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To: [Business School Staff](#)
Cc: [Associates of the Business School](#)
Subject: ADR Update #6: Ethics guidelines for research, RSNZ guidelines for using GenAI in research, MCR Taskforce, Visiting Scholars Programme, RDF and JRF 2026, Research Translation Competition
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Attachments: [image002.png](#)



Hi all,

Ethics Guidelines for Conducting Research with Human Participants

We are invited to offer feedback on the University's new "Ethical Guidelines for Conducting Research with Human Participants", developed as part of the Research Ethics Improvement Plan. The feedback form is open until 25 July 2025, and both staff and students can participate. More information is available [here](#), including the link to the form.

An additional update on this:

Jointly with colleagues from the Faculty of Arts and Education, I made a submission to the Pro Vice-Chancellor Global and Graduate Research and one of the Associate Directors of the [Research and Innovation Office](#), explaining why the current ethics approval and renewal process does not work for many, if not most, researchers in our respective faculties. Prof Karen Fernandez was also part of the group in her then role as Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research). The submission included an unambiguously worded memo, supplemented by two previous ones sent to the two different Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Research) at the time (from the former Faculty of Education and Social Work in 2012 and me in 2020). We also included three publications on research ethics by members of our group to argue our case. I am happy to share the documents on request.

A meeting with the parties involved took place 3 July. It was a productive one, reigniting the hope for a resolution after a long battle for making ethics-related processes in our university actually work for us.

The Royal Society NZ launches best-practice guidelines for using GenAI in research

[Researchers urged to take 'critical approach' to using AI](#) - A set of guidelines issued in June this year by the Royal Society Te Apārangi outlines the way the emerging technology might impact researchers' work. The guidelines warn of "cultural limitations, bias, hallucinations, and inaccuracies of generative AI" and stress that responsibility for outputs lies with human researchers.

From the Mid-Career Researchers Taskforce

After the success of our previous writing retreats and based on feedback we gathered during and after them, the Mid-Career Researchers (MCR) Taskforce is pleased to announce the 2025 writing retreat. It will be a three-day/two-night event for 10 MCRs. Funded by the Faculty Research Committee, it will take place 19-21 November at Waitakere Resort, in Waikarua, West Auckland. Participants need to commit to the full, uninterrupted duration of the retreat and specify in advance their objective(s). A pre-dinner speaker on sustaining writing and a roundtable discussion on writing productivity techniques will provide further insights and an opportunity for networking among MCRs.

If you have a research component in your contract and see yourself as an MCR, you are eligible to apply. Please email [Dr Dan Tisch](#) with your name, department, a statement confirming that you commit to participating in the full event, and your writing provisional objective(s).

Visiting Scholars Programme

The next deadline for applying for funds in this Programme is 1 September. All details are available [here](#). [Assoc Prof Helen Delaney](#) is the Lead on behalf of the Faculty Research Committee.

Research Development Fund 2026 – contestable round

Applications to the Research Development Fund (RDF) contestable round for projects starting in 2026 are now open. The relevant forms are also available on the [Faculty intranet](#) (login required). An information session will take place 15 September; details on this are in the last section. The deadlines for sending applications to the respective Disciplinary Area Lead is 3 October, 5pm and for submitting the final application is 17 October, 5pm.

- We are inviting applications for funding of 1-year projects with budgets of up to \$15,000.
- Project accounts will be active from 1 January 2026, and the funds must be utilised by 31 December 2026 at the latest.
- Following the UoA guidelines, applications for workload relief and teaching buyout will not be considered.

Juncture Research Fund 2026: Call for proposals

The Juncture Research Fund (JRF) 2026 is now open for applications for collaborative, impactful research projects. There is no upper limit to the funding, and research may be funded for up to three years. Projects should challenge core assumptions about business and capitalism and explore how they can evolve to enhance the wellbeing of people and the planet. Interest registration is via juncture-ic-centre@auckland.ac.nz. Preparatory sessions will take place – see details in the last section. The deadline for sending applications to the respective Disciplinary Area Lead is 3 October, 5pm and for submitting the final application 17 October, 5pm.

Research Translation Competition

On 16 June, a panel session took place, featuring Aotearoa Business and Economics Research Translation Awards (RTA) insights and experiences from Dr Diandian Ma (Accounting & Finance), Dr Nane Fifita (Marketing), Assoc Prof Edward Yiu (Property), and Dr Johnny Chan (ISOM). Facilitated by Dr Drew Franklin on behalf of the Faculty Research Committee, the discussion centred around the criteria, submission, and judging process, as well as the level and the type of Committee support for colleagues involved in the RTA after the event. This includes assistance with publishing in The Conversation, featuring in short videos, and syndicating research findings through other communications channels. For further information about the 2025 RTA hosted by AUT (deadline for submissions is 31 July 2025), please visit the competition [here](#).

Other upcoming research events and deadlines

27 July: Application deadline for the UoA Research to Innovation Hatchery, a free 12-week programme assisting researchers to transform some of their work into actionable solutions. Register [here](#).

28 July: Deadline for [BRANZ Building Research Levy Grants](#)

7 August 9am-11am: JRF 2026 - Ideation and development workshop. Room 260-206

7 August: [John Templeton Foundation – Big Ideas and Core Areas](#) grants, up to \$390k for up to 33 months. These grants offer an excellent funding opportunity for researchers working in Social Sciences. The [Research Funding Team](#) can provide more information on opportunities with this funder.

25 & 26 August, 11am-1pm: JRF 2026 - Project development sessions, bookable in 20-min slots. Toroa Collab Lounge

15 September 11am-12pm: RDF 2026 information session. Calendar invitation circulated. OGGB, room 260-325

31 October: Deadline for [KU Leuven Global Seed Fund \(GSF\)](#). 1-year projects, up to €30,000 per project (KU Leuven), plus \$25,000 NZD (UoA, apply for matched funding through the [Global Research Engagement Fund](#)). Eligible activities include organising joint workshops, reciprocal travel between institutions, and other activities that support the proposed research and strengthen the partnership (to be approved by both institutions). Contact international.research@auckland.ac.nz for further details.

Take 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](#).