



University Research Commercialisation Scheme Submission National Committee for Physics

The National Committee for Physics (NCP) of the Australian Academy of Science welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in support of the proposed University Research Commercialisation Scheme.

I would be happy to discuss any issues raised in this submission. Please contact the Australian Academy of Science via the National Committees for Science office (nc@science.org.au).

Professor Halina Rubinsztein-Dunlop FAA
Chair, National Committee for Physics

Understanding the laws of nature is fundamental to our ability to harness them for the development of new technologies for the betterment of humankind and the planet. Physics is a discipline that seeks to expand the boundaries of our understanding and has been the enabler for achieving massive social and economic benefits, from medical technologies such as MRI, to the electronics revolution that underlies our modern digital lifestyle.

History has shown that there is a long incubation period for the translation of discoveries in fundamental physics to practical applications. An example is quantum computing, which has been identified as one of the key research strengths of Australia, requiring both support for continuing fundamental research and the translation of fundamental findings to practical devices, opening the way to new industries. Several spin-off companies already established by Australian University researchers are already leaders in this process of translation of quantum technologies to practical applications. This research and development is supported by the Australian Government and the Australian University sector.

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We now address the five issues raised in the Consultation paper (over page).

companies with strong support from the more senior academic staff who remain in the

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