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INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH COMMERCIALISATION PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) warmly welcomes today's announcement from Prime Minister Scott Morrison of a \$2.2 billion investment in university research commercialisation.

The new \$1.6 billion Australia's Economic Accelerator (AEA) ensures alignment with Australia's Modern Manufacturing Strategy and combined with the \$296 million investment in supporting 1,800 new industry PhDs and 800 industry fellowships will drive increased collaboration between Australia's world class research ecosystem and Australia's industry.

The Chair of RUN, Professor Nick Klomp, said that today's announcement will strengthen Australia's research and commercialisation capability, providing increased focus in ensuring that universities, industry and Government are working together to ensure Australia's economy will continue to prosper.

"Today's announcement further cements the opportunities for regional universities to demonstrate the key roles we play in regional Australia, working hand in hand with our industry partners to ensure that all Australians benefit from strong regions.

"Regional universities have a strong history of partnering with industry to find real solutions to real problems and increase not only the regional prosperity of Australia but also the quality of regional life, one of the many reasons that regional populations in Australia continue to grow," said Professor Klomp.

"We look forward to working with Government to ensure that regional universities and our communities will benefit from today's announcement and that opportunity is provided to all universities and communities."

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