Advancing ICT Research

Philip Ogunbona

University of Wollongong

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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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010 UoEs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 UoEs</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Top 200</th>
<th>Top 50</th>
<th>Pos. Topmost ranked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13th</td>
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</table>
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