



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Research Council**

# The Australian Research Scene

Prof Richard Coleman  
Executive Director, PMIS

ICT Deans, Annual Meeting, Hobart, July 26, 2011

# The ARC

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

**Evaluation  
and Policy**

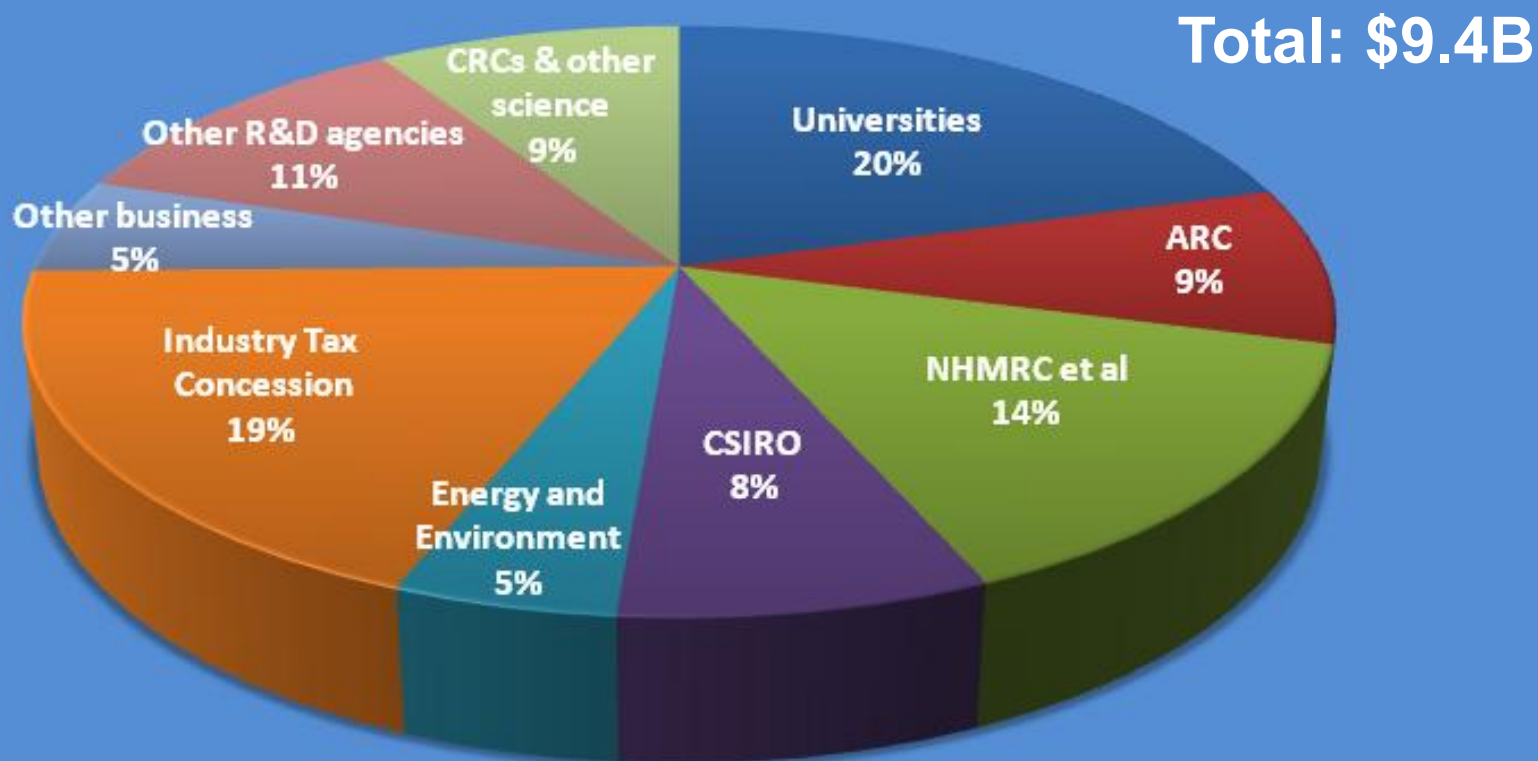
**Discovery &  
Fellowships**  
**\$502 M**

**Linkage & Centres**  
**\$308 M**

**Excellence in  
Research for  
Australia**

- Support research excellence
- Funding for facilities and equipment that researchers need to be internationally competitive
- Support future researchers
- Provide incentives for partnerships and collaboration nationally and internationally

# Government Investment in Research 2011-12





# ARC and Innovation

- Supporting **integrity** and **independence** of the research system
- Expanding fellowships to **attract the world's best** researchers
- **Measuring** the **quality** of Australian research (ERA)
- **Building** research **capacity** through collaboration
- Encouraging **collaboration** between **research and business internationally**



# NCGP Funding

- Funding for the NCGP in 2010-11 is \$708.733 million
- Announced \$67.4 million in funding for Linkage Grants scheme supporting 219 innovative projects in 2011 (11 in IT areas, most (7) in 0801)
- Announced \$255.9 million in 13 new *ARC Centres of Excellence* to commence in 2011
- Current rounds of DP, DECRA, FT, LP, LIEF, FL

# NCGP Programs & Schemes

## Discovery Program

*Discovery Projects + DECRA*

*Discovery Indigenous  
Researcher Development*

*Future Fellowships*

*Australian Laureate Fellowships*

## Linkage Program

*Linkage Projects*

*Linkage Infrastructure,  
Equipment and Facilities*

*Linkage Learned Academies  
Special Projects*

# NCGP Programs & Schemes

## Centres

*ARC Centres of Excellence*

*ARC Special Research Centres*

*Co-funded Centres of Excellence*

## Special Research Initiatives

*Research in Bionic Vision Science and Technology*

*Stem Cell Science*

*Thinking Systems*

*EMBL*

*AAO Fellowships*



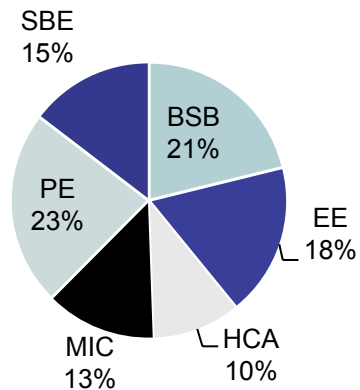
# ARC Changes

- New schemes/substantial changes:
  - Discovery Early Career Awards (DECRA)
  - Changes to Discovery – Discovery Outstanding Researcher Award (DORA)
  - To come – Research Industry Training Awards (RITA)
- Revision and simplification of Funding Rules
- Changes to Peer Review of NCGP schemes (A-E)
- Updating of assessor databases
- New coding of RMS modules

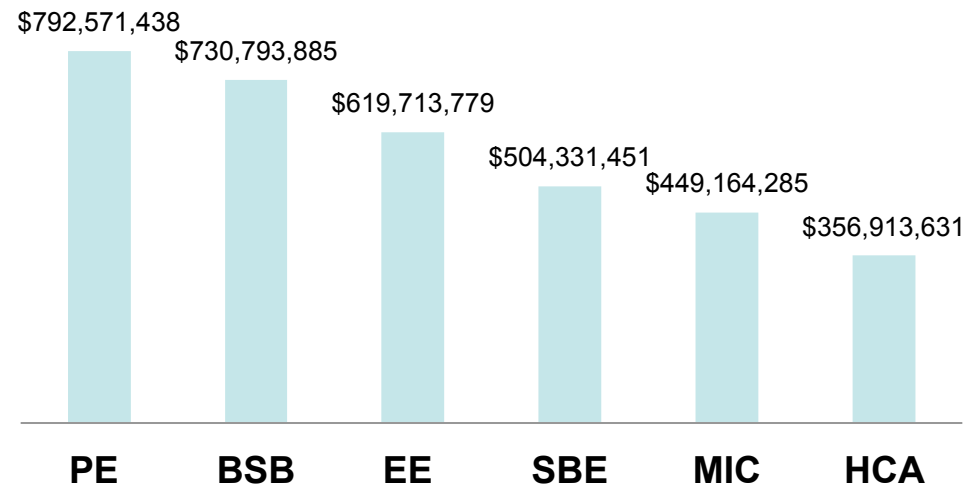


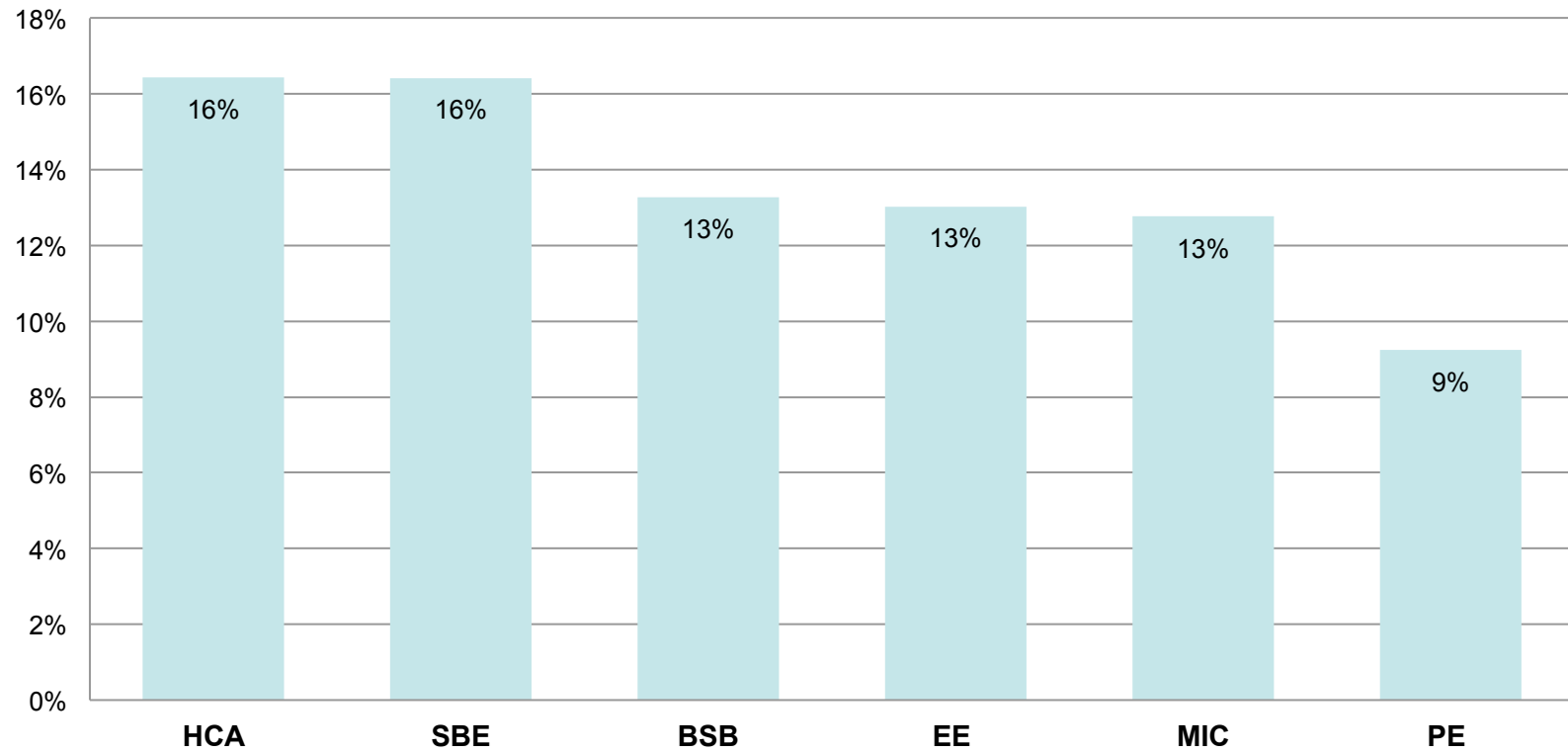
# Discovery Projects

**Average Annual Proportion of ARC funding for new and ongoing DP projects (2002 - 2009) by discipline**

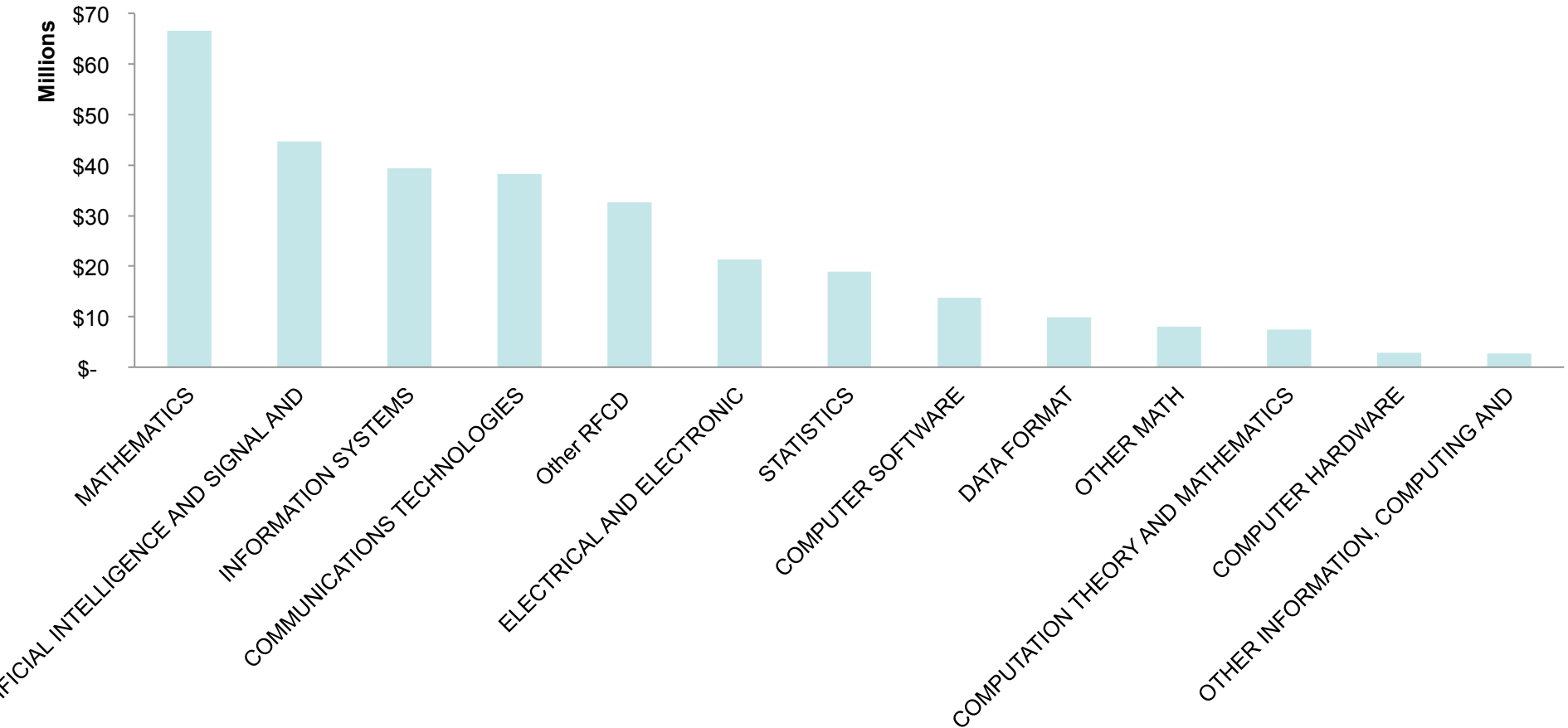


**Total ARC Funding (new and ongoing) for DP (2002 to 2009)**

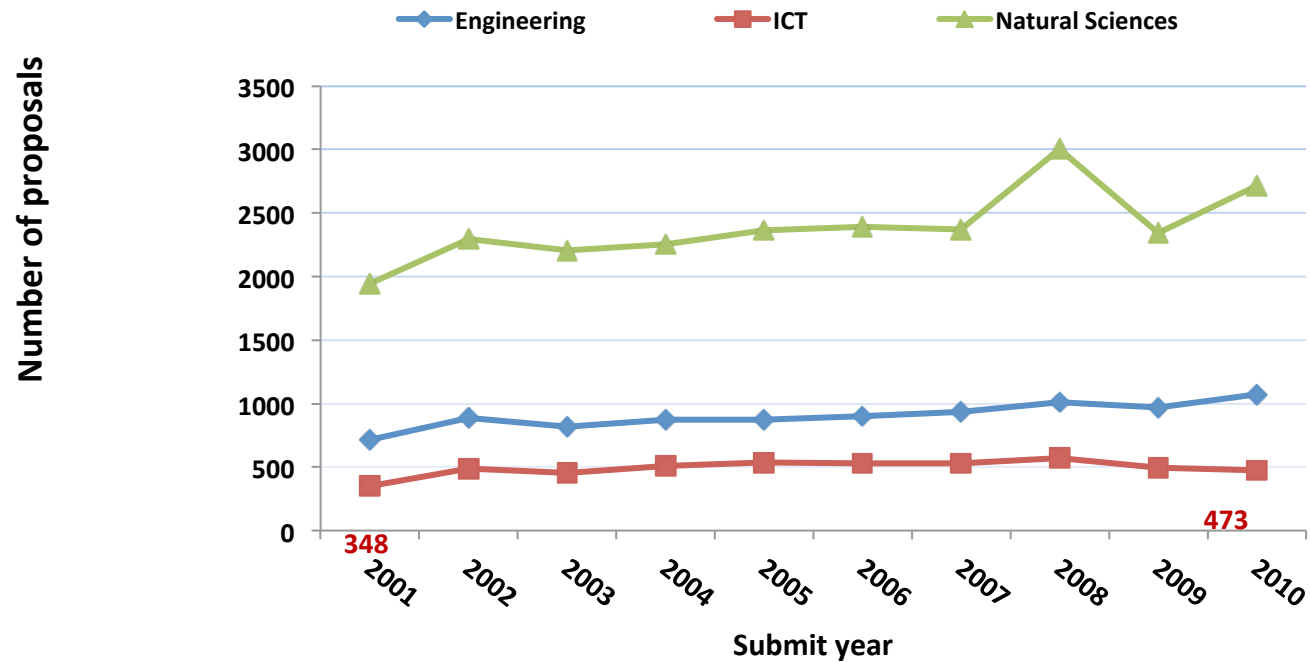


**Average Annual Increase in ARC Funding (2002 - 2009)**

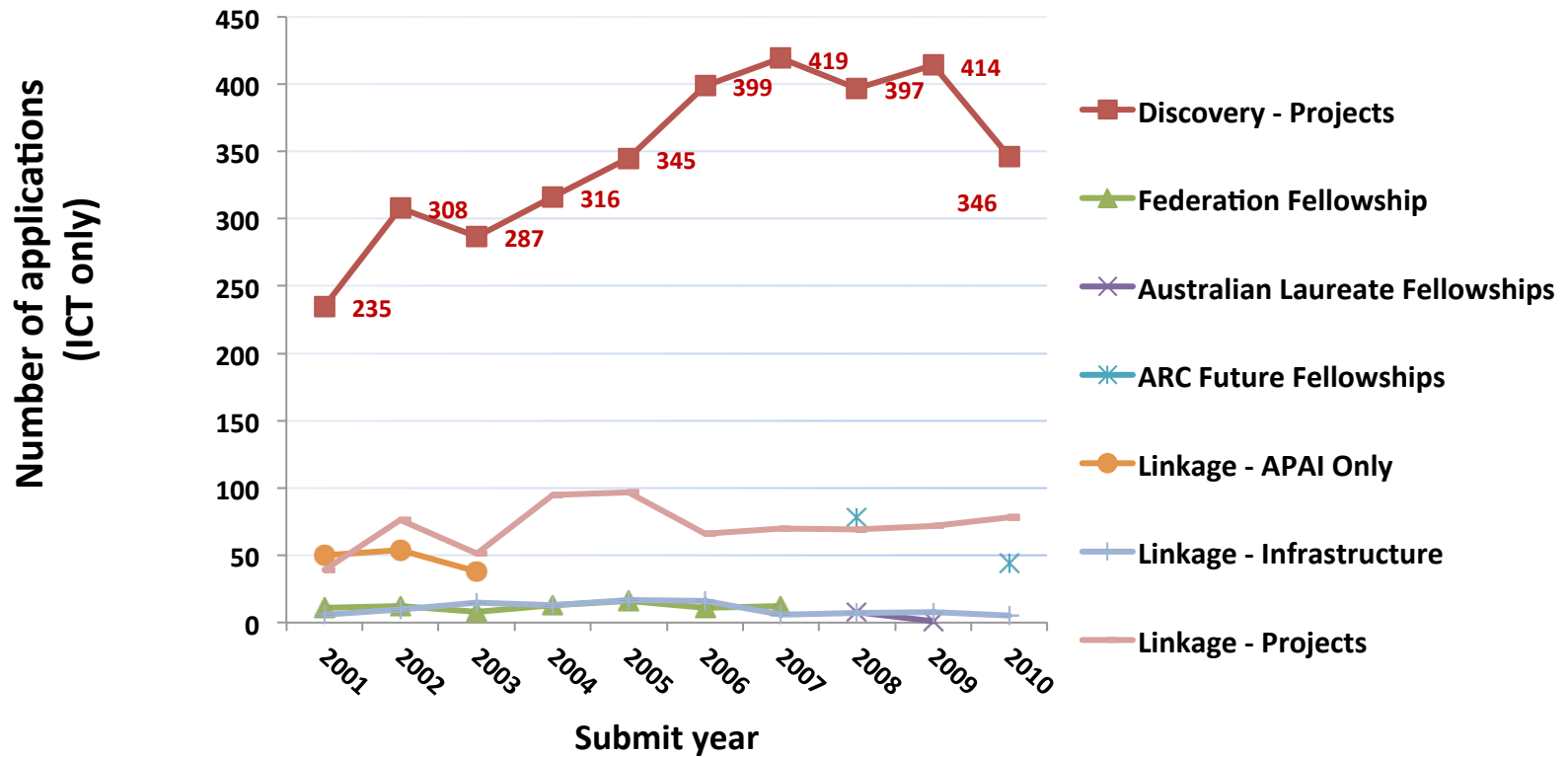
Total funding for new projects in MIC by Primary RFCD (2005 to 2009)



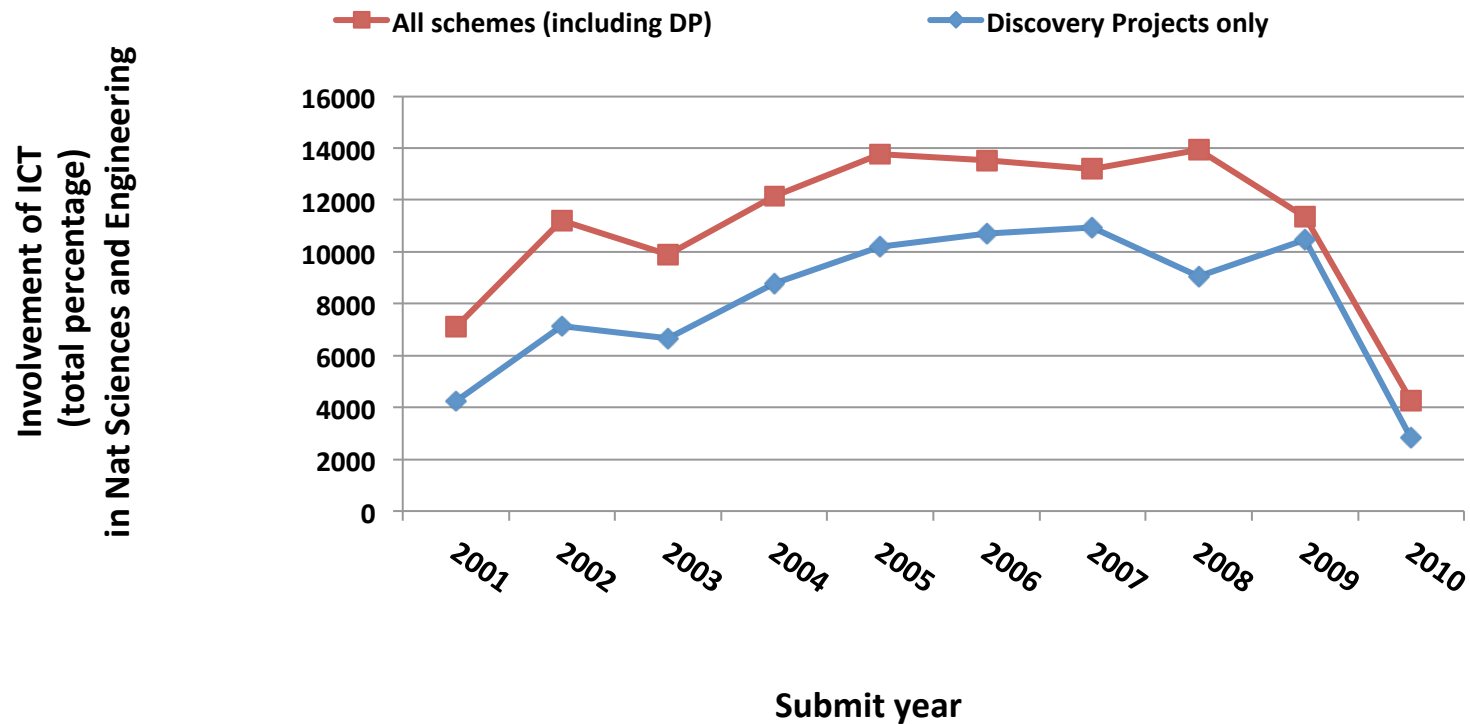
## Proposals received in ICT with comparison to Engineering and Natural Sciences



## Proposals received in ICT by schemes and submit year



## Involvement of ICT components (by RFCD) in natural sciences and engineering research (cross-disciplinary research)



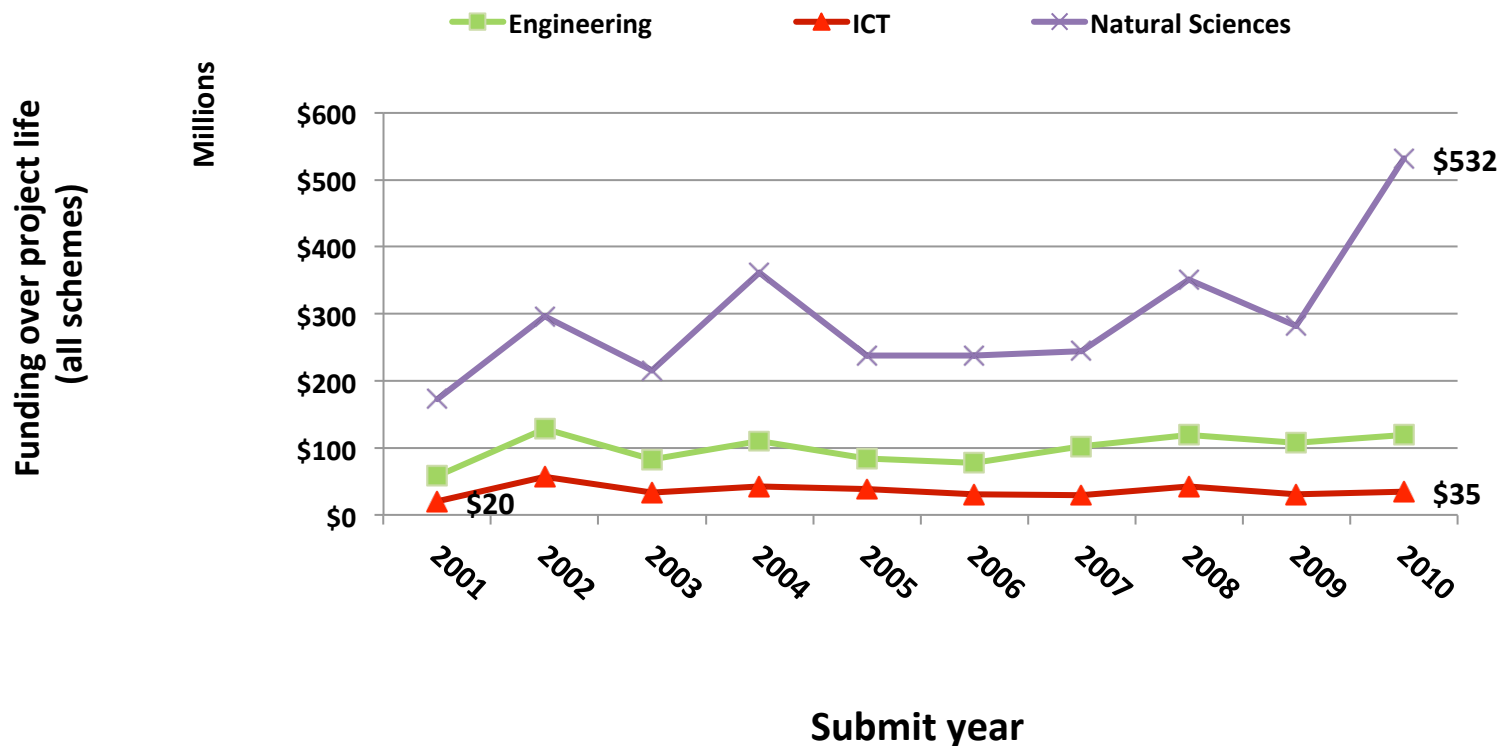
## Number of proposals received in ICT in Submit Year 2011 and comparison with Engineering and Natural Sciences

	DECRA	DP	IN	LE	LP	Total	%
Engineering	341	593	0	47	103	1084	25%
<b>ICT</b>	168	299	1	9	31	<b>508</b>	12%
Nat . Sciences	996	1507	6	104	163	2776	64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1505</b>	<b>2399</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>4368</b>	<b>100%</b>

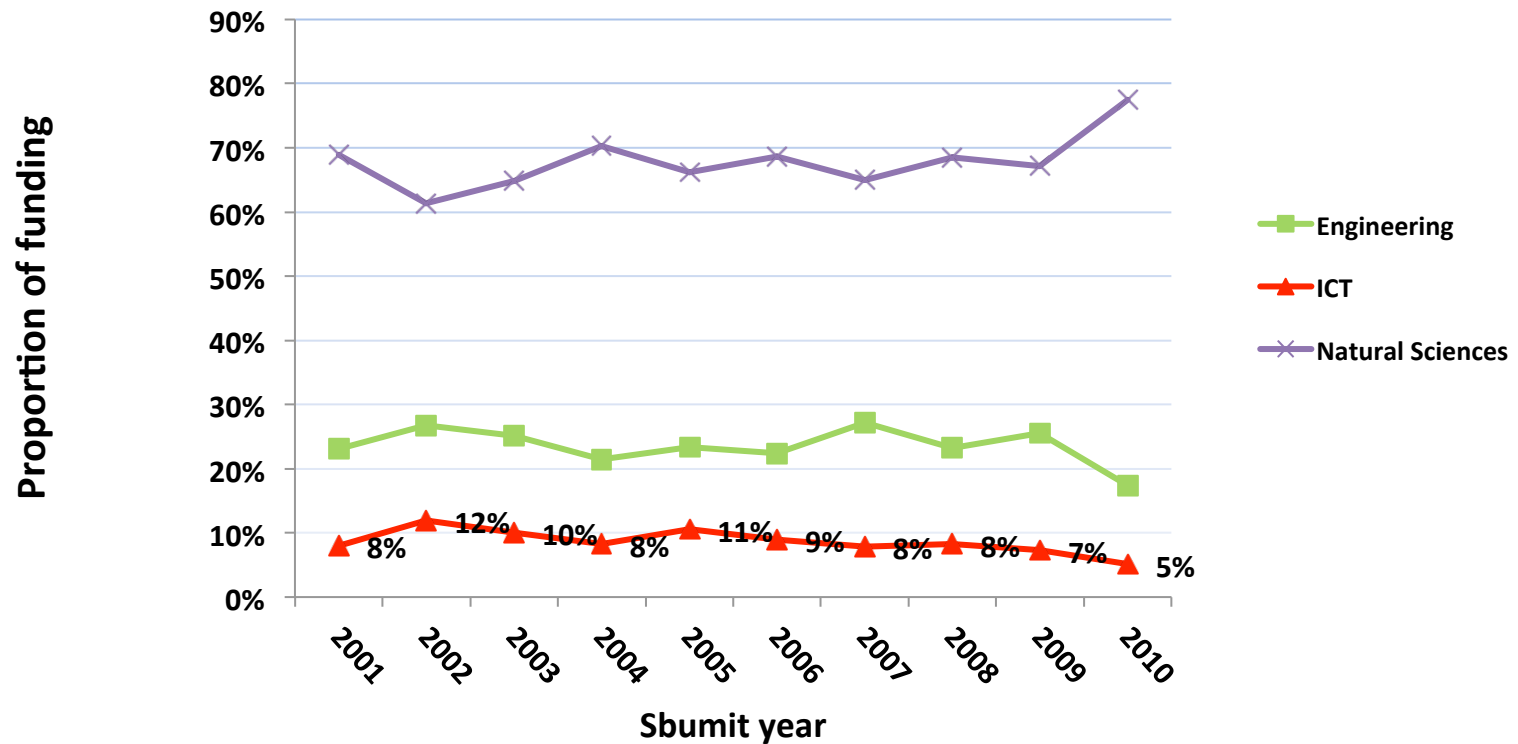
FL – 8 applications; FT – 37 applications (~50% in 0801)



## Funding for projects in ICT, natural sciences and engineering since 2001 (not including co-funded Centres and some Special Research Initiatives projects)

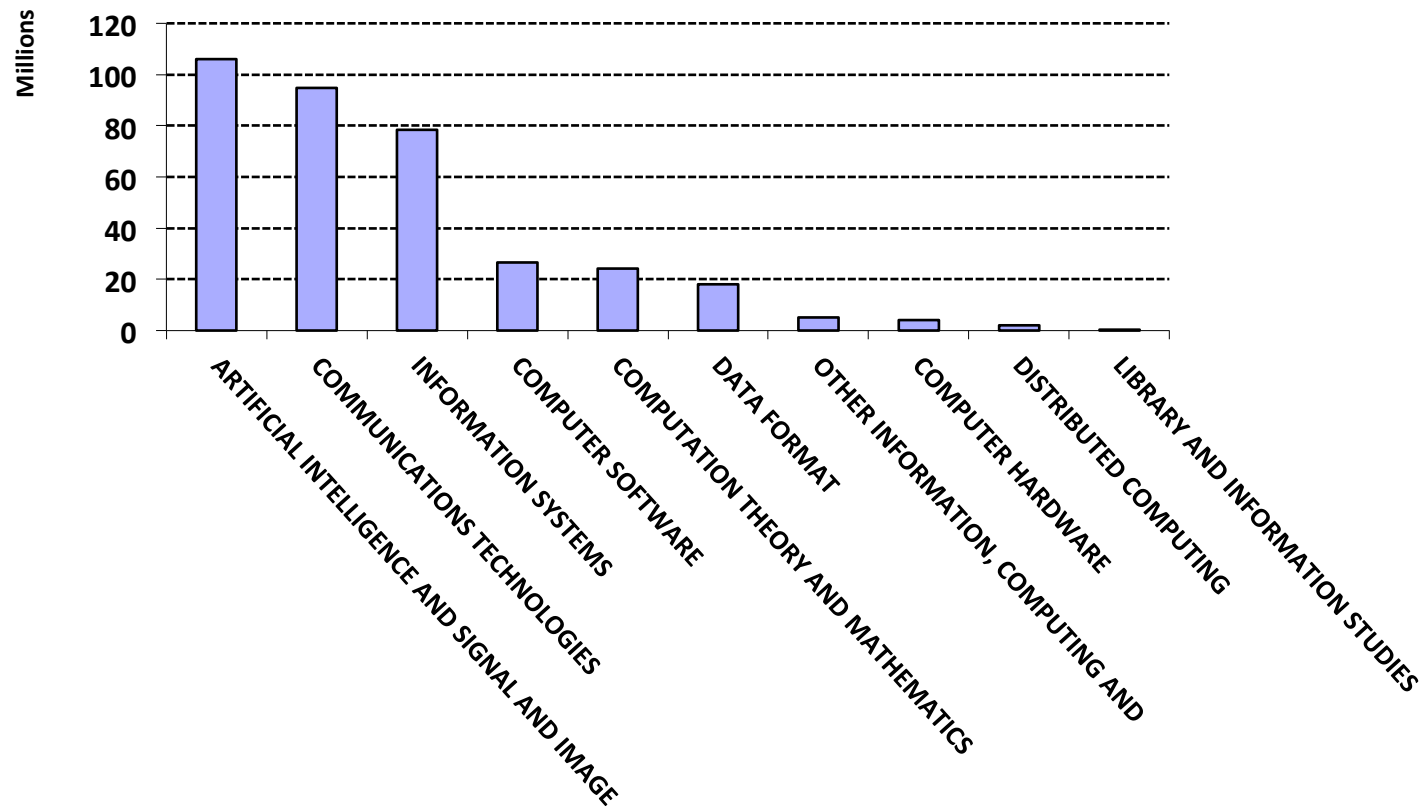


## Funding proportion among ICT, natural sciences and engineering projects



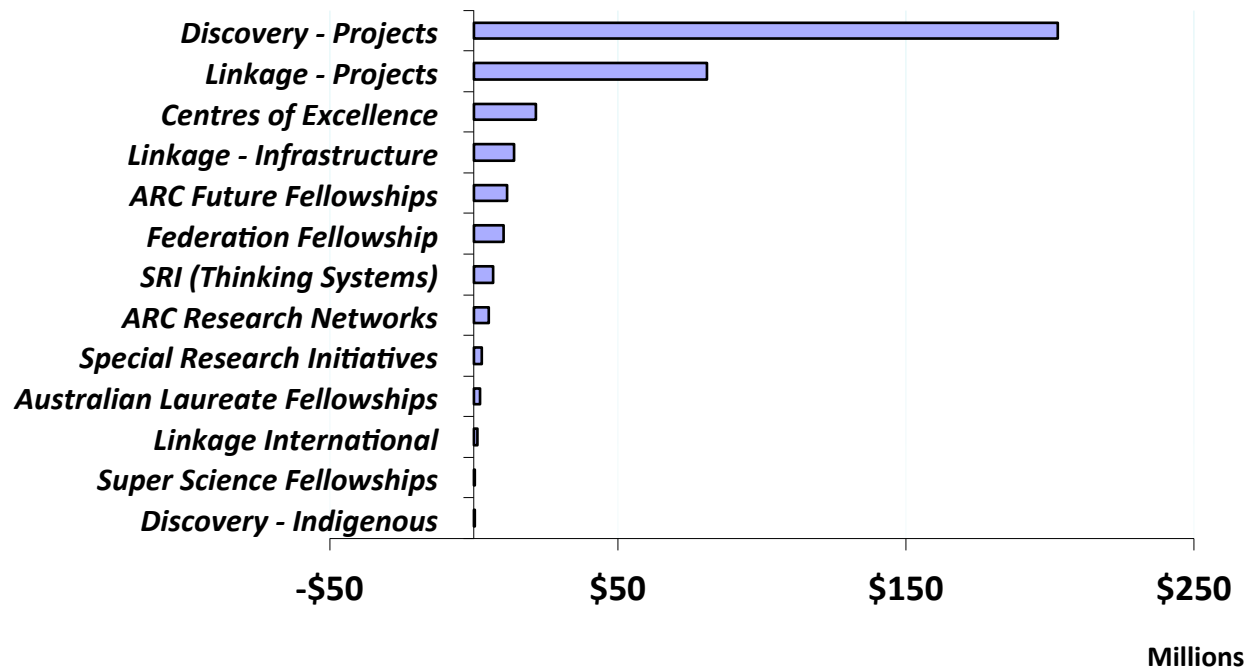
## Funding for ICT by primary RFCD/FOR disciplines, since commencement year 2002

Funding by primary RFCD/FOR - since commencement year 2002 (inclusive)



## Funding for ICT by scheme (since commencement year 2002)

Total funding for ICT by scheme since commencement year 2002 (inclusive)



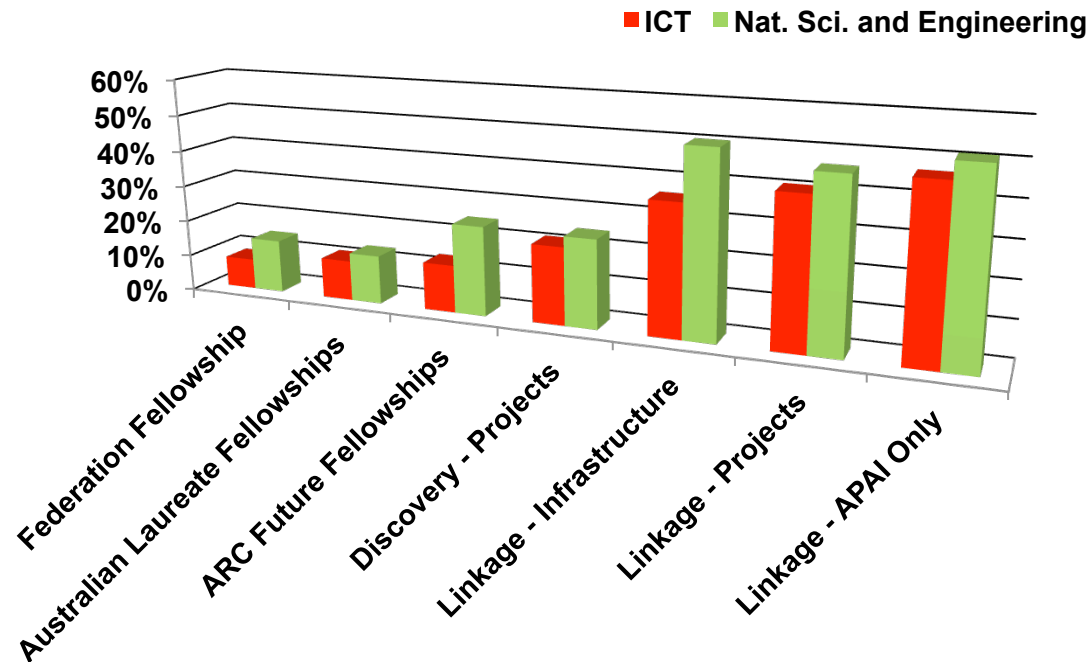
## Funding for ICT by scheme and commencement year since 2006

Scheme\Commencement year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
ARC Future Fellowships				\$6,689,600	\$4,761,591	
Australian Laureate Fellowships				\$2,064,351		
Discovery - Indigenous				\$30,000		
Discovery - Projects	\$20,406,072	\$20,832,243	\$20,992,493	\$23,798,140	\$22,106,000	\$20,675,176
Federation Fellowship	\$1,581,110	\$1,606,210				
Linkage - Infrastructure	\$2,402,000	\$1,741,967	\$429,776	\$150,000	\$469,410	\$1,230,000
Linkage - Projects	\$6,704,697	\$6,804,102	\$8,102,791	\$9,256,420	\$7,928,459	\$8,249,371
Linkage International	\$219,730	\$51,900	\$153,083	\$255,100		
SRI (Thinking Systems)	\$6,600,000					
Super Science Fellowships					\$278,400	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,913,609</b>	<b>\$31,036,422</b>	<b>\$29,678,143</b>	<b>\$42,243,611</b>	<b>\$35,543,860</b>	<b>\$30,154,547</b>

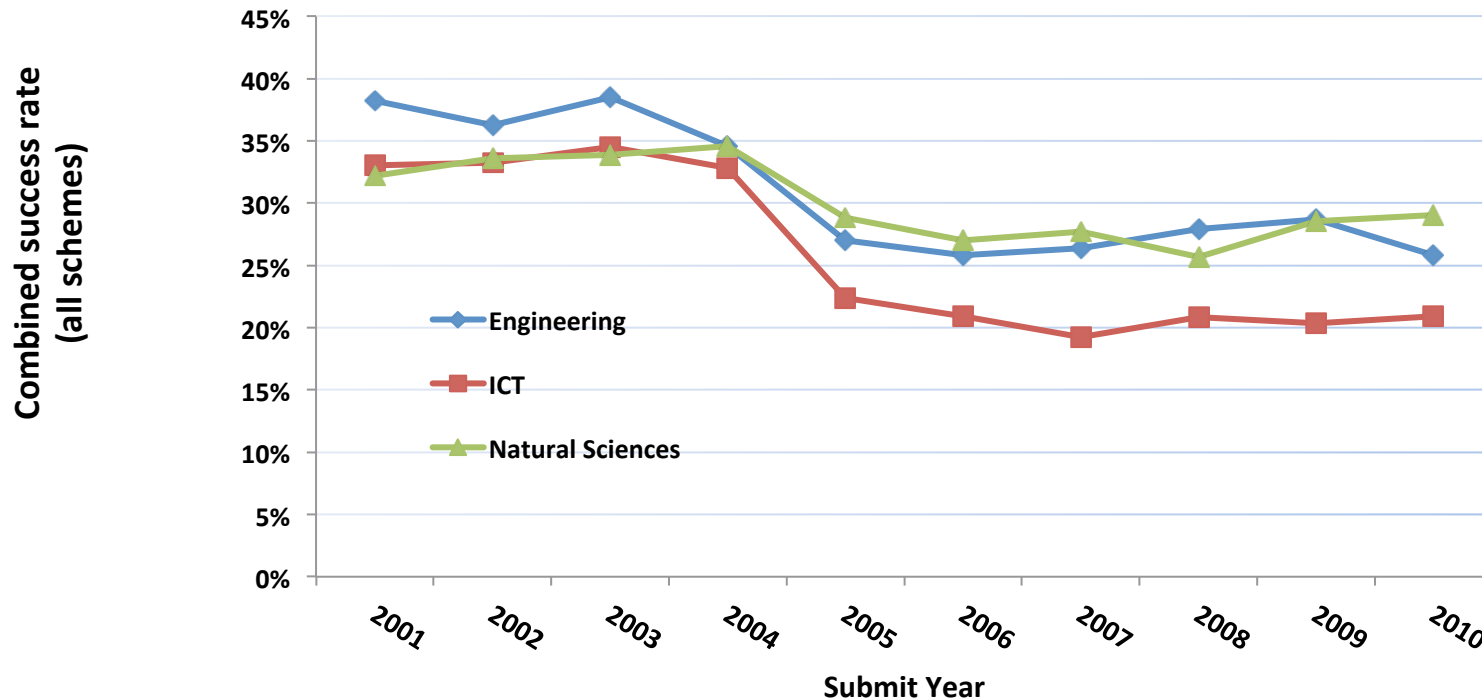
NICTA funding – 2002/03-2010/11: \$379.1M (ARC \$187.2M)

## Success rate for ICT proposals in comparison with natural sciences and engineering disciplines combined, by scheme

Total success rate (2001 to 2010)

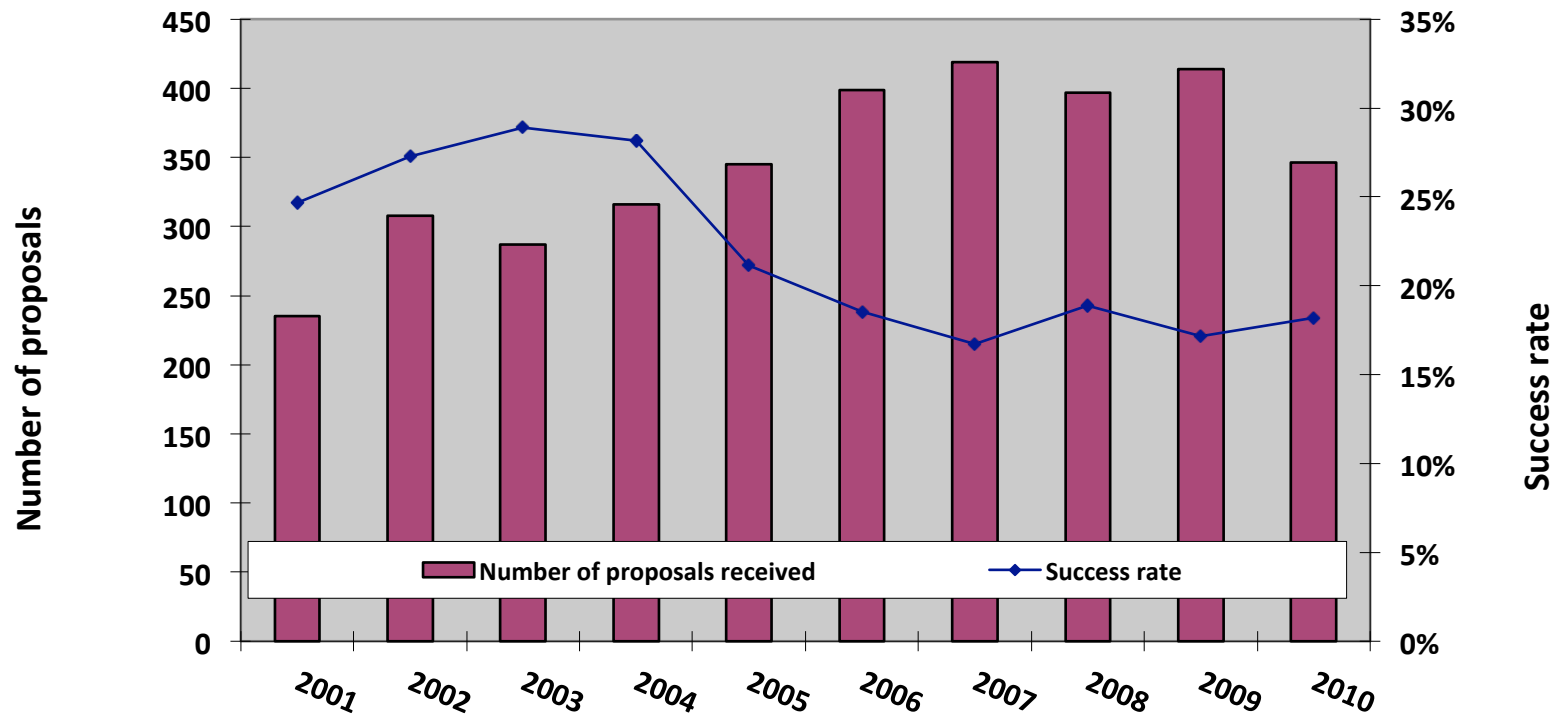


## Success rate of ICT proposals in comparison with natural sciences and engineering disciplines combined, by submit year





## ICT proposals received in ICT and success rate - Submit Year



Discovery Projects Proposals Received and success rate - Submit Year

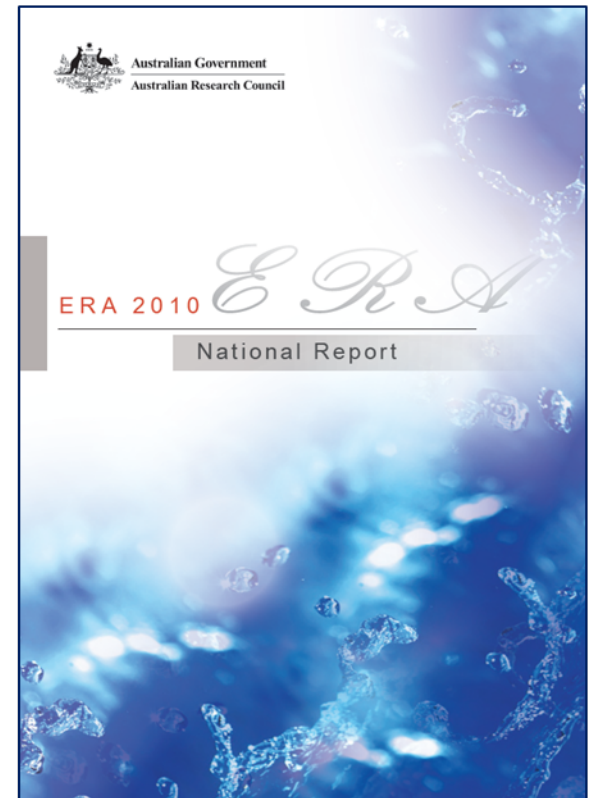
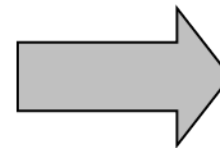
# ERA Process Overview

Volume & Activity	Ranked Outlets
Citation Analysis	Esteem
Research Income	Applied Measures
Peer Review	

International Benchmarks



Research Evaluation  
Committees



# Objectives of ERA

- 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.

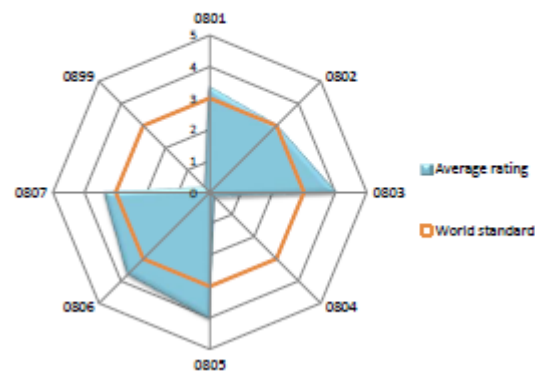
# ERA 2010 at a glance

- 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
- All ERA outcomes are available on the ARC website

# ERA 2010 – 08 summary

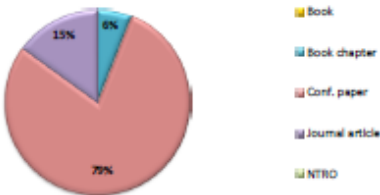
Mathematical, Information and Computing Sciences							
08 Information and Computing Sciences							
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard  <b>91%</b>	FTEs	1,792	Esteem count(s)			101	Average National Rating  <b>3.4</b>
	Research outputs	24,656	Patent(s)			14	
	Research income \$	238,748,216	Res. comm. income (\$)			14,849,644	
	UoEs assessed	23					
	Rating:	1	2	3	4	5	Total
	Distribution:	0	2	11	8	2	23

Four-digit FoR ratings

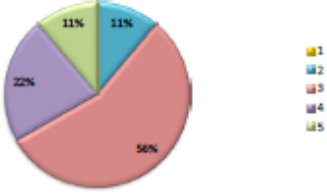


0801 Artificial Intelligence and Image Processing							
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>89%</b>	FTEs	487	Esteem count(s)			42	Average National Rating <b>3.3</b>
	Research outputs	7,409	Patent(s)			6	
	Research income \$	72,665,746	Res. comm. income (\$)			5,977,511	
	UoEs assessed	9					
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Distribution:		0	1	5	2	1	9

Research outputs by type

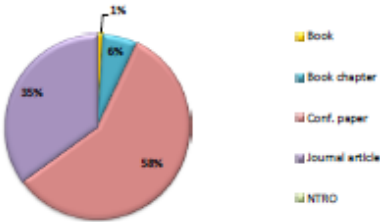


FoR rating distribution

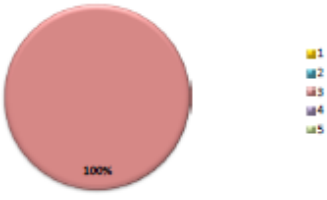


0802 Computation Theory and Mathematics							
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>100%</b>	FTEs	76	Esteem count(s)			7	Average National Rating <b>3.0</b>
	Research outputs	1,447	Patent(s)			1	
	Research income \$	10,001,041	Res. comm. income (\$)			38,037	
	UoEs assessed	3					
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Distribution:		0	0	3	0	0	3

Research outputs by type

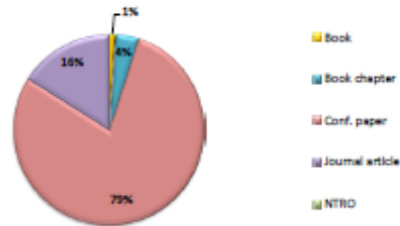


FoR rating distribution



0803 Computer Software								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>100%</b>	FTEs	195			Esteem count(s)	14		Average National Rating <b>4.0</b>
	Research outputs	2,234			Patent(s)	1		
	Research income \$	19,652,506			Res. comm. income (\$)	1,012,819		
	UoEs assessed	1						
	Rating:	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
	Distribution:	0	0	0	1	0	1	

Research outputs by type

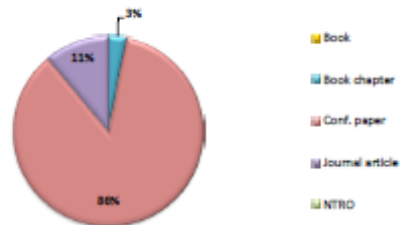


FoR rating distribution



0804 Data Format								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>n/a</b>	FTEs	76			Esteem count(s)	5		Average National Rating <b>n/a</b>
	Research outputs	1,442			Patent(s)	0		
	Research income \$	10,014,425			Res. comm. income (\$)	216,919		
	UoEs assessed	0						
	Rating:	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
	Distribution:	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Research outputs by type



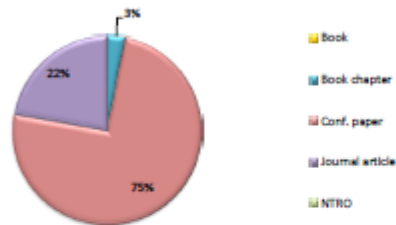
FoR rating distribution

Insufficient data



0805 Distributed Computing								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>100%</b>	FTEs	120	Esteem count(s)				4	Average National Rating <b>4.0</b>
	Research outputs	1,839	Patent(s)				1	
	Research income \$	17,325,400	Res. comm. income (\$)				0	
	UoEs assessed	1						
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total	
Distribution:		0	0	0	1	0	1	

Research outputs by type



FoR rating distribution

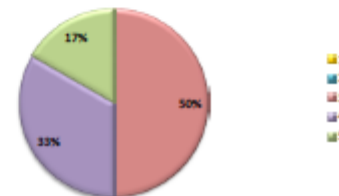


0806 Information Systems								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard <b>100%</b>	FTEs	530	Esteem count(s)				24	Average National Rating <b>3.7</b>
	Research outputs	7,892	Patent(s)				4	
	Research income \$	58,000,706	Res. comm. income (\$)				7,604,359	
	UoEs assessed	6						
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total	
Distribution:		0	0	3	2	1	6	

Research outputs by type

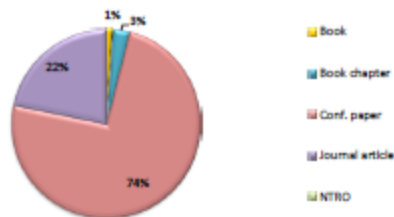


FoR rating distribution



0899 Other Information and Computing Sciences								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard  <b>n/a</b>	FTEs	159	Esteem count(s)				2	Average National Rating  <b>n/a</b>
	Research outputs	1,250	Patent(s)				0	
	Research income \$	35,959,010	Res. comm. income (\$)				0	
	UoEs assessed	0						
	Rating:	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
	Distribution:	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Research outputs by type



FoR rating distribution

Insufficient data

# ERA 2010 – 10 summary

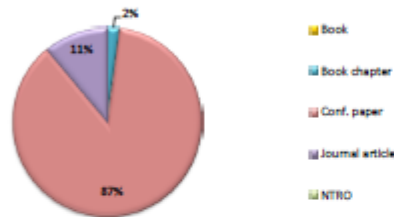
Mathematical, Information and Computing Sciences							
10 Technology							
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard  <b>83%</b>	FTEs	316	Esteem count(s)			51	Average National Rating  <b>4.0</b>
	Research outputs	4,318	Patent(s)			20	
	Research income \$	74,819,298	Res. comm. income (\$)			20,026	
	UoEs assessed	6					
	Rating:	1	2	3	4	5	Total
	Distribution:	0	1	1	1	3	6

Four-digit FoR ratings



1005 Communications Technologies								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard  <b>100%</b>	FTEs	171	Esteem count(s)				28	Average National Rating  <b>4.0</b>
	Research outputs	2,638	Patent(s)				12	
	Research income \$	35,132,946	Res. comm. income (\$)				0	
	UoEs assessed	2						
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total	
Distribution:		0	0	1	0	1	2	

Research outputs by type

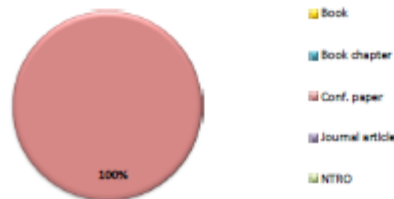


FoR rating distribution



1006 Computer Hardware								
% assessed UoEs rated at or above world standard  <b>n/a</b>	FTEs	28	Esteem count(s)				1	Average National Rating  <b>n/a</b>
	Research outputs	856	Patent(s)				1	
	Research income \$	7,659,923	Res. comm. income (\$)				0	
	UoEs assessed	0						
Rating:		1	2	3	4	5	Total	
Distribution:		0	0	0	0	0	0	

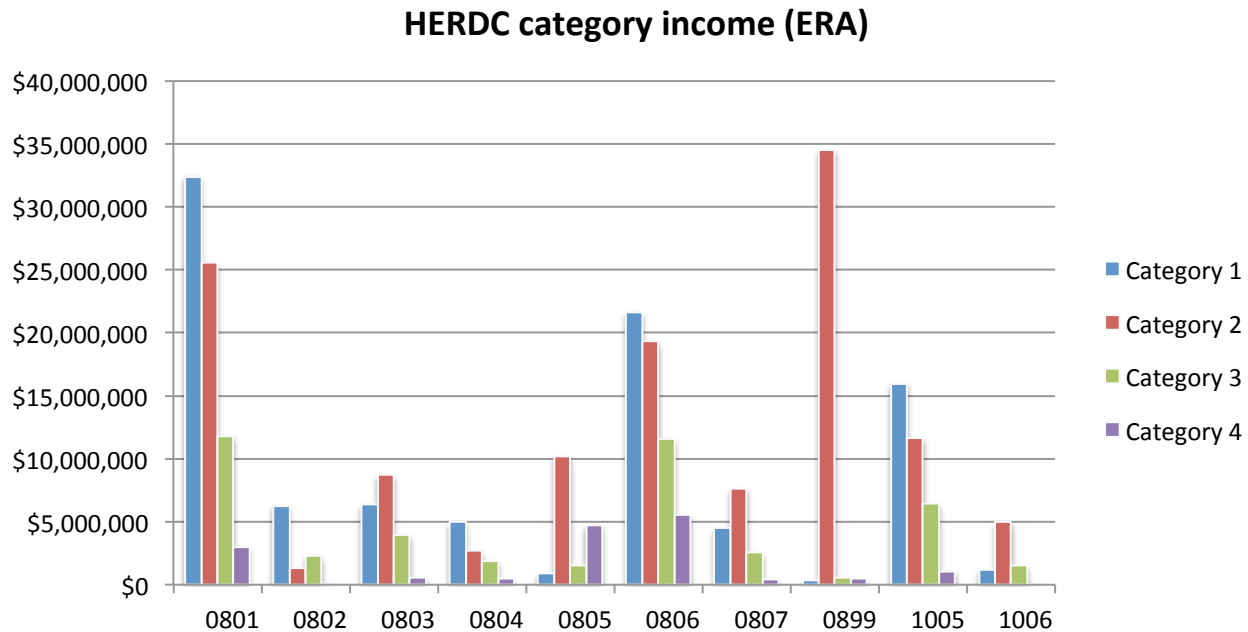
Research outputs by type



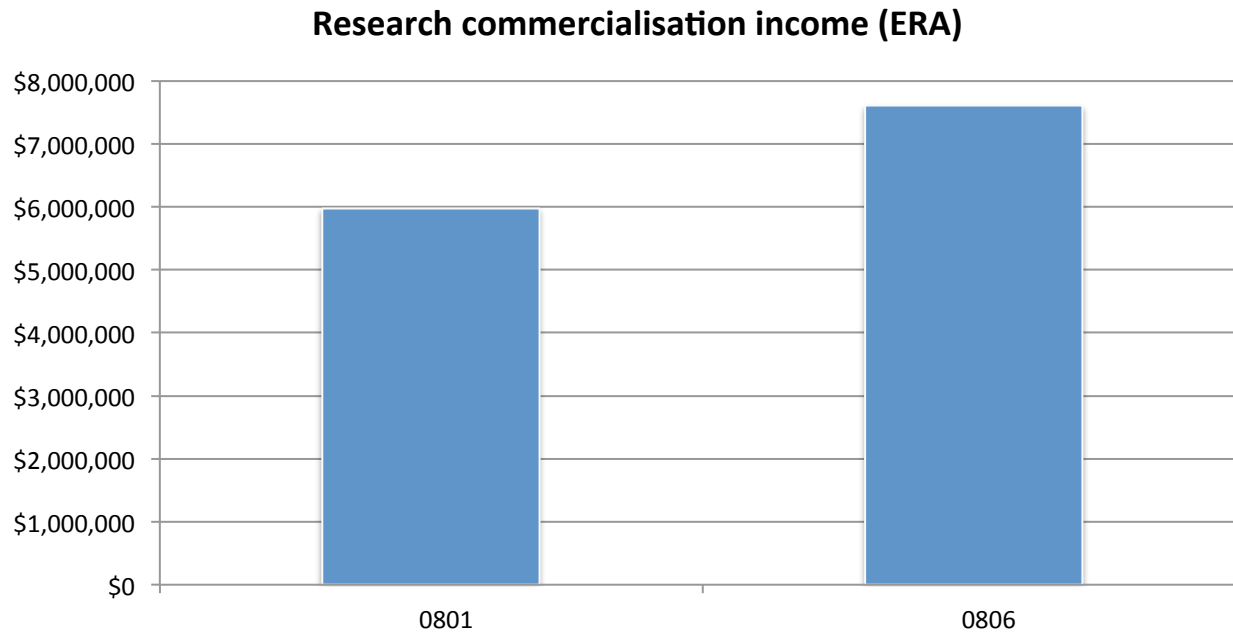
FoR rating distribution

Insufficient data

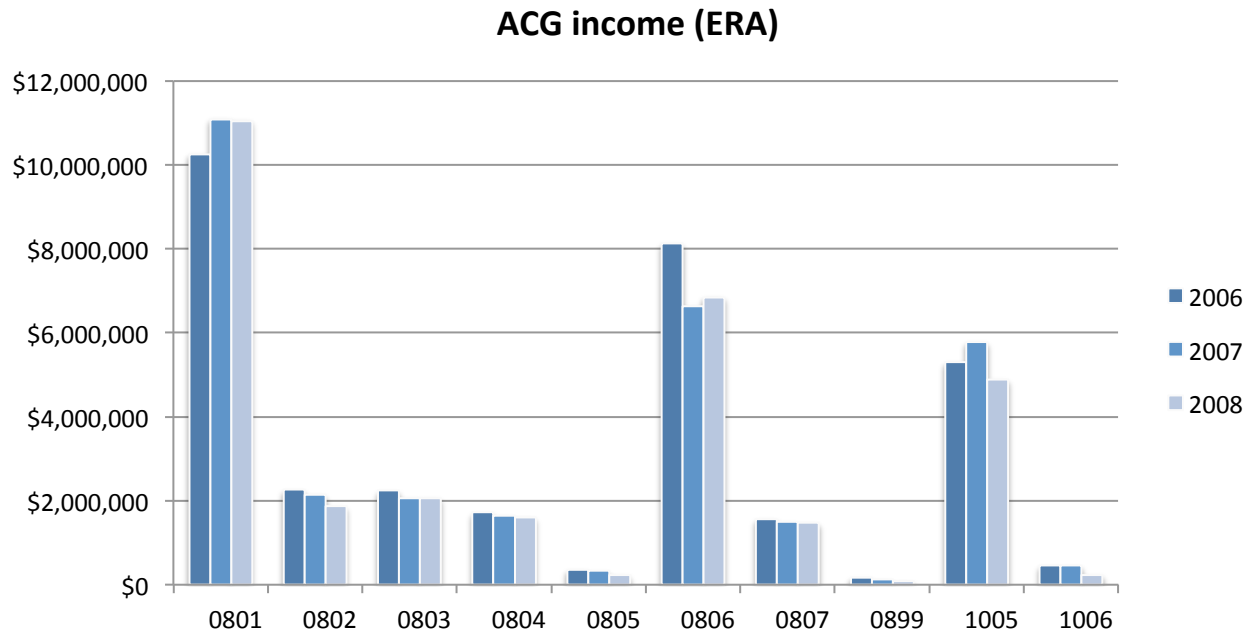
# Income coded to ICT in ERA



# ERA RCI Income coded to ICT

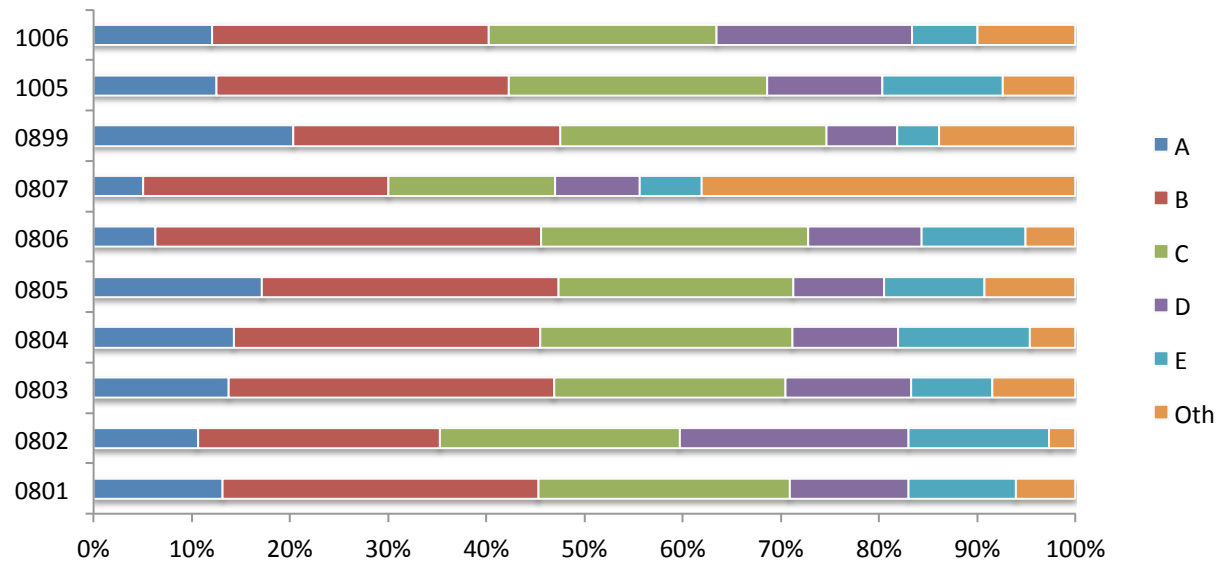


# ERA Australian Competitive grant income coded to ICT



# ERA staff coded to ICT

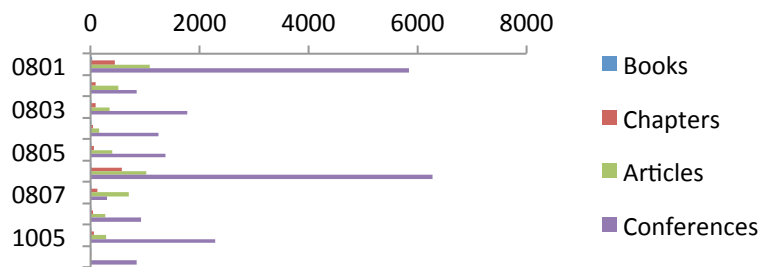
Staff by level (ERA)



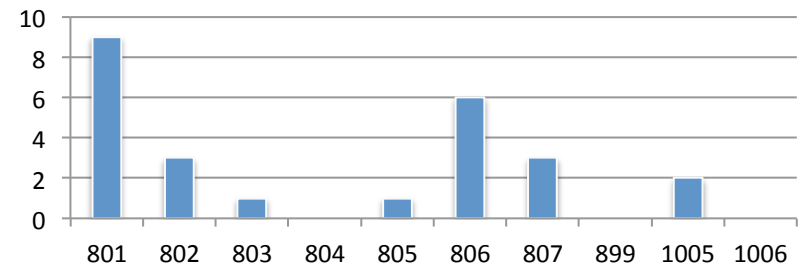


# Where the discipline sits in ERA

Outputs by type (ERA 2010)



Assessed UoEs (ERA 2010)





## IT issues from ERA

- Conference publications – peer review or metrics?
- Coding of articles with > 66% in discipline (helps enabling disciplines)
- Comments on ERA 2012 by Aug 1
- Suggestions for ERA RECs – both national and international expertise