The ARC grant outcomes released in mid October 2008 for project funding commencing in 2009 produced another reasonably good result for Quaternary studies in Australia. 20 Discovery projects were funded amounting to $6.9 million, which is down slightly on the levels of the last 2 years (Figure 1; 2007-8 average is 25 grants and $10.5 million). Archaeology related projects did particularly well with 15 Discovery projects and all of the postdocs and fellowships awarded (with the exception of 1 APDI and a Linkage International Fellowship) being in this category. “Galactic Archaeology” even gets a gearnsey in this years round, though I don’t include this in the comparison below. A total of 6 APD’s, 1 QEII, 1 ARF, 1 APDI and 2 APAI were awarded. Congratulations to all those who where successful.

Figure 1. Comparison of yearly outcomes for successful ARC Discovery projects.
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Dr CJ Clarkson; Dr MD Petraglia; Dr NL Boivin
Assessing lithic evidence for the impact of the Toba super eruption (74,000 years ago) on long term cultural, biological and ecological histories on the Indian subcontinent
2009: $ 59,000; 2010: $57,000; 2011: $54,000
Primary RFCD: ANTHROPOLOGY

Dr AS Fairbairn
Agriculture and the Late Bronze Age collapse of the Hittite Empire
2009: $61,090; 2010: $52,050; 2011: $37,130
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Dr MI Weisler; A/Prof J Zhao
Voyaging, Trade and the Development of Ancient Complex Societies in East Polynesia: An Interdisciplinary Approach
2009: $105,000; 2010 $80,000; 2011: $120,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

A/Prof J Zhao; Prof AR Chivas; Dr H Zhou (Linkage International Fellowship)
Continental temperature and rainfall change during past global warming - a multiproxy approach involving clumped isotopes in speleothems
2009: $ 82,000
Primary RFCD: ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES
Collaborating Countr: China

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Prof J Bland Hawthorn; Prof KC Freeman; Dr SC Keller; Prof M Asplund
Galactic Archaeology: a Challenge for the Cold Dark Matter Paradigm
2009: $170,000; 2010: $170,000; 2011: $170,000
Primary RFCD: ASTRONOMICAL SCIENCES

Dr TE Doelman; Dr P Jia
Crossing Borders: The Use and Distribution of Volcanic Glass Artefacts in Northeast Asia
2009: $95,000; 2010: $40,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Dr M Fillios (APD)
The Taphonomy of Waterhole Faunal Death Assemblages: A model for Archaeological Contexts in the Australian Semi Arid Zone
2009: $78,978; 2010: $95,000; 2011: $95,000; 2012: $67,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY
Dr MJ Hendrickson (APD); Dr C Pottier; Prof Dr HJ Leisen; Dr DE Cook; Dr Q Hua
Industries of Angkor: Material Production and the Decline of the Khmer Empire (11th to 15th centuries CE)
2009: $128,000; 2010: $108,000; 2011: $93,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Dr D O'Reilly; Dr RA Armstrong; Dr KM Domett; Dr LG Shewan; Prof CF Higham; Prof R Chhem; Dr N Beavan Athfield; Dr C Pottier
History in their bones: A diachronic, bioarchaeological study of diet, mobility and social organisation from Cambodian skeletal assemblages
2009: $74,000; 2010: $56,000; 2011: $24,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Prof DT Potts (APF)
From village to empire in the Zagros highlands: Archaeological investigations at Tol e Nurabad (Fars Province, Iran)
2009: $104,000; 2010: $104,000; 2011: $104,000; 2012: $78,590; 2013: $104,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Dr R Torrence; Mrs NA Kononenko (APD); Dr EA Carter
Valuing Stones: obsidian stemmed tools in the creation of social complexity in Papua New Guinea
2009: $149,000; 2010: $100,000; 2011: $101,000; 2012: $107,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Dr SW Wroe; Dr DK Curnoe
The mechanics of being human
2009: $60,000; 2010: $50,000; 2011: $60,000
Primary RFCD: GEOLOGY

Dr S Hand; Prof M Archer; Mr SA Hocknull; Mr TH Worthy (APDI); A/Prof JD Woodhead; Dr DI Cendon; A/Prof J Zhao; Dr IT Graham; Dr JD Scanlon; Dr GJ Price; Prof AR Chivas (Linkage Project including 1 APDI Award)
Environmental change in northern Cenozoic Australia: a multidisciplinary approach
2009: $300,000; 2010: $300,000; 2011: $300,000
Primary RFCD: GEOLOGY
Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s): Xstrata Copper North Queensland; Queensland Museum; Outback at Isa; Mount Isa City Council
Dr SA Ross; Dr SE Connor; Dr Al Herries; Dr G Burgers; Dr I Iliev; Ms A Sobotkova; Dr K Rabadjiev
Cultural change in its environmental context: exploring, interpreting, and managing archaeologically rich, large-scale cultural landscapes in the Mediterranean Basin
2009: $ 70,000; 2010: $ 20,837; 2011: $ 26,267
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY
Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s): Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome; Historical Museum, Yambol

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

Dr K Szabo (QEII)
The cutting edge: Investigating the use of shell as a raw material by Australasian hominins
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Prof AJ Anderson; Dr SG Haberle; Dr GR Clark
Crossing the Green Sea: maritime mobility, trans oceanic interaction and remote island colonisation in the tropical Indian Ocean
2009: $ 279,000; 2010: $ 150,000; 2011: $ 200,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Dr SG Haberle; Dr RF Cosgrove; Dr PT Moss; Prof JF O'Connell; Ms A Ferrier
Light islands in a sea of dark rainforest: Human influence on fire, climate and biodiversity in the Australian tropics.
2009: $ 156,423; 2010: $ 120,291; 2011: $ 166,971
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Ms H Hung (APD); Prof PS Bellwood
A study of ancient jade trading networks in prehistoric southern China and Southeast Asia, 3000 BC to AD 500
2009: $ 114,000; 2010: $ 100,000; 2011: $ 100,000
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

Prof MT McCulloch; Dr JA Trotter; Prof RB Dunbar
Ocean Acidification in a Rapidly Increasing CO2 World
2009: $ 230,000; 2010: $ 160,000; 2011: $ 160,000; 2012: $ 120,000
Primary RFCD: OCEANOGRAPHY
Dr MJ Prebble (APD)
Tracking 3000 years of agricultural adaptation to the resource poor, climate sensitive and remote Solomon Islands using biomarkers and palaeoecology
2009: $113,000; 2010: $117,000; 2011: $78,591
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

A/Prof D Phillips; Dr M Honda
The Cosmogenic 21Ne Exposure Dating Method: Calibration for Application to Volcanic Chronology, Landscape Evolution and Palaeo Climate Change
2009: $75,000; 2010: $60,000; 2011: $60,000
Primary RFCD: GEOLOGY

A/Prof JD Woodhead; Dr S Frisia; Dr A Blyth
Ancient weather stations of Australia: charting a continent's descent into aridity and its ecological consequences
2009: $100,000; 2010: $60,000; 2011: $60,000
Primary RFCD: ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Dr LM Brady (APD)
The Kaurareg Archaeological Project, south Western Torres Strait, Australia
2009: $110,000; 2010: $100,000; 2011: $110,000; 2012: $58,943
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Prof TA Murray; Dr CH Smith (Linkage Project including 1 APAI Award)
A Historical archaeology of the Commonwealth Block 1850-1950
2009: $94,000; 2010: $94,000; 2011: $26,140
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY
Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s): Museum Victoria
THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

Prof A Cooper; Dr KP Aplin; Prof SC Donnellan
Phylogeography, evolution and taxonomy of humanity’s greatest pest, Rattus rattus: Epidemiological, archaeological and conservation implications
2009: $ 130,000; 2010: $ 130,000; 2011: $ 130,000
Primary RFCD: ZOOLOGY

THE FLINDERS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A/Prof M Staniforth (Linkage Project including 1 APAI Award)
The South Australian Historical and Maritime Archaeology Management Project
2009: $ 26,140; 2010: $ 26,140; 2011: $ 26,140
Primary RFCD: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PREHISTORY
Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s): SA Maritime Museum; Department of Environment and Heritage; AHMS Pty Ltd