Industry Engagement Guide – 2019

Part IV Research Projects
Department of Electrical, Computer, and Software Engineering
The University of Auckland

Industry sponsored projects provide valuable real-world context and experience for students in their Part 4 Research Project. They can provide a gateway into long term relationships between the sponsoring industry partners, the academic staff(s), and the department to explore larger collaborative research projects. This is a guide for the Electrical, Computer, and Software Engineering (ECSE) Part IV Research Projects. It includes a description of our two industry engagement models and a set of guidelines on proposing/enabling an industry sponsored Part IV Research Project.

Industry Engagement Models

Industry partners can sponsor Part IV Research Projects using two models governed by different agreements. In both the models, a team of two students work under the supervision of an academic staff(s) on the project proposed by an industry sponsor. In addition to the sponsorship amount (see model descriptions below), industry partners can provide business or technical guidance and access to any specialist equipment/data/software licence not normally available in the department. Industry partners may be involved in the project to varying extents as agreed with the academic supervisor(s). The academic supervisor(s) is ultimately responsible for guiding the vision of the project and ensuring it meets the academic requirements and standards of a Part 4 research project.

- **Model 1 – Standard Industry Project.** In this model, a sponsorship amount of $2,000 will be paid by the industry partner to the department to receive access to the department's facilities, labs, technical support, specialized equipment, and software. Part of this amount goes to the academic staff(s) for providing their services as a research supervisor(s) on the project. At the end of the project, the industry partner will receive a project report and will be invited to attend the Exhibition Day where students showcase their projects to the wider university and public. The agreement governing this model is the **standard industry agreement**. Please read this agreement carefully to understand the Intellectual Property clauses. This model is recommended for feasibility studies and proof-of-concept (PoC) type projects where the industry partner stands to gain from research and PoC implementation but either does not anticipate the generation of new intellectual property that can be potentially patented or commercialized or is fine to share the new IP with the students and the supervisor(s). Changes to the standard agreement are *not* possible. If different terms of contract are preferred, Model 2 should be consulted.

- **Model 2 – Gold Industry Project.** The key difference here is that typically the industry partner anticipates the generation of new IP during the project and wishes to own the IP, or they wish to patent or commercialise the resulting product/technology on their own. In this case, a customized agreement will be created by Uniservices in collaboration with the industry partner as acceptable within the context of the Part 4 Research Projects. A sponsorship amount starting from $10,000 onwards depending on the project's nature and scope will be paid by the industry partner. This amount will typically be distributed amongst the students, supervisor(s), department, and Uniservices. Drafting the customized agreement takes a few weeks and so this process should be initiated as soon as possible. At the end of the project,

the industry partner will receive the project report, any hardware/software/technology development during the project and will be invited to attend the Exhibition Day where students will showcase the project. The internal project report will be detailed so the examiner and assessor can evaluate the project. The project showcase and associated poster and public presentations can be drafted to protect privacy and confidentiality where necessary.

Industry Engagement Guidelines

Industry representatives, staff, and students can propose or enable the proposal of industry projects using the following guidelines.

- **For Industry.** If you are interested in proposing a Part 4 Research Project using one of our two industry engagement models above, please fill out the **online industry project proposal form**. If you have identified a specific staff(s) or student(s) you would like to work on your project, you can list them on the form. You will be contacted by the industry coordinator to begin discussions about the engagement model you prefer and proceed from there.

- **For Staff and Students.** If you are in contact with an industry partner who would like to propose a Part 4 Research Project, follow these steps.
    - Discuss and scope out the research project as best as you can with the industry partner.
    - Share this **Industry Engagement Guide** with them to explain our two engagement models.
    - If they select Model 1 – Standard Industry Project, liaise with them to fill out and sign the **standard agreement form**. Email the filled form to the industry coordinator.
      If they select Model 2 – Gold Industry Project, contact the industry coordinator to commence the Uniservices agreement drafting process.

If you are a student, you can suggest a specific supervisor(s) to be allocated to the project when contacting the industry coordinator. The industry coordinator will attempt to allocate your requested supervisor(s) or find the closest possible match in expertise. Once a supervisor is confirmed, the project will be pre-allocated in the system.

If you are a staff member, the industry coordinator can advertise the project to help you find students for it and pre-allocate the project in the system.

For further inquiries about industry engagement in Part 4 Research Projects, please contact the **ECSE Industry Coordinator**, Dr Rashina Hoda at r.hoda@auckland.ac.nz

ECSE Part 4 Projects – Industry Engagement Webpage and Video
https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/engineering/about-the-faculty/electrical-and-computer-engineering/industry-engagement.html

Online Industry Project Proposal Form
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJX9klle2WvrTsXJA-kLHeNFaEP7_YxeJFibnSOomTV5Rfgw/closedform

Standard Industry Agreement Form
http://www.ece.auckland.ac.nz/content/dam/uoa/ece/documents/ece-part4-sponshorship-agreement.docx