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**To:** [Business School Staff](#)  
**Cc:** [Associates of the Business School](#)  
**Subject:** ADR Update #1: Research committees, A\* Accelerator, MCR Development Programme, ECRC, Internal funding, OA, ICNPG grant  
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**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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### **Business School research committees**

Most of our research activities in the Business School are led by two committees – the Faculty Research Committee and the Early Career Researchers Committee. Their composition is determined on a yearly basis. You can see who will serve on them in 2025 [here](#). I appreciate the work by the two committees' members last year and welcome the new members.

### **A\* Accelerator Programme 2025**

In 2025 we will again run the Faculty-wide A\*Accelerator Programme, which is designed to support academics in the School who are motivated to reach the highest level of journal publication in their field. We invite applications from interested researchers across all Disciplinary Areas (DAs). A preliminary conversation with the respective DA Lead is encouraged. Applications should be sent by COB 21 March to [Prof Peter Boxall](#), who will lead the programme. The programme will commence in April. Applications should describe your A\* project in up to 1,000 words, including:

1. A description of the research question or objectives, the intended theory, model or framework (for theoretical and empirical papers) and the methods and data (for empirical papers). Projects intended to result in a literature review article are also welcome.
2. A description of the importance or envisaged contribution of the paper.
3. Potential challenges and a brief description of the kind of support you would find most helpful to overcome them.
4. Arrangements with any current co-authors or identification of co-authors with whom you would like to collaborate.
5. The targeted journal or journals: ranked A\* by the Australian Business Deans' Council (ABDC) or ranked 4 or 4\* in the Chartered Association of Business Schools' (CABS) Academic Journal Guide or recognised as of the highest standing in a discipline not included in ABDC or CABS lists.

Participants will form a cohort that will participate in key planning and support meetings throughout the year. This is a programme requiring substantial work and dedication. Any questions can be directed to Peter Boxall or me.

### **MCR Development Programme 2025**

After two cohorts of mid career researchers (MCRs) from the Business School completed the programme in 2024, we will be conducting it again this year. In 2025, we will only have one cohort. The programme will commence with an off-site retreat at Castaways 1-3 September, followed by four workshops on 17 September, 1 October, 15 October, and 29 October, all 2-4 pm. To participate in the programme, one needs to commit to all five events.

MCRs are defined as "academics with a research component in their employment agreements who have had at least 8 years of research experience after earning their PhD, see themselves as having more than 5 years of a rewarding research career in front of them, and who identify themselves as MCRs".

If you would like to join the 2025 cohort, please get in touch with me.

### **From the Early Career Researchers Committee desk**

The Early Career Researchers Committee (ECRC) would like to welcome new staff joining our Business School community and welcome back our returning colleagues. Our goal is to support and give a voice to early career researchers across the Faculty of Business and Economics. We are looking forward to an exciting and event-filled year ahead.

The committee has recently worked alongside other faculties to set up a university-wide community to promote interdisciplinary research. The Emerging Researcher Network (ERN) aims to cultivate cross-faculty/LSRI collaborations, with a particular focus on developing proposals for external funding. Following a successful kick-off event in January, the ERN invites ECRs to [register](#) for its upcoming interdisciplinary collaboration session. The event will take place on 24 February.

### **Internal RDF funding available via the FRC in 2025**

Funding for the following initiatives is available again this year from our non-contestable Research Development Fund (RDF):

- Editing support for journal (re)submissions: Applications are open throughout the year.
- Research assistant support (up to 50 hours or \$1,750): Applications are open throughout the year.
- Open Access support (for publishing in journals not covered by the OA Agreements the University of Auckland has signed): Applications are open throughout the year.

- Visiting Scholars Programme: Applications are open only during two competitive rounds, with deadlines 1 March and 1 September.

The application forms for each initiative can be found [here](#). Once the form is completed, please contact [Juan Rodriguez](#). For approved applications, please submit any invoices for payment as soon as the service is completed. Please remember that timesheets for RA payments should be submitted monthly; this will assist with the forecasting and efficient utilisation of our available funds. As communicated previously, researchers with positive balances in either a Research Development Account or a Personal Research Account are expected to utilise these funds before applying for internal RDF funding.

#### **Open Access Publishing Agreements**

The ResearchHub page for Open Access Publishing Agreements has been updated with the latest 2025 information <https://research-hub.auckland.ac.nz/open-access/open-access-publishing-agreements>. The staff UoA email address is required for affiliation verification purposes when submitting a manuscript to a publisher. Student email addresses ([name@aucklanduni.ac.nz](mailto:name@aucklanduni.ac.nz)) and other non-university email addresses will not work. The OA publication option within the publisher's submission platform must be used.

#### **International Central Networks and Partnership Grant 2025**

Round 1 of the [University of Auckland International Central Networks and Partnership Grant 2025](#) is now open. This fund provides financial support for a variety of activities with our network and strategic partner universities. It is also open to PhD students and professional staff wishing to pursue international engagement or research-related endeavours. The deadline for round 1 applications is 5pm on 31 March 2025.

#### **Upcoming research events**

6 March – 2-4pm: Royal Society Te Apārangi Early Career forum members. Register [here](#).

Take good care,  
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 2022 onwards on the [Research section of the Business School internet pages](#).