The College of Arts includes five Schools and a number of University-designated research centres as well as a University-designated Research Group and College-designated research nodes.

The College of Arts has strengthened its research profile very considerably in the last few years, and based on Australian Research Council grants in the humanities and social sciences (discovery, linkage, Indigenous discovery) it has ranked 8th amongst Australian universities during 2005-2009. Particular strengths are in cultural studies (rank 1st); education (rank 4th), language and literature incl. cultural studies (rank 4th); linguistics (rank 4th).

The research lectureships now advertised in our Schools will enable researchers to collaborate with some of our areas of research strength.

**Research Lectureship Positions**

- Sensory Processes or Perceptual Neuroscience
- Anthropology of Religion
- Cultural Governance and Global Diversity
- Cultures, Cities and Sustainability

**Sensory Processes or Perceptual Neuroscience Research Context**

‘Sensory Processes’ is a core topic of psychology that bridges neuroscience and cognitive science. The future development of psychology as a science, both in terms of education and research, demands an understanding of how sensory processes operate and tie the perceiver to the world. Sensations, the proximal experience of the world via our sensory systems, are the foundation for perception and cognition.

Topics in this area include explications of the physiology of sensory systems (vision, audition, touch, olfaction etc); the nature of the physical signals that activate these systems (light, sound, pressure, chemical compounds etc); theories of neural processing and organisation as well as how these processes integrate (e.g., auditory-visual or multisensory integration, perception and action) and inform on-going perception and cognition. Tuition in these topics not only overlaps with those researched at MARCS Auditory Laboratories, but would also maintain and strengthen contact between MARCS Auditory Laboratories and the School of Psychology in terms of guest lectures, student placements, and joint supervision of Honours and Higher Degree research students.

**Broad areas:** human perception, visual perception or visual neuroscience, auditory perception or auditory neuroscience, auditory-visual perception, perception and action, or multisensory integration

**Anthropology of Religion Research Context**

The Centre for the Study of Contemporary Muslim Societies and the School of Humanities and Languages promote excellence in research and postgraduate supervision in social scientific and cultural research concerning the anthropology of religion, including studies of identity, migration/immigration, transnationalism and cosmopolitanism in relation to Islam, Buddhism, and New Religious Movements.

Research themes include: comparative study of youth cultures, education and social mobility, religious minorities and the prison system, cosmopolitanism and citizenship, and spiritual tourism.
Applications are invited from scholars with expertise in the anthropology of religion in global, national or local contexts. Preference may be given to applicants with research strengths related to study of gender, transnational marriages and women’s employment.

**Cultural Governance and Global Diversity Research Context**

The Centre for Cultural Research and the School of Humanities and Languages have an established track record in research exploring cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. The Centre in cooperation with the School provides mentorship in research and postgraduate supervision. Research themes include: intercultural exchanges in the management of cultural diversity (eg in the media and education), cultural nationalism and transnational migration, the politics of multiculturalism, and the role of intersections of ethnicity, race and indigeneity with class and generation in the shaping of intercultural relations in regions, nations, and local environments. Applications are invited from early career researchers across these research themes.

Preference may be given to applicants with research strengths in intercultural relations within and between world regional configurations of global governance, such as the Asia Pacific.

**Cultures, Cities and Sustainability Research and Teaching Context**

The Centre for Cultural Research and the School of Social Sciences have an established track record in critically engaged research concerning cultures, cities and sustainability. Research projects address the challenges associated with urban and environmental heritage as well as questions of community and sustainable development. The appointment will forge important links between the Landscape, Heritage and Culture teaching and research cluster in the School and the Culture, Nature, Environments research program of the Centre for Cultural Research. The successful applicant will increase research activity and productivity in the School and contribute to its teaching programs in areas including:

- Sustainability and development
- The cultural dimensions of urban space
- Mobility and place
- Urban natures

In the context of the Centre for Cultural Research, the appointment will demonstrate ability to conduct research into the intensifying cultural collapse of the myth of human separateness from nature. Expertise in the conceptual, empirical and methodological dimensions of human-environment relations is especially welcome.

Wayne McKenna
Executive Dean
College of Arts