Hi all,

Our Research Services team has moved to a different office
Dr Meagan Barclay, Juan Rodriguez, and Christiane Rupp are now located in Room 4136 on level 4. They are looking forward to more and better opportunities to engage with Faculty researchers in this new space. I will be joining them in the new shared office.

Research Development Fund contestable funding round
The Faculty Research Committee invites applications that enhance disciplinary excellence. It aims to support researchers to develop outputs by the end of 2025 for inclusion in PBRF portfolios. $180,000 of funding is available for projects of up to $20,000 that must be conducted between 1 January and 31 December 2024. Further details including the guidelines, application form, and budget templates are available here. The deadline for applications is 28 August 2023.

Open Access support fund
The University has just launched the Open Access Support Fund to support paying Open Access (OA) fees for researchers publishing high-impact research in journals that are not currently covered by the Open Access Publishing Agreements. These Agreements allow researchers to publish their work in OA journals without incurring article processing charges. Our faculty has received $38,000 to be utilised for OA in 2023. The Faculty Research Committee will be discussing the process, and we will communicate about this subsequently.

Summer Scholarships programme
The Faculty Research Committee approved 23 applications for Summer Scholarships projects. The projects will open for student applications from 10 July. All information about the projects and how students can apply is available here.

Research Data Management Policy
The Research Data Management Policy was enacted on 1 July 2023. The policy sets out researchers’ responsibilities to ensure that the research data is managed in line with:

- international standards for FAIR data,
- the UoA’s obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and commitment to becoming a Māori data sovereignty organisation,
- the CARE principles for the governance of Indigenous data, including Pacific data, and
- legal, ethical, and protective security requirements for research data.

Research Data Management Policy Guidance provides practical guidance on the application of each clause in the policy. There is also an upcoming workshop on 27 July to support researchers with data management.

Researcher development
Several new initiatives have been launched at the UoA:

- A Researcher Development opportunities calendar is available, listing upcoming development opportunities
- New modules on Responsiveness to Māori and engagement with Māori development opportunities
- Entrepreneurship, innovation and commercialisation development opportunity

Aotearoa Business and Economics Research Translation Competition 2023
Entries for this year’s Competition have started rolling in from around the country. The submission deadline is 31 July 2023 – you can register and submit your entry here.
PBRF: Evidence Portfolios for the 2026 Quality Evaluation round

Evidence portfolios (EPs) for the 2026 quality evaluation round will be structured differently from previous years. These changes include better recognition of a broader range of research, collaboration, and engagement. The Sector Reference Group has been releasing “in-principle” decisions on the new EPs, so we are beginning to see the changes take shape. An EP template has been released – see here.

Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Prof Simon Holdaway, has provided an example of a completed evidence portfolio to illustrate what the changes might mean in practice. He used items from his 2018 evidence portfolio to fill out the template. Therefore, the listed items relate to his field of Archaeology, spanning 2012 to 2017 incl. (Note that the current quality evaluation round spans 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2025.) We invite you to take a look.

Initial members of the peer-review panels have been announced. Prof Julia Kotlarsky (ISOM) has been appointed to the Mathematical and Information Sciences and Technology panel. See all appointments here.

MBIE projects and assessors

At the MBIE Endeavour 2024 kick-off session on 7 June, Max Kennedy (former MBIE Director of Contestable Funding) and Rebecca Adams (UniServices Director of Government Relations) offered advice about research areas that align with the current Government priorities for the MBIE Endeavour Fund.

MBIE is looking for assessors for their grant application committees. If you are considering becoming an MBIE Assessor, please contact the Research Services team for information on how to proceed. It is worth noting that LinkedIn is MBIE officers’ first port-of-call when looking for expertise to build research project teams, assist with decision-making, assess research proposals, etc.

Call for applications: Seed funding offered by Ngā Ara Whetū

Funds available: Up to $10,000 per project
Deadline for submission: 31 July 2023, 4:00 pm
This seed funding aims to support collaborative activities that align with Ngā Ara Whetū’s mission: to lead and contribute to world-class research and training, inspiring and driving just and ethical action on climate change and the environment for thriving peoples and planetary wellbeing. Transdisciplinary applications will be prioritised. This link provides information about eligibility criteria and what the funds may and may not be used for. Applications need to be submitted to ngaarawhetu@auckland.ac.nz

Upcoming events and deadlines:

10 July: Deadline for RSNZ Catalyst Seeding and Catalyst Leaders Grants – worth $50,000 to $80,000 for 2-3 years.

11 July, 10 am – 11 am, 405-430: MBIE Endeavour Real Stories panel session with Prof Johan Verbeek, who was recently awarded an MBIE Endeavour Programme grant for the Circularity of Plastics in NZ in collaboration with the Business School, RMIT’s Design School, and several other partners. Register here.

13 July, 12.30 pm – 2 pm, 260-301: Vision Mātauranga workshop for early career researchers. Register here.

20 July: Deadline for Special Project Grant to evaluate co-design process for HHANZ CoRE, up to $500,000 for three years.

21 July, 1 pm – 2:30 pm, Research ethics: The adventure starts now – this workshop will explore the process for creating an ethics application at UoA. Register here.

27 July, 2 pm – 4pm: Managing Research Data workshop that will introduce data management concepts, requirements, best practices, services, and useful tools to support you to manage and share your research data across the research data lifecycle. Register here.

Did you know?

Researchers who agree to manipulate citations are more likely to get their papers published according to a recent study in Research Policy and reported in Nature Index. This may be because an editor is looking to boost their, or the journal’s, citation counts, or a peer reviewer tries to persuade the author(s) to cite the reviewer’s work. The author of the article suggests one solution to this problem is that journal self-citations should be excluded from metrics such as the journal impact factor.

Take care and best regards,

Snejina

This Update is intended to keep University of Auckland Business School staff informed about research developments, news, events, and funding opportunities. The Update has been issued since 2018. You can view editions from 2021 onwards on the Research section of the Business School internet pages.