RMIT Emerging Researcher Grants – 2009 round for 2010 funding

Objective

To support emerging researchers to undertake a pilot project or preliminary studies which would form the basis for applying for external research funding in 2010 or 2011.

Eligibility

Grants will be available to employees of RMIT up to Academic Level B, who are either:

- in a continuing position, or
- are employed under fixed term contract for 2 years or longer, which provides for research time and
- are within 5 years of award of their PhD.

Part-time employees may apply, provided their appointment includes a specific time allocation for research. No more than one ERG application will be considered from each applicant.

Other researchers may be involved in the proposed project but the emerging researcher will be the lead investigator and the project proposal must provide a sound base for inclusion of other researchers. Note that involvement of non-RMIT researchers may be justified on the grounds of assisting the development of the RMIT researcher, but all funding would remain within RMIT. Ideally, applicants should identify a mentor in connection with their projects. The mentor should preferably be a person who has been successful in obtaining external research funding.

NB - Previous recipients of Emerging Researcher Grants are not eligible to apply.

Types of Activities Funded

Funding is to support activities associated with a specific research project and is expected to directly lead to an external grant application. Projects must be carried out at RMIT University.

Requests may be for enabling infrastructure, small equipment, access to data bases and so on. Travel for the purpose of establishing sustainable external networks, accessing specialist facilities, or support for graduate students or research assistance, will be considered on a case by case basis.

Administrative assistance, conferences, support for visiting scholars, or teaching relief will not be funded.

Grants will not necessarily be allocated against RMIT designated research areas.

Funding and Timing

- Project Grants up to a maximum of $20,000 per proposal/researcher.

Projects would normally be of one year's duration. Funding will be made available from January 2010 and must be expended by 31 December 2010.

The project will be deemed to have commenced on 1 January 2010 and is expected to be completed by 31 December 2010.
2. Application/Decision Process

- Emerging researchers to submit an application (available at [http://www.rmit.edu.au/research/sources](http://www.rmit.edu.au/research/sources)) by **Wednesday 17 June 2009**

- Applications must be signed by the Head of School or delegate

- All applications will be assessed by a panel comprising the Associate/Deputy PVCs Research and PVC(R&I), with selection based on:
  - track record relative to opportunity (40%); and
  - the significance and innovation of the project (60%).

- Successful applicants will be notified by 31 July 2009.

Project Management

The emerging researcher:

- must obtain any necessary ethics approval before commencing the project;

- will be responsible for acquitting the funds in line with the approved project plan and budget; or as modified in light of the sum awarded, and

- must submit a final report, on the report form to be provided, no later than 31 March 2011.

Colleges will be expected to encourage experienced researchers to mentor potential, and successful, applicants.

Grant Administration

The application and post-award processes will be administered by the Research Support team of the R&I Portfolio.

Enquiries can be directed to Margaret Thorpe ext 57405, or email to margaret.thorpe@rmit.edu.au

Applications (typed) should be sent as a signed original hard copy to:

Margaret Thorpe
Research Support Unit
Building 215.2
Bundoora West Campus
or faxed to 9925 6599