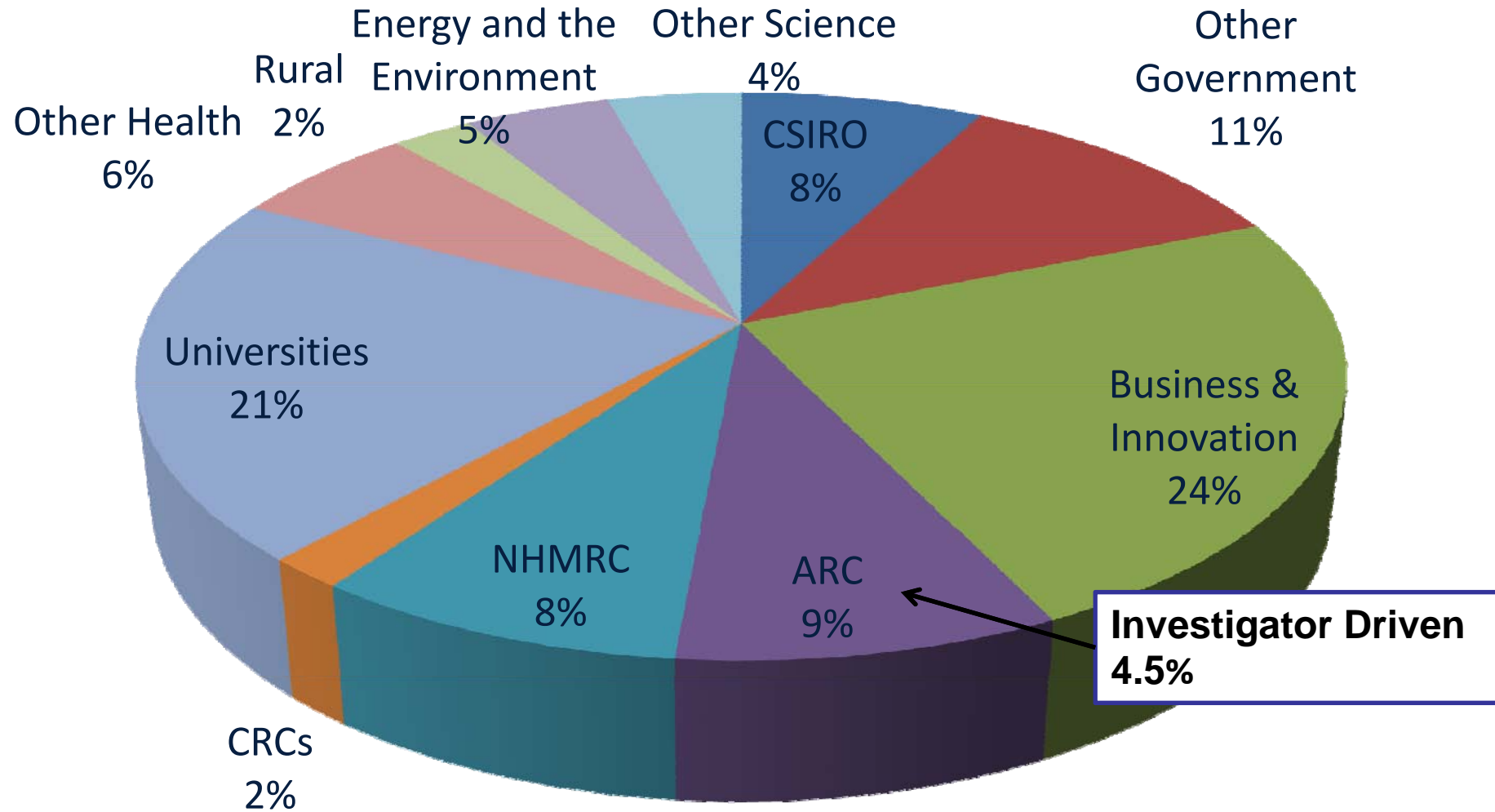


Future National Agendas

DASSH

29 September 2011

Government Investment in R&D 2011-12



ARC Strategic Objectives

- To support excellence in *research*
- To build Australia's research *capacity*
- To provide informed high quality *policy* advice to government
- To enhance research outcomes through effective *evaluation*
- To raise the *profile* of Australia's research effort and be an effective advocate for its benefits

The ARC

National Competitive Grants Program
\$810M in 11-12

**Evaluation
and Policy**

**Discovery &
Fellowships**
\$502 M

Linkage & Centres
\$308 M

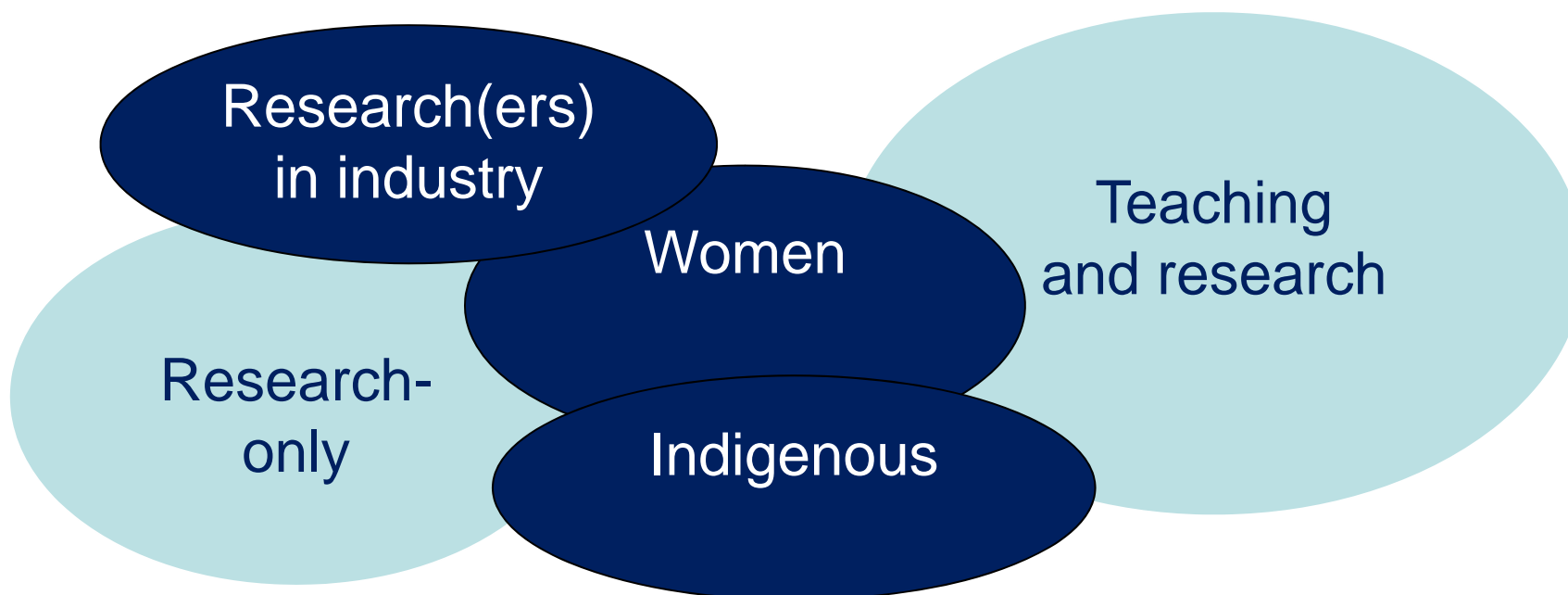
**Excellence in
Research for
Australia**

- Statutory Agency established 2001
- Mission: *to deliver policy and programs that advance Australian research and innovation globally and benefit the community*
- Fund direct costs to Universities and partners
- All disciplines except clinical medicine & dentistry



The ARC aims to:

- Foster a range of different cohorts
- Create the right incentives for collaboration



Encouraging Opportunity

Australian Laureate Fellowships

2x PhD
2x Post-Doc

17
5-year
awards

Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA)

\$125,000

200 p.a.
3-year
awards

Researchers in Industry Training Awards

\$30,000

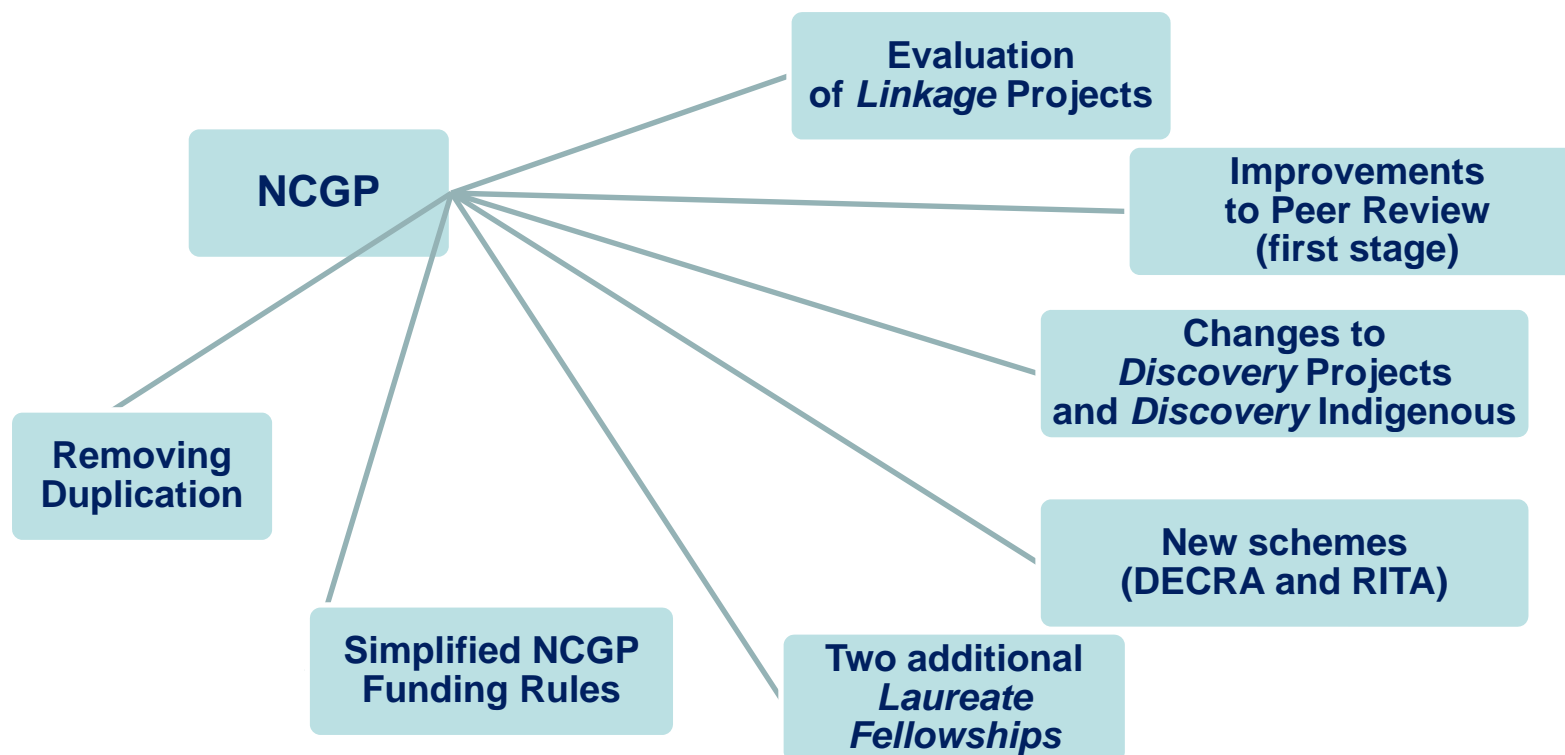
100
3-year
awards
(bi-annual)

Future Fellowships

Up to
\$143,00

200 p.a.
4-year
fellowships

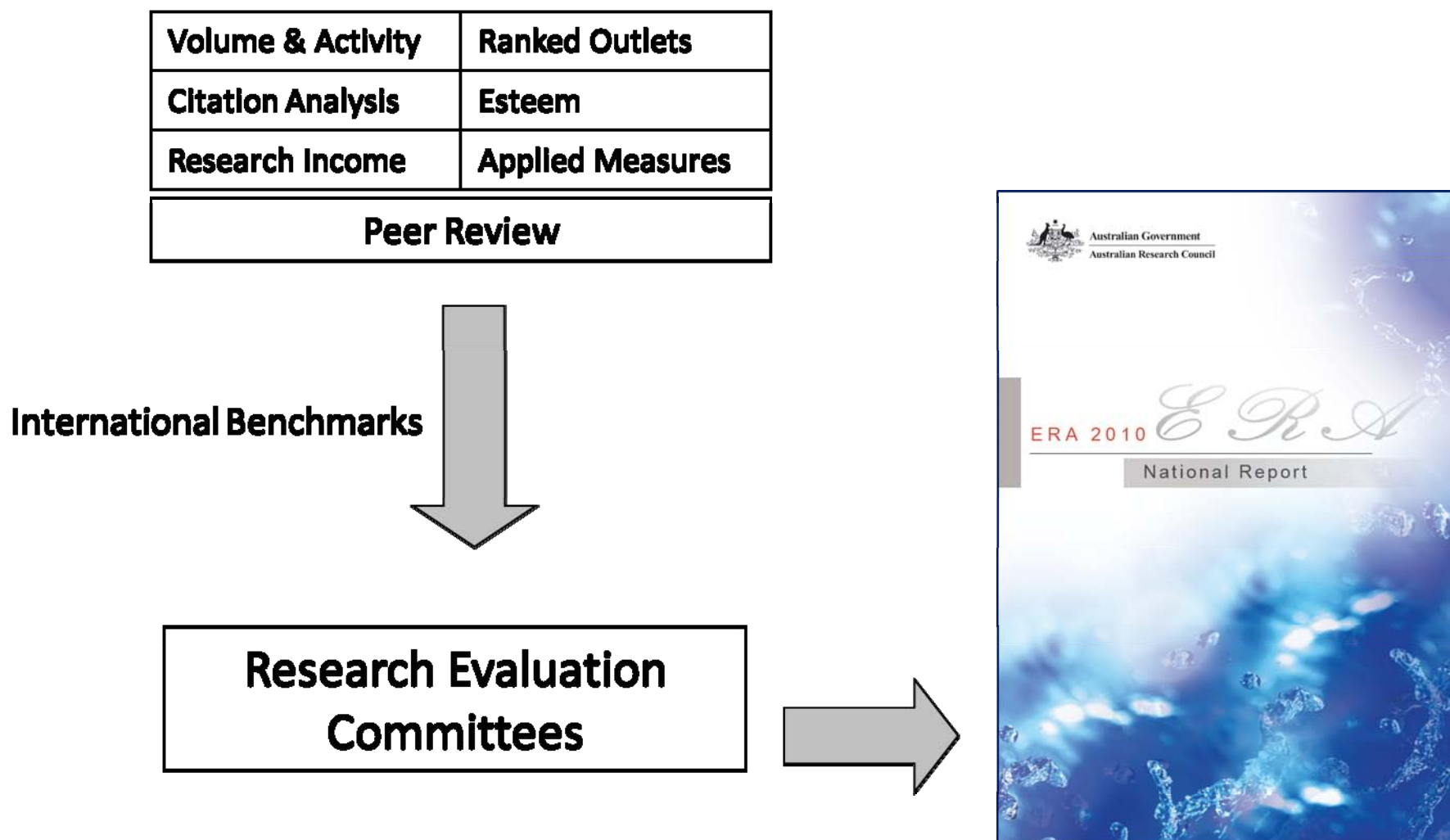
NCGP– the latest developments



ERA - Objectives

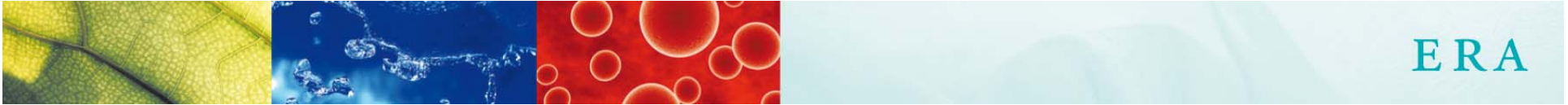
- Establish an **evaluation framework** that gives government, industry, business and the wider community assurance of the excellence of research conducted in Australia's institutions;
- Provide a **national stocktake** of discipline-level areas of research strength and areas where there is opportunity for development in Australia's higher education institutions;
- Identify **excellence** across the full spectrum of research performance;
- Identify **emerging research areas** and opportunities for further development;
- Allow for **comparison** of Australia's research nationally and **internationally** for all discipline areas.

ERA 2010 Process Overview



ERA 2010 at a glance

- Unit of Evaluation is the 4 digit Code
- All 41 eligible institutions participated
- 2435 units of evaluation assessed at the two- and four-digit level
- Over 330,000 research outputs and 55,000 researchers represented

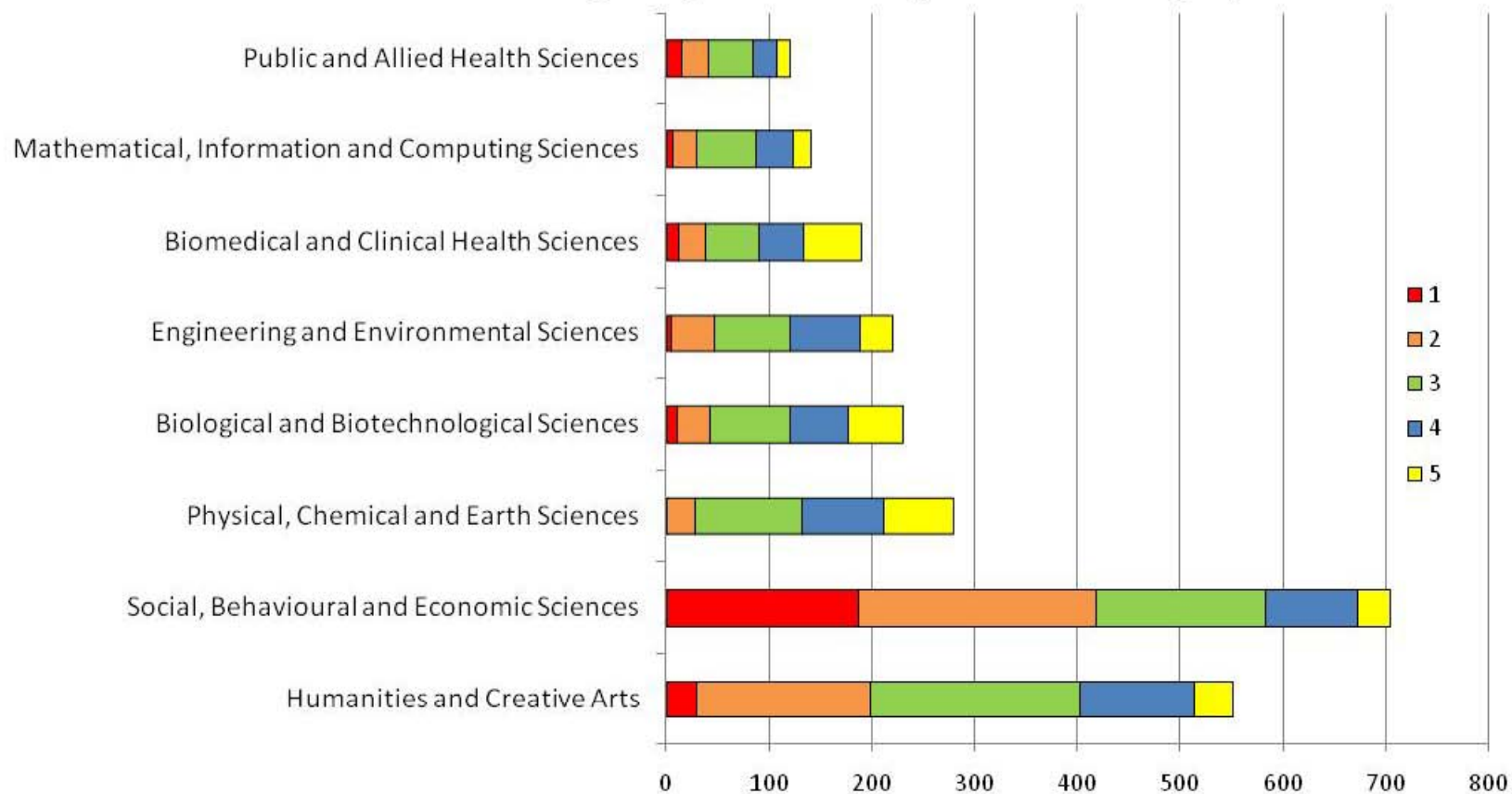


ERA

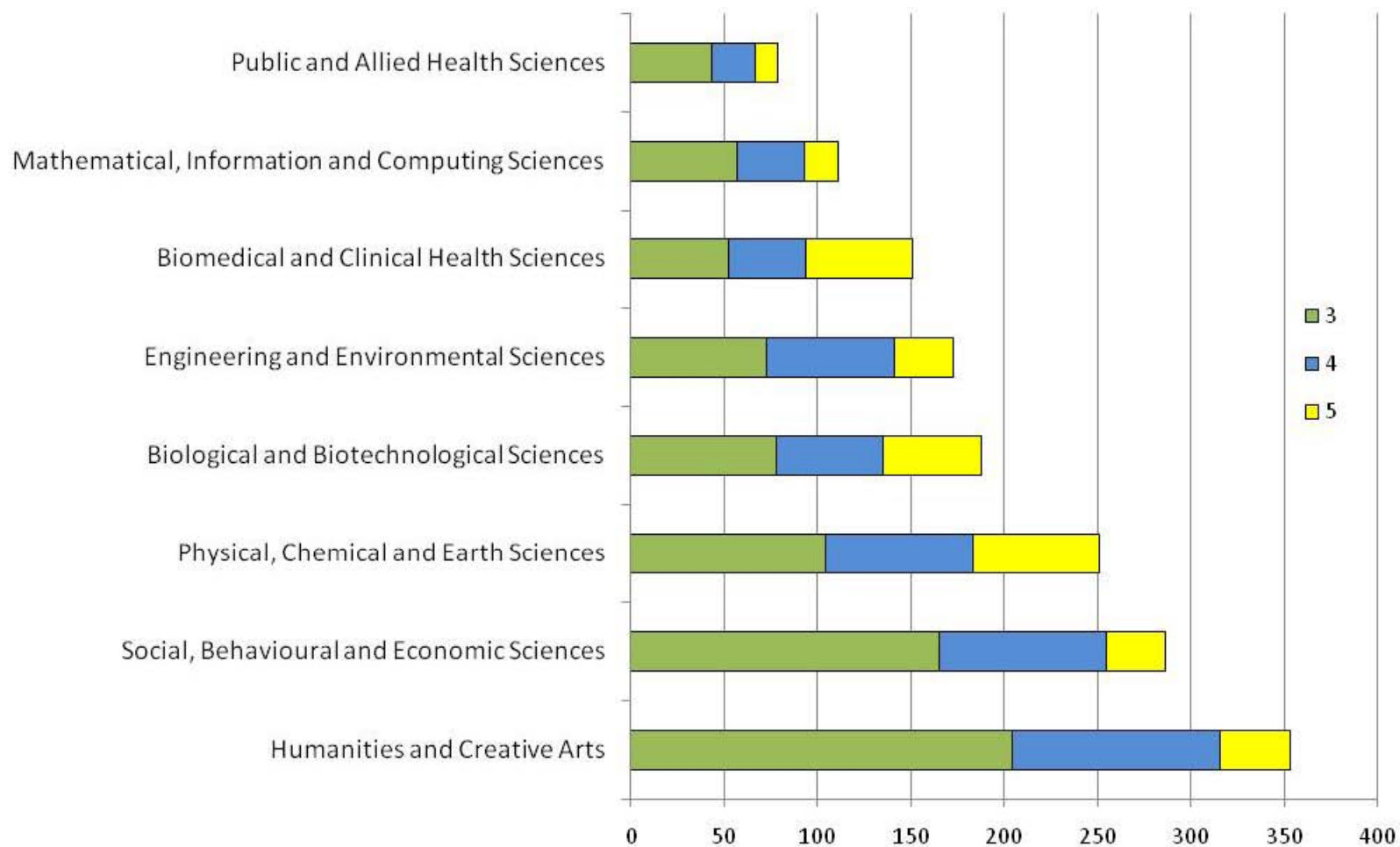
ERA 2010 Myths

ERA

ERA 2010 Ratings by Cluster (2 and 4 digit)



ERA 2010 Ratings at world standard and above (2 and 4 digit)



ERA 2010 submissions

- Institutional data submission smoother than Trial
- Institutional repositories generally functioned well
- Definition of research – still outputs being submitted which did not meet the definition in the view of the Committees; these are **not** eligible and should not be submitted
- Selection of peer review items – breadth of work in the 20%
- Supporting statements for NTROs and Portfolios

Changes to journals and conferences

- Refined journal and conference indicator for ERA 2012
- Ranks will not be used, instead outputs profiled by most frequent journals and conferences in the UoE, with drilldowns available as in 2010
- ARC will still produce a journal list – will not include rankings but will include FoR codes for citation analysis
- Strong feedback that ranked lists were having negative consequences in the sector
- ARC analysis suggested a refined indicator would produce improved results while removing negative consequences

The refined journal indicator

Example of the draft refined journal indicator for FoR 1801 for University X				
	University of X	1801	Law	
	Journal title	Papers	Contribution	Cumulative
1	Journal of Law and Medicine	27	6%	6%
2	Public Law Review	27	6%	12%
3	Australian Journal of Administrative Law	24	5%	17%
4	Law in Context	18	4%	21%
5	Australian Journal of Family Law	15	3%	24%
6	Company and Securities Law Journal	12	3%	26%
7	Torts Law Journal	9	2%	28%
8	Contemporary Issues in Law	9	2%	30%
9	Law and Policy	9	2%	32%
10	International Journal of the Legal Profession	9	2%	34%
11	Australian Journal of Corporate Law	9	2%	36%
12	Australian Journal of Labour Law	9	2%	38%
13	Journal of Judicial Administration	9	2%	40%
14	Federal Law Review	9	2%	42%
15	Australian Journal of Legal Philosophy	6	1%	43%
16	Forensic Science International	6	1%	45%
17	Legal Theory	6	1%	46%
18	Revenue Law Journal	6	1%	47%
19	AIAL National Lecture Series on Administrative Law	6	1%	48%
20	Intertax: international tax review	6	1%	50%
	Total	465		
<i>Please note that this is not based on any university's submission to ERA 2010</i>				

Interdisciplinary and enabling research – the ‘clawback’

- Journal articles with $\geq 66\%$ content in a discipline can be apportioned to that discipline
- Approach was successfully trialled in 2010 for Mathematics
- Allows stronger recognition of interdisciplinary and applied research
- Aligns journals with other output types



Raising the threshold

- Low volume threshold for peer review disciplines raised to 50 apportioned weighted outputs (maintaining the 5:1 weighting for books)
- Threshold remains the same for citation analysis disciplines
- Aligns all disciplines at 50 outputs
- Recognises strong feedback from sector and from 2010 evaluators
- ERA units need sufficient volume

Eligibility of fractional staff

- Fractional staff: minimum 40% appointment at ERA census date
- Those below 40% can still submit with by-line or similar requirement (similar to existing approach for casuals)
- Addresses concern about ERA-driven “poaching”
- Recognises that in many cases those below 40% are legitimately employed – their outputs can still be submitted

Other changes for ERA 2012

- Patents, plant breeder's rights and registered designs assigned to individuals now eligible for submission
- Cluster structure revised in the light of information from ERA 2010
- Some adjustments to indicator sets used in the discipline matrix (e.g. ICT disciplines)
- Construction of the pool of outputs for peer review (30%)

ERA 2012 – still to do

- Recruitment of Research Evaluation Committees
- Expansion of peer reviewer pool
- Submission Guidelines and Technical Documentation have been released
- Citation data provider has been announced – Scopus
- Submission and beyond

ASSH disciplines and ARC

- What are the areas you think need focussing on?
- How do you want to be involved?
- Don't forget the Executive Directors
 - Professor Marian Simms (SBE)
 - Professor Andrew Wells (HCA)