2010

HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE COLLECTION OF 2009 DATA

RESEARCH FUNDING AND POLICY BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The data collected through the HERDC is used towards assessing individual Higher Education Providers’ (HEPs) overall research performance, which in turn drives the allocation of Research Block Grants (RBG). The general purpose of RBG is to reward the success of HEPs in obtaining grants, and to support HEPs in further research.

The purpose of the 2010 Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) specification document is to provide guidance on the specific content and data requirements for HEPs for providing 2009 research income and research publications data.

This data must be provided to the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (the Department) in two returns:

Return 1 - Research Income Return
HEPs must provide research income received for the reference year. Data must be grouped into four categories:

- Category 1: Australian Competitive Grants
- Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income
- Category 3: Industry and Other Research Income
- Category 4: Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Research Income

Return 2 - Research Publications Return
HEPs must provide the number of research publications produced during the reference year. Data must be grouped into four categories:

- Books
- Book chapters
- Journal articles
- Conference publications

Use of data
The Department uses the research income and publications returns in conjunction with data from the Higher Education Student Data Collection to determine HEPs’ grants for the following schemes:

- Research Training Scheme
- Institutional Grants Scheme
- Research Infrastructure Block Grants Scheme (Category 1 research income only)
- Australian Postgraduate Awards Scheme
- Commercialisation Training Scheme
- International Postgraduate Research Scholarships Scheme.

1 Higher education providers are those institutions identified as Table A and Table B providers in sections 16-15 and 16-20 of the Higher Education Support Act 2003.
The HERDC is not intended for use by HEPs as the basis for internal funding allocations. HEPs should develop their own internal allocation mechanisms.

Enquiries about this document should be sent to RBGrants@innovation.gov.au.

1.2 Format of the Specifications
The specifications are divided into three parts:

- Part A sets out the specifications for:
  - Category 1: Australian Competitive Grants
  - Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income
  - Category 3: Industry and Other Research Income

- PART B sets out the specifications for
  - Category 4: CRC Research Income

- PART C sets out the specifications for publications.

1.3 Definitions

1.3.1 Adjunct Staff
For the purposes of these specifications, those who undertake or carry out research activity on Shared Grants on behalf of a HEP, but are not necessarily on the HEP’s payroll. Such activity should meet the definition of research (as defined in section 1.3.8).

1.3.2 Audit Certificate
HEPs must provide an Audit Certificate which certifies as correct the research income included in the Research Income Return - Return 1 for all categories:

- Category 1: Australian Competitive Grants
- Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income
- Category 3: Industry and Other Research Income
- Category 4: CRC Research Income

Auditing requirements are described further in section 4.2.

1.3.3 Author affiliation
The author of the research publication being counted in the Research Publication Return - Return 2 must be affiliated with the claiming HEP and must be identified either within or on the work being claimed.

Author affiliation is further explained in section 9.4 of Part C.

1.3.4 Capital Grants
A grant provided to purchase an asset of a durable nature.

1.3.5 Commercial Publisher
For the purposes of these specifications, a commercial publisher is an entity for which the core business is producing books and distributing them for sale.
If publishing is not the core business of an organisation but there is a distinct organisational entity devoted to commercial publication and its publications are not completely paid for or subsidised by the parent organisation or a third party, the publisher is acceptable as a commercial publisher.

For the purposes of these specifications, HEP and other self-supporting HEP presses are also regarded as commercial publishers, provided that they have responsibility for the distribution of the publication, in addition to its printing.

1.3.6 **Net Receipted Income**

For the purposes of these specifications, Net Receipted Income is the amount of income a HEP retains after Shared Research Income has been divided.

1.3.7 **Peer review**

For the purposes of the HERDC, an acceptable peer review process is one that involves an assessment or review of the research publication in its entirety before publication by independent, qualified experts. Independent in this context means independent of the author.

Peer review is relevant for journal articles and conference publications counted in the Research Publications Return - Return 2.

Peer review is further explained at section 9.6 of Part C.

1.3.8 **Research**

For the purposes of these specifications, research comprises:

- creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications\(^2\)
- any activity classified as research which is characterised by originality; it should have investigation as a primary objective and should have the potential to produce results that are sufficiently general for humanity's stock of knowledge (theoretical and/or practical) to be recognisably increased. Most higher education research work would qualify as research
- pure basic research, strategic basic research, applied research and experimental development.

Activities that support research and meet this definition of research include:

- provision of professional, technical, administrative or clerical support and/or assistance to staff directly engaged in research
- management of staff who are either directly engaged in research or are providing professional, technical or clerical support or assistance to those staff
- activities of students undertaking postgraduate research courses
- development of postgraduate research courses
- supervision of students undertaking postgraduate research courses.

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Activities that do not support research must be excluded, such as:

- preparation for teaching
- scientific and technical information services
- general purpose or routine data collection
- standardisation and routine testing
- feasibility studies (except into research and experimental development projects)
- specialised routine medical care
- commercial, legal and administrative aspects of patenting, copyright or licensing activities
- routine computer programming, systems work or software maintenance (research and experimental development into applications software, new programming languages and new operating systems would normally meet the definition of research).

1.3.9 Reference Year
The reference year for research income (Categories 1, 2 and 3) is the 2009 calendar year. For CRC research income (Category 4) the reference year is the financial year 2008-09.

Research income for 2008 (Categories 1, 2 and 3) and 2007-08 (Category 4) or earlier years omitted from previous returns CANNOT be included.

For publications, see definition – Year of Publication at section 1.3.15

1.3.10 Research Publications
For the purposes of these specifications, research publications are books, book chapters, journal articles and/or conference publications which meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) and are characterised by:

- substantial scholarly activity, as evidenced by discussion of the relevant literature, an awareness of the history and antecedents of work described, and provided in a format which allows a reader to trace sources of the work, including through citations and footnotes
- originality (i.e. not a compilation of existing works)
- veracity/validity through a peer validation process or by satisfying the commercial publisher processes
- increasing the stock of knowledge
- being in a form that enables dissemination of knowledge.

Unless otherwise specified, reference to publication refers to research publications. Further details relating to research publications are available at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Part and Section</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Research Publications Return - Return 2</td>
<td>PART C</td>
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<td>Instructions for Electronic Submission of HERDC Returns</td>
<td>APPENDIX A</td>
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<td>Book Chapter Calculation Methodology</td>
<td>APPENDIX D</td>
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1.3.11 Subsidiaries
A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership that is controlled by another entity (known as the parent).

1.3.12 Shared Research Income
Income for the purposes of conducting joint research received by a HEP and a Research Partner Organisation.

1.3.13 Third Party Income
For the purposes of these specifications, Third Party Income is defined as income a HEP receives, and then contracts another organisation to undertake the research.

1.3.14 Vice-Chancellor’s Certification Statement
The Vice-Chancellor is required to provide a certification statement for the HEP submission of Return 1 and Return 2. The format for this statement is provided with the submissions SmartForm, detailed in APPENDIX A.

1.3.15 Year of Publication
The year of publication is the 2009 calendar year.

HEPs can also include 2008 publications in their submission if the publications were published after the submission date for the 2008 data collection. HEPs must be able to demonstrate (in the verification material that they maintain) that the publication was not produced until after the submission date for that year’s publication return. i.e. that the publication, although containing a 2008 publication date, was not published until after 30 June 2009. A letter from the publisher will be considered sufficient verification material to support the claim.

The year of publication is further explained in section 9.2 of Part C.

Publications from 2007 and earlier years are not eligible to be included.

1.4 Freedom of Information Act 1982
All documents sent to the Department with regard to the HERDC are subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act). Unless a document falls under an exemption provision, it may be made available to the applicant, if requested, under the FOI Act. All FOI requests are to be referred to:

FOI Coordinator
Corporate Strategy Branch
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science & Research
GPO Box 9839, Canberra, ACT 2601

Decisions regarding requests for access to documents will be made by the Department’s authorised FOI decision-maker in accordance with the requirements of the FOI Act.
2. Publication of Research Income and Publications Returns

HERDC data is published on the Department’s website at:


The research income and publications data provided may be used to inform other analyses conducted by DIISR.

3. Materials Required in the Returns and Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material Required in the Return</th>
<th>Format of the Return</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Income Return - Return 1</td>
<td>Electronic Submission (also Hard Copy)</td>
<td>30 June 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Publications Return - Return 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice- Chancellor’s Certification Statement</td>
<td>Hard Copy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audit Certificate</td>
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The instructions for electronic submission of the Research Income Return - Return 1 and Research Publications Return - Return 2 are set out in APPENDIX A. Electronic submissions must be sent to:

RBGrants@innovation.gov.au

It is a condition of all HEP's Research Training Scheme, Institutional Grants Scheme, Commercialisation Training Scheme and Research Infrastructure Block Grants scheme grants that the material required in the above table be provided by 30 June 2010.

Research Income Return - Return 1, Research Publications Return - Return 2, Vice-Chancellor's Certification Statement and Audit Certificate (in hard copy) must be sent to:

HERDC Officer
Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC)
Research Funding and Policy Branch
Research Division
Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
GPO Box 9839
CANBERRA ACT 2601
4. Verification

4.1 Vice-Chancellor Certification Statements
Vice-Chancellors must certify that their HEP’s Research Income Return - Return 1 and Research Publications Return - Return 2 are correct and have been compiled in accordance with these specifications.

Each HEP must supply one certification statement to the Department and it must encompass both Return 1 and Return 2. The format for this statement is provided with the submissions SmartForm, detailed in APPENDIX A.

4.2 Audit of Research Income
Each HEP must arrange for an audit of the category 1, 2, 3 and 4 research income in their respective Research Income Return - Return 1 and provide the Department with an Audit Certificate which clearly certifies that the research income recorded is correct.

The audit should be conducted by an independent, external, qualified auditor (for example a certified public accountant). It may be conducted as part of an annual audit.

4.3 Verification Material for Research Publications
HEPs must maintain verification material to demonstrate that research publications meet the criteria against the categories being reported. HEPs must retain verification material for three years to facilitate any audit of research publications data that may be conducted by the Department.

Verification material for research publications is further explained in section 9.7 of Part C.

4.4 Verification of Data
HEPs will be given the opportunity to verify student completion and student load data that is used in the block grants allocation process. Remaining data is directly uploaded electronically.

5. Contact Details
Queries concerning HERDC and these specifications should be directed to:

RBGrants@innovation.gov.au

Please include your name, HEP and contact details in your query.

The Department maintains a website which contains all documentation relating to:

- the HERDC (including Specifications)
- Research Income Return - Return 1
- Research Publications Return - Return 2
- the Australian Competitive Grants Register

For this and other relevant information, see:

6 Differences between the 2010 and 2009 Specifications

6.1 Joint Venture provisions have been removed from the HERDC Specifications, as a result of the 2009 review of the provisions of income data collection relating to the distribution of research block grants (known as the HERDC Review). Only income that appears in a HEP’s audited financial statements can be claimed.

6.2 Added definition of ‘Adjunct Staff’.

6.3 Added definition of ‘Net Receipted Income’.

6.4 Added definition of ‘Third Party Income’.

6.4 Added definition of ‘Shared Research Income’, to augment previous year’s HERDC Specification’s definition of Shared Grant Income.

6.5 Added the following to section 7.2 (income that can be included):
• Research grants applied for by a HEP’s Adjunct staff member through their HEP.

6.6 Added the following to section 7.3 (income that cannot be included):
• any income above the Net Receipted Income
• any Third Party Income
• any research income not related to a HEP but received by its affiliated organisation/s
• any funds provided wholly or substantially for infrastructure
• Super Science Grants
• income which is provided for core operating, general or other purposes, even if that income is spent on research purposes (including the National Institutes Grant (NIG))
• income received from overseas fee-paying students

6.7 Added a summary purpose of the HERDC and RBG to section 1.1.

6.8 Changed reference from ‘third parties’ to ‘external parties’ under Section 8 (Category 4: CRC Research Income).
PART A

Part A provides the information necessary for HEPs to determine what can and cannot be included under Categories 1-3 of the Research Income Return - Return 1.

For information on Category 4 (CRC Research Income) refer to Part B of these specifications.

7. Research Income Return - Return 1

7.1 General requirements

All research income must:

- be received by a HEP or its subsidiaries for the 2009 calendar year
- be classified into categories (see section 7.4 of Part A) according to the organisation providing the funds
- comply with the definition of research (see section 1.3.8)
- be consistent with the HEP’s financial statements unless exempt as income received from a CRC or joint venture income reported using a notional share of joint venture income.

Income sourced from category 4 (CRC income) should be reported for the 2008-2009 financial year.

Research income for 2008 or earlier years omitted from previous collections CANNOT be included.

7.2 Research income which can be included in the Research Income Return - Return 1

- income received in 2008 in respect of the year 2009
- stipends and scholarships for higher degree research students, unless explicitly excluded in section 7.3 of Part A
- interest on donations, bequests and foundations which have been provided specifically for research
- travel grants where funds are provided specifically for the purpose of travel and used to enable access to a program of research
- funds provided for the purpose of clinical trials provided the purpose of the trial meets the definition of research (see section 1.3.8)
- income from overseas HEPs provided specifically for research purposes
- Research grants applied for by a HEP’s Adjunct staff member through their HEP
- income used to manage staff directly engaged in research or providing professional, technical or clerical support or assistance to those staff
- income received in support of:
  - professional, technical, administrative or clerical support staff directly engaged in research
  - the activities of students undertaking postgraduate research courses
  - the development of postgraduate research courses
  - the supervision of students undertaking postgraduate research courses.
— research and experimental development into applications software, new programming languages and new operating systems (such R&D would normally meet the definition of research).

A HEP must reduce the research income reported for a particular category where research income received in 2008 or an earlier year has been refunded in 2009.

7.3 Research income which cannot be included in the Research Income Return - Return 1

- income received in 2009 in respect of the year 2010
- any research income received by the HEP from its subsidiaries
- any research income received by the HEP from any other Australian HEP or its subsidiaries except in respect of Shared Research Income (in accordance with section 7.5 of Part A) or transfers (in accordance with section 7.6 of Part A)
- any income above the amount of Net Receipted Income
- any Third Party Income
- any research income not related to a HEP but received by its affiliated organisation/s
- in-kind contributions
- capital grants
- funds provided wholly or substantially for infrastructure (including the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS), ARC LIEF grants, and Independent Research Institutes Infrastructure Support Scheme (IIRIS) grants).
- grants from the Higher Education Endowment Fund (HEEF) or the Education Investment Fund (EIF), including Super Science grants
- funds received through the ARC’s Research Networks scheme
- income which is provided for core operating, general or other purposes, even if that income is spent on research purposes (including the National Institutes Grant (NIG))
- income received from overseas fee-paying students
- income provided for the purposes of research that is spent on general or other purposes
- funds provided specifically for the purpose of hosting, organising or attending a conference or workshop
- funds provided specifically for the purpose of producing research publications (that is, for publishing research rather than conducting it)
- consultancy fees for projects that do not meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8)
- funds provided specifically for travel to conferences/workshops and/or meetings
- interest income accruing to research grants and contract research grants
- research income received by independent operations which do not meet the definition of a subsidiary as defined at section 1.3.11
- income from the High Performance Computing and Communications Program, to or through the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing
- income provided for preparation for teaching
- funds used for
  — scientific and technical information services
  — general purpose or routine data collection
  — standardisation and routine testing
  — feasibility studies (except into research and experimental development projects)
  — specialised routine medical care
  — commercial, legal and administrative aspects of patenting, copyright or licensing activities
  — routine computer programming, systems work or software maintenance
• grants from the following DIISR programs:
  — Research Training Scheme (RTS)
  — Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS)
  — Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBG)
  — Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA)
  — Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS)
  — International Postgraduate Research Scheme Awards (IPRS)
  — Regional Protection Scheme (RPS).

7.4 Research Income Categories
HEPs must enter all research income into Research Income Return - Return 1 according to the following four categories:

Category 1: Australian Competitive Grants
Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income
Category 3: Industry and Other Research Income
Category 4: CRC Research Income

Specifications for Categories 1, 2 and 3 are set out in sections 7.4.1, 7.4.2 and 7.4.3 of Part A.
Specifications for Category 4 are set out in Part B.

7.4.1 Category 1: Australian Competitive Grants
Subject to meeting the definition of research (section 1.3.8) and the specifications set out in this part (Part A, section 7), Category 1 consists only of those research schemes/programs listed on the 2009 Australian Competitive Grants Register (ACGR).

Only those specific funding schemes registered in the 2009 ACGR can be claimed under this category. The ACGR is available through the Department’s website at: http://www.innovation.gov.au/Section/Research/Pages/AustralianCompetitiveGrantsRegister(ACGR).aspx

Grants received from the Australian Government and not included in the 2009 ACGR may be eligible for inclusion in Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income.

7.4.2 Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income
Subject to meeting the definition of research (section 1.3.8) and the specifications set out in this part (section 7 of Part A), Category 2 includes:

• any other research income received from the Australian Government that is not eligible for inclusion as Category 1 research income
• research income from Australian Government business enterprises
• research income (including contract research) from both state and local governments
• research income from state government business enterprises
• research income from partly government owned or funded bodies
• research income from CRCs in which the reporting HEP was not defined within the Commonwealth Agreement as “The Researcher” or a “Participant” (i.e. was not a signatory to the Commonwealth Agreement, a CRC Participants Agreement, or a Company Constitution during the reporting period).
7.4.3 Category 3: Industry and Other Research Income

Industry and Other Research Income must be categorised in the following subcategories:

**Australian:**
- Contracts
- Grants
- Donations, bequests and foundations

**International A: Competitive, Peer-Reviewed Research Grant Income**
Competitive, peer reviewed grants for research from non-Australian industry or non-Australian Government agencies including non-Australian industry collaborative research grants.

**International B: Other Income**
Any other income research income from non-Australian Industry or Governments that cannot be included in International A research income such as:
- Contracts
- Grants
- Donations, bequests and foundations

7.4.2.1 Additional Subcategory Explanatory Material
Subject to meeting the definition of research (see section 1.3.8) and the specifications set out in this part (section 7 of Part A), Category 3 includes:

**Australian:**
- contract research income provided by industry or other non-government agencies
- grants for research other than government provided grants (which should be reported in either Category 1 or Category 2)
- donations and bequests for research from Australian business, Australian non-profit organisations and Australian individuals
- income received from syndicated research and development arrangements.

Many research income arrangements involve grants covered by a contract. In categorising funds as either contract research income or grant income, HEPs should regard:
- funding for research where the project was developed primarily by the funding agency, or jointly by the funding agency and the investigator(s) as contract research income
- funding for research where the project was developed primarily by the investigator(s) as grant income.

**International A:**
- Competitive grants, peer reviewed grants for research from non-Australian industry or non-Australian Government agencies including non-Australian industry collaborative research grants.
- In order to qualify for inclusion in this category the granting schemes must comply with the following criteria:
  a) Funds must be provided on a competitive basis and clearly be for research only
  b) The funding scheme must have a well-defined mechanism for competition and selection by a well-qualified panel
c) Grants in kind such as the use of facilities, equipment etc. or subsidised travel or accommodation are not eligible

d) Funding schemes used exclusively to fund student scholarships are not eligible

e) Schemes that provide funding wholly or mainly for infrastructure purposes are not eligible.

International B:

- contract research provided by non-Australian industry or non-Australian Government agencies including non-Australian industry collaborative research grants
- non-competitive grants for research from non-Australian industry or non-Australian Government agencies including non-Australian industry collaborative research grants
- donations and bequests for research from non-Australian business, non-Australian non-profit organisations, and non-Australian individuals.

For donations and bequests (Australian and international):

- Where all, or a proportion, of a donation or bequest is invested then only the income earned from that investment which is available for expenditure on research in the reference year should be included.
- Any portion of a donation or bequest that is not provided specifically for research purposes cannot be included.

7.5 Income Received Through Shared Research Income

This section describes the circumstances under which income received through Shared Research Incomes may be reported as research income.

Please note that there is not a separate category for income received through Shared Research Income. Shared Research Income should be assigned to the appropriate reporting category as listed in section 7.4 of Part A according to the original source of the income.

7.5.1 Shared Research Income

A grant is considered Shared Research Income if a component is passed from the primary recipient to another party, where that party is named in the contract/agreement for the grant or tender/application for funding. (A party may be a HEP, the staff or adjunct staff of a HEP, or another research performing organisation).

If, for example, HEP A receives a grant of $50,000 of which $20,000 is transferred to HEP B, HEP A should report $30,000 and HEP B $20,000. Double counting should not occur. It must be possible for the Net Receipted Income by each HEP to be identified in its audited statement.

7.6 Transfers

Where a HEP’s staff are in receipt of a grant transfer to another HEP and carry the grant with them, this must be reflected in adjustments to the HEP’s income receipts.

7.7 GST

Where a HEP provides research services and charges GST, it should report only the research income it receives exclusive of GST.
PART B

Part B provides the information necessary for HEPs to determine what can and cannot be included under Category 4 of the Research Income Return - Return 1.

For information on Categories 1-3 of the Research Income Return, refer to Part A of these specifications.

8 Category 4: CRC Research Income

8.1 General requirements
Under Category 4: CRC Research Income, HEPs must report the research income received for the 2008-2009 financial year from a CRC in which they were defined within the Commonwealth Agreement as “The Researcher (for CRCs funded in the 2000 or 2002 selection round), or as a “Participant” (for CRCs funded in the 2004 or 2006 selection round).

Income received from CRCs in which the reporting HEP is not The Researcher or a Participant must be reported under Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income (as per section 7.4.2 of Part A).

Category 4 comprises the following subcategories:
- research income derived from Australian Government grants to CRCs
- research income derived from non-HEP members of CRCs
- research income derived from external parties contributing to CRCs.

HEPs must consolidate the research income from all CRCs in which they are core participants or participants and enter this into Research Income Return - Return 1, categorised according to the appropriate subcategories. This data does not need to be split between HEPs and their subsidiaries.

Section 8.5 of Part B provides guidance for HEPs that are unable to easily categorise research income into the subcategories using CRCs’ accounting systems.

8.2 Arrangements applying to the collection and certification of CRC Research Income
HEPs must determine the eligible research income (as defined at section 8.3 of Part B) that they can report under Category 4: CRC Research Income for the financial year 2008-09 and must verify that research income data with the respective CRCs in which they are a researcher or participant.

HEPs must certify that Category 4: CRC Research Income data is correct, as reported in the Research Income Return - Return 1, through provision of the Vice-Chancellor’s Certification Statement and the Audit Certificate.
8.3 Eligible research income

To be counted in Category 4, all research income must:

- be received by a HEP and its subsidiaries for the financial year 2008-09
- be classified into subcategories (see section 8.1 of Part B)
- comply with the definition of research (see section 1.3.8)
- be provided to a HEP account, for the HEP to spend.

Types of research income eligible to be counted include:

- funds for non-capital aspects of facilities such as laboratories, libraries, computing centres, animal houses, herbaria, and experimental farms
- funds for equipment purchase, installation, maintenance, hire and lease
- funds for salaries of research staff and research support staff
- funds providing a stipend to a student and/or the cost of a student’s higher degree by research fee-paying place, unless the places are funded through the Research Training Scheme, Australian Postgraduate Awards, Commercialisation Training Scheme or International Postgraduate Research Scholarships
- payments for contracted projects which meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8)
- funds provided specifically for the purpose of travel to enable access to a program of research. Researchers using the funds are expected to be active participants in the research program, rather than observers or visitors.

8.4 Research income not eligible to be included

Research income that may not be eligible to be counted include:

- funds provided to the personal accounts of HEP staff, or funds used by the CRC to purchase goods or services for use by the HEP
- funds provided specifically for travel to conferences, workshops and/or meetings
- in-kind contributions
- cash contributions made to a HEP on condition that the HEP use these contributions to purchase goods or services from a CRC or other funding provider. Such arrangements are regarded as in-kind contributions
- capital grants (i.e. grants for construction of buildings), even if for research purposes
- funds provided to HEPs for them to manage on behalf of other parties, which are not to be used for research purposes by the HEP
- omissions from previous Research Income Return - Return 1
- payments to HEPs which are not earmarked for research, even if they may be spent on research at the HEPs’ discretion
- funds provided specifically for the purpose of hosting, organising or attending a conference or workshop
- funds provided specifically for the purpose of producing research publications (that is, for publishing research rather than conducting it)
- funds provided to a HEP which is not a participant in the CRC. These funds may be counted under Category 2: Other Public Sector Research Income, provided they are for the purposes of research (as defined at section 1.3.8)
- GST amounts.
8.5 Breakdown by Source Category

If a CRC’s accounting systems do not readily enable it to distinguish between the funds provided to HEPs which are sourced from government grants, and funds provided to HEPs which are sourced from non-HEP participants, the CRC may split the funds between these two components in the same proportion as the cash funding it receives from these sources. If the receipt of funds from external parties can also not be tracked separately, the principle described above again applies. Income sourced from Australian HEPs or subsidiaries of Australian HEPs is not eligible to be counted (consistent with section 7 of Part A).

Example

In the 2008-09 financial year a CRC receives into a single account cash funding from:

- Australian HEP sources: $5 million (25%)
- Government grant: $3 million (15%)
- non-HEP participants: $7 million (35%)
- external parties: $5 million (25%)

If the CRC allocates $800,000 of the funds – which it is not readily able to attribute to particular sources – to HEP X for research purposes, in its Certified Statement for HEP X, the CRC may attribute:

- $120,000 (15% of the $800,000) to the ‘Allocation of funds from Commonwealth Grant’ component;
- $280,000 (35% of the $800,000) to the ‘Allocation of funds from non-HEP participants’ component; and
- $200,000 (25% of the $800,000) to the ‘Allocation of funds from external parties’ component.

The 25% share of the $800,000 sourced from Australian HEPs is not able to be counted.

8.6 Special Cases

8.6.1 Refunds

Where, in the reference year covered by the Research Income Return - Return 1, a HEP refunds any monies received, either in the current year or an earlier year, income reported in the reference year must be reduced by the amount of the refund.

8.6.2 CRCs which are no longer operational

Where a CRC is no longer operational, and it is not possible to verify the research income data with the CRC in which the HEP was a core or non-core participant, the amount reported and attributable to that CRC may be reported on the basis of the HEP’s financial records alone (i.e. the HEP does not need to comply with paragraph 1 of section 8.2 of Part B).

The HEP must ensure that the amounts reported are accurate, and section 8.5 of Part B may be of assistance in determining the breakdown of funds.

Note that this is only for CRCs that are no longer operational.
PART C

Part C provides the information necessary for HEPs to determine what can and cannot be included in Research Publications Return - Return 2.

9. Research Publications Return - Return 2

9.1 General requirements
In the Research Publications Return - Return 2, HEPs must report the total number of books, book chapters, journal articles and conference papers.

To be counted, each research publication must:

- meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8)
- only be counted once by each HEP
  - e.g. if a conference paper is published in conference proceedings and is subsequently included as a chapter in a book, it can be counted as a chapter or as a conference paper but not both

and be characterised by:

- substantial scholarly activity, as evidenced by discussion of the relevant literature, an awareness of the history and antecedents of work described, and provided in a format which allows a reader to trace sources of the work, including through citations and footnotes
- originality (i.e. not a compilation of existing works)
- veracity/validity through a peer review process or by satisfying the commercial publisher processes
- increasing the stock of knowledge
- being in a form that enables dissemination of knowledge.

The author of the research publication must be affiliated with the claiming HEP (as set out in section 9.4 of Part C).

For categories other than Book Chapters, where there are multiple authors, the count must be apportioned according to the number of authors (see also section 9.5 of Part C).

Book chapters (including apportioning of authors) should be calculated using the methodology at APPENDIX.

In determining HEPs’ allocations from the Research Training Scheme, Institutional Grants Scheme, the Australian Postgraduate Awards, International Postgraduate Research Scholarships and the Commercialisation Training Scheme the Department will weight books 5:1 compared with the other research publication categories.
9.2 Year of Publication

The fundamental principles that underpin the publications data are:
- The publication is claimed in the appropriate year
- The year of publication must be verifiable
- The publication is claimed once only

To be able to count publications in the 2009 submission of Research Publications Return - Return 2:
- the research must have been published in the 2009 calendar year, and
- 2009 must be stated as the year of publication within or on the work being claimed.

The definition of published in this context is the date the publication was released to its intended audience.

Letters from authors, editors, creators etc stating that a research publication was published in 2009, even though 2009 is not stated within or on the work as the year of publication, are not acceptable evidence of the year of publication. There are two exceptions:
- For journal articles and/or conference publications that are produced on CD-ROM or are web-based, and do not contain a date published within or on the work being claimed, a letter from a journal editor or conference organiser verifying the published date may be accepted
- The date a conference was held may be acceptable evidence of the year of publication.

Pages showing the stated year of publication must be included in verification material (see section 9.7 of Part C).

Expanded Year of Publication Definition

HEPs must be able to demonstrate (in the verification material that they maintain) that the publication was not produced until after the submission date for that year’s publication return. i.e. that the publication, although containing a 2008 publication date, was not published until after 30 June 2009. A letter from the publisher will be considered sufficient verification material to support the claim.

Only those publications which:
- were published after the submission date for the 2008 data collection; and
- contain a 2008 publication date,
may be included under this provision.

9.3 Publication Categories counted in Research Publication Return - Return 2

9.3.1 Books

To be included in this category the publication must meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) as amplified in the general requirements for research publications (see section 9.1 of Part C) and:

- must be a major work of scholarship
- must be offered for sale
  — for hard copies, bound
  — for CD-ROMs, packaged
— for e-books, on subscription or fee basis

- must have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN)
- must be written entirely by a single author, or by joint authors who share responsibility for the whole book
- must have been published by a commercial publisher, as defined at section 1.3.5
- the author must be affiliated with the claiming HEP as set out in section 9.4 of Part C.

The types of books that may meet the criteria include:

- critical scholarly texts (e.g. music, medieval or classical texts)
- new interpretations of historical events
- new ideas or perspectives based on established research findings.

The types of books that are unlikely to meet the criteria include:

- textbooks
- anthologies
- edited books
- creative works such as novels
- translations
- revisions or new editions

**Note:** many of the books published by professional bodies do not report original research findings but report the results of evaluations, or repackage existing information for the benefit of professionals or practitioners. It is important that HEPs assess these publications very carefully against the definition of research provided at section 1.3.8 and only count those publications which report research activities.

### 9.3.2 Book Chapters

This category refers to a contribution, consisting substantially of new material, to an edited compilation in which the material is subject to editorial scrutiny.

To be included in this category the publication must meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) as amplified in the general requirements for research publications (see section 9.1 of Part C) and:

- must be offered for sale
  - for hard copies, bound
  - for CD-ROMs, packaged
  - for e-books, on subscription or fee basis
- must have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN)
- must have been published by a commercial publisher, as defined at section 1.3.5
- the author must be affiliated with the claiming HEP as set out in section 9.4 of Part C.

A book chapter may be included if it has been published previously as long as it constitutes **substantial new knowledge** and constitutes original research. The types of book chapters that may meet the criteria include:
• a scholarly introduction of chapter length to an edited volume, where the content of the introduction reports research and makes a substantial contribution to a defined area of knowledge
• a critical scholarly text of chapter length, e.g. in music, medieval or classical texts
• critical reviews of current research.

Unless they meet all of the criteria for inclusion, the following book chapters should be excluded:

• chapters in textbooks
• entries in reference books
• anthologies
• revisions of chapters in edited books
• forewords
• brief introductions
• brief editorials
• appendices
• literary or creative pieces such as collections of short stories; and
• translations.

APPENDIX outlines the book chapter calculation methodology.

9.3.3 Journal Articles
To be included in this category the journal article must meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) as amplified in the general requirements for research publications (see section 9.1 of Part C) and:

• must be published in a scholarly journal
• must have been peer-reviewed as defined at section 9.6 of Part C. Note: the fact that an article has been peer reviewed does not automatically mean that it is eligible. The article must still meet the definition of research as well as all other criteria
• must have an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN)
  — Some journals may be regularly published as separate volumes with an ISBN rather than an ISSN. Provided that the publication is clearly identified as an edition of a journal, and not a book, articles in such publications may be eligible if they meet all other criteria
  — If an ISSN does not appear in the journal:
    o external evidence such as an ISSN number being cited in an extract from one of the Institute for Scientific Information indexes (www.isinet.com/journals) or
    o evidence that the journal is classified as ‘refereed’ in Ulrich’s International Periodicals Directory (Volume 5 - Refereed Serials) or via Ulrich’s web site www.ulrichsweb.com
• the author must be affiliated with the claiming HEP as set out in section 9.4 of Part C.

The types of journal articles that may meet the criteria include:
• commentaries and communications of original research
• research notes
2010 HERDC Specifications for Collection of 2009 data

- letters to journals, provided that the letter satisfies the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) and the subsequent definitions for journal articles in this section
- critical scholarly texts which appear in article form
- articles reviewing multiple works or an entire field of research
- invited papers in journals
- articles in journals which are targeted to both scholars and professionals
- articles in a stand alone series.

The types of journal articles that are unlikely to meet the criteria include:

- letters to the editor
- case studies
- articles designed to inform practitioners on existing knowledge in a professional field
- articles in newspapers and popular magazines
- editorials
- book reviews
- brief commentaries and communications of original research
- reviews of art exhibitions, concerts, theatre productions.

9.3.4 Conference Publications

To be included in this category the conference publication must meet the definition of research (as defined at section 1.3.8) as amplified in the general requirements for research publications (see section 9.1 of Part C) and must:

- be published in full. The papers may appear in a number of different formats, e.g. a volume of proceedings, a special edition of a journal, a normal issue of a journal, a book or a monograph, CD-ROM or conference or organisational web site
- be peer reviewed (see section 9.6 of Part C)
- be presented at conferences, workshops or seminars of national or international significance
- the author must be affiliated with the claiming HEP, as set out in section 9.4 of Part C.

Keynote addresses and invited papers may be included where all other papers for the conference are peer reviewed. HEPs must retain in verification material evidence of the keynote status of the address (e.g. contents page) and of other contributions to the conference being peer reviewed (e.g. a statement in the introduction to proceedings indicating this).

The types of conference publications that are unlikely to meet the criteria include papers that appear only in a volume handed out to conference participants.

9.4 Author affiliation

The author of the research publication being counted in the Research Publication Return - Return 2 must be affiliated with the claiming HEP and must be identified either within or on the work being claimed.
Where author affiliation with the claiming HEP is not identified within a work, the following evidence retained in verification material would be sufficient to demonstrate author affiliation and should include:

- a statement from the author indicating that he or she undertook the research leading to the publication in his or her capacity as a staff member or student of the HEP and either
  - a statement from the Director of Human Resources or Dean of Students (or equivalent) indicating that the author was an appointee or student of the HEP in 2009 (or earlier if that was when the research leading to the publication was conducted) or
  - an extract from the HEP’s staff or student list that lists the author.

Where a publication shows that an author has affiliation to more than one HEP (e.g. Janet Harvey, Tutor in Economics, HEP X; PhD student, HEP Y), each Australian HEP named in that by-line can each count the publication in its respective Research Publication Return - Return 2.

Adjunct fellows, honorary staff members and staff on leave are considered affiliated with a HEP if the HEP is identified in the by-line.

### 9.5 Apportioning authors

For categories other than Book Chapters, where there are multiple authors the count must be apportioned according to the number of authors. For example, if there are three authors of a publication, one third should be counted for each author who was a staff member or student of the reporting HEP.

For Book Chapters, authors should be apportioned according to the methodology set out in APPENDIX .

### 9.6 Peer review

For the purposes of the HERDC, an acceptable peer review process is one that involves an assessment or review of the research publication in its entirety by independent, qualified experts before publication. Independent in this context means independent of the author.

Peer review is relevant for journal articles and conference publications being counted in the Research Publications Return - Return 2.

For journal articles, any of the following are acceptable as evidence of peer review:

- the journal is listed in one of the Institute for Scientific Information indexes ([www.isinet.com/journals](http://www.isinet.com/journals))
- the journal is classified as ‘refereed’ in Ulrich’s International Periodicals Directory (Volume 5 - Refereed Serials) or via Ulrich’s web site [www.ulrichsweb.com](http://www.ulrichsweb.com)
- the journal is included in the Department’s Register of Refereed Journals (no longer maintained)
- there is a statement in the journal which shows that contributions are peer reviewed
- there is a statement or acknowledgement from the journal editor which shows that contributions are peer reviewed
- a copy of a reviewer’s assessment relating to the article.
Note: a statement from an author that a publication was peer reviewed is not acceptable. The existence of a national or international advisory board is also not sufficient evidence that all relevant publications were assessed by members of it.

For books and book chapters, the concept of a commercial publisher (as defined at section 1.3.5) is used as a surrogate test of quality in place of a peer review requirement.

9.7 Verification material
HEPs must retain verification material to demonstrate that the publication meets the criteria against the category being reported. Details of individual publications counted in Research Publication Return - Return 2 and information verifying the categorisation of those publications must be retained by each HEP for three years to facilitate any audit.

A pro-forma to assist HEPs in collecting the relevant details of individual publications is provided at APPENDIX. APPENDIX may assist HEPs in collecting verification material for publications. Use of these pro-formas is optional.

The completed pro-formas - or their equivalents - may need to be submitted to the Department or auditors if requested.

For all publications the HEP must be able to provide the following, if required, by the Department or for a publications audit:

- clarification of the bibliographical information required per publication category, as appropriate
- contents, preface, introduction and pages showing all bibliographical information as appropriate, ISBN or ISSN, author(s), publisher and all dates referring to copyright, publication, printing and distribution
- evidence indicating the author’s affiliation to the HEP, and
- if claimed using the expanded year of publication definition (see section 9.2 of Part C) a letter from the publisher indicating that the publication was not produced until after the Research Publications Return - Return 2 submission date.

Note: Conference publications do not require an ISBN or need to be published by a commercial publisher; books and book chapters must meet both of these requirements.

Additional material required for verification of each of the publications categories is set out below.

9.7.1 Books
In addition to verification material set out in section 9.7 of Part C, the HEP must be able to provide proof that the book was published by a commercial publisher (as defined at section 1.3.5).

9.7.2 Book Chapters
In addition to verification material set out in section 9.7 of Part C, the HEP must be able to provide:

- the chapter
- if a new chapter in a revised edition, the contents page of the previous edition to indicate that the chapter is new
- a printout of the book chapter calculation spreadsheet.
9.7.3 Journal Articles

In addition to verification material set out in section 9.7 of Part C, the HEP must be able to provide:

- the article or offprint of the article
- proof of peer reviewing as set out in section 9.6 of Part C
- If an ISSN does not appear in the journal,
  — external evidence such as an ISSN number being cited in an extract from one of the Institute for Scientific Information indexes ([www.isinet.com/journals](http://www.isinet.com/journals)) or
  — evidence that the journal is classified as ‘refereed’ in Ulrich’s International Periodicals Directory (Volume 5 - Refereed Serials) or via Ulrich’s web site [www.ulrichsweb.com](http://www.ulrichsweb.com)

9.7.4 Conference Publications

In addition to verification material set out in section 9.7 of Part C, the HEP must be able to provide:

- the full paper or offprint of paper
- proof of peer reviewing as set out in section 9.6 of Part C
- proof of national or international significance.

Keynote addresses and invited papers may be included where all other papers for the conference are peer reviewed. However, HEPs must be able to demonstrate evidence of the keynote status of the address (e.g. contents page) and other contributions to the conference being peer reviewed (e.g. a statement in the introduction to proceedings indicating this).

9.8 Foreign Language Publications

Foreign language publications are eligible to be counted. The same verification evidence is required, in English, as for any other works. It is not necessary to translate the entire publication, but all relevant sections required for the verification of information to demonstrate that it meets the criteria of the category against which it is being claimed should be translated. This includes evidence that the work meets the definition of research.

*Note: The Australian Academy of the Humanities has advised that they are no longer in a position to assist HEPs in the verification of foreign language publications in the fields of the humanities.*

9.9 Electronic Works

Electronic works are eligible to be counted, provided they meet all the relevant criteria in these specifications (as set out in section 0 of Part C) for the publications category against which they are being claimed.
9.8 Glossary

ACGR Australian Competitive Grants Register
APA Australian Postgraduate Award
CRC Cooperative Research Centre
CTS Commercialisation Training Scheme
DIISR Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
GST Goods and Services Tax
HEP Higher Education Provider
HERDC Higher Education Research Data Collection
IGS Institutional Grants Scheme
IPRS International Postgraduate Research Scholarships
ISBN International Standard Book Number
ISSN International Standard Serial Number
LIEF Linkage—Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities
NCRIS National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy
OECD Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
RIBG Research Infrastructure Block Grants
RTS Research Training Scheme
10 APPENDIX A - Instructions for electronic submission of HERDC returns

Coverage

The following instructions apply to the submission of Research Income Return - Return 1 and Research Publications Return - Return 2 of the 2010 Higher Education Research Data Collection Specifications for the collection of 2009 data.

2010 Method of Return

In 2009, the Department successfully piloted the use of a web-based HERDC submission process. The feedback received from participants in the pilot will be incorporated into the 2010 release.

Research Offices from each HEP will be given access to a website with detailed submission instructions and the Returns SmartForms for download.

Once the SmartForms have been completed they can be printed for the Vice Chancellors certification, and sent electronically to the Department by clicking on the Submit button.

Changes or updates can be made until the cut off date of 30 June 2009.

Paper copies of the signed SmartForms (including certification) and the audit report are also required should be posted to

    HERDC Officer
    Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC)
    Research Funding and Policy Branch
    Research Division
    Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
    GPO Box 9839
    CANBERRA ACT 2601

It is important that HEPs follow the HERDC Specifications and any supplementary advice issued by the department through the website.

Submitting the returns

Assistance in completing and submitting the forms can be found on the website at http://www.innovation.gov.au/Section/Research/Pages/highereducationresearchdatacollection.aspx or by contacting

    RBGrants@innovation.gov.au
11 APPENDIX B - Pro-formas for collecting data about individual publications

The use of this pro-forma is optional. If this pro-forma is used:

- the persons completing the pro-forma should be provided with a copy of these specifications; and
- the instructions and definitions provided in these specifications are to be followed in completing the pro-forma.

HEPs can use reporting and collection systems which best suit their operations and circumstances.
BOOKS

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BOOK CHAPTER

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Information certified by:

Author’s Signature

Date

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Department/School

Name of Author(s) of Chapter

No of Authors of Chapter

No of Authors in the Department/School

Year of Publication

Book Title

Number of Chapters in Book

Chapter Title

Page Nos

Place of Publication

Publisher

ISBN Number
## JOURNAL ARTICLES

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CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

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Author’s Signature

Date

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Department/School
Name of Author(s)
No of Authors
No of Authors in the Department/School
Year of Publication
Title of Paper
Title of Conference Publication
Editor of Conference Publication
Place of Publication
Publisher
Name of Conference
Location and Date of Conference
12 APPENDIX C - Sample lists for verification material

The use of this pro-forma is optional. It contains a sample list for each of the research publication categories to assist HEPs in collecting and maintaining verification material. HEPs can use reporting and collection systems which best suit their operations and circumstances.
# HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION - PUBLICATIONS

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## HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION – PUBLICATIONS

### BOOK CHAPTERS

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#### Verification

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## HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION - PUBLICATIONS

### JOURNAL ARTICLE

#### Eligibility

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## HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION - PUBLICATIONS

### CONFERENCE PUBLICATION

**Eligibility**

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13 APPENDIX D - Book chapter calculation methodology

Calculation of Book Chapter weighting

To count book chapters, use the following methodology.

The calculation should be done for each author and then aggregated for all authors at the HEP, to obtain a total score for contributions to the book.

The first chapter contributed to by an author is given a value of 1. Remaining chapters in the book contributed to by the same author are scored on a pro-rata basis.

**Step 1**

Identify a chapter to which the author contributes alone, or with as few other contributors as possible.

The value of that chapter for the author is 1 divided by the total number of contributors to that chapter.

**Step 2**

The value of the remaining chapters for the author is calculated by adding the share of each remaining chapter contributed by the author, then multiplying by 4 and dividing by one less than the number of chapters in the book.

**Step 3**

The total value of the book for the author is derived by adding the figures derived from step 1 and step 2.

---

Example A

In a book of 16 chapters, author A contributes 1 solely-authored chapter.

**Step 1**

The value is 1 divided by 1 equals 1.

**Step 2**

There are no further chapters to count.

**Step 3**

1 plus 0 equals 1. Author A’s contribution is worth 1.
Example B

In a book of 16 chapters, author B contributes 2 chapters alone, 1 chapter in conjunction with 1 other author, 1 chapter in conjunction with 2 other authors and 1 chapter in conjunction with 4 other authors.

Step 1

One of the chapters contributed alone should be counted here. The value is 1 divided by 1 equals 1.

Step 2

The author has contributed a whole, a half, a third, and a fifth respectively to four of the fifteen remaining chapters in the book. Thus the value of those other chapters is \((1+0.5+0.33+0.2)^4/(16-1) = 0.54\).

Step 3

The total value of the book for the author is 1.54 (1 derived from step 1 plus 0.54 from step 2).

Example C

In a book of 21 chapters, author B contributes 1 chapter in conjunction with 1 other author and 1 chapter in conjunction with 2 other authors.

Step 1

The chapter contributed with 1 other author is the one with least contributors. Choose this chapter for step 1. The value of this chapter is 0.5 (chapter value of 1 divided by 2 contributors).

Step 2

The other chapter contributed is worth 0.33 multiplied by 4 divided by 20 (20 being the number of chapters remaining after the one given credit in step 1), equals 0.07.

Step 3

The total value of the book to the author is 0.57 (0.5 derived from step 1 plus 0.07 derived from step 2).
Example D

In a book of 21 chapters, author D contributes 2 chapters in collaboration with 1 other, 3 chapters in conjunction with 3 others, and 1 with 4 others.

Step 1

Count a chapter shared with 1 other here. Value 0.5.

Step 2

The value of the other chapters is \((0.5+0.25+0.25+0.25+0.2)*(4/(21-1)) = 0.29\).

Step 3

Total value is 0.5+0.29 = 0.79.

If authors C and D are contributors from the same HEP to the same book, the HEP will be credited with 1.36 (0.57+0.79) in category B from that book.

The Department has placed a spreadsheet on the web site which HEPs should use to calculate automatically the value of an author's contribution to an edited book.