



**BUSINESS SCHOOL**

From the Acting Associate Dean (Research)



## Update #5, 2022

Kia ora tātou,

### Research Outlook paper

The policy team at the [Office of Research Strategy and Integrity \(ORSI\)](#) has been analysing the recent budget and what impact it could have on research at the University. Several of the government's overarching priorities listed in the document are relevant for us in the Business School: addressing the cost of living, including the housing crisis; reforming the health system; supporting business growth in light of global economic changes; and supporting Māori and Pacific aspirations. If you want to align your next research idea with areas where funding may be available, please have a look at the full document, which is attached to this Update.

### Ngā Ara Whetū Centre for Climate, Biodiversity and Society

Ngā Ara Whetū ("Star Paths") is one of [seven transdisciplinary University centres](#) and institutes that focus on transdisciplinary innovation and collaboration in research, education, and engagement for thriving peoples and planetary wellbeing. Named for the journeys of our collective ancestors to the shores of Aotearoa, New Zealand, the Centre responds to challenges of attaining sustainable futures and collective wellbeing through enhancing collaborative research and training. Ngā Ara Whetū is networked with local and global communities of purpose, practice and understanding, who share aspirations for accelerating actions that promote lasting protection of the planet, its natural resources, and peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. Stars' paths continue to symbolise the aspirations of our modern-day pathfinders. Ngā Ara Whetū exemplifies the ethos of this flagship research centre. It enables inter-institutional collaborations with schools, faculties and research centres and connects us to communities across the Pacific and globally. Ngā Ara Whetū fosters thought leadership and mobilises innovative transdisciplinary research, outreach, stakeholder partnerships, engagement, and teaching. It addresses theoretical and applied domains of its initiatives whilst holding and integrating the principles and values of kaitiakitanga (proactive guardianship), manaakitanga (being generous), and whanaungatanga (community) at the centre of its kaupapa.

### Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshops

The University will deliver five 2-hour thematic Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshops on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> of September focused on Taumata Teitei's four impact priorities: sustainability, health and well-being, social justice, and innovating secure knowledge systems. These will support staff in applying for a Small Grant (\$10,000–\$20,000) or Large Grant (\$20,000–\$60,000) from the [Transdisciplinary Ideation Fund \(TIF\)](#). The Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshops will gather academic staff from across all Faculties and Large-Scale Research Institutes, attracting a diverse mix of attendees spanning early, mid, to senior career researchers. The workshops are designed to cultivate cross-faculty, transdisciplinary collaborations and generate new project teams that respond to government priorities and major policy issues facing Aotearoa New Zealand. You will be encouraged to delve into problems, uncover innovative solutions, identify research projects and initiate new collaborative working partnerships. Each

workshop will be hosted by facilitators who will be multidisciplinary and will include the Associate Deans Research.

To participate in these workshops and extend your collaborative networks, please register here: [Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshops](#). Applications for the TIF are due by November 14. Funding decisions will be announced in December 2022 for a 1st March 2023 start with an 18-month funding window. The Transdisciplinary Ideation Fund and Transdisciplinary Ideation Workshops have emerged from a collaboration between the Associate Deans Research, the Office of Research Strategy & Integrity and UniServices.

In 2021, Business School researchers had strong participation in this scheme. They were part of research teams in four TIF-awarded projects with the faculties of Medical and Health Sciences, the Faculty of Creative Arts, the Faculty of Arts, and the Faculty of Law. We hope to see faculty researchers participating in the workshops and submitting projects again this year.

### **Research Development for Mid-Career Researchers**

The Faculty, having led the way for the university in its support of early-career researchers (ECRs), now wish to extend this support to address the research development needs of those at mid-career. Mid-career researchers (MCRs) are academics who usually have completed their PhD at least 10 years ago and are Senior Lecturer or Senior Research Fellow, usually above the bar, or Associate Professor. Professor Rod Brodie has been appointed in a part time position to help facilitate MCRs' development. Activities could include:

- Developing and refining research ability (developing courageous research ideas, publishing in highly ranked journals, writing succinctly, theory development, etc.)
- Developing and refining broader capabilities (developing strong research groups, participating in transdisciplinary research, developing leadership ability to mentor early-career researchers)
- Pursuing external research funding
- Strategic planning for promotion and the PBRF
- Collaborating with business and wider society and achieving societal relevance
- Achieving work-life balance

### **Research Excellence Awards**

The Business School Research Excellence Awards recommendation meeting took place on 28 June. The Committee recommended four awards subsequently endorsed by the Dean: two Research Excellence awards, one Research Relevance and Impact award, and one Sustained Research Excellence award. The winners will be announced at the ceremony scheduled on 24 August. William Cheung (Property) was earlier awarded an Early Career Excellence Award, funded by the University of Auckland Research Committee. The award is for \$25,000 and covers a two-year project.

### **NZ Business Research Translation Competition 2022 awards**

Business and economics-focused academics from New Zealand's eight universities translated their academic work into plain English for the public, and those in business, policy, or government sectors, for the NZ Business Research Translation Competition hosted by AUT. The judging panel comprised of Spark's Sebastian Watson, NBR co-editor Hamish McNicol, and Waka Kotahi's Iain McGlinchy, commended all entries for their high standard. Special congratulations to Lisa Callagher, Stefan Korber, Frank Siedlock, and Ziad El Sahn who together took out the winning award in the Established Research category for their translation "How do New Zealand's agricultural cooperatives positively impact climate change? By getting farmers, managers, and scientists in the same room".

### **PBRF**

Due to COVID, the PBRF Quality Evaluation process has been delayed by another year to 2026, so the next PBRF evaluation period will span 2019 to 2026. The PBRF assessment criteria are currently under review and the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) has been consulting with universities and research institutions on their proposed changes to the evidence portfolio structure. The DVC Research has convened a PBRF advisory group staffed with the Associate Deans Research from each Faculty to

provide feedback on the proposed changes. This consultation process is scheduled to finish by the end of 2022, but the TEC is publishing [in-principle decisions](#) on a paper-by-paper in response to the feedback. The TEC will publish detailed draft guidance on the new EP submission requirements in the second half of 2022.

**Upcoming research events and deadlines**

29 August, 4 pm: Applications deadline Research Development Fund (RDF) 2023. Information and resources about the call can be found in the following link.

5 September, 9 am – 1 pm: Early Career Research Committee Annual Symposium

27 September, time tbc: Methods-in-focus: Online Experiments in Business workshop

Date tbc, September/October: Celebrating Research Output Excellence: FT50/A\*

25 October, 2 pm – 4 pm: 'Sharing Research via de Media' panel discussion

28 October, 10.30 am – 12 pm: Research Ideas Worth Funding III, an event co-hosted by the Health and Well-being Research Beacon and the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

23 November, time tbc: Resilience of the Housing Market in the Face of Climate Change workshop

23 November time tbc: Transdisciplinarity and Sustainability Symposium

23 to 25 November: Circular Economy in Business Research Beacon launch event

Finally, I thought you may be interested in reading [The case against Revise and Resubmit](#).

Hei konā mai,

Rod

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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 on the [Research section of the Business School internet pages](#).