



**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT GROWTH**

Chair: Mr Ken O'Dowd MP

Deputy Chair: Mr Pat Conroy MP

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**—New Inquiry: Call for Submissions—**  
**Australia's Future in Research and Innovation**

The Australian Parliament's Trade and Investment Growth Committee today commenced an inquiry into Australia's Future in Research and Innovation.

In announcing the inquiry, the Chair of the Committee, Mr Ken O'Dowd MP stated, 'research and innovation is central to Australia's international competitiveness. The Chief Scientist, Professor Ian Chubb, recently described innovation as the *core business of the entire country* and suggested it should be *pursued strategically and creatively through every part of public policy*'.

The Committee will investigate how the research and innovation sector can better assist in overcoming Australia's geographic, economic, and labour challenges, with a focus on commercialisation including, how technology imports and exports could be further facilitated.

'Australia has world-class universities and research organisations but is ranked last in the OECD in research-business collaboration. Strengthening the relationship between our innovative businesses and our research organisations will be crucial to Australia's economic success in the coming decades.' Mr O'Dowd said.

Written submissions from interested individuals and organisations are invited by **COB 11 February 2016**. The preferred method of receiving submissions is by electronic format lodged [online](#) using a My Parliament account. Please do not send submissions directly to the Committee's email inbox.

Guidance on preparing a submission is available on the Committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/jsctig](http://www.aph.gov.au/jsctig)

**For media comment:** Please contact the Office of the Committee Chair, Mr Ken O'Dowd MP on (07) 4972 5465

**For background information:** Please contact the committee secretariat:

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