Hi all,

Welcome to the first Research Update for 2022!

**Faculty Research Committee and Early Career Researchers Committee for 2022**

There are a few changes in the membership of both our Faculty Research Committee and Early Career Researchers Committee for 2022. A big thank you to Committee members who have served for the past year (or longer) and welcome to colleagues who are joining for the first time. These committees work to create and support a conducive research environment, as well as initiate and take care of most of the research events in the faculty. The Research Services team will continue to support the Committees, where and when needed and appropriate.

**Research Development Fund**

From this year, funding which has been used to support research through the Faculty Research Development Fund and the Performance-Based Research Fund has been amalgamated into a new fund known as the Research Development Fund (RDF). The new scheme gives faculties more flexibility in deciding how the funding is allocated and utilised. Final discussions regarding how RDF money will be used in 2022 are currently taking place within the Faculty Executive team. I will report on RDF initiatives as they arise throughout the year.

**New Zealand Business Research Translation Competition 2022**

For the second year, the New Zealand Business Research Translation Competition will be co-sponsored by all eight New Zealand Business Schools. Our Business School started the initiative in 2019. A quarter of last year’s entries were from our faculty.

In 2022, the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law at the Auckland University of Technology is coordinating the competition. The aim remains the same: promoting the relevance of business and economics research to external stakeholders. The competition also helps to enhance our skills and confidence in communicating our research to wider, non-specialist audiences. There are three categories: Overall Research, Māori and Pacific research, and Early Career Research. More information is available here: registration and submission. The deadline for submitting an entry is 31 May 2022; the awards ceremony will be on 5 July. Details about previous research translation competitions we were involved in are here.

**Invitation to join the Virtual Writers Group**

For the last two years, several Business School academics from the Department of Management and International Business have participated in regular virtual writing sessions. The group has just started for a third year and would like to extend an open invitation to faculty members and PhD candidates who are looking for a way to structure regular writing time into their work or for social support to build/maintain regular writing habits. The group works as follows (I quote from their invitation):

- Meet online on Wednesdays and Fridays between 9.30am and 11am
- Write for 25 minutes, break for 5 minutes to talk about writing matters; this is done three times in the 90-minute session
- Cameras are on (peer support to write); microphones are muted (no noise distractions)
- You are welcome to join one, some or all sessions
- No need to send RSVPs or emails – just join the MS Teams session

The calendar invitations and the links to join the sessions are attached.
External funding efforts

Business School researchers are involved in 12 applications for Marsden funding this year. Expressions of Interest (EOIs) were submitted to the Royal Society Te Apārangi last month. Eight teams have Principal Investigators from the Business School; the other four teams include Business School colleagues as Associate Investigators. The UoA submitted 207 EoIs in 2022 – the lowest number since 2009. The Royal Society has confirmed that application numbers are lower across the country.

Prof Steven Poelhekke (Department of Economics) is leading a team that has applied to the MBIE Endeavour Research Programme scheme. The project is on how stronger and sustainable international personal and business connectedness can bolster New Zealand’s economic performance and wellbeing. The Endeavor Research Programme scheme supports ambitious, excellent, and well-defined research ideas which have credible and high potential to positively transform New Zealand’s future in areas of future value, growth, or critical need. Funding for successful applicants in 2021 ranged from $8.6m to $16m with projects usually running for five years.

I highly appreciate colleagues’ efforts to seek external funding. Submitting a good-quality application takes a lot of time, work and perseverance, and I hope that at least some of our applications will be successful.

Commencing Discovery Profiles implementation – improving discoverability of our research and expertise

The implementation of Discovery Profiles, an extension of our current Research Output system, and the system that will replace the externally facing elements of University Directory and FindaThesis is about to start. From 17 March, all University Directory profile and FindaThesis supervision opportunity information will be ‘frozen’ i.e. not editable. Between 17 March and 4 April, the Research Outputs system will be unavailable. For further information on the implementation timetable, how you can prepare for these changes and available learning options please see the Discovery Profiles News page.

Upcoming research events

18 March, 10am-11.30am: Research Ideas Worth Funding (2) – a second event of this kind, held via Zoom webinar on this link. 17 research ideas and initiatives from disciplines in seven UoA faculties will be presented.

Take care and best regards,
Snejina

This email is intended to keep staff of the University of Auckland Business School informed about research news, seminars, panel discussions and grant applications. You can view previous editions of the ADR Update from 2021 on the Research section of the Business School internet pages.