

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000201**

Senator McKenzie, Bridget provided in writing.

***Research Capacity***

**Question**

Outcome 2.6: Research Capacity

- How many active projects are currently running under NCRIS?
- What sort of projects does NCRIS fund?

**Answer**

- The National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) currently provides operational funding for 27 projects.
- NCRIS funds world-class research facilities so that Australian researchers can solve complex problems both here in Australia and around the globe. NCRIS is the most efficient and strategic way to invest in national scale research infrastructure, driving collaboration to bring economic, environmental, health and social benefits for Australia.
- NCRIS has invested in projects that build on national capability at the institutional level to become national research infrastructure projects with state-of-the-art facilities that are networked across Australia to support excellence in research. The NCRIS network also provides access to international research infrastructure so that Australian researchers can access leading-edge equipment and facilities not available in Australia. Importantly, NCRIS has invested in underpinning critical e-infrastructure such as high performance computing and a research cloud which includes virtual laboratories and national data services so that researchers can store, access, manipulate, use and reuse data more efficiently and effectively. Where possible, the data is openly available to industry and other users.