A very warm welcome to two more new 2010 research students: Angela Rogers and Mary Lego.

A very warm welcome to the new research postgraduate student representative Mr. Ahmed Ali Al-Hazmi on the RHDRC Committee for 2010 – 2011.

**Research Students**

1. The School of Graduate Research (SGR) has announced a new conference travel scheme recently developed to support our Higher Degree by Research students.

The Postgraduate Research Student International Conference Fund aims to provide HDR candidates with experience in participation at conferences of international standing. These conferences are essential to the dissemination of research and provide HDR students with an opportunity to further their professional development.

Further details about the scheme together with the application form are available from: [http://www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch/conffund](http://www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch/conffund).

Think about a Semester 2 2010 application


3. I am in the process of organising a half-day SPSS (now called PASW) workshop in July. If anyone would like to be part of this training session please email Louise Prentice so we can gauge the level of interest for this workshop

**Research Supervisors**

Inaugural meeting of the RMIT Supervisors' Colloquium: a forum for collegiate discussion on supervision and research education over lunch. The session will be a panel discussion on the future of the higher degree by research thesis. Panel members are: Prof Irena Cosic (SEH), Prof Jeff Lewis (DSC), Prof Bill Cartwright (Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences) and Assoc Prof Lesley Duxbury (Art).

**Time:** Tuesday, March 30, 12.30 - 2.30 - with lunch from 12.15

**Venue:** Research Lounge, Bldg 28, Level 5, (opposite the Swanston Library, down the ramp)

RSVP by Friday, March 26, for catering purposes to [helen.lennox@rmit.edu.au](mailto:helen.lennox@rmit.edu.au)

For more information on the Colloquium see: [www.rmit.edu.au/staff/research/colloquium2010](http://www.rmit.edu.au/staff/research/colloquium2010)
Research Staff
The ARC has released the Funding Rules and Instructions to Applicants for the ARC Linkage Round 1 for 2010 submission for projects commencing 1 January 2011.
*** The ARC Closing date is Round 1 - 12 May 2010.
*** Round 2 - 17 November, 2010

The DSC College closing date for fully developed Round 1 application review - 12 April 2010.

Expression of Interest Round 1 - please submit to lorraine.bridger@rmit.edu.au
Attached is a one page Expression of Interest document. Please take the time to complete the document and return it to me by Thursday 1 April. Completion of an Expression of Interest enables the College to provide targeted advice to applicants.

Changes to ARC Linkage for 2010 applications
1. The minimum per annum budget request for ARC funding is now $30,000. For an application to be eligible, each year's budget must meet this figure.
2. All applications submitted must meet a minimum requirement of 20% cash for any budget request of between $30,000 and $500,000. All ARC Linkage applications must be supported by cash and in-kind from Partner Organisations at the same level as the budget requested from the ARC. Projects requesting more than $500,000 are accepted however, they must meet a minimum requirement of 50% cash commitment from the Partner Organisations
3. ARC APAI stipends are no longer a "stand alone" application enumerated request. How to explain this. For those familiar with ARC Linkage, applicants could specific the number and type of Stipends being requested, eg. "regional or IT". The successful grant offer would then specify the number of APAIs awarded as part of the funding. APAs also required specific post award reporting, e.g. commencement of student(s), etc. The NEW Linkage Funding Rules, simply indicate that to make a request for a stipend it is an entry as a line item in the "Personnel" section of the project budget. The funded project will no longer specify a stipend and you may use the funding in any way eg. as a part time RA, stipend or whatever, you see fit.
4. Please note the ARC Stipend value for 2010 applications is $27,222. Therefore a "stipend only" application no longer meets the ARC minimum funding requirement of $30,000 per annum budget request.
5. The ARC Linkage application in now via the RMS on line system. I suggest you plan some additional time in data entry, especially if you have a number of Partner Organisations.

Reminder dates for your Research calendar for 2010
1. Research Writers’ Retreat is scheduled for 29th June to the 1st July 2010 at the Geelong Conference centre.
2. Research Student conference scheduled for Friday 18th June 2010 and Friday the 19th November 2010.
3. The Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) and Transparent Costing Exercise (TCE) Stage 2, has just been completed 15th – 21st March. (teaching period collection). Please make sure you submitted your weekly work commitments. This exercise is fundamentally important to RMIT as the Commonwealth has notified the universities that if we do not achieve 67% completion rates by staff universities 2010/2011some research funds may well be cut.