MEDIA RELEASE

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Investment in university infrastructure will benefit the nation

Innovative Research Universities (IRU) Australia congratulates the Australian Government on its Nation Building package which will provide over \$1 billion to Australia's universities to fund teaching and learning infrastructure projects and fast-track funding allocations through the Education Investment Fund (EIF).

"Australia's universities play a vital role in nation building through their production of graduates, conduct of research and significant contributions to intellectual, social, cultural and economic advancement," IRU Australia Chair, Professor John Yovich, said today.

"This injection of funding will enable the IRU Australia member universities – Flinders, Griffith, James Cook, La Trobe, Murdoch and Newcastle – to proceed quickly with planned major new teaching and learning infrastructure projects and the modernisation of existing facilities", Professor Yovich said.

"The revitalisation of university facilities will help safeguard Australia's reputation for having a world class university system. It will also enhance student outcomes through the provision of teaching and learning spaces and leading edge information and communications technology suited to contemporary educational delivery methods," Professor Yovich added.

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Flinders University, Griffith University, James Cook University, La Trobe University, Murdoch University, and The University of Newcastle

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