

## Fork & Talk Presentation on “How to Apply Successfully for Conference Support funding” May 2009

The Conference Support Scheme was set up as part of a policy of managing research performance that also includes the IRGS grants, setting targets, benchmarking our performance internally and externally. The benefits of presenting at conferences include being able to:

- Present our research to our peers and gain constructive criticism
- Network
- Enhance our career prospects
- Enhance the profile of UTAS
- Access opportunities for collaborations

In completing the application include the following information in the submission to help make a compelling case:

- Who is going to be at the conference that you might be able to network with, discuss ideas with? Are these people existing collaborators or potential advisors?
- What research are you going to present and how will this enhance your career and UTAS profile - what is special about it? Provide some details.
- If you are giving an invited talk or chairing a session make this clear.
- How important is this conference? Is it the prime international conference in your field? How often does it happen, every year, every two years etc.
- Are there opportunities for spin out sessions that you will be able to gain from and contribute to?

Some other points:

- We will only fund one conference not a conference trail. The fund is not provided to enable visits to labs and institutions.
- Choose your conferences for this funding with care - important international conferences will be favoured, national conferences will carry less weight. Why? Because we need to get value for money and you will gain more from an international conference.
- Why 4 most recent publications? Your research outputs demonstrate that you are research active. The dates on your outputs show the level of your activity. It is of course accepted that outputs vary across the disciplines and the panel takes this into account.
- Quality and quantity are both factors considered.
- The panel carefully considers the applications. If you don't get the funding, live with disappointment graciously. You will be given constructive feedback - view it in that context.