

## New challenges and opportunities for the ALTC

HERDSA Conference  
Melbourne, 9 July 2010

# ALTC's operating environment has changed

- Budget cuts – 20% cut from 2011-12
- Changing educational landscape –
  - Establishment of TEQSA
  - Election year
  - New Minister/owner
  - New CEO
- Respond to recent review of Grants program & other formal & feedback



# Reshaped Strategic Direction

Proposed strategies to respond to reduced budget & changed operating environment:

1. Administrative savings
2. Realignment of existing programs
3. Establish new programs & activities





## Realignment of current programs

- Respond to evaluations and other formal & informal feedback
- Diversify activities to become more than grant-giver
- Explicitly address/target government & sector priorities
- Simplify suite of existing programs
- Overcome any perception of limited impact

# Revised Suite of Programs

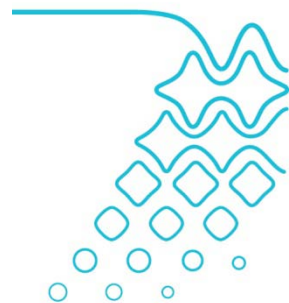
1. Competitive Grants
2. Strategic Priority Projects
3. Leadership Program
4. Awards
5. Fellowships



# 1. Competitive Grants

- Currently \$3.5 million for Competitive Grants + \$4.9million for Priority Projects (\$8.4 mill)
- \$5.5 million for new amalgamated program
- Competitive grants will need to address identified priority areas (yet to be determined)





## 2. Strategic Priority Projects

- Commissioned investigations/projects to respond to key issues in sector
- Identified on an annual basis but to be added to as issues emerge
- \$1.5 million

## 2. Strategic Priority Projects



### Possible topics:

- Indigenous issues
- Evidence of outcomes from teaching preparation approaches
- Research/teaching nexus
- Impact of deregulation on learning and teaching outcomes
- Impact of widening student participation on curriculum, pedagogy, student experience
- Strategies for dealing with ageing academic workforce
- Strategies for developing English language proficiency
- International education issues



### 3. Leadership Program

- Reduce funding to \$2 million from \$3 million
- Program elements:
  - Leadership Grants - \$1.5 million
  - ALTC badged professional development for leadership in learning and teaching - \$500,000



## 4. Awards Program

- Citations – strong sector support for existing structure – add new category for Early Career citations (10 within existing 210 limit)
- Teaching Awards – reduce from 27 to 24
- Program Awards – no changes proposed.
- Total funding of \$3.1 million (reduced from \$3.175 million)





## 5. Fellowships

- Current funding - \$2.75 million – reduce to \$1.57 million
- Abolish Teaching Fellowships
- Maintain 5 National Teaching Fellowships

## 5. Establish new programs & activities

### Principles to frame new directions:

- Stronger engagement in policy space on learning & teaching related issues
- Get greater value from what has already been funded
- Systemic impact should be a focus not just individuals
- More varied approaches to dissemination
- Respond more directly and publicly to Government and sector needs and interests
- Diversification of activities – become more than a grant giver



## 5. Establish new programs & activities

### 1. *Synthesis projects (What works in....)*

Summary and synthesis of best practice drawing on ALTC grants, national and international best practice. Identify gaps and opportunities in topic. Range of significant topics eg.

- Support for international students
- Teaching large classes
- Widening student participation
- English language proficiency

2010/11 - 10 x \$25,000



## 5. Establish new programs and activities



2. *Engagement Strategy* – increase and broaden stakeholder engagement:
  - *Forums* – series of state-based forums on key topics – on day of citations ceremonies in capital cities; online forums – PEI & Fellows to take leadership on agenda, speakers (award winners, Fellows)
  - *Student Engagement* – interest of Government in ‘student voice’ – student drive system
  - *ALTC Alumni Program*
  - *Revised Website*

## 5. Establish new programs & activities

### 3. *More active engagement in policy*

- Collaborations on policy developments with key people in sector
- Develop policy position papers on key learning and teaching issues
- Establish forums (virtual and actual) for policy discussions



## 5. Establish new programs & activities

### 4. *Special Initiatives Reserve Fund*

- Strategic partnerships and projects that arise during the year and require a rapid responsiveness to position the ALTC appropriately

