31 March 2015

Ha
Via email: foi+request-1031-152f6fc3@righttoknow.org.au

David Brumby
FOI Coordinator
University Records
The Australian National University
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foi@anu.edu.au

CRICOS Provider No. 00120C

Dear Ha

Freedom of Information Request No. 201500011C

The purpose of this letter is to give you a decision about access to documents that you requested under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act). On 27 March 2015 you requested access to documents relating to PhD theses. Specifically you sought access to:

a copy of any PhD thesis that research on transparency or FOI legislation in ANU

I, David Brumby, am an officer authorised under section 23(1) of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests.

Decision and Reasons for Decision

I have decided to refuse your Freedom of Information request under section 4 and section 12 of the FOI Act.

Section 4 states:

document does not include:

(d) material maintained for reference purposes that is otherwise publicly available

Section 12 states:

Part not to apply to certain documents

(1) A person is not entitled to obtain access under this Part to:

(c) a document that is available for purchase by the public in accordance with arrangements made by an agency

Copies of PhD theses are maintained for reference purposes by the University and are open to public access through the Australian National University (ANU) Library. Non-ANU institutions or individuals may be able to purchase a copy subject to author permissions, access restrictions and acceptance of copyright conditions. For your information, I have included the following link to the ANU Library page which contains information on requesting an ANU thesis:
Your review rights

If you are dissatisfied with my decision, you may apply for internal review or Information Commissioner review of the decision. We encourage you to seek internal review as a first step as it may provide a more rapid resolution of your concerns.

Internal review

Under section 54 of the FOI Act, you may apply in writing for an internal review of my decision. The internal review application must be made within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Where possible please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by another officer within 30 days.

Application for review of the decision should be addressed to:

Executive Director (Administration & Planning)
Building 10
The Australian National University
Canberra ACT 0200

Or via email: edap@anu.edu.au

Information Commissioner review

Under section 54L of the FOI Act, you may apply to the Australian Information Commissioner to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within 60 days of the date of this letter, and be lodged in one of the following ways:

online: https://forms.business.gov.au/aba/oaic/foi-review/
email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au
post: GPO Box 2999, Canberra ACT 2601
in person: Level 3, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW


Questions about this decision

If you wish to discuss this decision, please contact using the details below.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

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