



# National Research Infrastructure Advisory Group meeting 29 March 2023

## Update from Professor Liz Sonenberg

On Wednesday 29 March 2023 the second National Research infrastructure Advisory Group (NRIAG) meeting was held in Canberra.

This was an excellent meeting that took an important step in building the shared vision of the NRIAG and clarifying the purpose of our role. As part of this, we agreed the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group (which are now publicly available), and we began to elaborate the Advisory Group workplan for the next 12-18 months. Members expressed interest in progressing aspects of the workplan between formal meetings, to help build momentum over the topics to come later in the year. We agreed to form an NRI Investment Advisory Committee to provide strategic advice to Government on the 2023 National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) investment process, with due attention to the imperative to manage actual and perceived conflicts of interest.

The Department of Education provided a high level overview of the NCRIS 2023 Investment Plan and its connection with the five step change areas identified in the 2021 Roadmap. We heard from experts regarding possible directions for both the Synthetic Biology and the Environment and Climate step changes, and discussed what other inputs might assist in sharpening the rationale for investment. We also received briefings from the Department of Education regarding initial approaches to the Translation, National Collections and National Digital Research Infrastructure step changes – topics that will be the designated focus of future Advisory Group meetings.

The third NRIAG meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 26 July 2023 in Brisbane. Consideration of how to approach a National Digital Research Infrastructure Strategy will be the major topic.