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**To:** [Business School Staff](#)  
**Cc:** [Associates of the Business School](#)  
**Subject:** ADR Update #7: Business School Research Excellence Awards, UoA signature research areas, Faculty research funding, Academic integrity work update, MCR Taskforce  
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**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Hi all,

#### **Business School Research Excellence Awards 2025**

It was fantastic to celebrate researchers whose achievements were recognised at the Business School function yesterday. As the Chair of the Committee Assoc Prof Lina El-Jahel mentioned in her speech, 17 nominations were received this year. Here are the award recipients:

- Early Career Research Excellence: Dr Sihong Wu (MIB)
- Mid-Career Research Excellence: Assoc Prof Julia Fehrer (MIB) and Assoc Prof Yuri Seo (MKTG)
- Research Engagement and Relevance: Dr Lynn Buckley (COMLAW) and Dr Gertjan Verdickt (A&F)
- Doctoral Research Supervision: Dr Simona Fabrizi (ECON)
- Sustained Research Excellence: Prof Julia Kotlarsky (ISOM)

Warm congratulations to all!

#### **UoA signature research areas**

The DVC Research & Innovation Prof Frank Bloomfield emailed the university community to inform us all about what has been decided to be labelled 'signature research areas (SRAs)'. Information about the development of the areas, what this will mean in practice, and what is coming next is available [here](#). Subsequently, he provided a link to a [survey](#) through which everyone can contribute to shaping these areas. The survey is open until 19 August.

Each faculty has the discretion to decide how to contribute to the process. To balance between taking care of our everyday core obligations and responsibilities and voicing our views in regard to the SRAs, here is what is going on and what I suggest we do in the Business School:

- SRA-related matters were discussed in our Faculty Research Committee yesterday. For the largest part of the meeting, we interacted with Prof Bloomfield to seek clarity on and debate the reasoning, intent, process, and potential consequences. It was a productive discussion.
- Having a conversation about SRA-related matters is also on the agenda of a meeting that Assoc Prof Helen Delaney (still in her role as Assoc Dean Faculty) and I will have with our Disciplinary Area Leads and Directors of Research Centres and Research Beacons. This meeting is scheduled for 13 August.

We recently had 18 focus groups as part of shaping the strategy of our faculty. Many issues discussed in the focus groups seem to appear in discussions around SRAs. The Faculty Research Committee has also related to SRAs in the Research & Innovation position paper draft that will be shared with everyone soon. So, the above two meetings, the position paper, and the university-wide survey should be sufficient for us to contribute to the university-wide process. Please feel free to contribute to the process via the Disciplinary Area to which you belong and/or the Centre/Beacon of which you are a member. And please do reach out if you think we should do this differently.

#### **Faculty research funding**

##### ***Funding with deadlines***

The next deadline for applying for funds in the Business School Visiting Scholars Programme is 1 September. All details are available [here](#).

A reminder that applications to the Research Development Fund contestable round are due to the respective Disciplinary Area Leads by 3 October, and for submitting the final application by 17 October. The relevant forms are also available on the [Faculty intranet](#) (login required). An information session will take place 15 September. We are inviting applications for funding of 1-year projects that will be conducted in 2026 with budgets of up to \$15,000.

##### ***Ongoing funding (with no specific deadlines)***

- Open Access (OA) support for publishing in journals not covered by the OA Agreements the UoA has signed. OA is also available for published book chapters and case studies. Currently, we cannot afford to fund books. If this

changes, I will let you know. Also, we can only fund published outputs, not intended ones.

- Language editing support for journal (re)submissions
- Research assistant support (up to 50 hours or \$1,750)

The three application forms are available [here](#). For approved applications, please submit any invoices for payment as soon as the service is completed. Please remember that timesheets for research assistant payments should be submitted monthly; this will assist with the forecasting and efficient utilisation of our available funds.

#### Academic integrity work update

In 2025, the UoA Research Integrity Team has progressed with strengthening the institutional framework for responsible research conduct. The [Research Integrity Policy](#) was officially approved and released in February this year. A [Research Integrity and Good Research Practice \(GRP\) Hub](#) has been established, offering up-to-date resources, including [Good Research Practice Guidance](#) and [procedures for reporting potential breaches of the policy](#). Our Research Integrity Advisor Assoc Prof Edward Yiu has joined the team that is updating the [Authorship and Publication Guidelines](#) aimed to ensure clarity and consistency in scholarly communication. An [Authorship Agreement](#) that outlines authors' contributions and responsibilities is also available. There is a process underway to allow for reporting concerns related to potential breaches of Good Research Practice, further enhancing research transparency and accountability.

#### From the Mid-Career Researchers Taskforce

The Mid-Career Researchers (MCR) Taskforce is pleased to highlight two upcoming events:

- The MCR 2<sup>nd</sup> interactive session, *Aligning Teaching, Research, and Service* in the series *Managing Work-Life Challenges*, will open with a panel discussion featuring Dr Antje Fiedler, Dr Shahper Richter, and Dr Fred Ng, followed by small-group conversations to share experiences, challenges, and strategies. The session is scheduled for 19 September, 10am-12pm, Case Room 4.
- The details about the MCR Writing Retreat, 19-21 November, were announced in ADR Update #6 (10 July). There are five spaces remaining.

The MCR Taskforce welcomes suggestions for future events and topics. Please email Dr Fred Ng.

#### Other upcoming research events and deadlines

25 August: Building your Researcher Identity with ORCID (online). [Book now](#).

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

27 August: Elevate your research identity (online). [Book now](#).

28 August, 2pm-3.30pm: ABDC-PRME ANZ Climate Action CoP. Register [here](#).

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

15 September: Deadline for [WUN Research Development Fund](#), up to \$22,000 for 1-year collaborative projects with WUN partners.

26 September: Interdisciplinary symposium on SDGs. [Learn more here](#).

30 September: Deadline for applying for the International Central Networks and Partnership Grant 2025 (Round 3). Details are available [here](#).

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](mailto:international.research@auckland.ac.nz) for further details.

Take care,  
Snejina

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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](#).