

17 JUNE 2013

RUN SUPPORTS STRATEGIC RESEARCH POLICY

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) has demonstrated its support for a strategic, national, research policy, by signing the statement “Invest in Research and Translation: Stand-up for Australia’s Future” at Parliament House today.

The Chair of RUN, Professor David Battersby, said the statement, put forward by Australia’s science and research community, articulated the need for a long-term, appropriately supported strategic vision for research that makes the most of our natural talent and helps the nation flourish economically and socially.

“Knowledge generation, knowledge exchange, and innovation produce benefits for regional Australia and the nation,” Professor Battersby said.

“Research contributes to an Australia which is healthy and safe, and socially, culturally and economically prosperous with increased productivity and innovation. It helps us ride out storms of economic uncertainty and tackle the big challenges facing the nation and the world.

“Research undertaken by RUN universities focuses on pressing regional, national and indeed global concerns associated with food and water security, climate change, social cohesion, health and well being, environment and resource management, and technology. It builds institutional quality and capacity, is essential for the training of research students, creates a pool of research-trained professionals, and supports and contributes to regional industries and commercial activities.

“Next week, RUN will launch a major report highlighting the social, cultural and environmental contributions of regional universities to Australia. Included in the report are case studies which demonstrate the key role that research plays in our impact on the regions,” Professor Battersby said.

For media enquiries:

Dr Caroline Perkins, Executive Director, Regional Universities Network, 0408 482 736

Issued by: Aaron Hall, RUN Media Adviser, 0408 482 736

www.run.edu.au