

Dear All

Welcome to a rather hasty and late Presidents update!!

I sit on our University's Courses Committee and we've been... rather busy!! ... with AQF related updates (no surprises there!) so have been very distracted from other matters.

Rankings Portal and CORE Conference Rankings 2013

We have finally managed to complete

-Alpha release of CORE conference Portal

-CORE 2013 conference venue ranking updates

The portal can be accessed off the main CORE conferences rankings page:

<http://core.edu.au/index.php/categories/conference%20rankings>

Some commentary on the rankings updates:

-we had a huge number of submissions, some conforming to our advertised process for 2013, many not.

The later we simply didn't have time to chase / wait for, so they were asked to resubmit in a future round.

-about 20 re-rank / add missing requests were processed. Some were actioned / some lacked

sufficient evidence to show a "clear mis-ranking" in the previous CORE 2008/ERA 2010 rankings,

as per the purpose of this round, and so were not. The provided evidence is linked off the relevant venue page in the portal, both for updated and non-updated venues.

-we received a lot of "add" requests - but we don't currently have a mechanism to action these and they have been deferred to a subsequent round, aiming for sometime in 2014. The issue is what to do to provide some vaguely sensible "insert" mechanism - do other things already there go down? up? stay the same? We'll discuss this issue @ the ACSW 2014 break-out session on rankings.

-we receive a (surprisingly) small number of comments on the initial proposed merge set of CORE 2008 and ERA 2010 ranked conference lists e.g, venue identified as regional (and thus not to rank unless as "Australasian") was actually international.

As noted, we'll have a discussion of the process, lessons learned and what we might do next @ Heads and Profs meeting break-out at ACSW 2014.

Comments for now - as per the portal page notes - to rankings@core.edu.au and/or on the discussion Wiki. [DO NOT send to me direct - I will simply delete them :-)]

Many thanks to Thomas (developed portal) @ RMIT, Lin and Alistair for all their efforts on what turned out to be a far more time-consuming and difficult exercise. I "helped" a bit (i.e. meddled).

2013 ARC Results

08 seemed to do more or less OK (if you can call funding rates of 10-20% OK... :-) in Linkage, Discovery, DECRA and Future Fellow, c.f. other areas anyway, as far as I could tell from scanning the PDFs off the ARC web pages. I have asked the ARC for some more detailed stats around submissions, amounts funded, demographics associated with submissions etc.

An observant colleague noted that no ARC DP this round for 08 didn't have a Prof on it (actually one did - an A/Prof sole CI I think). We have asked the ARC for comment - essentially this is saying (implicitly anyway) if you don't have a Prof-level CI on your DP it won't be funded.

We will have a couple of ARC folks attend Heads and Profs meeting @ ACSW 2014. I have asked them to present the above data, along with current thinking about ERA 2015, including use of Citation Analysis for conference and journal publications, and impact measures that may be used in ERA but also for other purposes. They will run a break-out session discussing these items and more.

ACSW 2014

Tony and team have been beavering away furiously and its coming together well. Approximately same submissions and acceptances across the board as 2013. If you haven't registered yet, details are at:

<http://www.aut.ac.nz/study-at-aut/study-areas/computer-mathematical-sciences/beyond-the-classroom/acsw-2014>

We will have a break out discussion session on future ACSW @ the Heads and Profs.

ACSW Conference Co-ordinator Position - EOIs wanted

Alex Potanin from VUW who has been ACSW/CORE Conference co-ordinator for ... quite a while now ... has indicated he will step down beginning of next year.

If anyone is interested in taking on this position - please let Alison know - alison@core.edu.au - by 30th November. Please encourage colleagues to consider - ideally someone with recent experience chairing an ACSW co-located conference.

Alex is the best one to ask any questions about the role! Alex Potanin

<Alex.Potanin@ecs.vuw.ac.nz>

Heads and Profs meeting @ ACSW 2014

I have approximately 20 Heads and Profs saying they are attending - which seems a bit low to me. This your LAST CHANCE!!!! Please let me know via link below (or if you come then we starve you):

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/198pRJ5-g1UPFF9q4E30fnYxh9PWlqsDd4RN14HzDCV0/viewform>

I will circulate a finalised programme before Christmas.

CORE Awards

Despite the usual CORE email lists problems, a good number in. The committees will beaver away on these and results as per usual @ ACSW 2014 in Auckland.

CORE Executive 2014

Alison will send out a call for nominations shortly. Please consider nominations for the various positions.

There is probably more but I forget... I might try and squeeze out an end of year email with the forgotten things, but most likely the next time you hear from me will be after ACSW 2014!

Best regards,

John