Policy: External Project funding and agreements

Purpose

The Policy describes the principles by which external funding, and other Project agreements, are sought and accepted by the University, consistent with University community standards, values and interests.

Overview

Securing external funding from appropriate national and international sources, and entering into Project agreements, is critical to the operations and esteem of the University. This is undertaken in line with University values and relationships.

Scope

All ANU staff (academic, professional, honorary appointments) and students, including subsidiaries managing work undertaken by the University.

All Projects, as defined in the Costing and Pricing of externally Funded Research Projects, University Consultancies and Commercial Services policy.

Policy statement

University values and relationships

1. Funding and collaborative agreements are only sought and accepted by the University consistent with University community standards, values and interests.

2. Academic freedom and integrity are paramount.

3. Acceptance of agreements is at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor or delegate.

4. An agreement will not be accepted where:
   a. A third party requires a dominant position in the appointment of staff, or enrolment of students;
   b. A third party has a right to alter or interfere with, or prevent publication of an outcome generated by ANU staff and students in delivering the funded program – except for reasonable commercial, cultural or security considerations requiring appropriate delay in publication.
c. A third party has a right to limit the ability of a student to meet examination requirements of the University (see also clause 8 of the Student Intellectual Property Procedure).

d. The agreement places unmanageable levels of risk or liability on the University.

Funding from tobacco and related industries

5. Funding from foundations primarily funded by the tobacco industry will not be accepted.

6. Funding from business units of companies involved in the tobacco industry is possible only if, in the opinion of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research):
   a. the primary business of the donor unit is unrelated to the production, manufacture, distribution, promotion or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products; and
   b. acceptance of the funding cannot be construed to support the tobacco industry or the tobacco lobby and its activities.
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