Research Assessment in Australia: Evidence for Modernisation

A Report for the Office of the Chief Scientist

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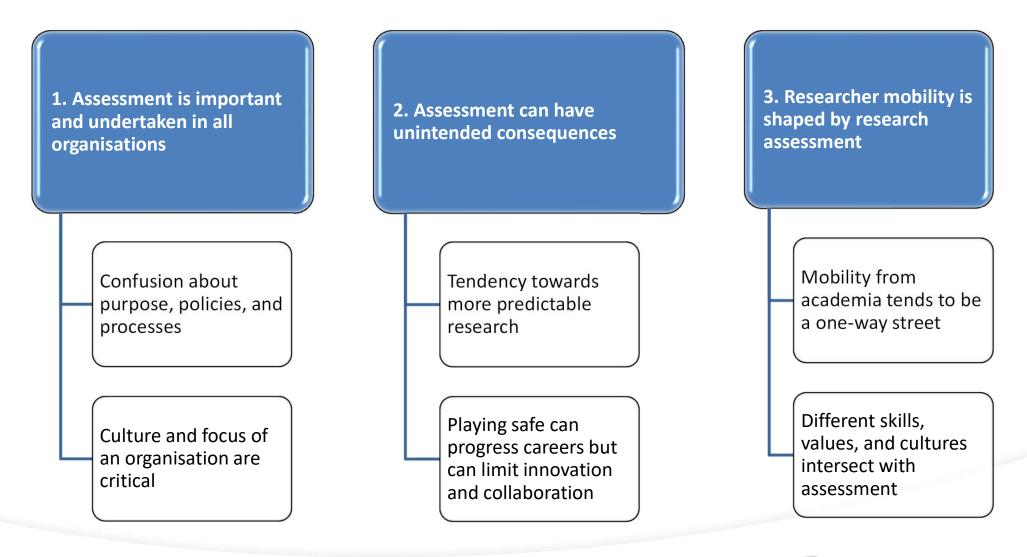
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WHAT WE DID

Defined	 Research assessment as the processes and metrics used to evaluate the performance of researchers and research institutions, including the quality, excellence, and impact of various outputs
Conducted	 Reviews of national and international approaches Surveys of individuals and organisations Interviews with individuals and roundtables with groups
Understood	 Wider reform context Organisational context Scope of work and consultation limitations
Engaged in	 Analysis and synthesis of the quantitative and qualitative information Discussion through Expert Working Group and Office of the Chief Scientist interactions Developing a report that (we hope) is informed and detailed, offers opportunities and considerations, but makes no recommendations

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WHAT WE FOUND (1)





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WHAT WE FOUND (2)

4. Increased transparency and accountability are needed in research employment decisions

> (Unintended) devaluing of types of research and researchers

Need a much greater focus on developing individuals and teams 5. Research assessment impacts research culture and vice versa

> On-the-ground beliefs and actions may not be consistent with formal policy

How people believe research is measured, incentivised, and rewarded has a profound impact 6. Research assessment is continuing to evolve

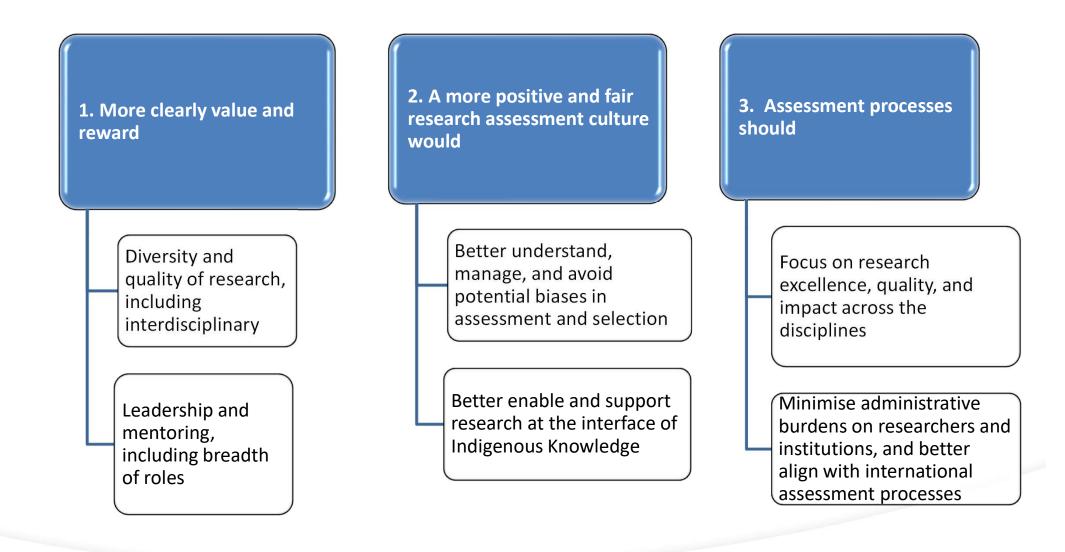
Need to more clearly provide confidence that Australia's research is adding to the public good and to Australia's place in the world.

Multiple international projects to improve research assessment are in play



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CONSIDERATIONS (1)





CONSIDERATIONS (2)





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CONCLUDING COMMENT

The report provides evidence and analysis, as well as a conceptual framework. We hope it is a portion of what is needed. In the interests of the next generation of researchers, the range of research occurring in Australia, and the need to stimulate innovation, in my view the approach and culture around research assessment needs to be broader, fairer, and more consistent with international trends.



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