Hi all,

**PBRF update**

The Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) guides the annual allocation of NZ$315 million of research funds based on a six-yearly assessment of research quality, along with annual measurements of PhD completions and external research income. The PBRF has been undergoing a review process. Cabinet has now approved changes to the PBRF – you can read the press release [here](#) and find the full details on this [website](#). The individual remains the unit of assessment for the Quality Evaluation component, and the research output eligibility closing date is 31 December 2024. It would appear that the process for compiling an Evidence Portfolio will be largely similar to last time, although the final details on several matters have been delegated to the Sector Reference Group to design. We will know more once the final guidelines are released. Among the changes being implemented are:

- Broadening the PBRF definition of research and making changes to Evidence Portfolios to better recognise a broader range and diversity of research as well as collaboration and engagement.
- Simplifying the New and Emerging qualifying criteria to reduce administrative burden.
- Revising the Extraordinary Circumstances qualifying criteria to promote equity and inclusion.
- Supporting Māori research(ers) by increasing from 1 to 3 the subject area weighting for Evidence Portfolios assessed by the Māori Knowledge and Development panel and applying a funding weighting of 2.5 for Evidence Portfolios submitted by Māori staff.
- Supporting Pacific research(ers) by increasing from 1 to 2.5 the subject area weighting for Evidence Portfolios assessed by the Pacific Research panel and applying a funding weighting of 2 for Evidence Portfolios submitted by Pacific staff.
- Amending the External Research Income component by increasing the weighting of the Overseas Research Income category from 1.5 to 3.5 and increasing the weighting for New Zealand Non-Government Income from 2 to 4, to better reflect non-governmental sources of income.

**Waipapa Taumata Rau Transdisciplinary Ideation Fund**

Several researchers from the Business School attended two University workshops earlier this month devoted to Sustainability and Health & Well-being, respectively. A third workshop will be held on 13 August. The themes covered will be 1) Advancing Just, Cultured and Engaged Communities and 2) Innovating Contemporary, Distributed, Secure Knowledge Systems. Registration for this workshop is available through [Eventbrite](#). For colleagues intending to apply to the fund, application forms and fund guidelines are available on the [University intranet](#). To put things into a context: there is a shift in terms of how The UoA will be allocating and distributing research funding in the future, with much of it going into cross-faculty research initiatives and projects.

**Research Delivery programme**

Work continues across the University as part of the [Research Delivery Programme](#). Several projects were set up in 2020 to help the University recover from the financial impacts of COVID-19. A number of these projects are continuing as the focus widens to enable the delivery of the Research and Innovation Priorities set out in [Taumata Teitei](#). In a previous Update, I mentioned that a new [ResearchHub](#) has been launched on the University intranet. As part of an effort to locate and better integrate research support information, the pages
containing information relevant to external funding applications will be transitioning to the ResearchHub this month. The Programme is tackling a wide range of other issues, including simplifying research budgets, research data management and industry engagement. The project teams issue regular status reports.

**Dialogue on ethics application/approval processes continues**

It can be frustrating to go through the ethics application process; obtaining approval is often not straightforward. Over the years, I have been raising issues related to the process. Last year we started a more focused dialogue with the key players and decision-makers in that space. As a continuation of this dialogue, earlier this month, Dr Simona Fabrizi (Department of Economics) led a session attended by Business School researchers and members of The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee. Dr Elizabeth Visser, the University’s Ethics and Integrity Manager, also attended and presented at the event. If you missed the session, there is a link to it on the Faculty intranet. Future sessions are planned, and I hope that the continuous dialogue will result in improved processes and outcomes.

**SSRN latest statistics**

The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) presents an opportunity for increasing the visibility of our research, leading to a higher number of downloads and citations. Its eLibrary includes 950,733 abstracts and 816,075 full-text papers from 503,172 authors worldwide for browsing and downloading. The Business School Research Paper Series on SSRN lists 242 abstracts and papers by 119 authors, and anyone worldwide can subscribe to it for free. We currently have over 600 subscribers. To have your abstract (with link to the journal), working or accepted paper uploaded, please email it to ssrnuabs@auckland.ac.nz.

**Upcoming research events and date reminders**

30 July, 5pm: Deadline for applying for funding workshops for Research Centres, Research Beacons, and Research Groups

5 August, 2 – 4pm: Meet colleagues from the School of Psychology (Sixth floor, Building 302)

As a response to an earlier invitation, 13 researchers from the Business School will be meeting with peers from the School of Psychology, Faculty of Science to discuss research interests, areas, and potential research collaborations.

13 August, 8.30am – 12pm: Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshop 3 – Advancing Just, Cultured and Engaged Communities and Innovating Contemporary, Distributed, Secure Knowledge Systems (Epsom campus 6EN)

1 September, 10am – 12pm: Research Ideas Worth Funding – Health and Well-being (venue TBC)

The Business School Health and Well-being Research Beacon will hold a research ideas update event for all who are interested in connecting and collaborating under the Beacon’s theme. The programme comprises four-minute updates on new or planned research projects by researchers from the Business School and the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

2 September, 10 – 11.30am: Celebrating Research Success Series: FT50 Publications (Level 4 social bridge)

8 September: Centre for eResearch Workshop (time and venue TBC)

15 September, 4pm: Deadline for applying to the FRDF for 2021

A call for applications to the Faculty Research Development Fund (FRDF) was issued last month. In case you missed it, this year we will be funding projects with budgets of up to $10,000 that will run from 1 January to 31 December 2022. Full details are available on the Research section of the Faculty intranet.

Ongoing: Applications remain open for staff seeking professional academic editing support for their journal submissions or resubmissions.

For more information about these events, please contact the Business School Research Services team.

Take good 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.