2017 Research Repositories Community Day

ERA 2018 and the Engagement and Impact Assessment Pilot: Discussion Opportunity

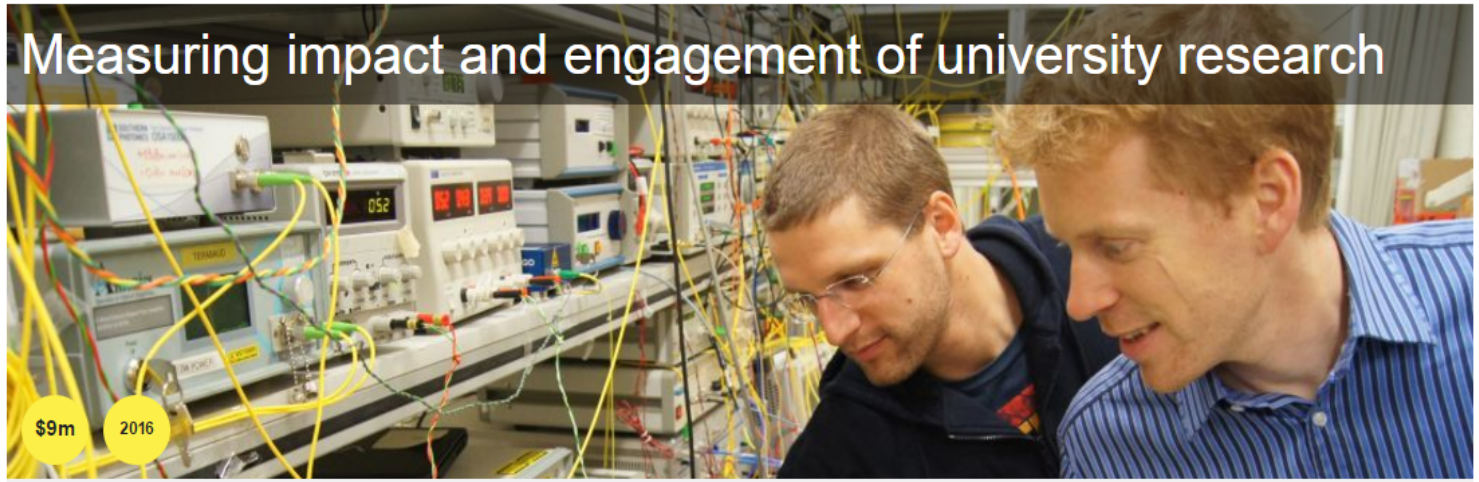
Mary-Anne Marrington to lead the discussion

The University Of Queensland
AUSTRALIA
Create change

Australian Government

NATIONAL INNOVATION & SCIENCE AGENDA

Measuring impact and engagement of university research



Share

While the success of university research can be viewed in measures of excellence, it can also be found in its economic, social, and environmental impacts. In 2015-16 we've invested approximately $3.5 billion in university research. Assessing and reporting on how our investments in university research translate to tangible benefits for Australia will help show where collaboration with industry and other partners could bolster and more quickly deliver these benefits.

What is it?

For the first time, Australia will introduce a systematic national assessment to measure how universities are engaging with research end-users and translating their research into real world impacts. The assessment measures will be determined through extensive consultation with universities, industry and community stakeholders and rigorous testing of possible measures in a pilot exercise. The assessment will be conducted by the **Australian Research Council (ARC)** as a companion exercise to the Excellence in Research for Australia assessment.

A **Steering Committee** has been established as part of efforts to develop clear and transparent measures. It is supported by **two working groups**.

The outcomes of the assessment will incentivise universities to improve their collaborations with industry and will promote high quality research that will drive innovation and economic prosperity.

Research in Australian universities delivers benefits for all Australians

Professor Graeme Clark is a world-renowned researcher, responsible for the development of the bionic ear. Clark began his work in 1967, creating the world-famous bionic ear in 1978. He has continued to improve his invention. Hundreds of thousands of people worldwide have benefited from his life-changing cochlear implant technology.

ARC-supported researchers from the University of Tasmania released 19 immunised Tasmanian devils into Narawntapu National Park as part of the quest to save the devil from extinction. For the first time a vaccine against the deadly cancer threatening the species was tested in the wild, and 18 of the devils produced an immune response to the vaccine.

A national impact and engagement assessment will encourage and reward researchers for this kind of work. All universities will have stronger incentives to develop research that directly benefits Australia.

Definitions

Key Pilot objective:

- To test methodologies for assessing the engagement and impact of university research beyond academia. This does not include collaboration with international universities and related research institutes.

Engagement:

- Interaction between researchers and research end-users, e.g. industry, government, NGOs, communities and community organisations that leads to mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership

Impact:

- Contribution that research makes to the economy, society and environment, beyond contribution to academic research

UQ Library contribution to the Pilot → E&I Assessment 2018

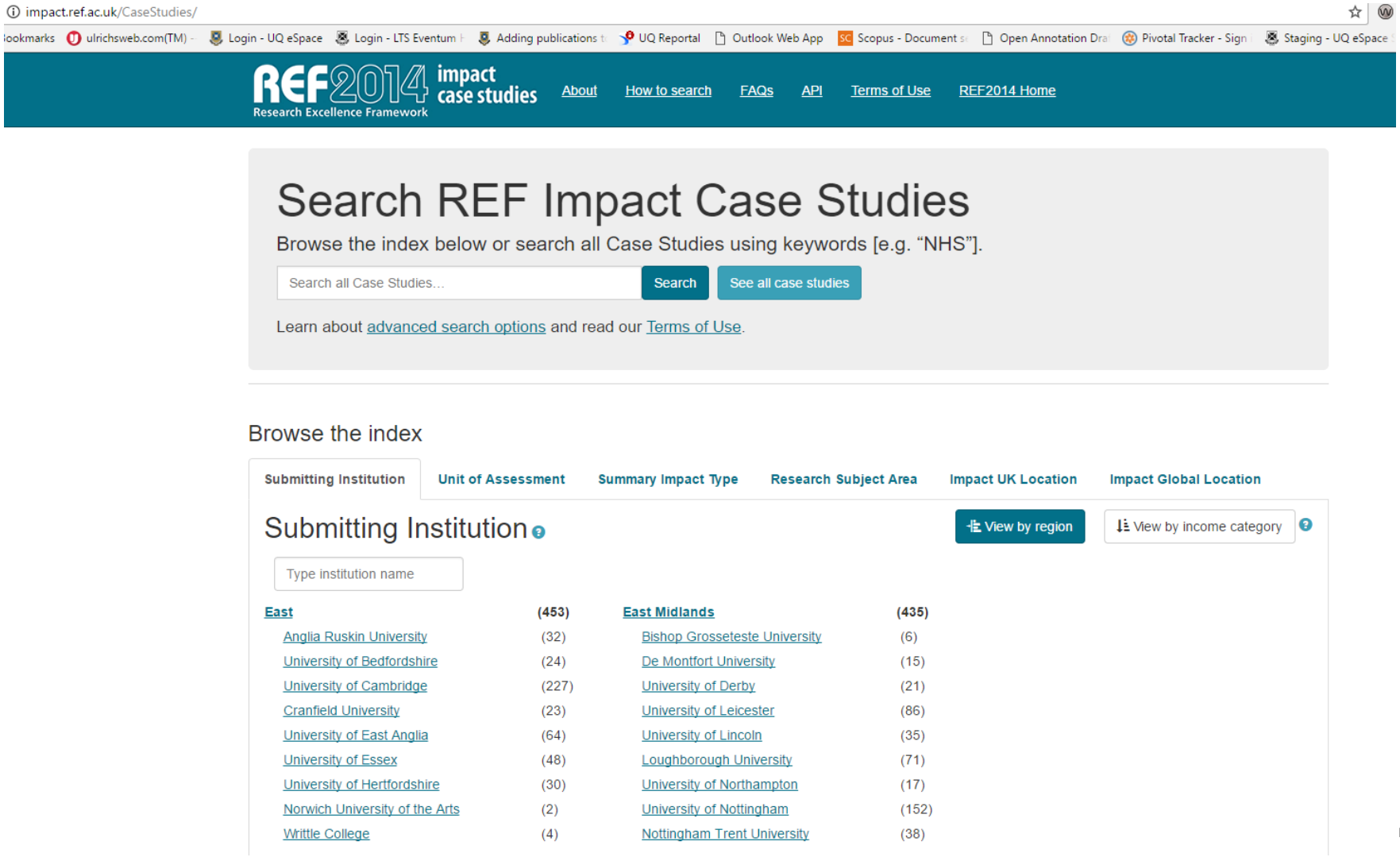
E&I Pilot:

- **Text-mined** Web of Science, InCites, Scopus and SciVal to determine end-user co-authorship and co-funded indicators – FOR 03/11/21/22
- **Manually checked** UQ eSpace data to make decisions about end-user co-authorship on non-indexed pubs – FOR 21/22
- **Provided data**, including altmetric and patent citation data, to help inform both the engagement narratives and the impact case studies
- **Focused on the process – what worked and what did not work** - to help inform 2018 preparations

E&I Assessment 2018

- **Data source enhancement** (Scopus, Web of Science, PubMed, CrossRef) will enable **richer contribution** to E&I narratives
- **Build on workflows established in Pilot**: Text-mining of indexed UQ content + manual checks of non-indexed content to identify end-user engagement
- May be required to **make provision to collect impact case study** documentation, similar to what we do for ERA peer review, i.e. secure file upload
- **Provide advice** to interpret requirements

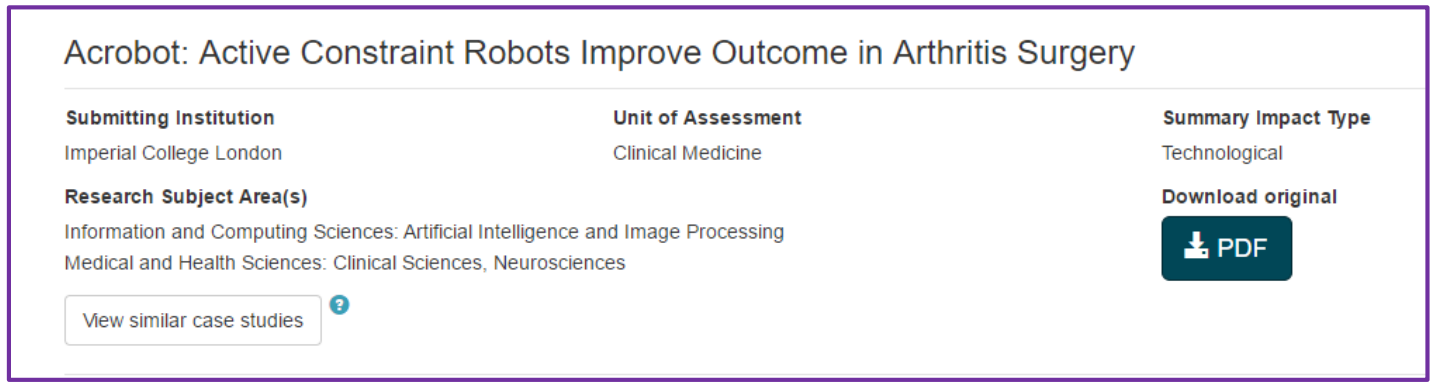
REF2014 Impact Case Studies



http://impact.ref.ac.uk/CaseStudies/

The University Of Queensland
AUSTRALIA
Create change

REF2014 Sample case study: Imperial College London



Acrobot: Active Constraint Robots Improve Outcome in Arthritis Surgery

Submitting Institution
Imperial College London

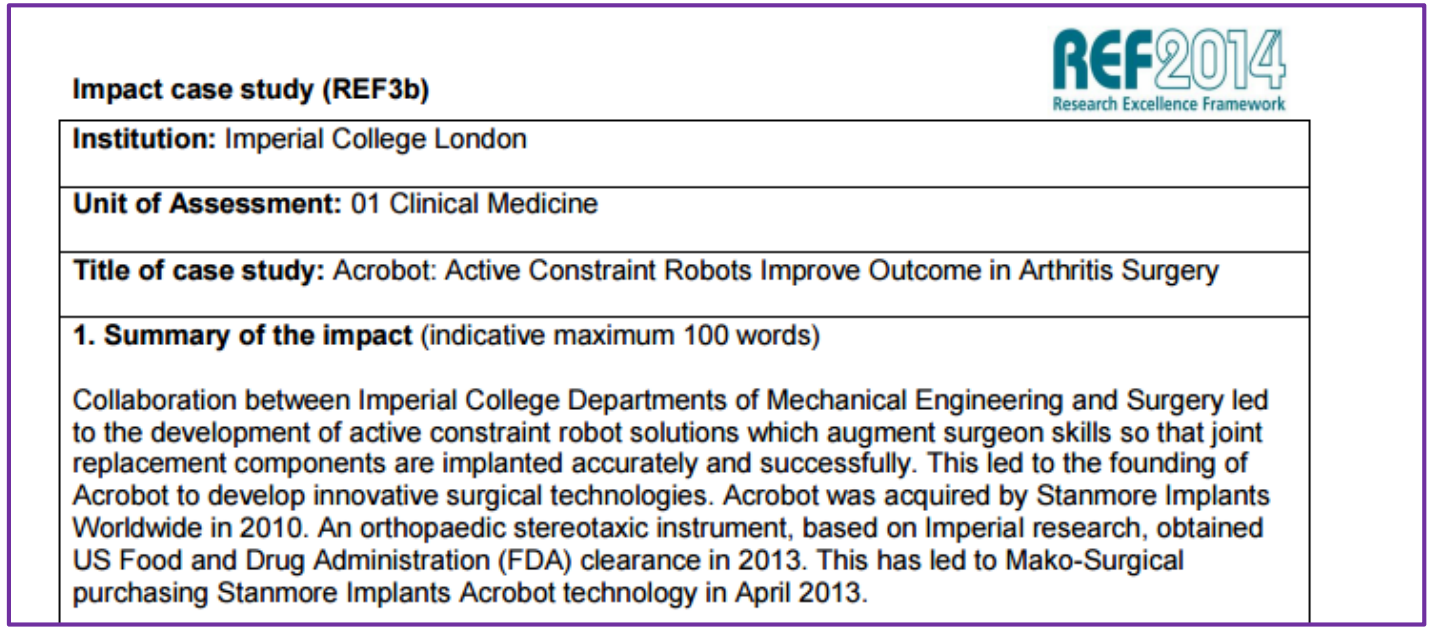
Unit of Assessment
Clinical Medicine

Summary Impact Type
Technological

Research Subject Area(s)
Information and Computing Sciences: Artificial Intelligence and Image Processing
Medical and Health Sciences: Clinical Sciences, Neurosciences

Download original
PDF

View similar case studies



Impact case study (REF3b)

REF2014 Research Excellence Framework

Institution: Imperial College London
Unit of Assessment: 01 Clinical Medicine
Title of case study: Acrobot: Active Constraint Robots Improve Outcome in Arthritis Surgery
1. Summary of the impact (indicative maximum 100 words) Collaboration between Imperial College Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Surgery led to the development of active constraint robot solutions which augment surgeon skills so that joint replacement components are implanted accurately and successfully. This led to the founding of Acrobot to develop innovative surgical technologies. Acrobot was acquired by Stanmore Implants Worldwide in 2010. An orthopaedic stereotaxic instrument, based on Imperial research, obtained US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clearance in 2013. This has led to Mako-Surgical purchasing Stanmore Implants Acrobot technology in April 2013.

Case study: 4-page PDF

- Summary of the Impact (100 words)
- Underpinning research (500 words)
- References to the research (max 6) - citations
- Details of the impact (max 750 words)
- Sources to corroborate the impact (max 10) – citations, media, social media, people etc.

The University Of Queensland
AUSTRALIA
Create change

ERA 2018 + E&I Assessment Discussion

- **Collecting the data for ERA**
  - When? What do you do ongoing to prepare for ERA? What do you do only once every three years?
  - How? Has it worked well? Is there anything you wish you could do to make it better? Is it worth all the effort? And who benefits most from the effort involved?
  - Role of researcher identifiers
  - NTROs - specific strategies/issues?
  - Sourcing and presenting peer review evidence – RODA files
  - Identifying OA content for ERA

- **Impact on resources and workflows**
  - Submission governance structure
  - Staffing
  - Management of regular workflows and prioritisation for ERA

- **Managing the E&I Assessment**
  - Timing and data source
  - Interpreting the guidelines
  - Strategies for identifying the data required for engagement/impact
  - Impact case studies: training opportunities on how to track impact and create better stories? Where and how are you storing the Impact and Engagement ‘artifacts’?
  - Role of altmetrics to support reach and impact of research – how to capture this?