



The Ian Potter  
Foundation

# ANNUAL GRANTS REPORT 2017-18

## PROACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

[ianpotter.org.au](http://ianpotter.org.au)

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# Welcome

The Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours.

## OUR VISION

A vibrant, healthy and fair Australia.

## OUR MISSION

Honour the legacy of founder and benefactor, Sir Ian Potter, and his commitment that the Foundation make a difference to Australia.

Maintain a tradition of encouraging excellence and enabling innovation to facilitate positive social change, and develop Australia's creativity and capacity as a nation.

Support outstanding charitable organisations, invest in Australia's innovative and creative people, protect the environment and alleviate disadvantage.

**\$299m+**

*grants distributed  
since 1964*



*Cover: Shalom Christian College, First People's Health Program students supported by the Seed Foundation.*

*Right: Sir Ian Potter, Founder 1902-1994.*

# About the Foundation

## Program Areas

The Ian Potter Foundation operates eight program areas: the Arts, Community Wellbeing, Education, Environment & Conservation, Health & Disability, Medical Research, Science, and Knowledge & Learning (incorporating Travel, Conference and International Learning & Development). In addition, funding is granted via Major Grants and The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift.

## The Foundation

The Ian Potter Foundation was established in 1964 by Australian financier, businessman and philanthropist, Sir Ian Potter (1902–1994). The Foundation is now one of Australia's major philanthropic foundations.

Based in Melbourne, the Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours. Grants are made through program areas which reflect Sir Ian's interest in the arts, and his visionary approach to issues including the environment, science, medical research, education and community wellbeing, as well as the importance of investing in Australia's intellectual capital.

Through its grants, the Foundation seeks to encourage excellence and support Australia's talent: the visionaries, social entrepreneurs, scientists, academics and researchers, artists and teachers, and those who dedicate themselves to bettering our communities for the benefit of all.

Since 1964, The Ian Potter Foundation has contributed over \$299 million to thousands of projects, both large and small. Led by its Board of Governors, the Foundation has a strong track record of funding projects that respond decisively to key issues and develop our creativity and capacity as a nation.

## Funding Principles

Grantmaking across all program areas is underpinned by the following principles:

### A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

We support organisations, programs and individuals who are outstanding in their field.

### A FOCUS ON PREVENTION

To maximise the value of our grants, we try to identify and support projects that address the causes of any problems rather than treat the symptoms. Supporting research is fundamental to this approach.

### ENCOURAGE INNOVATION

We seek to fund programs and projects that take a new approach to solving problems, especially those that can be evaluated and have potential for expansion and further development.

### POTENTIAL FOR LEVERAGE

Our grants have greater impact when combined with support from other sources. These might include other trusts and foundations, government, business or volunteers. We are happy to be one of a number of supporters of a program.

### LONG-TERM THINKING

We try to fund projects that will continue to have an impact well beyond the period of our grant. The long term sustainability of the project is an important consideration.

### PARTNERSHIPS

We encourage collaborations and partnerships that facilitate combining knowledge and resources to achieve a shared goal.



## Board of Governors

### LIFE GOVERNOR

Lady Potter AC, CMRI

### GOVERNORS

Mr Charles B Goode AC (Chairman)

Mr Anthony Burgess

The Hon Alex Chernov AC, QC

The Hon Susan Crennan AC, QC

Mr Leon Davis AO

The Hon Sir Daryl Dawson AC, KBE, CB, QC

The Hon Sir James Gobbo AC, CVO, QC

Professor Thomas Healy AO

Professor Richard Larkins AO

Mr Allan Myers AC, QC

Professor Graeme Ryan AC

Professor Brian Schmidt AC

Professor Fiona Stanley AC

## Staff

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Craig Connelly

### SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

Dr Alberto Furlan

### PROGRAM MANAGERS

Louise Arkles

Nicole McLeod

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Mairead Phillips

### PROGRAM OFFICERS

Lauren Monaghan

Subhadra Mistry

### RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OFFICER

Dr Squirrel Main

### COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Sara Hearn

### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Eleanor Connelly

### ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Gail Lewry

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Sue Wilkinson

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CEO

Faye Watson

### FINANCE MANAGER

Sally Cliff

### FINANCE OFFICER

Cecilia Roesler

*L to R, Front: Subhadra Mistry, Eleanor Connelly, Nicole Bortone, Sue Wilkinson, Alberto Furlan. Middle: Sara Hearn, Squirrel Main, Louise Arkles, Mairead Phillips. Rear: Lauren Monghan, Craig Connelly, Gail Lewry.*

*Absent: Sally Cliff, Cecilia Roesler, Faye Watson.*

# Chairman's Report

CHARLES GOODE AC



207

number of grants paid

\$25.8m

value of grants paid

142

number of grants awarded

\$24.5m

value of grants awarded

The Foundation continues to proactively seek partnerships with sector leaders wanting to build their capacity, initiate innovative programs and/or scale up proven approaches. This year 142 grants totalling \$24,457,852 were awarded to many long-term as well as new not-for-profit partners.

Of this total, \$10,703,600 was awarded to grantees through the Foundation's program areas and \$13,426,726 was awarded in the form of seven major grants. Across the program areas, we see proportionally more funding allocated to Community Wellbeing, Environment & Conservation and Science, which is due to some large multi-year grants being awarded in these program areas. These grants represent continued support for three key long-term partners of the Foundation and a significant investment with one new partner.

In Community Wellbeing, \$750,000 (over three years) was awarded to the Tomorrow Today Foundation and marks 10 years of support by The Ian Potter Foundation towards this innovative whole-of-community approach to improving the lives of young people in Benalla. The Kimberley Foundation Australia, first funded by the Foundation in 2008, was awarded a \$600,000 Science grant towards an early career research fellowship in rock art. The Foundation also continued its

support of the Australian Environmental Grantmakers' Network with a further \$200,000 grant for two additional years of untied core funding to this very effective organisation.

The largest program area grant was a \$1,000,000 multi-year Environment & Conservation grant awarded to first-time grantee the Australian Rivers Institute (ARI) at Griffith University. ARI will undertake a highly collaborative and innovative project to develop a tool to better manage water catchment areas in SE Queensland.

The Board has continued to review and refine funding objectives across all program areas. This approach in conjunction with our thorough organisational due diligence process ensures the Foundation's grantmaking continues to aspire to achieving the greatest impact.

Within the major grants stream, the Board decided to focus its grantmaking on two key areas:

- Large scale projects designed to benefit Indigenous Australians, that are consistent with the Foundation's funding guidelines for Indigenous projects.
- Demonstration projects that seek to build accommodation for the homeless, such projects to be potentially scalable and replicable nationally.



*Year 12 students from Cairns Clontarf Academy learning about the importance of saving money by participating in a financial literacy session conducted by BOQ during a senior leadership camp at Lake Tinaroo, south of Cairns.*

In December 2017, the Board approved five major grants in support of sector leaders with programs addressing these fundamental areas of need. It is interesting to note that each of these Major Grants represents a new multi-year partnership for the Foundation.

Seed Foundation was awarded a capacity building grant for an innovative wrap-around service that supports Indigenous students to move into health careers. The Clontarf Foundation has been supported to enable the extension of their successful Clontarf Academy in Cairns. Both organisations provide early intervention programs that encourage young Indigenous Australians to complete their school education and develop Aboriginal leadership thereby ensuring work and further education opportunities.

In this report, we review the Foundation's history of grantmaking in support of Indigenous people and their communities. Over the past two decades the Foundation has deliberately elected to invest in projects focused on improving health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal people that were truly catalytic and long-term. Through evaluation of our grants over the past 10 years we know that strategic evidence-based multi-year grants achieve the best outcomes. Awarding two major capacity building grants to Seed Foundation and The Clontarf Foundation is a deliberate continuation of this approach.

Three other major grants are in the second area of focus: homelessness and the growing need for affordable housing. These are complex problems requiring innovative long-term thinking to find sustainable solutions. With this in mind, the Board has awarded grants to projects which scale up proven models such as Hope Street's Youth Mobile Outreach Service or are approaching entrenched problems in an innovative way such as Homes for Homes and HammondCare. Please read more about these grants on page 29.

For the first time, we include the Foundation's Finance and Investment statement for the fiscal year. All past financial statements for the Foundation are publicly available via the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission website.

I thank my fellow Governors for their counsel and commitment to the Foundation, and Chief Executive Officer Craig Connelly and our excellent staff for their dedication and professionalism over the past year.

Lastly, it is with enormous gratitude that the Foundation's Board bids farewell to Professor Graeme Ryan who will leave the Board at the end of 2018. Professor Ryan has been a strong advocate for the importance of research across all health sectors, and his work with the Foundation's Medical Research and Health & Disability committees has ensured many Australian

medical research teams have access to the technology they need. His commitment to strengthening the scientific equipment base in Australian medical research facilities has improved Australia's capacity for world-class research and resulted in the retention of many leading Australian researchers who otherwise would have been enticed overseas to pursue their research. In turn, these researchers have gone on to mentor future generations of Australian early career researchers who are now undertaking further ground-breaking research.

Professor Ryan's wealth of knowledge and his insight into the issues affecting medical and health research have served the Foundation extremely well over the past 30 years. Further, his quiet and unassuming manner while diligently working to get things done has gained him the respect and admiration of his fellow Board members and the staff of the Foundation. His legacy is a substantial one and he will be greatly missed by all. The Board and I thank him for his contribution and wish him well in retirement.

# Finance & Investment

## MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN 2017/2018

Mr Anthony Burgess (Chairman)  
 Mr Charles Goode  
 Professor Graeme Ryan\*  
 Sir Daryl Dawson  
 Mr Allan Myers  
 The Hon Alex Chernov\*\*  
 Mr Craig Drummond (by invitation)

## MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE IN 2017/2018

Professor Graeme Ryan (Chairman)\*  
 Mr Anthony Burgess  
 Sir Daryl Dawson  
 The Hon Alex Chernov\*\*  
 Mr Charles Goode (by invitation)

\* Professor Graeme Ryan resigned his position as Chairman of the Audit Committee and his position on the Finance Committee effective 25 May 2018.

\*\* The Hon Alex Chernov was appointed to the Finance Committee in February 2018, and appointed Chairman of the Audit Committee in May 2018.

During the financial year the Finance Committee met on four occasions and the Audit Committee met on two occasions.

The Board extend their appreciation to Pitcher Partners who provide audit services to the Foundation and its administered entities.

The Foundation will distribute \$28.4m in the 2018/2019 financial year. The corpus of The Ian Potter Foundation is invested in a diversified portfolio including listed investment companies, managed funds and Exchange Traded Funds. The corpus is managed by members of the Finance Committee.

## FINANCIALS

	2017/18	2016/17
	\$	\$
Portfolio market value	665,276,571	605,779,827
Distributions	25,845,117	22,828,640
Cumulative distributions	299,000,000	273,000,000
Distributable income 2017/2018	37,490,366	35,419,512
Future commitments	57,869,073	59,274,238
<b>COMBINED OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Operating expenses	\$2,071,538	\$1,844,831
Operating expenses as a % of distributions made	8.02	8.08
Operating expenses as a % of net Assets	0.32	0.28

1. Note - the distributable income is the total of the investment income and donations
2. Note - future commitments includes current and non-current combined
3. Note - operating expenses includes loss on sale of investments
4. Note - operating expenses as a % of net assets – net assets includes grant commitments

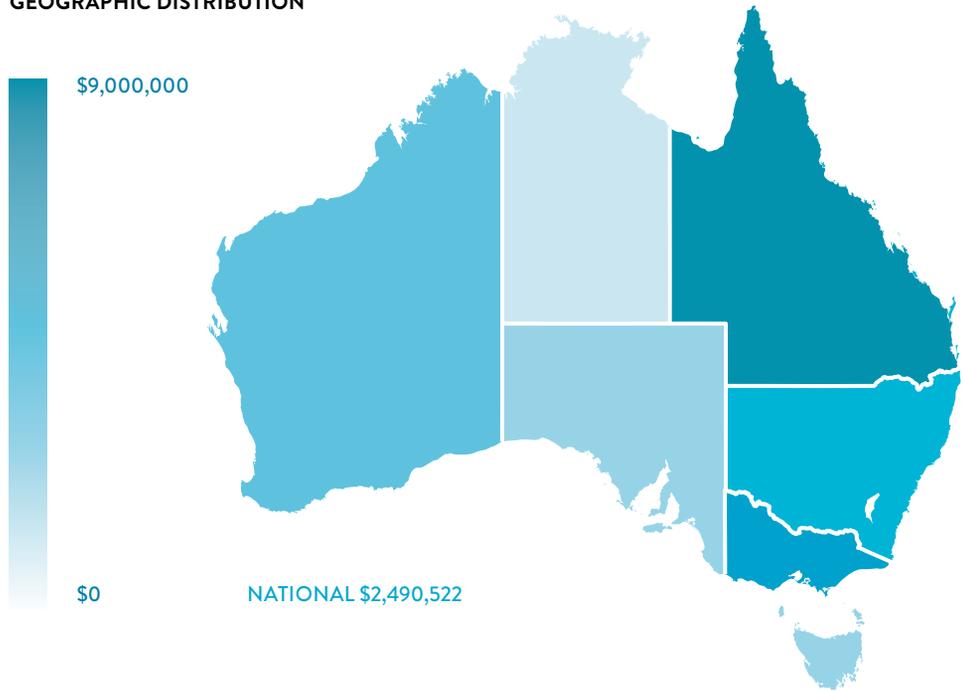
# Facts & Figures 2017–18

## Year in Review

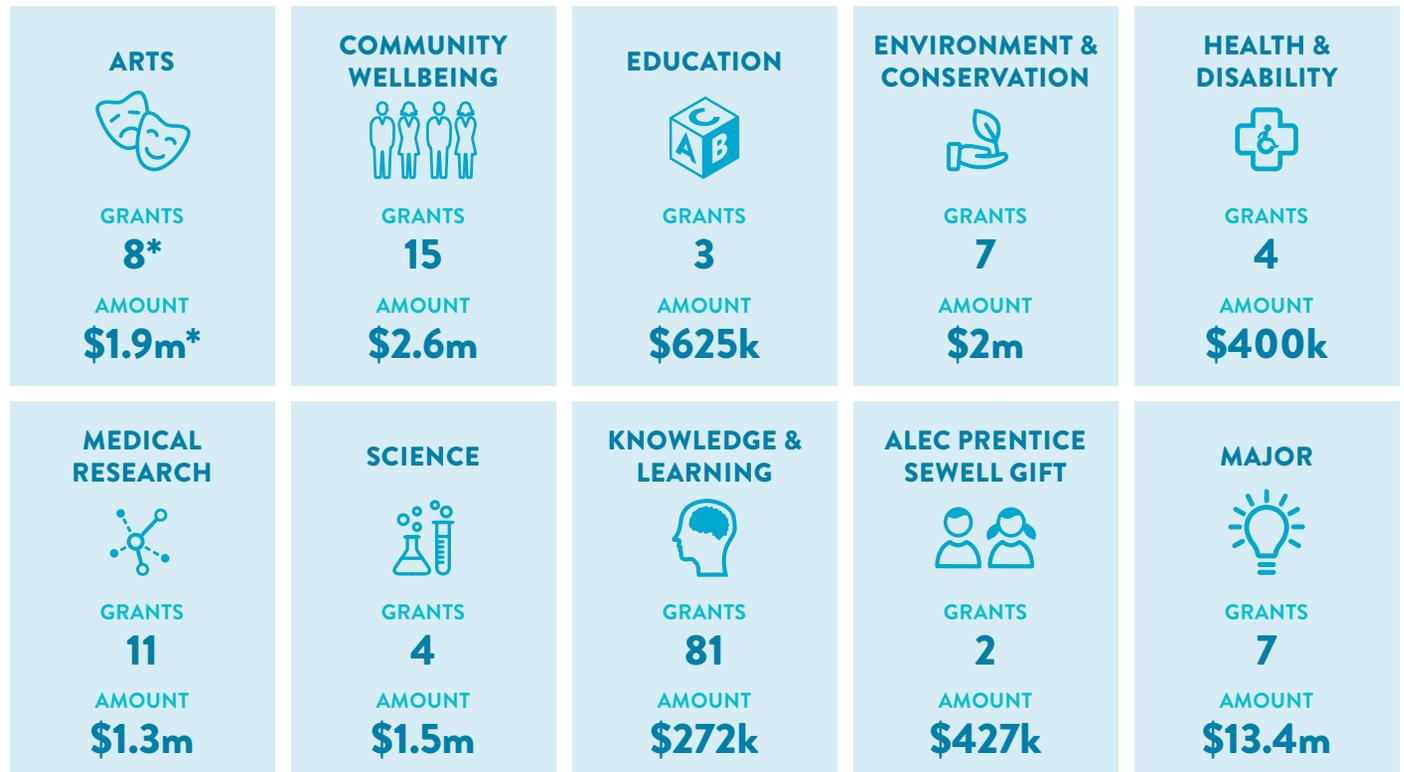
### GRANTS OVERVIEW



### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



### GRANTS APPROVED BY PROGRAM AREA 2017–18



\* Includes grant to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust

# Chief Executive Officer's Report

CRAIG CONNELLY



The Ian Potter Foundation has always proactively sought partnerships with not-for-profit organisations. This year has been no different with several new partnerships established through major grants awarded to organisations supporting Indigenous communities and people at risk of homelessness.

Similarly, the program management team has spent much of the year meeting with a wide range of leading and innovative organisations. This has culminated in funding some exciting sector-wide initiatives in Medical Research, Education and Science.

Over the course of the 2018 fiscal year, staff at The Ian Potter Foundation have also instigated several collaborations with other philanthropic organisations to determine where philanthropic investment might be best deployed to catalyse impactful change.

One of these is the 'Australian Freshwater Mapping Study', jointly commissioned with The Myer Foundation. The dual impacts of climate change and Australia's growing population place increasing pressure on one of our most important resources: fresh water. The lack of a national institution considering this important resource has led the Board, in partnership with The Myer Foundation, to further investigate what role philanthropy might play in assisting our nation to manage its fresh water resources well for all relevant stakeholders and protect its valuable environmental assets.

It is envisaged that this study will provide an informed understanding of the current state of play in this highly complex area and is our first step in determining where philanthropic investment might achieve the greatest impact.



*Dr Heather Neilly and Craig Connelly conducting malleefowl mound surveys with the Earthwatch Student Challenge group at Calperum Station. Dr Neilly, a postdoctoral researcher at the Australian Landscape Trust, is investigating the role of Malleefowl in the restoration of mallee woodland, specifically how their mound building activities may influence germination, invertebrate communities and soil microbes.*

The Ian Potter Foundation and The Myer Foundation are also collaborating to explore the possibility of initiating a leadership development program for not-for-profit CEOs. This project is still in the research and planning phase and subject to board approval. The intention is to create a program that develops both the soft skills of leadership and the hard skills of a seasoned executive, through tailored workshops and retreats which would allow participants to develop their leadership skills, establish enduring networks and foster collaboration between a range of social sector leaders.

This leadership development initiative follows on from the philanthropic sector support grant made by the Foundation, Gandel Philanthropy and Perpetual Trustees to Philanthropy Australia in 2017 in support of 'More and Better Philanthropy'. A key component of this project was the development of Foundation Maps: Australia which has since been launched at the 2018 Philanthropy Australia Conference.

Each of these initiatives is different, but the one constant is genuine collaboration with like-minded philanthropic foundations seeking to fund initiatives designed to provide strategic and catalytic sector support, utilising strong evidence to guide the investment of our limited philanthropic resources.

Throughout the year, new funding objectives were adopted in the Arts, Health & Disability and Science programs. Further details of these changes to funding objectives can be found in the relevant sections of this report.

The Knowledge & Learning program areas have also been undergoing review. In May 2018, the International Learning & Development program was closed to further applications as preliminary evaluation of these grants indicated that they were not achieving the intended goal of sharing learnings across the not-for-profit sector. A review is being undertaken and will inform the Board's decision on the future of this program area. The Travel and Conference programs are also being reviewed.

Lastly, the program management team has also grown and changed in the past year. In early 2018, we welcomed Subhadra Mistry as Program Officer supporting the Arts, Education and Environment & Conservation program areas. Subhadra's appointment has enabled Mairead Phillips to move into a role dedicated to supporting The George Alexander Foundation and coordinating the new leadership development program for not-for-profit executives.

From September 2018, Nicole Bortone will be taking 12 months maternity leave. In Nicole's absence, Rikki Andrews will join our program management team to manage the Education program area; the Science program area will be managed by Program Officer, Lauren Monaghan.

My program management team and I look forward to the coming year as we continue to embrace effective collaboration, seek informed partnerships with our grantees and other funders, and explore ways to optimise the impact of the Foundation's grantmaking so we can continue to present outstanding opportunities for the Board of The Ian Potter Foundation to consider funding.

# Partnering with Purpose

A REVIEW OF GRANTS SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, HEALTH AND EDUCATION



Since 1969, The Ian Potter Foundation has awarded over 170 grants in support of Indigenous communities and/or organisations.

The Foundation's grants data reveals that this funding has primarily gone to QLD, VIC, WA and NT based organisations, with approximately 40% of that funding supporting projects in remote areas. In the last decade, grants supporting Indigenous communities have been fewer by number, but larger dollar, multi-year grants; an early trend consistent with the more recent trend in the Foundation's grantmaking.

Over the last two decades, the Foundation has funded projects addressing issues affecting Indigenous Australians that have focused on prevention and aim to tackle entrenched problems in a systemic way, from the ground up.

A primary example of this is The National Indigenous Eye Health Program. The University of Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences has received two five-year grants totaling \$2,000,000 (in 2008 and 2013) towards the development of regional population-based eye care services. These services have been devised in collaboration with the Aboriginal community-controlled sector, the eye-care sector, government, non-government organisations and mainstream health care providers; and are designed to ensure Indigenous Australians 'Close the Gap' in the important area of vision.

Similarly, the Foundation awarded \$1,500,000 (2011) over four years to support the establishment of the Centre for Child Development and Education at the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin, NT. The Centre undertakes research needed for policy and practice to address the poor health, education and social circumstances of Indigenous children.

In October 2017, the Board prioritised large-scale projects designed to benefit Indigenous Australians as a core part of the Foundation's major grant funding area.

Two such grants approved in December 2017 were significant capacity building grants awarded to the Clontarf Foundation (\$2.5m over five years) and Seed Foundation (\$1.75m over five years). These not-for-profit organisations are clear leaders in providing pathways to education and employment for young Indigenous Australians.

Here we explore these two major grants in some detail. Throughout this annual report you can also read about other grants awarded in the past year supporting excellent and innovative programs focused on improving the health, wellbeing and opportunities for Indigenous Australians.



*Left: Clontarf Foundation Yarrabah Academy boys participate in the inaugural White Ribbon Fun Run on the Cairns Esplanade. Image: Clontarf Academy.*

*Middle: Seed Foundation Engagement Manager Rick Phineasa with Trainees Tamara Hussey and Meagen Beaumont*

*Right: A group of 15 students from Clontarf Foundation's Gordonvale, Yarrabah and Cairns High Academies gained their Bronze Medallions through Surf Life Saving Queensland across a week of activity at Palm Cove Surf Club.*

## Major Grants

### Seed Foundation

\$1,750,000 over five years

#### **Growing Our Own**

Seed Foundation was established in 2015 to provide a wrap-around support function to Indigenous high school students enrolled in the First People's Health Program (FPHP). Seed Foundation leads a collaborative effort to provide support and pathways to further study and employment for these students. This includes health training (40 weeks Certificate II and III level in health and community services) individual mentoring, career guidance, community engagement and access to further training and employment opportunities through cross-sector partnerships.

This major grant funds the expansion of Seed Foundation's services to support the increasing number of Indigenous students wishing to train as health and social services professionals and seeking employment opportunities in their local communities.

The value of Seed Foundation's program is three-fold. It promotes an understanding of the importance of health to Indigenous youth which is critical given the gap in health outcomes in Indigenous communities. Increasing the number of Indigenous health and social service workers increases employment opportunities for those individuals, many of whom wish to remain in their communities. This in turn ensures better access to appropriate health care for Indigenous people in those regional and remote communities.

### Clontarf Foundation

\$2,500,000 over five years

#### **Engaging teenage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Education and Employment, Cairns**

This capacity building grant supports the expansion of the successful Clontarf Academy program to six schools in Cairns, Queensland. This builds on Clontarf's existing programs in 92 partner schools across WA, NT, QLD, NSW and Victoria involving 5,500 students in full-time mentoring and support.

The Clontarf academy program is highly successful in working with Indigenous boys that could otherwise disengage from the education system. Clontarf's intensive wrap-around support is delivered within the school context with football (AFL and NRL codes) as the initial means of engagement.

Young boys' existing passion for sport is used to attract them back to school and keep them coming but this is not a sports program. Clontarf's program is about developing the values, skills and abilities that will assist the boys to actively participate in school and then transition into meaningful employment or further training to achieve better life outcomes.

Clontarf's ultimate goal is to ensure participants complete Year 12. However, Clontarf actively works with participants to find work experience and placements to transition to employment. Over 70% of Clontarf students go on to employment or full-time study, a clear indicator of the program's success.

# Grants supporting Indigenous communities, health and education

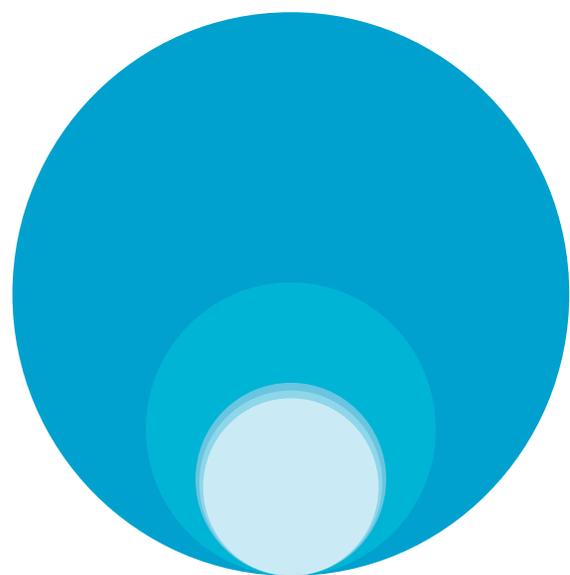
1969-2018

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY VALUE



AREA SERVED	VALUE OF GRANTS	NO. OF GRANTS
ACT	\$175,700	6
NSW	\$433,548	17
NT	\$2,334,500	44
QLD	\$4,969,327	24
SA	\$921,800	12
VIC	\$4,893,090	38
WA	\$4,265,220	23
NATIONAL	\$328,969	10

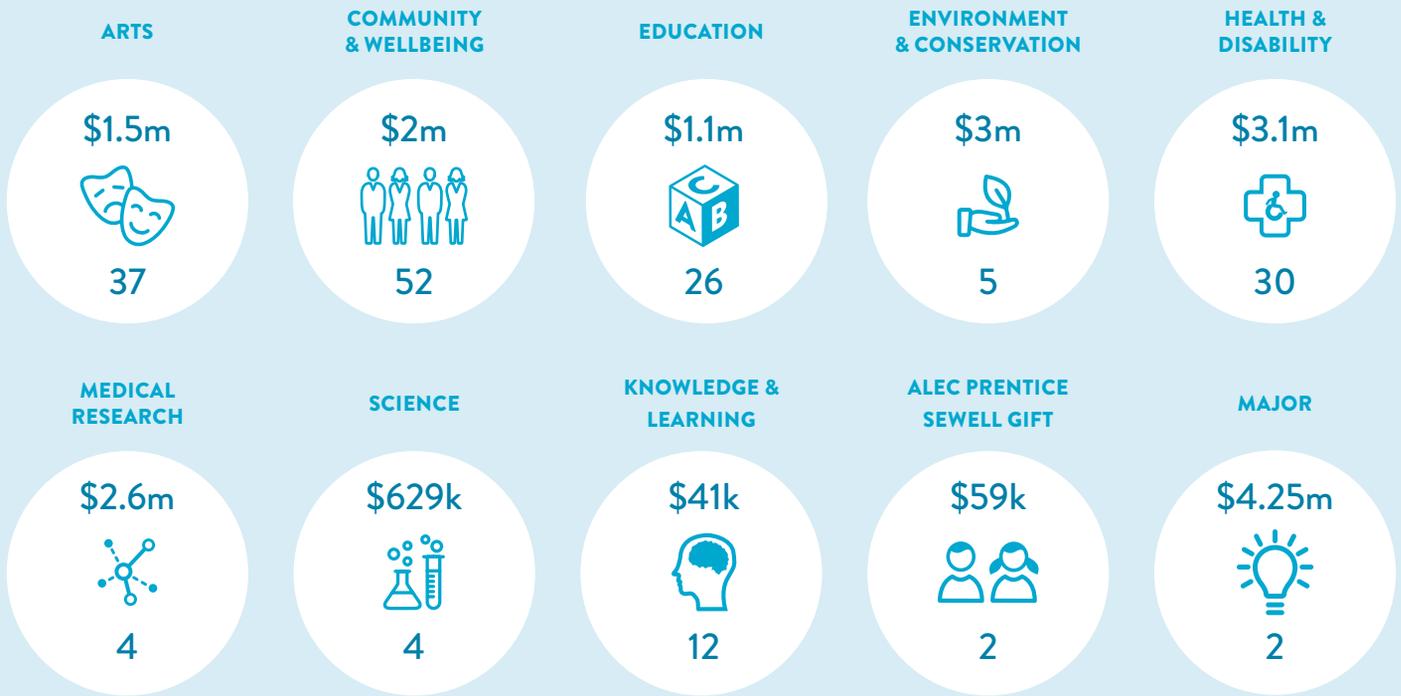
## VALUE OF GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHICAL REACH



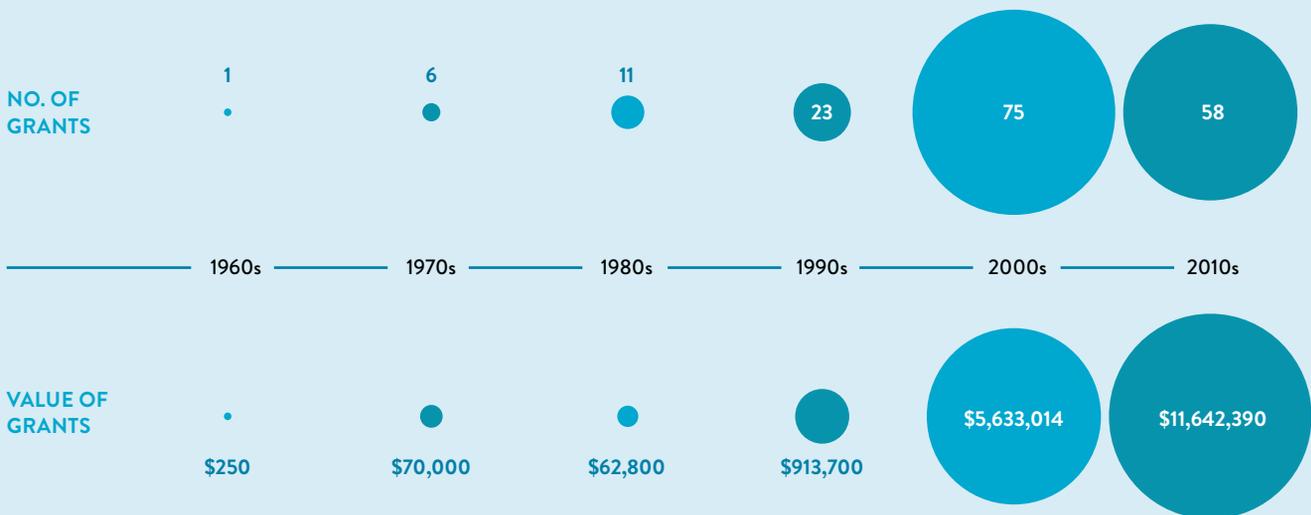
- REMOTE
- OUTER REGIONAL
- METRO
- INNER REGIONAL
- NATIONAL

GEO REACH	VALUE OF GRANTS	NO. OF GRANTS
REMOTE	\$7.3m	61
OUTER REGIONAL	\$3.8m	24
METRO	\$2.5m	60
INNER REGIONAL	\$2.4m	12
NATIONAL	\$2.3m	17

GRANTS BY PROGRAM AREA (VALUE AND NUMBER)



GRANTS BY DECADE (VALUE AND NUMBER)



# Arts

PROGRAM MANAGER  
**LOUISE ARKLES**



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

**57**

*EOIs received*

**11**

*applications received*

**29**

*site visits*

**7**

*grants approved*

**\$1.6m**

*total value of grants approved*

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- To support first-rate artistic institutions and organisations in metropolitan and regional Australia which are distinctive in artistic achievement, imagination and innovation to foster development across a sector or art form.
- To support such institutions to host artists in high-calibre professional development and/or leadership opportunities for at least 12 months (e.g. fellowships, apprenticeships, mentorships, internships).

## REVIEW

This year saw grants awarded in line with the Foundation's new Arts objectives, attracting a wonderful range of applications from across Australia. With our new sharpened focus on professional development and leadership opportunities, we were able to support outstanding organisations in the fields of design, performing arts, contemporary music, dance and fine arts and crafts. What these projects all have in common is excellent strategies for developing the next cohort of professional artists or arts workers, and for contributing to their respective sectors, beyond the walls of their own organisations. It was wonderful to see the level of collaboration and resource-sharing that these excellent projects embody.

## PRIORITIES

The Arts team recently ran a forum in Alice Springs to engage and learn from art organisations about their specific challenges and areas of need. The outcome was an increased appreciation of distinct operational factors that need to be considered by funders.

The Arts program team will continue to meet with arts organisations around Australia to better understand the differing needs of arts organisations and workers from state to state as well as across sectors.

# Exemplar Grants

## Ilbijerri Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Theatre Co-op Ltd

\$200,000 over 3 years

### Ilbijerri Indigenous Executive Leadership Program

This project is a three-year mentorship and executive leadership development program to prepare mid-career Indigenous producers for executive positions within Ilbijerri and in the performing arts sector more broadly.

This program aims to become a successful model for increasing diversity in leadership for the entire sector, whilst also ensuring the growth of an Indigenous-controlled organisation with strong governance and world leading Indigenous artistic outcomes.

Alongside leadership and governance training, this program will have a particular focus on international market development which has been a key driver of Ilbijerri's growth and is a specialised skill. There are very few Australian producers with these specific skills and currently no Indigenous arts administrators working autonomously within international market development.

## Arts Centre Melbourne

\$300,000 over 2 years

### Backstage in the spotlight: Building the technical production capacity of Australia's performing arts industry

This project will scale up Arts Centre Melbourne's Registered Training Organisation service to address the large unmet demand both within the organisation and across the performing arts sector for qualified and experienced production staff. The project provides additional traineeships, expanding the core training offer, addressing chronic shortages of skilled backstage staff in Australia's performing arts venues, and investing in the next generation of production leaders.

This project will add two new traineeships – Venue Technician and Broadcast & Multimedia - to their current core offering of Lighting, Sound, and Staging. Art Centre Melbourne will also introduce Certificate IV and Diploma-level courses for supervisory staff, training delivery in regional Victoria/ Tasmania, trainee exchanges, and new safety modules.

## Lucy Guerin Inc

\$117,000 over 3 years

### Independent Artists' Programs Producer at Lucy Guerin Inc's new dance-makers hub, WXYZ Studios

Capitalising on the new two-studio premises, WXYZ Studio, Lucy Guerin Inc will create a hub for dance-makers in Melbourne and pioneer a dynamic cultural enterprise. This project is to maximise the space's capacity for artists who lack the infrastructure and support to develop their craft.

To make the most of the studio and build the capacity of the company, this grant enabled Lucy Guerin Inc to employ a new full-time producer dedicated to supporting independent dance and choreography artists. The producer will manage the second studio, run the residency program and provide mentoring support to emerging and independent artists. The role will effectively free up the artistic director and executive producer to focus more on making new work, partnerships and the strategic growth of the organisation.

*Left: Lucy Guerin Inc's performance of Split at WXYZ Studios, 23 August 2018*

*Right: Jack Charles V The Crown by Ilbijerri Theatre Company at New York Live Arts (2017).*

*Photo: Maria Baranova*



# Community Wellbeing

PROGRAM MANAGER  
DR ALBERTO FURLAN



**101**  
*EOIs received*

**26**  
*applications received*

**17**  
*site visits*

**15**  
*grants approved*

**\$2.6m**  
*total value of grants approved*

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

To alleviate need, our Community Wellbeing program supports organisations delivering early intervention programs in the community such as:

- transitioning from detention under the justice system,
- reducing long-term unemployment with a focus on youth, and
- assisting families at risk of, or experiencing, family violence to improve financial skills and maintain suitable, safe accommodation.

## REVIEW

The Community Wellbeing program area continues to support disadvantaged Australians in key transitional moments where they are most vulnerable, be it transitioning out of prison, accessing job opportunities after long-term unemployment or exiting the cycle of homelessness.

This year we have consolidated our approach of providing large, multi-year grants to organisations that have been recognised as leaders in their fields. Multi-year partnerships offer an opportunity for the Foundation to develop strong ongoing relationships with grantees enabling them to test novel approaches or consolidate proven ones. In turn, the Foundation learns from closer contact with those 'on the ground' what works best.

Social enterprise continues to grow and consolidate its place in the NFP sector as a sustainable methodology to address long-

standing issues such as unemployment and lack of economic participation. This year we focused on supporting social enterprises to strengthen their internal capacity to support a larger number of individuals who would otherwise be excluded from mainstream opportunities.

The social procurement trend seen in recent months in Victoria, also facilitated by innovative Government policies, is likely to expand to the whole of Australia in the next few years. This will require stronger, more sustainable and larger social enterprises able to fulfil contracts. It will also provide a larger number of disadvantaged Australians with access to employment opportunities.

## PRIORITIES

The Foundation sees its grantmaking approach as a partnership rather than just a transaction, therefore there is an increased focus on engagement with grantees and the demographic they serve. We now visit all shortlisted applicants as part of a due diligence process. These site visits provide invaluable insights, improving the Foundation's understanding of the circumstances and environments in which potential partner organisations operate.

In the coming year, the Foundation will continue to provide support to organisations—both at a programmatic and an organisational level—that effectively engage with their communities, have a long-term approach to solving entrenched issues and foster social connectedness.

## Exemplar Grants

### White Lion Inc

\$130,500 over three years

#### Fruit2Work

Individuals who have come into contact with the justice system face significant barriers to re-integration and employment. White Lion Inc is addressing this issue by creating employment opportunities that specifically address these barriers through the vehicle of social enterprise. Fruit2Work exists to create realistic transitional employment for ex-offenders and is a 'launching pad' into the warehousing and logistics industry. Fruit2Work employs individuals to pack and deliver fruit boxes and milk and draws revenue from sales to corporate customers.

This grant helps to consolidate the work of the social enterprise by covering essential operational costs for three years, freeing up internal resources to focus on growing sales to a sustainable level to cover costs in the business.

### Many Rivers Microfinance Ltd

\$232,000 over three years

#### Many Rivers – Katherine, NT

Many disadvantaged Australians, especially in remote areas, remain excluded from mainstream economic and employment opportunities. The Many Rivers microfinance and mentorship program assists individuals in such circumstances to develop and sustain a small business as a pathway out of disadvantage. Started in NSW in 2008, the program now has 24 offices around Australia and has fostered the inception or expansion of almost 1,500 businesses in the last 10 years. Sixty per cent of all businesses supported to date are currently operational.

This grant will enable Many Rivers Microfinance to expand its services by employing a Field Officer to service Katherine, NT and its surrounding communities. The field officer supports individuals with business planning, accounting, mentoring, marketing and all aspects related to the development of a small business.

### SisterWorks Incorporated

\$105,000 over three years

#### The SisterWorks Label Project: Pathways to Support More New Australian Women

Women from culturally diverse backgrounds who have recently migrated to Australia often find themselves isolated and excluded from mainstream opportunities. SisterWorks is a non-profit social enterprise that supports women who are migrants, asylum seekers or refugees to develop their own micro businesses to become financially independent and happily settled in Australia.

This project involves the creation of SisterWorks labelled products in craft and food and is designed to accelerate the business development skills of women who are currently not ready to produce and sell their own products. Fifty per cent of after cost profits go to the individuals and 50% to SisterWorks to be re-invested in this program.



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

*Left: The team at Fruit2Work using their second chance to ensure that attention to detail gives its customers what they are looking for.*

*Right: The women of SisterWorks are from migrant, refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds from over 55 countries. They are given support and skills training into entrepreneurship and employment pathways.  
Photo: Hynesite Photography*

# Education

PROGRAM MANAGER  
NICOLE BORTONE



To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.

applications  
by invitation  
only

4

applications  
received

12

site visits

3

grants  
approved

\$625k

total value of  
grants approved

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- To support innovative programs delivered to young children (ages 0-8) that aim to improve school readiness (as measured by the AEDC) and/or foster parental engagement in their children's learning
- To support the development of evidence and shared measurement tools for the early childhood sector.

## REVIEW

This year three grants were awarded in the Education program, and an additional two grants were awarded through The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift. These grants all provide support to early childhood programs and initiatives.

Commencing 2017, the Education round was moved from Round 1 to Round 2 annually. As a result, the Education program did not open for applications during FY2018, instead applications were sought from particular organisations already working in areas aligned with the our funding objectives.

The grants awarded this year ranged in size and approach, but three of the six grants target early childhood educators by providing professional development and resources.

## PRIORITIES

The Foundation's Education program can only support four to seven projects each year as we aim to support innovative large-scale projects that are highly collaborative, have potential to be replicated and are sustainable.

We want to see applicants consider and plan for translation, sustainability and or government adoption from a project's outset. The Toddler Development Instrument project (featured right) is an excellent example of this. The Victorian Government is involved as a delivery and funding partner along with local government among other research partners.

*Top: The Toddler Development Instrument is a survey completed by parents of 18 month-old toddlers that measures six constructs associated with children's healthy development.*

*Right: Young children and their parents enjoying an imaginative play workshop as part of the Cloud Child, an ARTS:LIVE Early Years resource. Photo credit: The Song Room.*

# Exemplar Grants

## Deakin University

\$250,000 over 2 years

### **Trial of Toddler Development Instrument (TDI) for monitoring children's early experiences in family and community environments**

This project will trial an international monitoring tool called the Toddler Development Instrument (TDI) in Victoria as a means of addressing key gaps in the current monitoring system of child development. The TDI is a parent survey developed by the Forum for Early Child Development Monitoring and the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), University of British Columbia, Canada which collects information about contextual family and community processes, resources and barriers for children and their families.

The TDI will be administered by Maternal Child Health (MCH) nurses when they complete their 18-month scheduled visit and will expand Victoria's monitoring system to guide future intervention planning and policy directions. This project will trial the TDI in four Victorian communities (Geelong, Frankston, East Gippsland and Warrnambool) to see whether it can be implemented within an existing service platform in Victoria.

If this model works well, the intention is to roll out the TDI across Victoria with the support of the Victorian Government and MCH and Immunisation services as an ongoing resource for communities to track their children's outcomes.

## Murdoch Children's Research Institute

\$145,000 over 2 years

### **Elearning for early childhood educators**

This grant will enable the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) to partner with Early Childhood Australia (ECA) to develop affordable professional development for early years educators on topics relating to children's health and wellbeing.

The project will focus initially on the topic of sleep, producing three high-quality, evidence-based professional development modules that will be accessed via ECA's Learning Hub, MCRI's LearnUpon platform, and via other service provider platforms using a licensing model. Profits from these first modules on sleep will be reinvested into the development of future professional development modules.

The project meets well with the Foundation's Education objectives. It is innovative and collaborative and is being developed in response to need and demand from the sector.

# The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift

## The Song Room Limited

\$240,000 over 3 years

### **ARTS: LIVE Early Years – An innovative digital arts learning platform**

This grant will enable The Song Room to develop and deliver online arts teaching and learning resources for early childhood practitioners, modelled on their highly successful ARTS: LIVE platform and framework. The resources will support early childhood practitioners and parents to use creativity and the arts to improve early literacy and school readiness.

The ARTS: Live Early Years program will be aligned to the Australian Government's Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF). It will be tailored to two age bands: 0–3 and 3–5 years, and be rich in video and audio content, accompanied by teacher guides detailing alignment to the EYLF and step-by-step notes for implementation.

The Song Room's ARTS: LIVE school program is already being delivered in 80% of primary and secondary schools across Australia reaching over one million students. The project aligns well with the objectives of the Alec Prentice Sewell Gift using the arts to engage young children and improve their literacy and school readiness.



# Environment & Conservation

PROGRAM MANAGER  
**LOUISE ARKLES**



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

*applications  
by invitation  
only*

**7**

*applications  
received*

**21**

*site visits*

**7**

*grants  
approved*

**\$2m**

*total value of  
grants approved*

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

Our Environment & Conservation program area aims to support Australian urban and rural communities to better manage our natural resources and preserve biodiversity in the face of challenges such as land degradation, limited water resources and climate change. We aim to support the development and promotion of frameworks and strategies to preserve and foster Australia's future biodiversity and water/land management.

## REVIEW

The past year has been one of consolidation and learning for our Environment & Conservation team, as the program was not open for applications. The team also spent valuable time with current grantees to understand how their projects were progressing, and with researchers and non-profit leaders to learn about specific issues we hope to be able to support in the future.

Several grants were made by invitation that focused on water management and we were also delighted to be able to continue to support the University of Western Australia's Centre for Marine Futures in their work to monitor wildlife in Australia's marine parks, following the conclusion of a very successful pilot year.

## PRIORITIES

Water management is an area that has been under-served by philanthropy to date. Therefore, the Foundation in partnership with The Myer Foundation has commissioned The Freshwater Mapping Study to develop an informed understanding of the current state of play in this highly complex area. This scoping study is the first step in determining where philanthropic funding would best be directed to address issues affecting the management of Australia's freshwater resources.

## Exemplar Grants

### Charles Sturt University: Institute for Land, Water and Society

\$300,000 over two years

#### Developing design guidelines for diversion screens that save native fish and enhance agricultural productivity

This project supports the design of best practice diversion screens to conserve native fish from agricultural irrigation. Identified as one of the five key actions to conserve native fish, this project is a thoughtful and strategic intervention to dismantle barriers to implementation of screen technology, using a scientific approach. The project will target 'early adopters' and run industry showcases to demonstrate the benefits for the industry of investing in screens.

The core research team from Charles Sturt University and the NSW Department of Primary Industries have been working on this project with very limited resources for a decade and are now at the point of bringing together multiple partners for a major initiative.

### University of Western Australia: Centre for Marine Futures

\$365,000 over five years

#### The Great West Ozzie Transect: understanding ocean wildlife recovery in Australian Marine Parks

After a successful one-year pilot project, this five-year research project will monitor marine wildlife in 12 Australian Marine Parks to gain a better understanding of how ocean wildlife and ecosystems respond to protection. Data from the mid-water surveys will provide evidence of what biodiversity exists in our oceans and how effective marine parks are in protecting species and our marine ecosystem services.

The grant will be used to develop a range of outreach programs, facilitating the establishment of an awareness campaign to educate policy makers and the broader community about the importance of healthy oceans and designated protected areas.

### Griffith University: Australian Rivers Institute

\$1,000,000 over three years

#### Building catchment resilience: enabling community collaboration to reduce the impact of extreme weather events

This project will deliver, trial and promote an innovative decision support tool for those investing in catchment restoration – i.e. governments, industry bodies and utilities, and land managers – to maximise the effectiveness of their investments.

The tool will enable a detailed analysis of water movement across the landscape, better prediction of water quality and availability under a varying climate, and more certain estimates of associated economic costs and benefits of on-ground interventions.

Designed as a generic digital modelling tool run on a laptop computer, users will be able to input their local data and generate spatial maps and modelling scenarios for the different combinations of on-ground works or land management actions, and thereby visualise the potential benefits and trade-offs of different actions. This will allow groups of diverse stakeholders – e.g. farmers, agricultural and irrigation industries, government agencies and environmental groups – to collaboratively explore a range of planning and management options in the context of the whole catchment.



*Left: The Lockyer Creek catchment after the April 2011 floods showing how the stream channel had been changed by the flood recovery effort. The straightening of the channel and removal of vegetation made the next flood even worse. Image: Professor Stuart Bunn, Director Australian Rivers Institute.*

*Right: Research and development of diversion screens to conserve native fish in agricultural irrigation systems.*

# Health & Disability

PROGRAM MANAGER  
DR ALBERTO FURLAN



To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.

applications  
by invitation  
only

4

applications  
received

4

site visits

4

grants  
approved

\$400k

total value of  
grants approved

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- Improve health outcomes for the Australian community through public health initiatives with particular emphasis on mental health, Indigenous health and health in rural and remote areas.
- Encourage innovative approaches to increasing employment opportunities for individuals with disability.

## REVIEW

The Health & Disability area of funding was closed to unsolicited applications in FY18 due to previous grant commitments. However, the Board of the Foundation sought to pursue a few opportunities for collaboration with previous grantees to expand their programs and impact.

Priorities for this area of funding were revised in 2017 and now include public health initiatives focused on prevention and employment pathways for people with disabilities.

As this year's Health & Disability grants were awarded to organisations through a 'by invitation' process, the Foundation had the opportunity to delve more deeply into the work done by previous grantees, and to consider and support projects that built on previous successes and learnings. Grantees were selected based on the previous success of their projects and further clear opportunities presented.

## PRIORITIES

As funders, it is critical to continually engage with grantees and be open to further opportunities for partnership rather than considering a grant as a 'one-off contribution'. Clear and open communication between partners results in projects that give the greatest return on investment.

Next year the Foundation will continue to fund preventative public health initiatives focusing on projects that target mental health, rural and remote health and involving Indigenous Australians. The Foundation will also continue to support projects that create pathways onto employment for people with disabilities.

# Exemplar Grants

## Otitis Media Group Inc

\$150,000 over three years

### Earbus and Starlight collaboration in South West WA

Aboriginal children have the worst ear health in the world. Early childhood ear disease often causes an avoidable hearing loss that interferes with children accessing education and succeeding in school.

Earbus Foundation provides ear health screening, treatment and surveillance programs to 1,400 Aboriginal children at 25 locations in the Pilbara and Goldfields regions of WA. This project teams up the Earbus Clinical staff with two Captain Starlights (Starlight's costumed performers) who will work to entertain and engage children, reducing walk-off rates and anxiety. Local Aboriginal Healthcare Workers will also attend the clinics to improve their skills in screening and identifying children with middle ear disease in need of referral.

## Purpose Enterprises Limited

\$100,000 over two years

### Vanguard Laundry Career Development Centre

Individuals with mental health challenges are the most underemployed cohort among people with disabilities. Vanguard has established a commercial laundry social enterprise to provide pathways onto employment for individuals with lived experience of mental illness.

This project builds on the successful grant awarded by the Foundation to Vanguard Laundry in 2016 and will fund the continued employment of a career development manager for the laundry employees.

The career development activities are focused around creating a positive work experience for the individual whilst acquiring life-long skills that advance the individual's overall ability to achieve and maintain ongoing employment.

## Eating Disorders Foundation of Victoria Inc

\$50,000

### Peer Mentoring Program for adults with eating disorders

This grant builds on the previous grant for the development of a peer mentoring program for people with eating disorders. This service supports participants to develop, work on and adhere to their wellness plan and ensure they are connected to their support services once discharged from hospital.

This program has been successfully running for one year, with a second cohort currently underway, and has seen a success rate of 72% of participants not being readmitted to hospital. This program required funding to fill a gap while the grantee seeks recurrent funding from the Victorian Government as an election commitment.



*Left: Vanguard Laundry Services helping to create more jobs and career development for people in the Toowoomba region who have experienced mental illness. Image credit: Maddison Goodwin.*

*Right: Earbus Screener, Jammima West, screening Brittany's ears at Djidi Djidi School in Bunbury.*

# Medical Research

PROGRAM MANAGER  
DR ALBERTO FURLAN



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

34

applications received

12

site visits

11

grants approved

\$1.3m

total value of grants approved

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

To support the provision of equipment and capital infrastructure to outstanding research groups.

## REVIEW

This year 11 grants were made in the Medical Research program. The majority of these were for the purchase of major medical research equipment to increase the capacity of research institutions to foster an environment that leads to breakthrough discoveries and sector collaboration.

However, two grants were made in support of sector-wide initiatives that facilitate the sharing of information between research groups.

Telethon Kids Institute was supported to lead a sector-wide project involving key medical research institutions (MRIs) to develop a framework of good practices and indicators to enhance the sector's capacity to translate research and knowledge into impact.

Similarly, a grant was awarded for the scaling up of Covidence, a workflow and collaboration platform that streamlines systematic review of research. This tool assists the medical research sector to be more efficient and ultimately reduce the time between discovery and improved clinical care.

## PRIORITIES

There is a continuing need to facilitate the purchase of equipment with computational capacity to analyse the large amount of data produced in research.

Increasingly, researchers and research institutes require intelligent systems not just intelligent machines to improve their capacity to analyse data, review results and translate findings to clinical practice.

The Foundation will maintain its focus on investments in equipment, collaboration and innovation, to support excellence in medical research.

## Exemplar Grants

**South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute Limited**  
\$200,000

**A multi-omics facility for world-class bio-analytical support for South Australia's health and medical research community**

This equipment supports basic and translational medical research at the recently established South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) and at all three South Australian universities by providing greatly enhanced proteomics and metabolomics capabilities.

This is important for fundamental discovery, for understanding how biological processes occur and even for the discovery of new biomarkers for cancer and heart disease.

Research areas that will benefit include cardiovascular disease, cancer, Aboriginal health, dementia and rare genetic disorders affecting children.

**Children's Medical Research Institute**  
\$100,000

**High performance computing platform for cancer proteogenomic research**

ProCan is a new research facility dedicated to high-throughput proteomic analysis of all types of cancers on an unprecedented global scale. This grant will support the establishment of a High-Performance Computing (HPC) facility to establish a data analysis pipeline to ultimately produce clinical-grade reports.

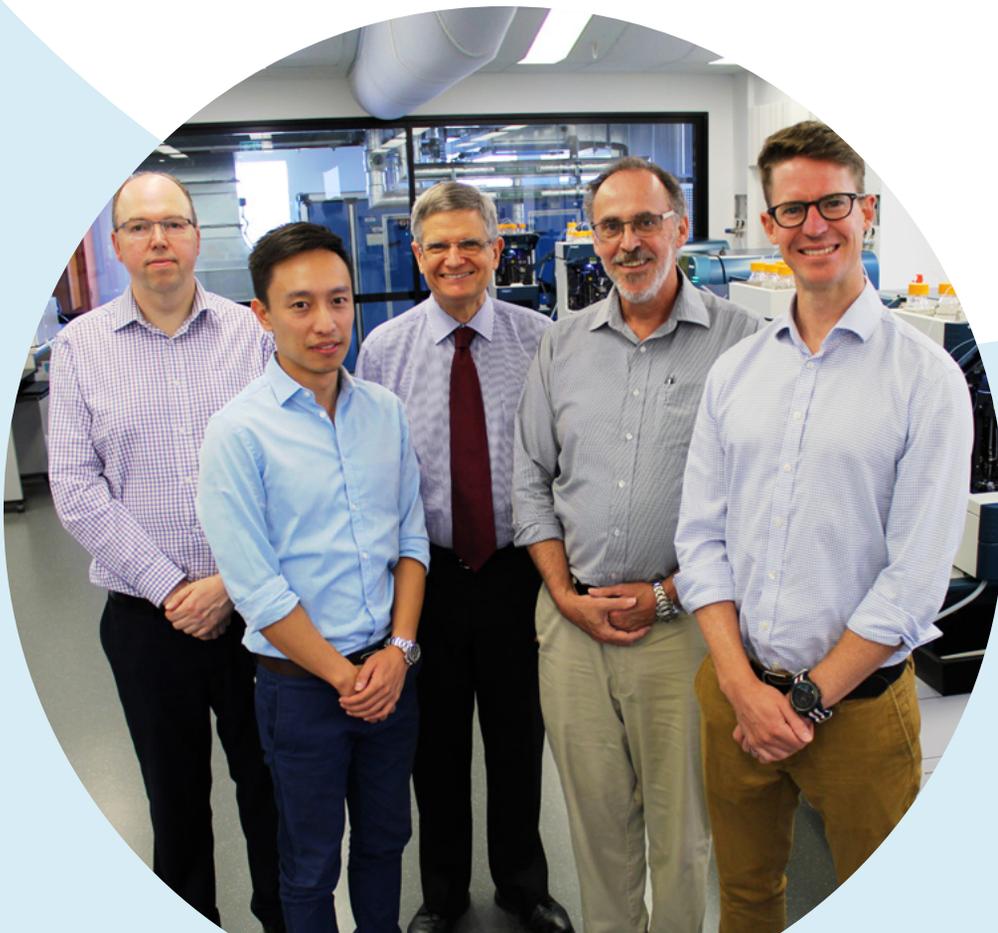
By dramatically accelerating and developing new data analysis pipelines in ProCan, the HPC will facilitate the objectives of the 'Human Cancer Proteome Project'. These include developing the ability to rapidly diagnose cancer type, developing computer algorithms that will enable more effective and individually targeted use of existing cancer treatments, and discovering molecular targets for developing new cancer treatments.

**Veritas Health Innovation Ltd**  
\$200,000

**Covidence: scaling up to increase the impact of health research**

Over 7,000 health research articles are published every day and the traditional model of professionals keeping up with the latest research by reading journal articles is not working. It is extremely time and resource intensive, and near impossible to incorporate new research as it becomes available.

Covidence is a workflow and collaboration platform that enables reviewers to collaborate on systematic review projects, work through the tasks of systematic review efficiently – citation screening, full-text article review, risk of bias assessment, and data extraction – while keeping data secure in a common repository. As these tasks are extremely resource intensive and the process is extremely specialised, the provision of a workflow platform that has been specifically designed for systematic review is able to deliver significant efficiency gains.

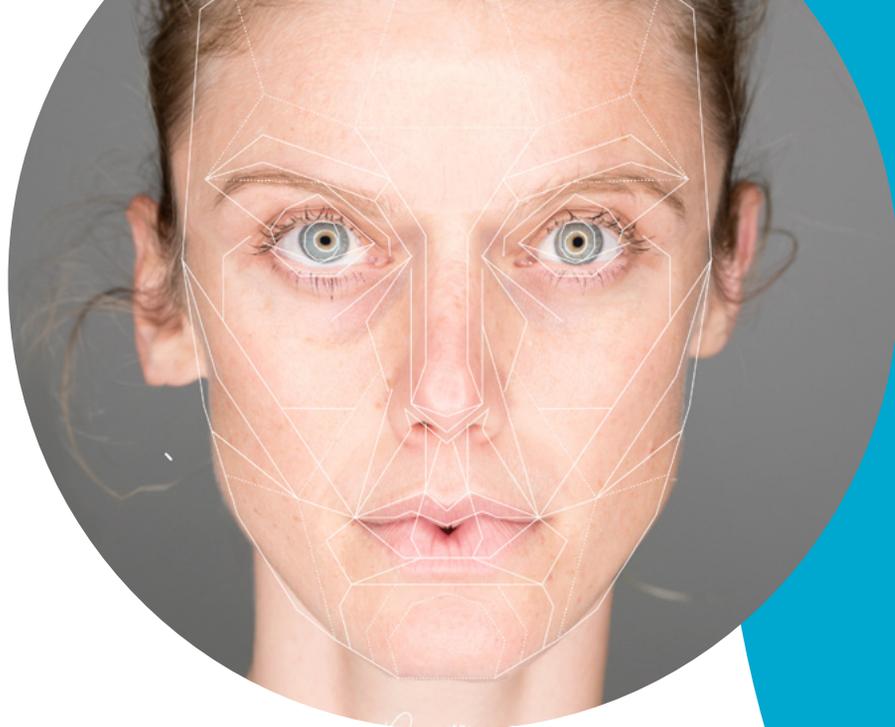


*Left: Many of the world-leading researchers at SAHMRI benefit from this technology, which facilitates research that improves the health of all Australians. This machine enables researchers to visualise and identify lipids (fats) and proteins.*

*Right: ProCan ICT team at CMRI. L-R: Mike Baker - Head of ICT; Qing Zhong- Group Leader, Cancer Data Science; Roger Reddel - Director/Unit Head, Cancer; Phil Robinson - Unit Head, Cell Signalling; Brett Tully- General Manager, ProCan and Group Leader, Software Engineering.*

# Science

PROGRAM MANAGER  
**NICOLE BORTONE**



*applications  
by invitation  
only*

**6**  
*applications  
received*

**5**  
*site visits*

**4**  
*grants  
approved*

**\$1.5m**  
*total value of  
grants approved*

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- To support high quality scientific research programs led by post-doc researchers with preference for research relating to the fields of environmental science and renewable energy.
- To encourage the development of fellowship programs available to early career researchers in the fields of environmental science and renewable energy.
- To support projects and infrastructure that enhance science communication skills and capacity, translate research and embed ongoing collaboration in the sector.

## REVIEW

A review of the Science program area was undertaken in 2017 to determine where the Foundation’s funding could have the greatest impact. An assessment of learnings from past Science grants and an intention to amplify the impact of its funding, led the Foundation to narrow the focus of the Science objectives to support environmental research and efforts to strengthen the science sector. This approach complements the Foundation’s Environment & Conservation program and addresses a growing need for greater investment in environmental conservation while creating a sustainable future for Australia.

Due to existing multi-year commitments and a program area review, the Science program was not open to applications in FY2018, consequently the grants awarded were in response to invited applications only.

Four grants were awarded this year, all of which focused on very different issue areas. These grants spanned landscape management and restoration, marine conservation, rock art research and science sector support. Their common feature was support for early and mid-career researchers to pursue their fields of enquiry.

## PRIORITIES

In recognition of the profound impact of climate change and its growing impact on the environment, the Foundation has chosen to direct funding towards high quality scientific research programs led by early career and established researchers in the fields of environmental science and renewable energy.

To be competitive, projects must be translational and highly collaborative with multiple partners involved from a range of backgrounds including government, industry, community, universities and/or other research institutions.

The Foundation is not looking for ‘run of the mill’ research projects, instead we are looking for innovative projects that will have broad ranging benefits for Australia and provide good leverage for further initiatives.

# Exemplar Grants

## The Conversation

\$300,000 over three years

**Science Communication Editor:**  
Early and mid-career researchers

This grant supports the appointment of a specialist Science Communications Editor to assist hundreds of early and mid-career researchers to disseminate their research through *The Conversation's* digital media platform. This editor will work with early and mid-career researchers to improve their writing and communication skills, building the capacity of the sector to communicate more effectively with the public.

The number of specialist science journalists in Australia has dropped from approximately 35 in 2005 to less than five in 2017, highlighting the need to support science journalism in Australia. There is a growing need to upskill academics in how to communicate effectively to the public and improve the public's perception of science. *The Conversation* has a large audience and is a well-regarded Australian and international organisation.

## Australian Landscape Trust

\$300,000 over three years

**Early Career Ecologist: Providing evidence-based restoration for an Australian semi-arid landscape**

The Australian Landscape Trust has been a long-term partner of the Foundation. This three-year grant will enable them to provide a fellowship to an early career Ecologist (post-doctoral level) to be based at the Calperum Supersite in Renmark, South Australia.

The Fellowship will provide a unique opportunity for the selected Fellow to gain practical experience in ecological research applied to landscape-scale restoration. It will be delivered in partnership with The University of Adelaide and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office providing exposure to multidisciplinary research teams. The experience will enable the Fellow to build on their land management and research expertise at the same time as contributing to a program to manage and restore a valuable Australian landscape.



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

*Left: 'AI scans your data to assess your character but Biometric Mirror asks: what if it is wrong?' This article in The Conversation by Niel Wouters, Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne, explores the latest research on AI and how it can be used to determine character. Image credit: Lucy McRae*

*Right: Dr Heather Neilly, Australian Landscape Trust Fellow, at Calperum Station.*

# Major Grants

PROGRAM MANAGER  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER &  
PROGRAM MANAGERS



applications  
by invitation  
only

8  
applications  
received

7  
site visits

7  
grants  
approved

\$13.4m  
total value of  
grants approved

## FUNDING OBJECTIVES

In October 2017, the Board of The Ian Potter Foundation committed to focusing its Major Grant funding for the next few years in key areas. From 2017 to 2019 the Board agreed to consider:

- Demonstration projects that seek to build accommodation for the homeless, such projects to be potentially scalable and replicable nationally.
- Large scale projects designed to benefit Indigenous Australians, that are consistent with the Foundation's funding guidelines for Indigenous projects.

## REVIEW

The establishment of the Major Grants stream aims to establish discrete funding allocations for the Foundation's core program areas while ensuring the Foundation's tradition of large, catalytic grants continues to assist the delivery of key major projects in the community. In December 2017, the Board considered the first applications for Major Grants under the new guidelines adopted in October 2017. This resulted in seven major grants being awarded.

Major grants were awarded to the Clontarf Foundation and Seed Foundation, both established organisations running projects that provide opportunities for young Indigenous Australians to develop their potential and give back to their communities. Further details on these grants can be found on page 11.

A further three Major Grants were awarded to organisations in support of significant demonstration projects designed to prevent homelessness. Hope Street Youth & Family Services and HammondCare each focus on particular groups at risk of being caught in the cycle of homelessness. Distinct from these is Homes for Homes which is developing a new model to raise capital for

sustainably funding affordable housing through the volume of activity in Australia's housing market.

A major grant was also awarded to the Queensland Ballet (\$3m) which matched funding from the Queensland State Government and other donors towards the re-development of The Thomas Dixon Centre. This increases the Foundation's total investment in this \$35m re-development to \$8m. FareShare Australia were awarded \$626,726 to assist in the acquisition of premises at South Audley Street, Abbotsford. This grant affords FareShare flexibility to consider how they might build their capacity to rescue and cook food to feed those in need.

## PRIORITIES

In line with the agreed funding objectives, the Board continues to research organisations working with Indigenous communities and those exploring innovative ways to address complex issues surrounding homelessness.

From 2018 to 2021 the Board will also consider environmental and public health projects. The Foundation will particularly focus on support for environmental programs with a strong evidence base seeking to reduce the impacts on Australia's Great Barrier Reef through land based run-off and climate change, and international and national studies focused on the health and resilience of the Reef. In addition, the Board will consider support for outstanding institutions seeking to better manage Australia's fresh water resources in urban and regional areas.

In the public health area, the Board will consider programs that focus on the prevention and treatment of mental health conditions; and the identification of policy and/or project opportunities to improve health services delivery.

# Feature Grants

## Hope Street Youth and Family Services

\$1,800,000 over four years

### Hope Street First Response in Melton – Youth Mobile Outreach Service

Hope Street Youth and Family Services Inc have been awarded \$1.8m over four years to establish the First Response Youth Service in the City of Melton, a homeless youth outreach service that will be based at a newly purpose-built youth crisis accommodation service. Currently, the nearest crisis support or accommodation service for the youth of Melton is 35km away in Melbourne’s CBD. The grant made by the Foundation complements funding from the Victorian State Government, other philanthropic organisations, and community pro bono support.

This new service will complement other existing Hope Street specialist youth homelessness programs in Melton. The mobile outreach service provides a continuity of care that is essential to building trust and engagement with young people in need. This project will address the immediate needs of young people/families in crisis thus preventing them from entering the cycle of disadvantage caused by homelessness.

## HammondCare

\$2,500,000 over five years

### **HammondCare Darlinghurst: restoring dignity to older people who are homeless with complex health needs**

HammondCare has been awarded \$2.5m over five years towards the construction of a permanent 42-bed aged care facility in Darlinghurst, NSW for older people with complex health needs who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

This facility will be the first of its kind in NSW and located in the area of greatest need, close to St Vincent’s Hospital and Kings Cross. The project aims to holistically address the needs of older people who are homeless by integrating health, aged care and community services including referral pathways to third party providers to treat alcohol and drug dependencies and/or mental health issues.

With strong financial support from HammondCare and The City of Sydney, it is hoped that this project will provide an evidence-based model to leverage future funding for similar projects from the NSW State Government.

## Homes for Homes

\$1,250,000 over four years

### **Raising new funding to increase supply of social and affordable housing**

Homes for Homes (H4H) is an independent, not-for profit, community led solution to Australia’s affordable housing crisis. This innovative initiative aims to raise a new source of funding to invest in community housing and thereby increase the supply of social and affordable housing.

The H4H model raises funds through a tax-deductible donation by home owners when selling their house. The funds raised are distributed to community housing organisations to build affordable housing in areas of greatest need. H4H will target private homeowners, builders, developers, government/urban renewal authorities and banks to incorporate a voluntary opt-out caveat on the title of properties which allows 0.1% of the sales to be deposited in an investment fund.

This capacity building grant will support H4H to build its operational capability during its establishment phase. H4H is an excellent example of an innovative model seeking to provide scalability and sustainability in addressing Australia’s affordable housing crisis.



*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

*Left: Margaret found herself homeless at 60 years old, after a tragic accident. She described the impact of a place like HammondCare Darlinghurst as “like winning the lotto!”*

*Right: Front - Philip Curtis, Habitat for Humanity; Hayley Parkes, Housing Choices Australia; Caroline Larcher, Women’s Property Initiatives; Haleh Homaei, HousingFirst.*

*Back - Simon McKeon, Homes for Homes; Sonya Clancy, Homes for Homes; The Hon. Richard Wynne, State Minister for Planning; Steven Persson, Homes for Homes. Image credit: Mark Avelino.*

# Knowledge & Learning

*To read the full list of grants in this program area, please refer to the grants database on our website.*

## International Learning & Development

PROGRAM MANAGER  
**DR ALBERTO FURLAN**

### FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- To improve the knowledge of the NFP sector in Australia by sharing international best practices learnt while visiting exemplary organisations overseas.
- We will prioritise organisations and projects that express strong intention, and have capacity, to disseminate the learnings from overseas throughout their sectors.

### REVIEW

The International Learning & Development program (ILD) was formally instated in 2017. To date, only seven grants in this area have been approved. A preliminary evaluation of these grants indicates that they are not achieving their goal of increasing NFP sector knowledge as was intended. Therefore, this program area was closed in May 2018 to allow us to conduct a rigorous review of its effectiveness. The results of this review will be presented to the Board in late 2018 and a decision made regarding the future of this program area.

12

applications received

2

grants approved

\$20k

total value of grants approved

## Exemplar Grant

### Ballarat International Foto Biennale Inc

\$10,000

#### Supporting travel to Europe to explore international best practice in programming and audience engagement models in European International Photographic Festivals

From May to July 2018, Fiona Sweet, Director of Ballarat International Foto Biennale, travelled to Europe to attend five European photographic festivals and one multi-art festival as an invited guest and portfolio reviewer, VIP and audience member.

The main goal of this trip was to gain new understanding of how international photography festivals worked and to inform the future development of the Ballarat International Foto Biennale. Attending and participating in these festivals, which included the RAY International Photo Triennial

in Frankfurt; Hamburg Triennial of Photography; Fotofestival, Lodz, Poland and several others, provided extraordinary opportunities to develop networks with international counterparts, explore alternative marketing, audience development, programming models and research contemporary photographic artists.

Fiona Sweet has reported that various outcomes are currently being confirmed in the lead up to the 2019 Biennale. These include exhibitions and visiting international delegates who will contribute to and participate in the 2019 program. At least one touring opportunity has been pencilled in for the Australian Embassy Gallery in Berlin in November 2019. The trip was considered highly successful and will continue to inform the future direction and growth of the Ballarat International Foto Biennale.

Right: Ian Potter Travel Grant recipient Christopher Goatley presenting his work on cryptobenthic fishes; the smallest marine vertebrates.  
Photo credit: Mike Kingsford



## Travel

PROGRAM MANAGER  
LAUREN MONAGHAN

### FUNDING OBJECTIVES

To assist early career staff members (with an appointment of at least three years) to attend overseas conferences to develop their professional careers, and to interact with their peers in the international scene.



## Exemplar Grants

**Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health**  
\$1500

**Dr Cassandra Wright, Behaviours and Health Risks, Burnet Institute to attend the '44th Annual Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium' of the Kettil Bruun Society, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 28 May–1 June 2018**

This grant assisted Dr Cassandra Wright to attend and present at a renowned international conference. Dr Wright presented her research on social anxiety and alcohol use to international experts in the field. Dr Wright received extensive written and verbal feedback on her paper which has been invaluable. Attending the conference substantially raised the profile of Dr Wright's research and subsequently she has received requests to use the scale which she developed in Kenya, Thailand, Canada and Sweden. Attending the conference also gave Dr Wright the opportunity to network with her international peers and several research collaborations have developed as a result.

**Victoria University**  
\$1000

**Dr Sian McLean, Institute for Sport, Health, & Active Living to attend 'Appearance Matters 8', Bath, UK, 12–15 June 2018**

This grant assisted Dr Sian McLean to attend and present her research at the 'Appearance Matters 8' Conference in the United Kingdom. Attending the conference was highly beneficial for Dr McLean as she was exposed to cutting edge research findings which are highly relevant to her current research. Attending the conference also gave Dr McLean the opportunity to participate in discussions with international researchers in her field. These discussions have led to the establishment of a research collaboration that has since applied for a grant to develop and evaluate a phone app as an early intervention tool for eating disorders. Dr McLean's involvement in this project would not have eventuated if not for her participation at the conference.

**University of New England**  
\$1500

**Dr Christopher Goatley, School of Environmental and Rural Science to attend the 'Indo-Pacific Fish Conference', Tahiti, French Polynesia, 2–6 October 2017**

This grant supported Dr Christopher Goatley to attend and present at the, 'Indo-Pacific Fish Conference', in Tahiti. Through the course of the conference Dr Goatley presented on the possibilities of using micro-CT scanning for ecological studies, a technique which is increasingly used in taxonomic and anatomical studies but still under-utilised in ecology. The presentation was well received and has triggered several potential research collaborations.

Professor Elizabeth Ferris, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University presenting the opening keynote address at the Annual Conference of the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law on 'The Global Compacts on Refugees and Migration', UNSW Sydney, 24 November 2017



## Conference

PROGRAM MANAGER  
LAUREN MONAGHAN

### FUNDING OBJECTIVES

- Conference grants are awarded to a maximum amount of \$20,000.
- Requests can only be for funding towards the travel and accommodation costs associated with hosting international keynote speakers.



## Exemplar Grants

**The University of Queensland**  
\$2500

**To bring three international keynote speakers to the competition law symposium 'Cartels, Optimal Enforcement and Theories in Competition Law', Brisbane, QLD, 27 March 2018**

This international one-day symposium provided a forum for academics, students, practitioners, judges and economists to discuss, share and generate scholarly research on significant competition law issues. The symposium was well attended with delegates travelling from all over Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, India, Italy, Spain, Netherlands and Germany.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive and the event received good publicity through the media, academic blogs and websites. Academic papers presented at the conference will also be published in the *University of Queensland*

*Law Journal* in July 2018. This conference was very successful in developing new international relationships for Australian researchers and developing the international reputation of the TC Beirne School of Law at the University of Queensland.

**University of Newcastle**  
\$5000

**To bring two international speakers, Professor Elizabeth Ferris and Ambassador David Donoghue to the Annual Conference of the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law on 'The Global Compacts on Refugees and Migration', UNSW Sydney, 24 November 2017**

The Kaldor Centre Conference 2017 drew together key global, regional and Australian thinkers to discuss the recently adopted global compacts on refugees and migration, raising critical issues and the potential in each agreement. The single day conference was very successful, attracting

190 delegates of varying disciplines including academics, policy makers, legal practitioners and refugee community members, which provided an excellent multidisciplinary discussion.

Videos, papers and podcasts from the keynote addresses were made available online following the event and a conference insights report was disseminated widely amongst policy makers, academics and other key stakeholders.

The grantee further capitalised on the opportunity to raise awareness of the Global Compacts in the media through radio interviews on ABC RN Drive with Professor Ferris and ABC RN Breakfast with Ambassador Donoghue.





**The Ian Potter  
Foundation**

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FOUNDATION**

Level 3, 111 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia

03 9650 3188  
admin@ianpotter.org.au

ABN 42 004 603 972

[ianpotter.org.au](http://ianpotter.org.au)