

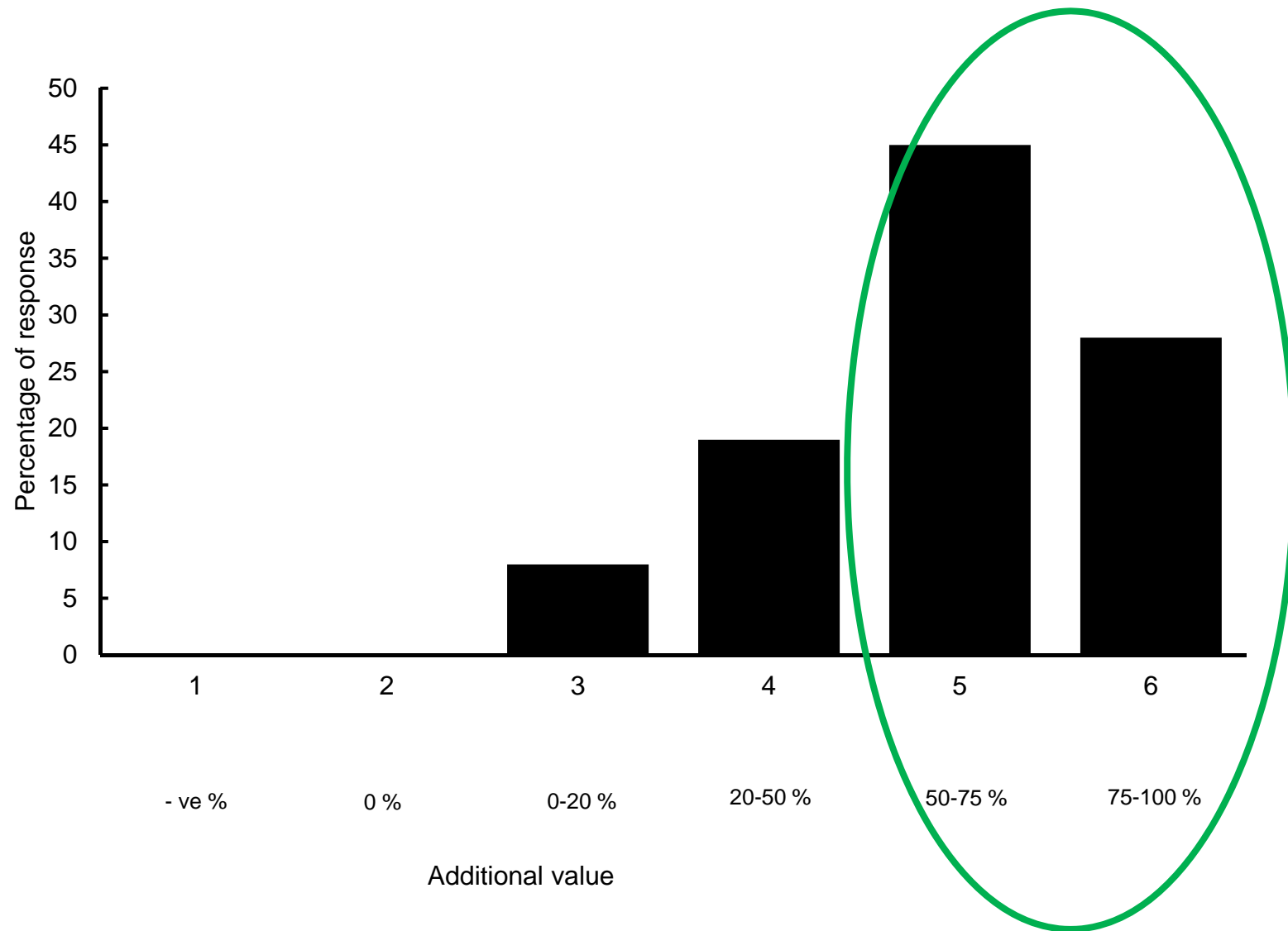
# Adding value to CRC postgrads' what works?



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Ex CRC for Greenhouse Accounting & Irrigation futures



Postgrads' perceived value add from the CRC IF

# What drove the perceived value?

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## **Networking**

- Wider postgraduate student network
- Wider academic network
- Wider industry network

## **Activities**

- Writing workshops
- Annual Research Forum
- Annual postgraduate student day
- Workshops & MasterClasses

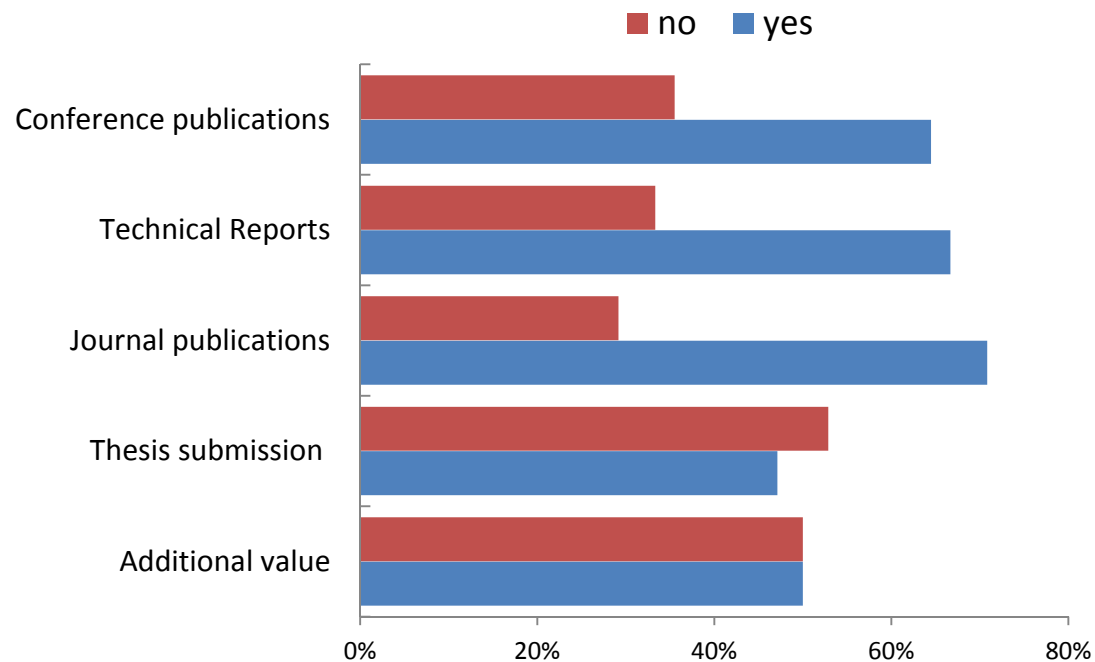
## **Support & encouragement**

- Support when dealing with your supervisor
  - Encourage publications
  - Support when dealing with your University
  - Commercialisation
- 

Level of cash support no where to be seen

# Impact on the output metrics

- Industry mentors






# Where did the postgrads' get there industry mentors?

- Wider industry network
- Field trips
- Annual Research Forum



# Impact on the output metrics

- Level of cash funding 
  - Full scholarship vs top-up
- Supervisors location 
  - university vs another institution
- Postgrads location 
  - On vs off-campus

# Unis and CRC

## What was done well?

- University ✓
  - Overseas experience
- CRC IF ✓
  - Media
  - Commercialisation
  - Off-campus support
  - Relevant industry experience
  - Professional networks
- Uni and CRC ✓
  - Present at conferences
  - Publish
  - Support completion of Thesis

# Postgrad Completions

CRC IF >80% vs University's 56%

## CRC Support

- Conflict with supervisors
- Conflict with university
- Personal encouragement
- Off-campus students



# Full vs top-up scholarships

- Its the networks, activities and support not where the \$\$ comes from which get students to self-identify with your CRC



- “... did not prepare students well for jobs outside of the academic world”
- “...denied students access to some of Australia’s best researchers”
- “industry-ready research graduates”

# “Industry-Ready graduates”

## Needs two to tango

- Graduates with the research AND commercialisation, entrepreneurial, project management awareness and skills
- Industries that know how to use research trained graduates

# The last word(s)

## Frustrations

- 11 people nominated supervisor issues, but sometimes the CRC was the resolution of that problem:

*“I was having difficulty with my supervisor, and the CRC helped me overcome that”*

- Low pay, was mentioned by 6,

*“pay is stingy and is not really modelled on todays cost of living”*

- 7 people mentioned the frustration of writing and assembling a thesis, and technical support was an issue for 7 as well.

*“difficulty with modelling, people in the CRC helped me with some technical problems”.*

## Achievements

- Knowledge was mentioned 12 times:

*“contributing a new dimension to the existing knowledge of irrigation toolkits”,*

*“developing research skills”.*

- Publications were seen as an achievement by 11,

*“my contribution to multidisciplinary research, publications, and conference presentations”*

- Recognition was cited by 8, many were based on awards granted, one was more practically focussed:

*“asked to sit on community group panels in recognition of my studies, asked to represent farmers and establish a ground waters group”*

- 8 also stated that gaining their degree was a major achievement,

*“completed on time!”*

# What is your CRC doing?

- What is the objective of your postgraduate program?
- What is your relationship with your partner Universities?



- How much resources are committed to your Education Program?