

From: [Snejina Michailova](#)
To: [Business School Staff](#)
Cc: [Associates of the Business School](#)
Subject: ADR Update #5: RDF applications invited, New databases available, SRAs, New library software, Collaborative UoA funding
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2026 10:45:19 am
Attachments: [RDF 2027 - Funding call package.zip](#)
[Outlook-g3zc1igs.png](#)



Update #5, 2026

Hi all,

Applications invited for RDF projects 2027

The Faculty Research Committee invites applications for the Research Development Fund (RDF) 1-year projects starting in January 2027. The relevant information (the call, guidelines, and application form) is attached. An information session will take place 1 September; see the details below. The process this year is slightly modified: Disciplinary Area (DA) Leads will assess and submit the applications. The deadline for sending applications to the respective DA Lead is 14 September, 5pm.

New databases available in the Business School

This year, the Faculty Research Committee initiated and managed a new research data/infrastructure funding (RDIF) portfolio. The \$50,000 in funding was intended to support the acquisition of electronic research datasets. Applications were evaluated against the objectives of the RDIF scheme, with particular emphasis on their potential for collaborative use across disciplines within the Business School. The Faculty Research Committee approved the purchase of two databases. Researchers interested in these resources are encouraged to contact the lead applicants for further details and make use of the newly acquired databases:

- LSEG SDC Platinum (Dr Michelle Li; michelle.li@auckland.ac.nz)
- Morningstar Direct (Dr Xing Han; xing.han@auckland.ac.nz)

Signature Research Areas

The signature research areas (SRAs) have now been confirmed. They connect existing strengths, supporting interdisciplinary work alongside disciplinary excellence. They are meant to serve as a platform for enabling bold research programmes, major funding bids, and global partnerships. The SRAs were developed through academic-led engagement across faculties, large-scale research institutes, and research groups, and are expected to facilitate work at scale. The portfolio of SRAs is aligned with our university's mission, values, and long-term aspirations. The six SRAs are:

- Future health
- Te puna ora o te mātauranga iwi taketake: The future is ancestral
- Blue Pacific futures
- Frontier technologies
- Sustainable energy futures
- Public knowledge, public trust

As indicated by the Vice Chancellor at the [all-staff forum](#) on 27 May, these are placeholder names that are still

being finalised. Information about the processes related to SRAs is available [here](#), and the latest updates can be found [here](#).

New library software

LibKey is integrated into the Library Catalogue and major databases, enabling faster one-click access to download journal articles' PDFs. Also available is LibKey Nomad – a browser extension for browsing the web and connecting to full-text journal articles. The [LibKey Guide](#) offers more information about the extension.

BrowZine is a journal platform that facilitates browsing, reading, and monitoring online journals available via our Library. One can create a bookshelf of one's favourite journals and receive notifications/alerts of new journal issues. The BrowZine app can be downloaded to various devices. The [BrowZine Guide](#) provides more information.

UoA funding opportunities for collaborative research

[The Global Research Engagement Fund \(GREF\)](#)

With reductions in domestic funding, GREF provides funding of up to \$25,000 to foster the development of research partnerships with international collaborators and development of applications to major international funding schemes. The next deadline is 11 June. Applicants must connect with international.research@auckland.ac.nz to inform their intention to submit no later than 4 June.

Applicants should carefully read the guidelines to align their proposal with the fund. Exemplars are available from our Research Services team. Research Manager International, Rosie Boxall, is also available at international.research@auckland.ac.nz to discuss application drafts.

[Transdisciplinary Ideation Fund \(TIF\)](#)

TIF encourages research staff from across the university to develop research partnerships, aspiring toward high-quality [Transdisciplinary research](#) outputs, research learning initiatives, and successful applications to external research funders. This funding is intended to support an increase in:

- cross-disciplinary collaboration and transdisciplinary research, including increased engagement with external stakeholders and communities;
- the number of Māori, Pacific Island, and early-career researchers involved in significant research projects;
- the number of successful applications to major external funding rounds.

Up to 15 projects, each up to \$20,000, will be funded. Applicant teams must include researchers from at least two faculties and evidence transdisciplinary aspects of the research they intend to conduct. Deadline for applications is 22 September 2026.

Upcoming research events and deadlines

3 June 11am–12.30pm: Tāwhia Te Mana Research Fellowships Research Impact webinar. Register [here](#).

4 June 5pm: Deadline for Summer Research Scholarships (SRS) Project Proposals 2026–2027

4 June: GREF deadline. For further information, including the application form and guidelines, click [here](#).

10 June 9.30am–3:30pm: Emerging Researcher Network – Development Day. Register [here](#).

18 June 10am–11:30am: Tāwhia Te Mana Research Fellowships Narrative CV Writing Workshop. Register [here](#).

29 June–3 July: [Research Bazaar Aotearoa 2026](#) ResBaz is a free online digital research skills workshop series designed to encourage the transfer of digital skills and methods in research. Over 40 workshops are on offer. Participants are free to register for as many workshops as they are interested in. The 2026 programme is available [here](#).

30 June: Deadline for Royal Society Te Apārangi – Tāwhia te Mana Fellowships: [Mana Tūāpapa Future Leader Fellowship](#), [Mana Tūānuku Research Leader Fellowship](#), [Tūārangī Distinguished Researcher Fellowship](#).

30 June: Deadline, Royal Society Te Apārangi 2026 Call for fellowship nominations for Ngā Ahurei a Te Apārangi and Ngā Ahurei Honore a Te Apārangi. Click [here](#) for details on the application process and requirements.

1 September, 11:00am–12:00pm, room 260-317. RDF 2027 – Information session for applicants.

22 September 12pm: Deadline TIF applications. More information about application submissions [here](#).

Take care,

Snejina

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](#).
