Update #1, 2023

Hi all,

Welcome to the first ADR Update for 2023!

Thank you to Prof Rod McNaughton for stepping in as Acting Associate Dean Research and Acting Associate Dean PBRF in the second half of last year while I was on RSL.

Faculty Research Committee and Early Career Researchers’ Committee

There are a few changes to the membership of the Faculty Research Committee and the Early CareerResearchers’ Committee in 2023. Congratulations to Dr Mahdi Mahmoudzadeh (ISOM) who has been elected by the ECRC to the Chair role and thank you to outgoing Chair, Dr Grigorij Ljubownikow (MIB), for his leadership of ECRC over the last two years. I appreciate the work of the two committees’ members in 2022 and welcome our new members.

Our two priorities for 2023

Mid-career researchers (MCRs) comprise approximately 45% of research staff in the Business School. Supporting their development will be among our research priorities. Prof Emeritus Rod Brodie and Dr Lisa Callagher (MIB) conducted a series of MCR focus groups last year and are currently analysing the results. This analysis, along with input from the literature on MCRs, will inform the development of designated MCR development initiatives throughout 2023 and beyond.

Our other priority this year will be our Research Centres and Research Beacons. The Research Centres have now operated for a year under the relatively new university policy in that space. We intend to do more work to utilise the opportunities these Centres and Beacons in the Business School offer.

Successes to celebrate

MBIE Endeavour success

The Faculty’s success in the 2022 MBIE Endeavour round was pointed out last year; here I would like to congratulate the following researchers for their cross-institutional collaborations and MBIE funding success:

- Assoc Prof Julia Fehrer (MIB) for the project titled “Shaping a circular market system for plastics in New Zealand” that was awarded $11.7 million.
- Prof Kenneth Husted and Dr Yat Ming Ooi (both MIB) for the project titled “Developing a Construction 4.0 transformation of Aotearoa New Zealand’s construction sector” that was awarded $10.3 million.
- Prof Emeritus Basil Sharp, Dr Selena Sheng, and Dr Len Wen from the Energy Centre (Economics) for the project titled “Sustainable biomass-derived materials to replace bitumen for transport infrastructure” that was awarded $9.1 million.

Transdisciplinary Ideation Funding awarded late 2022

24 submissions from across the University were made in the latest round; 12 received funding and a further five applications received conditional funding to support the proposed research.

- Dr Kiri Dell and Prof Kenneth Husted (both MIB) are Associate Investigators on “Huri Rawa, Huri Rauna: Māori-Led Circular Economy” that was awarded $60,000 with co-investigators from the Faculties of Engineering and Science.
- Dr Brent Burmeister (MIB) was awarded $20,000 of conditional funding for his project “Delimiting Datafication: Extending AI Auditing to Training-Data Appropriation” with colleagues from the Faculties of Creative Arts and Industries and Science. This is Brent’s 2nd TIF grant.

Internal funding

Funding for the following initiatives is available again this year from our non-contestable research development fund (RDF):

- Editing support for journal (re)submissions
- Research Assistant support

The application forms can be found here. Once the form is completed, please contact Juan Rodriguez. For approved applications, please submit any invoices as soon as the service is completed. Please remember that timesheets for payment should be submitted monthly; this will help with the forecast and efficient utilisation of our available funds. As communicated in the past, researchers with positive balances in either a Research Development Account or a Personal Research Account will be expected to use the funds in these accounts before applying for RDF money.

Open Access publishing agreements
These agreements with scholarly publishers allow researchers to publish their work without incurring the (often significant) article processing charges/publication fees and seek to increase the number of open access articles published in scholarly journals. UoA has 15 Open Access publishing agreements available to affiliated researchers for the duration of 2023. You can read more about this and view the list of publisher agreements on Research Hub.

Social Sciences Research Network (SSRN)

In 2022, we continued to upload recent research papers and/or abstracts to the University of Auckland Business School Research Paper Series (RPS) that now includes 1,062 UABS papers/abstracts. There have been 61,945 downloads and 375,109 abstract views to date.

The top cited papers (co)authored by our colleagues in 2022 are:

- "Detecting financial collapse and ballooning sovereign risk" by Peter C Phillips
- "Relative valuation with machine learning" co-authored by Paul Geertsema and Helen Lu
- "Real time monitoring of asset markets: Bubbles and crises" co-authored by Peter C Phillips
- "Corporate governance for sustainability" co-authored by Susan Watson
- "Continuously updated indirect inference in heteroskedastic spatial models" co-authored by Peter C Phillips

The top downloaded papers in 2022 are:

- "Blockchain and Decentralised Autonomous Organisations (DAOs): The evolution of companies?" by Alex Sims
- "Corporate governance for sustainability" co-authored by Susan Watson
- "An introduction to blockchain, cryptocurrency and initial coin offerings" co-authored by Jue Wand
- "Relative valuation with machine learning" co-authored by Paul Geertsema and Helen Lu
- "External factors and the pricing of audit services: A systematic review of the archival literature using a PESTLE analysis" co-authored by David Hay.

You can also check out the Research Paper Series dashboard when you are signed into your SSRN account to view the global reach, metrics, and more of the UABS papers on SSRN. RPS. And if you have a paper/abstract yet to be uploaded to SSRN, please email the details to ssruabs@auckland.ac.nz, and our Research Services Team will take care of it for you. All UABS ejournal issues from the last three years are available on the UABS SSRN Research Paper Series webpage. The first 2023 ejournal issue is scheduled to be published within the next few weeks.

Marsden submissions

Five researchers from our Faculty are submitting Marsden EoIs this year – one for the Fast-Start round, and four for the Standard round. We wish the applicants well as they complete the final submission and for the review process. Outcomes and invitations to submit full proposals will be announced on 9 May.

External funding options in February and March

There are several other external funding opportunities available over the next two months:

- Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust - Post-doctoral Research Award ($16k)
- Turning the World Risk Poll 2021 into action ($475k - $1.4million)
- Fulbright Specialist Awards for visiting scholars or professionals from the US to visit NZ.

You are welcome to check the Research Intranet page for more details and for deadlines and don’t hesitate to get in touch with the Research Services team if you are interested in applying for any of these grants.

Research Professional

This tool provides researchers in all disciplines with up-to-date coverage of the latest developments on funding agencies, government departments, newsworthy people, funding opportunities and trends globally. It includes opportunities that are not advertised by the Funds and Submissions team, but for which UoA researchers are eligible to apply. It has a large database and researchers can set up alerts that are tailored to their needs and interests. For additional UoA information about accessing the site, please use the following link.

Upcoming research events

10 February, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm; MBIE virtual webinar on Narrative CV’s. Register here.

20 February, 1:30 pm – 4.30 pm; measureQ – Examining Qualities of Measurement Scales in Empirical Studies, a workshop led by Prof Gordon Cheung and organised by the Faculty Research Committee.

7 March, 12 pm – 1 pm: Health and Well-being Research Beacon Co-Lead Assoc Prof Laszlo Sajtos (Marketing) will welcome Erskine Visitor Prof Stacy Wood, North Carolina State University, and Prof Eklant Veeër, University of Canterbury Business School to discuss potential avenues for collaboration on health-related topics. Prof Wood will present on the topic ‘Marketing + Medicine: Using Marketing Theory to Improve Patient Choices & Outcomes’ at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

In March (date and time tbc): Health and Well-being Research Beacon Co-Lead Prof Paul Rouse will chair a panel discussion on ‘Pricing and Funding with case mix models’ including experts Julie Harris, Senior Business Analyst at Waitemata DHB, Dr Michael Rainis, Principal Analyst at Technical Advisory Services (TAS), Byron Gill, Funding and National Costing Collection and Pricing Programme, TWO/HNZ, and Dr Ajit Arulambalam, Management Consultant Performance Strategy & Funder Projects. Watch this space.

Did you know?

There has been, and there will continue to be, plenty of discussion about ChatGPT in academic circles, but did you know some papers are citing it as a co-author? You can read more here. ChatGPT is on the agenda to be discussed in Sticky Questions at the Faculty meeting 16 February.

Take care and best regards,

Snejina
This email is intended to keep staff of the University of Auckland Business School informed about research news, seminars, panel discussions and grant applications. You can view previous editions of the ADR Update from 2021 on the Research section of the Business School internet pages.