

JCU CONNECT™: A lifecycle approach to sustainable University/Industry collaborations

Rochelle Finlay MSc, GAICD
Director, Research & Commercialisation
Division of Research & Innovation, James Cook University

(E-mail: rochelle.finlay@jcu.edu.au)

With three campuses located in Australia (Townsville & Cairns) and Singapore, James Cook University aims to be a catalyst for innovation and connection - using international networks and continuous learning opportunities to connect northern Australia to the global economy. In support of this vision, it is critical that JCU delivers value-added research services to industry (government, business & community) within our regions and beyond.

Genuine industry/university partnerships are recognised as being extremely valuable. In order to support these partnerships and thrive in a market-driven research environment, JCU has re-imagined the way that industry-led research and commercial activities are supported and managed – providing a value chain approach across the research management life-cycle to achieve cohesive support for research and industry partnering. This lifecycle approach is embodied in a new initiative – JCU CONNECT™.

JCU CONNECT™ is

- the “front door” through which industry can engage with the breadth and depth of JCU’s research and commercial expertise and resources. Linking industry with JCU research by establishing partnership opportunities for commercial research, professional consultancy, commercialisation, access to intellectual property and expertise, and to JCU’s unique facilities, research stations and innovation centres
- a “one-stop-shop” for JCU researchers seeking assistance with grants for competitive funding, industry-led research partnerships, ethics, animal welfare, research data, and commercialisation of intellectual property

JCU CONNECT™ is under-pinned by robust processes, policies and tools designed to support research activities and collaborations. In this session, I will share lessons learnt and strategies implemented in support of JCU’s commitment to growing and supporting national and global research collaborations through JCU CONNECT™