The Research Quality Framework (RQF) Reference Committee

CHAIR
Ms Leanne Harvey (Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST))

Ms Harvey is the Branch Manager of the Research Quality Branch, which includes the Research Quality Framework Taskforce. Ms Harvey was a member of the Development Advisory Group and has considerable knowledge and understanding of the research and innovation system in Australia.

Ms Harvey is responsible for providing evidence-based policy advice towards achieving a dynamic national research assessment system in Australia. Previously she has been responsible for:

- Providing policy analysis and advice relating to Australia’s research system, including the quality of research, with a particular focus on publicly funded research institutions and universities;
- Administering the higher education block funding programmes for research;
- Providing research and analysis of Australia’s science and innovation system for both national and international stakeholders; and
- Supporting efforts to implement Australia’s National Research Priorities.

MEMBERS
Dr Evan Arthur (DEST)

Dr Evan Arthur is the Group Manager of the Innovation and Research Systems Group. Dr Arthur was a member of the former Expert Advisory Group and has considerable knowledge and understanding of the research and innovation system in Australia.

Dr Arthur was educated at Newcastle (Australia) and Cambridge (UK) universities. He joined the Australian Public Service in 1981 and has also worked in the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Dr Arthur has worked on issues such as: refugee policy; labour market programs; teacher professional development; research policy; recognition of overseas qualifications; and the use of information technology in education.

Professor Andrew Glenn (Retired Vice-Chancellor, University of Tasmania)

Professor Glenn has been an active participant during the development of the RQF. While Vice-Chancellor at University of Tasmania he oversaw the conduct of a trial assessment exercise. Professor Glenn is now retired but remains committed to the implementation of the RQF.

Professor Glenn’s research interests include the biology and biochemistry of root nodule bacteria. He has published over 100 refereed journal articles, supervised 18 research higher degree students, received continuous ARC funding since 1977. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Director of Intellinc Pty. Ltd. Unitas Pty. Ltd and the Tasmanian Innovation Board as well as a member of the Tasmanian Science and Technology Council.
Mr Phil Clark (Retired, representing Business Council of Australia)

Mr Clark is an industry representative and was a member of the former RQF Development Advisory Group and prior to that, the RQF Expert Advisory Group.

Mr Clark is a member of the J P Morgan Advisory Council. He was Managing Partner and CEO of Minter Ellison until his retirement in June 2005 and had overall responsibility for the firm’s operations. Prior to joining Minter Ellison, Phil was with ABN Amro Australia and prior to that was Managing Partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques for 15 years.

Until Mr Clark’s retirement from the BCA in June 2005 he was a member of the BCA and served on the BCA Education Task Force. He serves on a number of boards and advisory boards including ING Management Limited, CRI Asset Management Limited, DJ Clark Pty Ltd, The Garvan Foundation and St James Ethics Centre.

Professor David Siddle (University of Queensland)

Professor Siddle has held the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Queensland since 2002, following on from his appointment in September 2001 as the University’s Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research).

In 2006 he served as a member of the RQF Development Advisory Group’s Quality Metrics Working Group.

Professor Siddle is an experimental Psychologist with interests in the areas of orienting, attention and conditioning. He has published 2 books as well as more than 100 book chapters and journal articles and he was Editor of Biological Psychology for 5 years.

Professor Siddle is a Director of three Cooperative Research Centres; The Queensland Parallel Supercomputing Foundation; The Australian Canopy Crane Research Facility and The Sustainable Minerals Institute. He chaired the National Committee of DVC’s/PVC’s (research) in 2001 and prior to that Chaired the Australian Research Council’s Social Sciences and Humanities Panel between 1993 and 1994.

Dr Campbell Thomson (University of Western Australia)

Dr Thomson is Director of Research Services at the University of Western Australia (UWA). In this position Campbell has oversight of the Research Grants Office, the Graduate Research & Scholarships Office, the Research Integrity Office and the Animal Care Unit of the University. As one of nine senior managers in the Registrar’s Office, Dr Thomson also contributes to a broader discussion about university-wide planning and policy.

Dr Thomson completed his PhD in the area of plant physiology at the UWA in 1987, and then spent the next two years in England and German laboratories in postdoctoral research fellowship positions. Dr Thomson then returned to Australia to work in the CSIRO Division of Plant Industry as a pasture ecophysiologist.

Dr Thomson was President of the Australasian Research Management Society from November 2004 until August 2006, and is committed to continuing the development of the profession of research management.
Professor Andris Stelbovics (Murdoch University)

Professor Stelbovics was appointed to the position of Pro Vice-Chancellor Research at Murdoch University in November 2003 and has held the position of Associate Professor of Physics, Head of Discipline at Murdoch University after joining the University in 1984 as a Lecturer. He has taught Introduction to Physical Science; Physics, Advanced Topics in Applied Computational Physics and supervised higher degree students.

In 2006 he served as a member of the Development Advisory Group’s Exploratory Modelling Working Group. Professor Stelbovics is on the Board of Research Murdoch, is the School of MPS Research Chair and is the joint Director of Centre for Atomic, Molecular and Surface Physics. In 1996, he was awarded the BOAS medal for Physics.

Professor Stelbovics holds a BSc (Hons1) Adel and a PhD Adel. Professor Stelbovics gained his PhD in 1975 and then commenced postdoctoral studies in West Germany. In 1978, he returned to Australia to take up a fellowship from AINSE (Aust Inst Molecular Science & Engineering) at Flinders University and had subsequent ARC research appointments there until 1984. In 1991 he was elected Fellow of the Australian Institute of Physics. His research has been in the field of atomic physics, atomic scattering theory and he was a panel member on the Australian Research Council between 1994 and 1997 as well as an expert reader for ARC Discovery Projects.

Professor Tom Cochrane (Queensland University of Technology)

Professor Cochrane is Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Technology, Information and Learning Support) at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT’s). The position heads a Division which combines the services of the Libraries, Information Technology Services, Teaching and Learning Support Services, Integrated Help Services and University Printing Services in the one structure. The organisation currently comprises approximately 480 equivalent full time staff and oversees an annual expenditure in excess of $50 million, to support a full range of information and technology services as well as learning and academic support for QUT's teaching and research activities.

Professor Cochrane’s external duties include Chair, Australian Libraries’ Copyright Committee; Director, Australian Digital Alliance; Director, Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing; and Director, Queensland Cyber Infrastructure Foundation. He is a member of the Australian Research Information Infrastructure Committee established by the Australian Government, and the Reference Group on Platforms for the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure, as well as other cross sectoral committees.

Professor Cochrane is co-leader of the Creative Commons project for which QUT is the institutional partner for Australia. This project, together with other open access initiatives locally based at QUT, signal a long standing commitment to access to knowledge, and to research output worldwide.

Between 1996 and 2003, Professor Cochrane served as Pro Vice-Chancellor (Information & Academic Services) at QUT and from 1991-1995 he was Director of Information Services also at QUT. Professor Cochrane has many publications to his name and his qualifications are M.Phil (Research) (Griffith Uni), B.A ( U.Q )
Professor Elizabeth Harman (Victoria University)

Professor Harman has been Vice-Chancellor and President of Victoria University since October 2003. Currently she is a Board Member of The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, which provides a national focus for the enhancement of learning and teaching in Australian higher education institutions and is a flagship for acknowledging excellence in learning and teaching, and a Board member of the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee.

Professor Harman’s experience has provided her with a deep understanding of teaching and learning, industrial relations and issues of governance as they relate to the university sector. She has published on a wide range of policy issues, including industry policy, trade, education, public sector reform, government accountability and the Australian competition policy.

Professor Harman has held national responsibilities as the Chair of the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee (Deputy and Pro-Vice Chancellors (Academic), Board member of AHEIA, the association for university employers, and Auditor for the Australian Universities Quality Agency, participating in audits for two Australian universities.

Professor Neil Furlong (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT))

Professor Furlong was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research and Innovation, in 1999, and has been an active researcher in surface/surfactant chemistry, environmental technologies for the past 28 years in industry, universities and CSIRO in Australia and Europe.

Prior to joining RMIT as Professor of Applied Chemistry, Professor Furlong was Chief Research Scientist and Program Manager at CSIRO, where he was responsible for a team of around 40 professional scientists working across the broad area of environmental management/specialty chemicals. This team focussed on developing/applying novel materials (eg biodegradable surfactants from sugar, coatings for paper, thin films for biosensors) and technologies for water and wastewater treatment (Sirofloc, magnetic ion exchange resins MIEX, froth flotation).

Professor Furlong also led a multi-disciplinary team of around 20 chemists, biologists, physicists and engineers across five CSIRO Divisions towards biosensor technologies particularly for environmental applications. An active contributor to the development of the chemistry profession in Australia, Professor Furlong has taken lead roles in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute and the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering as well as internationally via editorships and co-ordination of international forums and conferences. Since 1986 he has been invited to deliver more than 20 keynote international conferences presentations. Professor Furlong has actively developed international research and technology collaborations particularly around an Australia/Japan exchange program in colloid science. This collaboration has led to five bi-annual Conferences (alternating between Australia and Japan) and from 2004 will be formally endorsed by both the Australian and Japanese national colloid Divisions.

As a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Professor Furlong’s work has been recognised through the awarding of the University of Melbourne Grimwade Prize in Industrial Chemistry in 1987, the CSIRO Directors Research Prize in 1997, the CSIRO Research Medal (MIEX Ion Exchange Project Team) in 1999 and the Australian Government Centenary Medal in 2002.

Professor Furlong has published more than 120 refereed journal research papers (including ‘Best Research paper Award’ (2001) by the American Oil Chemists Society), registered four patents (adhesives, surface cleaners and biosensors), produced more than 100 Technical Reports to industrial partners while at CSIRO and presented over 100 invited Research Seminars nationally and internationally.
**Professor Margaret Sheil** (University of Wollongong)

Professor Sheil is currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Wollongong (UOW) having been appointed as PVC(R) in March 2002. Professor Sheil joined the University of Wollongong as a lecturer in the Department of Chemistry in 1990, and quickly rose through the ranks to become Professor of Chemistry in 2000, and Dean of Science at UOW in January 2001. Prior to coming to Wollongong, she held positions as a Research Fellow at the Australian National University and the University of Utah, USA.

Professor Sheil is the immediate past Chair of the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee DVCR/PVCR Group. She was a member of the Australian Research Council, Expert Advisory Committee on Physics, Chemistry and Geosciences from 2001-2002. Professor Sheil is a director of the CRC for Smart Internet Technology, and director and Chair of Enikos Pty Ltd.

Professor Sheil is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI), on the Executive of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Mass Spectrometry, Australian representative to the International Mass Spectrometry Foundation, Editor of Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry, and a member of the Editorial Board of the European Journal of Mass Spectrometry. Professor Sheil holds a PhD and BSc(Hons) in Chemistry from the University of New South Wales.

**Ms Veronica Arbon** (University of Adelaide)

Ms Arbon was recently appointed as a Senior Research Fellow in Indigenous Health Research in the Indigenous Health Unit (Yaitya Purruna) at the University of Adelaide and is also a current Member of the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council.

Ms Arbon was formerly the Head of the Batchelor Institute in the Northern Territory. Ms Arbon is interested through her studies, research and work in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, health and management. In recent years this interest has also focused on issues of rights and quality in education. Ms Arbon is particularly interested in relationships and exchange in these areas as they impact on adult education in remote Australia. This has included a focus on systems that do not require an abandonment of diversity. More recently the content, processes and practices required to include Indigenous philosophical positions in research, teaching and learning have become central through Ms Arbon's doctoral work.

Ms Arbon holds an Ass. Diploma in Community Development, a BA., a MEd., Graduate Certificate in Management and will be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in April 2007.