

Advancing ICT Research

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Outline

- 1 **Motivation and drivers**
- 2 **Glimpse at Australian ICT Research**
- 3 **Proposal and implementation ideas**
- 4 **Budget**

Motivation and drivers

- ICT (research) underpins a competitive Australian economy:
 - Productivity
 - Innovation
- As the competition heightens for places in the top echelon of world universities subject rankings, Australian ICT research must consciously assert itself.
- There is a flow-on effect in attracting bright students who will graduate and contribute to Australian innovation.
- ACDICT, CORE and ACPHIS must take leadership in driving the ICT Research excellence agenda.

ERA and QS Ranking

Table: Comparative distribution of ERA ratings of UoEs for 08 FoR code.

Rating	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2010 UoEs	0	2	11	8	2	23
2012 UoEs	7	28	35	20	5	95

Table: Summary of QS Ranking by subject (Computer Science and Information Systems): Number of ranked Australian universities from 2011 - 2012

	Top 200	Top 50	Pos. Topmost ranked
2011	12	5	19th
2012	12	5	21st
2013	15	6	13th

ERA and QS Ranking

How others perform in 2013 QS rankings by subject:

- China has 8 universities in the top 200.
- Only 2 in the top 50; positions 27th and 35th.
- Singapore has 3 universities in the top 200; 2 in top 50 (8th and 22nd) and 1 in top 100.
- United Kingdom has 18 universities in the top 200; 6 in top 30; 6 in 50-100; 2 in 101-150; 4 in 151 - 200.
- United Kingdom occupies 3rd, 5th, 15th, 18th, 23rd and 30th positions
- Canada has 8 universities in the top 200; 3 in top 50;
- United States has 40 universities in the top 200; 18 in top 50; 9 in 51-100; 6 in 101-150; 7 in 151-200.
- United States occupies 1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 11th, 14th, 26th, 31st, 32nd, 34th, ..positions.

Proposal and Implementation

- Establish a series of workshops or “schools” that provide tutorials on advanced topics that underpin ICT research.
- Focus on specific contemporary tools (or topics) required by ICT researchers.
- Leverage existing Doctoral Consortium to promote research training culture in Computer Science and Information Systems.

Proposal and Implementation

- Separate workshop or “school” held bi-annually could be established. (“Summer Workshop or School on Advanced Topics in ICT Research” and a “Winter Workshop or School on Advanced Topics in ICT Research”)
- Suitable dates could be chosen in January or February and June or July.
- Rotate among universities.
- These workshops will be residential and open primarily to:
 - PhD students
 - Early Career Researchers
 - Other researchers (mid career wanting to “recharge” their research)

Budget

- Organizing committee administers budget - selects topic, venue, catering, accommodation, speakers, etc.
- Co-funding model involving ACDICT, CORE and ACPHIS.
- Sponsorships from the ICT corporate sector - Google, IBM, Microsoft, HP, etc.
- Sponsorship from ACS, AIIA.
- Limited number of scholarships that partly fund the attendance of PhD students.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & DISCUSSION