

17 November 2017

Professor Sue Thomas  
Chief Executive Officer  
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Dear Professor Thomas

**Re: Draft EI 2018 Submission Guidelines Consultation**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further feedback on the Draft Engagement and Impact 2018 Submission Guidelines.

Universities Australia understands the importance of demonstrating to Government and the Australian community the value that investment in research delivers. From improved health outcomes to building new industries, from informing public policy to deepening cultural awareness, research funded by Government adds to our society and our economy.

We are pleased that the 2018 guidelines have been informed by the 2017 pilot, and have included adjustments such as reducing the number of compulsory engagement measures.

However, we remain concerned that each university will divert considerable resources into this exercise, and that there will be minimal feedback provided. No information has yet been released on how cases will be assessed by the expert panels. It is important that our members have the information on how their submissions will be assessed while they are preparing those submissions.

We look forward to participating in the review of the Engagement and Impact exercise once the 2018 assessment has been completed. At that time we may raise other issues such as the frequency of planned rounds and when case studies submitted to the 2018 assessment can be used again.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely



Catriona Jackson  
**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**