



**Senator the Hon Chris Evans.  
Minister for Tertiary Education,  
Skills, Science and Research.**

## **New CEO of the Australian Research Council**

28 May 2012

Professor Aidan Byrne is set to contribute greatly to Australia's strong research future as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Research Council (ARC).

The Australian Government's ARC provides advice to the Government on research matters, manages \$879 million of the Australian Government's investment in high-quality research and manages the internationally-recognised Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) research evaluation exercise.

Announcing the appointment today Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator Chris Evans, said it was an important step for the nation's research effort.

"Professor Byrne's appointment will ensure that Australia continues to be a leading example of an innovative and robust science and research system," Senator Evans said.

"Professor Byrne is a distinguished leader in research and research management at the Australian National University and has been for 20 years. He brings to the ARC a wealth of industry knowledge and expertise particularly in Nuclear Physics, Physical and Mathematical Sciences as well as Engineering."

Professor Byrne is currently the Dean of Science at the ANU and the Director of the ANU College of Physical and Mathematical Science.

He will commence as CEO on Monday, 23 July. ARC Executive General Manager Ms Leanne Harvey will continue to act as CEO until this time.

Former CEO Professor Margaret Sheil left the ARC last month after almost five years.

"I thank Professor Sheil for her tremendous stewardship of the ARC since 2007 and wish her all the best in her new position as Provost of the University of Melbourne," Senator Evans said.

Further information about the ARC is available at [www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au).

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