Australian Council of Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies

DDOGS

forum of representatives of universities engaged in graduate research to discuss matters related to the provision, quality and advancement of graduate research.
Universities in Australia

- 22 million people –0.32% global population
- 39 universities
  - 37 public (Commonwealth funded) including one large catholic, remainder secular
  - 2 small private
  - 3 in Shanghai Jiao Tong top 100, 17 in top 500
Universities in Australia

- All offer doctoral degrees
- Highly regulated by government
  - Research Training Scheme
  - External examination of theses
- Administrative arrangements vary – some Graduate Schools

Each grouping has own DDOGS as well

Australian Universities
   - 39
   - Go8
   - IRU 7
   - ATN 5
   - Non-aligned 19
DDOGS: Mission

- To promote excellence in training, research and scholarship and to seek to maintain high national standards for all graduate degree programs.

How to we deliver our Mission?

- Biannual meetings
  - Rotate between member universities
  - Co-hosted every second April with QPR conference
- Executive led by Convenor (point of contact)
- Working groups
- No membership fee - all activities of Council self-funding
DDOGS membership

- Full membership: Australian universities with formal procedures for the administration of graduate research programs
- Associate membership
  - representatives from 8 New Zealand universities
  - 4 Australians Colleges Divinity
  - Representative of Australian Council of Postgraduate Associations
  - National Convenors of DDOGS equivalents in other countries
  - representative from the Australian Research Training Administrators Group (ARTA)
DDOGS activities

- Share policy and practice
- Write submissions to inquiries/reviews
- Represent DDOGS on national review committees
- Develop Best Practice Guidelines with a view to influencing policy and practice
  - Doctoral Guidelines linked to Australian Qualifications Framework
DDOGS partnerships

- Commonwealth (federal) bureaucracy
- Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations
- Australian Research Training Administrators Group (ARTA)
- Welcome stronger links with CGS
  - Come to next QPR?
QPR 2010

● 9th Quality in Postgraduate Research Conference

● Theme: *Educating Researchers for the 21st Century*

● 13-15 April 2010
Adelaide, South Australia

● Opportunity to...
  ● Discuss policies affecting postgraduate education
  ● Exchange views on current research and good practice in the field
  ● Link special interest groups