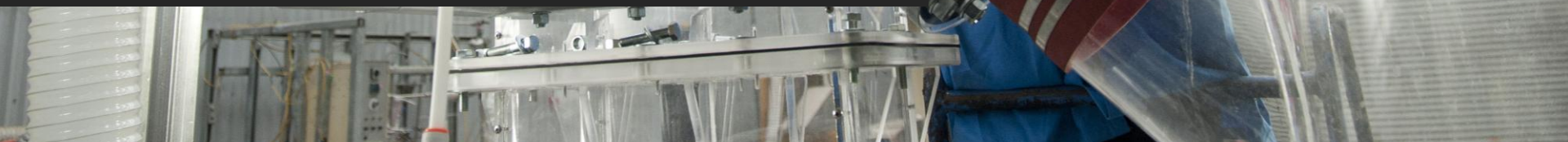




THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

**Reaping the benefits of
increased international
research enrolments in
engineering**





Presenters

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Overview

→ Background

→ Strategies

→ Benefits

→ Way forward

The Faculty of Engineering & Built Environment at a glance

340
students



33
countries

and
supported
by

175
academic
supervisors

ERA 5

(“well above world standard”) for the two-digit Engineering category

No. 1

university in the world under 50 years of age

Times Higher Education World University Rankings ‘100 Under 50’ and QS World University Rankings ‘Top 50 under 50’ 2013

Equal 2nd in Australia for research “well above world standard”

2012 Excellence in Research Australia assessment (ERA)



Background

- Low domestic research student enrolments
 - 95% employment rate B Eng (AGS 2013)
 - Starting salary ~\$80k pa (Engineers Australia 2013)
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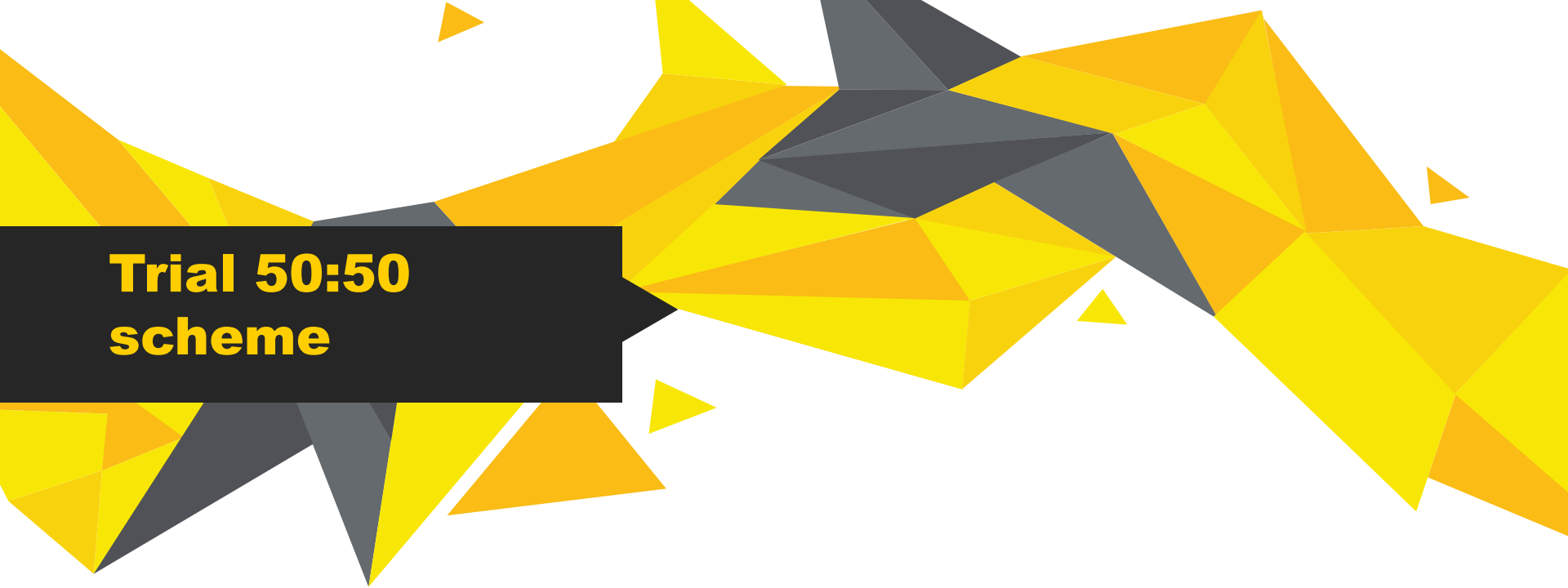
So, what is an RHD?

- Research Higher Degree Candidate
 - Masters (2 years)
 - PhD (4 years)
-



Strategies to increase enrolments

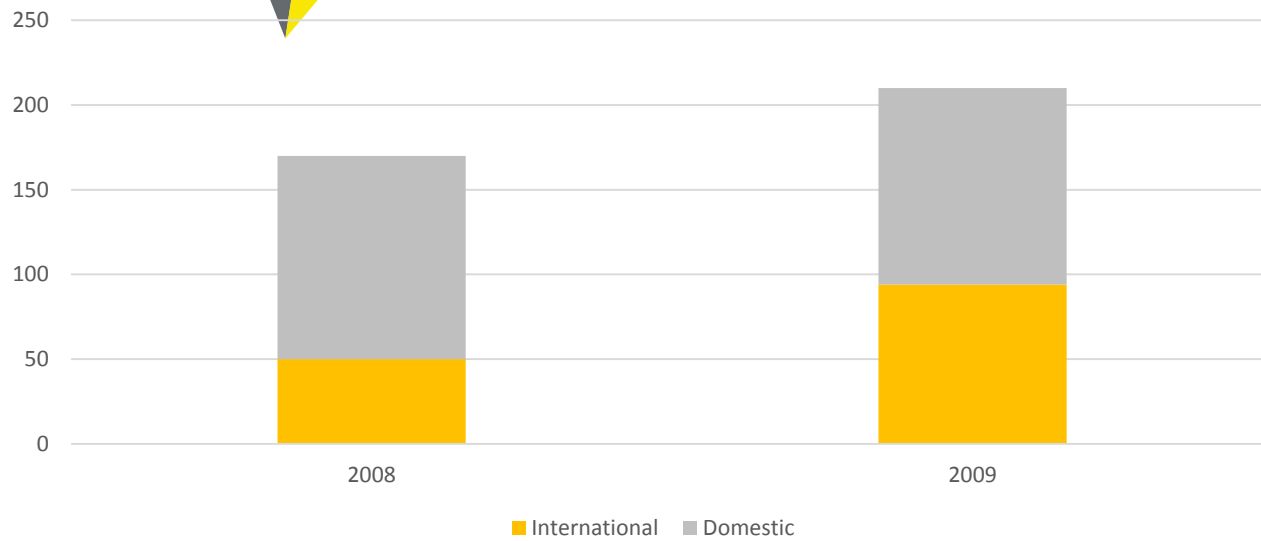
- Focus on the international market
 - Scholarship schemes implemented
 - Leveraging international offshore home government schemes
-



Trial 50:50 scheme

- 2008: Trial 50:50 Faculty-Supervisor scholarships
 - Supervisor funded 50% living allowance
 - Faculty matched 50% living allowance
 - President's Visiting Scholarship granted by UoN
-

Pilot scheme results

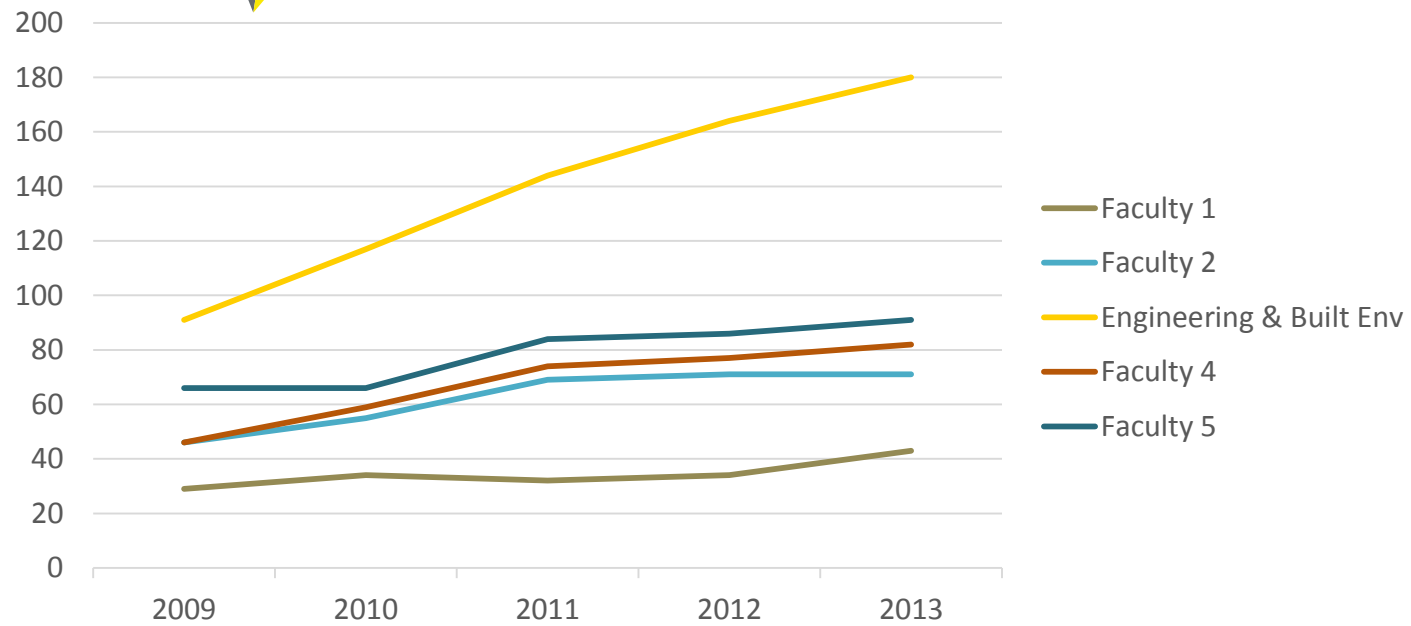




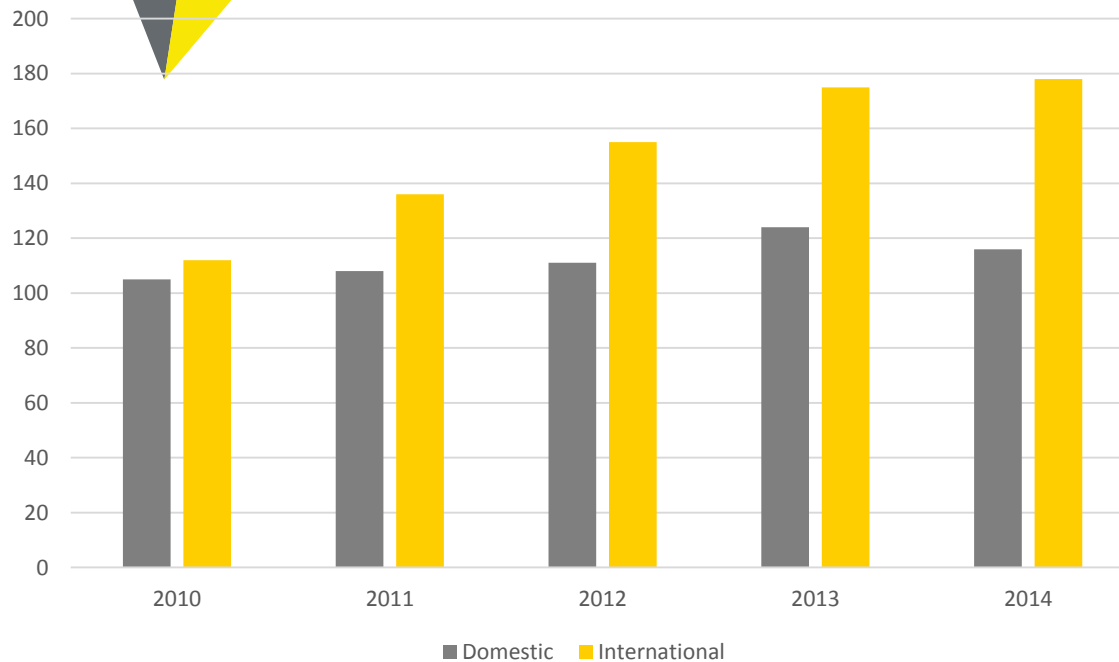
50:50 scheme expanded

- 2010: Faculty 50:50 scheme in University round
 - expanded to include relocation, health cover, thesis allowance, establishment allowance
 - 2014: 50:50 scheme adopted by University
-

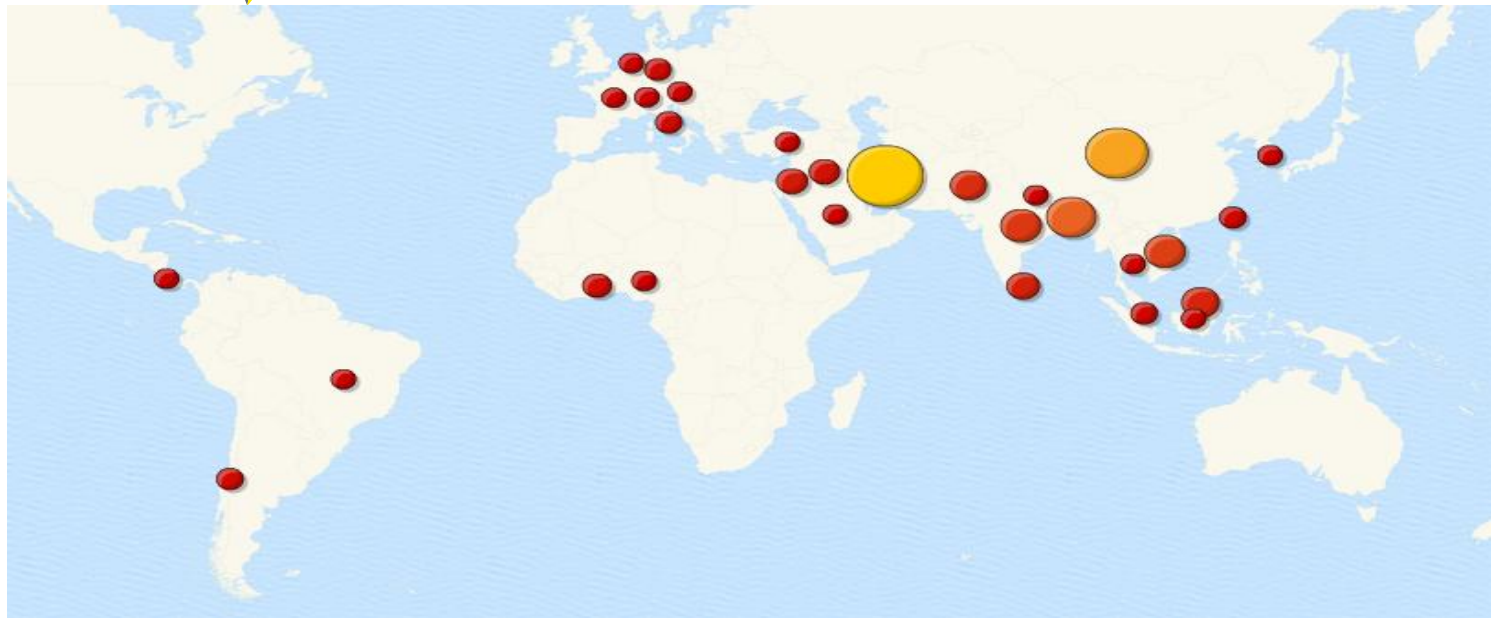
Quantifiable success



Quantifiable success



Country of origin





External funding schemes

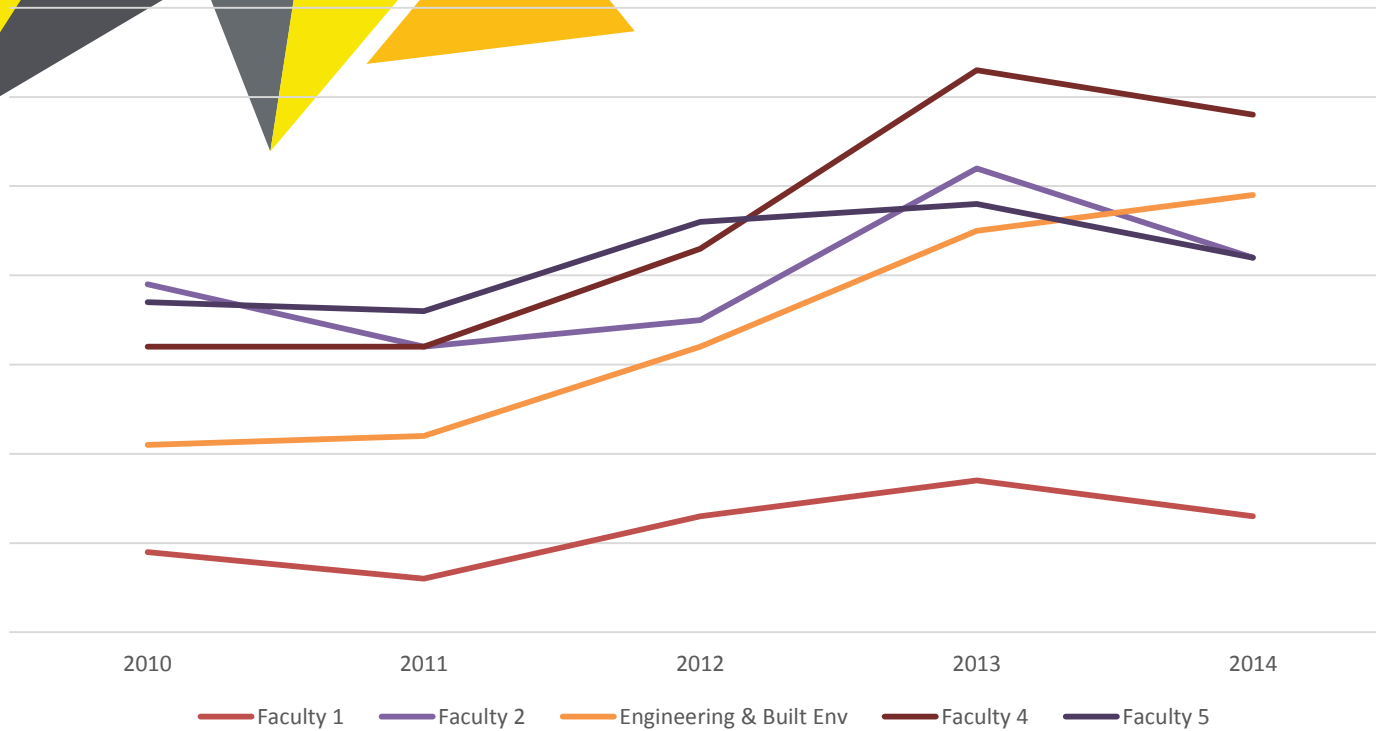
- Leveraging funding through home government schemes
 - Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC), Vietnamese International Education Development, home university scholarships
-



Benefits

- Building capacity
 - Completion rates increased/completion times decreased
 - Increased research outputs
-

Completion rates increased



Completion times decrease

Average number of years to complete PhD Candidates	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Domestic	4.7	5.3	4.4	4.1	4.2
International	-	3.6	3.65	4.43 [^]	3.9

[^] 2 students in this year went offshore to submit their thesis and therefore took considerably longer than expected



Increased research outputs

→ 60% to 70% of research outputs linked to RHD students (Larkins)

→ 25% increase in C1 HERDC journal articles

→ 26% of research publications written by RHD



**Case scenario
- high calibre
international student**

- Completed in 3 years
 - 7 conference papers + 2 journal articles
 - Working with UoN research centre
 - Attracted \$1.6M in competitive funding to date
-



International collaborations

- Increased collaborations with former home institutions
 - Future international collaborations with alumni
-



Economic benefit

→ Education 4th largest export (2013 Trade Ministers Report)

→ Contribute \$4.3B p.a. (2009 Access Economics Report)



Internationalisation

- Enhanced communication skills
 - Global citizenship
 - Diversity
-



Way forward

- Supervisor funded 75% living allowance
 - University guarantees funding of 25% of living allowance
 - President's Visiting Scholarship
-



Way forward - Domestic market

- Summer scholarships
 - Automatic top-ups for honours 1 students
 - 50:50 domestic students
 - Engaging with industry
-



Conclusion

- Increased enrolments
 - Increased outputs
 - Future focus on domestic markets
-



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**THANK YOU.
ANY QUESTIONS?**