

ATN-Go8 SYMPOSIUM

Excellence in Innovation: Measuring the innovation dividend

The **Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN)** in conjunction with **the Group of Eight (Go8)** will explore mechanisms for measuring innovation at a symposium in Canberra on Friday.

In 2012, the ATN and Go8 will undertake a joint initiative – *Excellence in Innovation for Australia (EIA)* – to formally measure this impact.

Ahead of the EIA, the ATN-Go8 Symposium will explore how to draw together the individual experiences of stakeholder groups in the R&D sector into an overarching approach to measuring the innovation dividend across the spectrum of R&D activities.

In announcing the Symposium program Professor Jeanette Hackett, ATN Chair said,

“In recent times, there has been increasing discussion in the Higher Education Sector regarding the need for a measure of the “impact” of research output from Australian universities”,

“This has been fuelled from a number of sources including developments in the UK’s Research Excellence Framework and an increased awareness of the limited scope of ERA in evaluating the impact of research. “

“In jointly hosting the Symposium the ATN and the Go8 share a commitment, in the national interest, to producing research that is not only excellent but also benefits the broader Australian community.”

The ATN has long held a belief that a companion piece to ERA is needed. In doing so, they have welcomed the broader higher education and business communities to contribute to this important work.

“The Go8 believes that ERA needs to remain as the measure of the excellence and quality of Australian research but there is a place for a separate exercise to identify the benefits of that research to the Australian community,” said ANU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Young.

“We are approaching the EIA exercise as an experiment, with the aim of identifying if there are credible ways of evaluating the translation of research into practice and this Symposium will be a key part of this process.”

Prominent speakers at Friday’s event include **Senator Brett Mason**, Shadow Minister for Universities and Research , **David Sweeney**, Director Research, Innovation and Skills Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), **Dr Laurie Hammond**, Chair Commercialisation Australia, **Dr James Moody** and **Craig Roy** CSIRO and **Dr Peter Laver**, Vice President the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

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Friday 4 November 2011

Hyatt Hotel, Canberra

Symposium program: http://www.atn.edu.au/docs/ATN-Go8_Symposium_Program.pdf

For further information: Vicki Thomson 0417 808 472 <http://www.atn.edu.au/>

and Ian McMahon 02 6239 5488 www.go8.edu.au