



Southern Cross  
UNIVERSITY

*A new way to think*

## **CALC Workshop**

Division of Research

Research & Commercial Services Unit

# Federal Government Funding Model for University Research

# Research Funding

- Negotiated funding allocation (Compact)
  - Research allocation
- Direct Funding for specific projects through:
  - Grants, Contract Research, CRCs
- Collaborative Research Networks
- Block Grants

# Block Grants

- Federal Government Scheme for Higher Education Providers
- Australian Competitive Grants
- Grants in General
  - Do not provide for overheads
  - Block Grants Scheme to help cover these costs

# Block Grants Scheme

- Provided against various research activity
- Mostly calculated on research income
  - ACG
  - Research revenue overall
  - Student completions (HDRs)
- Fixed pool with many caveats and rules

# Block Grants Scheme

- CALC setup included a way to leverage SCU Block Grants
- Projects where sensible and feasible to run through SCU
- Research revenue recognised and attracted some leverage from the scheme

# Changes to the Block Grants Scheme

- Constantly changing
- Eligibility for scheme funds is the major change for CALC
- Now harder and with marginal benefits (for a CALC type arrangement)

# Taking Advantage of Scheme changes

- Consider how projects spend dollars
  - New staff
  - Non salary items – expenses
- There is Block Grant money if spent through SCU (3 year rule still applies)
- SCU will continue to provide these dollars from CALC projects



# Block Grants Scheme

The background features several light blue stars of varying sizes and orientations, with one prominent yellow star located near the center-right of the slide.

Should not be the driver for CALC projects

Just about any other reason should take precedence

# Direct Project Funding

- The Major Opportunity
- Direct Funding for specific projects through:
  - Grants,
    - ACIAR, AusAid, ARC, Environmental Trust, the RDCs .....
  - Contract Research,
  - CRCs; major effort, large investment

# Research and Commercial Services Unit

- Grant application support
- Notification of Granting opportunities
- Connections within Grant bodies (advice and assistance)
- Dealing with collaborations and terms associated with collaborative projects
- Administration, review and lodgment of applications
- Contract development and establishment

# GRANTS TEAM

- Assist SCU (and CALC) researchers in the administrative processes and submission of research funding applications, e.g.:
  - Compliance checks
  - Budget queries
  - Coordinate expert review and feedback process
  - Ensure internal approvals
  - Submission of final application

# GRANTS TEAM ROLE

- ✓ Primary Contact for the Grants Team =  
Emma Evans, Grants Manager
- ✓ Grants Team Email = [grants@scu.edu.au](mailto:grants@scu.edu.au)