

ANZAM Institutional Members' Meeting, 4 December 2015

New Zealand Performance-Based Research Fund and its Relevance to Management

Delwyn Clark, Waikato Management School

NZ Performance-Based Research Fund and its Relevance to Management



| | In the beginning 2003 | 2006 | 2012 | What's up now? 2015 - 2018 |
|--------------------|--|--------|------|---|
| Purpose | Improve research quality – to underpin high quality 3° education system | | | Investment in research that has impact – science system |
| Funds | From Ministry of Education "top ups" for postgraduate teaching – mostly for salaries | \$185M | | MBIE NSSI Investigator-led Institutional funds from Vote TEC \$300M (2016) |
| Fund allocation | 60% Research Quality 25% Research Degree Completions 15% External Research Income | | | 55% Research Quality 25% Research Degree Completions 20% External Research Income |

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| | In the beginning 2003 | 2006 | 2012 | What's up now? 2015 - 2018 |
|--------------------------------|--|---------|---------------------------|---|
| Unit of Analysis / Eligibility | Individual staff teaching >25% of 1 course on 0.2FTE contract 12 months+ Census | Partial | New Rules Late Δ | Individual staff teaching or research |
| Evidence Portfolio | 4 best outputs + platform ≤ 30 OROs 70% PE ≤ 30 items:9 types 15% CRE ≤ 30 items:9 types 15% | | | 4 best outputs + Platform ≤ 12 OROs 70% RC ≤ 15 items: 12 types 30% |
| Units for Reporting | BEC Panel/4 Subjects Academic Units Tertiary Institutions | | | BEC Panels/4 Subjects Academic Units Tertiary Institutions |
| Metrics | Average Quality Score (AQS) | AQS | AQS* *** | AQS(N) |

PBRF and Relevance to Management?



- PBRF system and priorities keep changing
- Research performance matters and the expectations for quality outputs are increasing
 - Business and Economics panel subjects focus on quality refereed journal articles
- VCs are interested in the money and rankings
 - Mandate moch-PBRF rounds to check on progress
 - Expect all academic staff to be B or above (or NE)
- Business School Deans/HOSs/CODs are also focussed on international accreditations and subject accreditations
 - Focus on research excellence, hire research performers, manage non-performance
 - Focus on impact, engagement and innovation

Business and Economics (BEC) Panel Issues



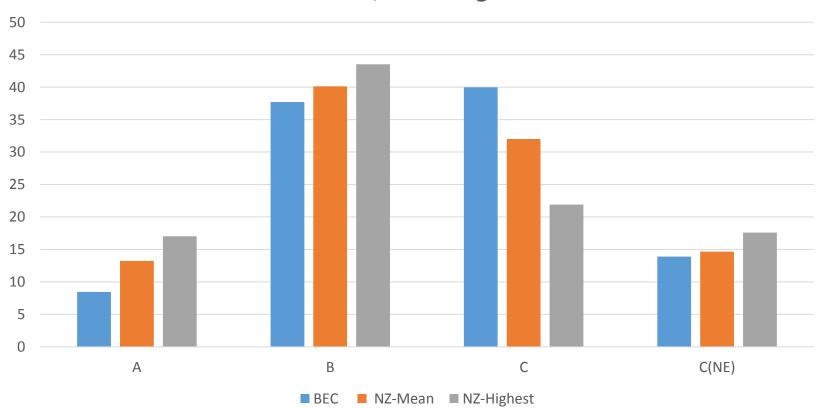
- BEC Panel third largest number of funded EPs in 2012 (688.55)
- Panel moderation process yet panels have very different % of As; BEC scores lowest in 2012 (8.45% As) – see graph
- Consistency in expectations across 4 subject areas – perception easier to get an A or B in some BEC subjects
- Mis-use of ABDC rankings as proxy for quality
- Recognition of Impact and Outreach

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Business and Economics (BEC) Panel Comparison



PBRF Panel Results 2012, Percentage Grade Distributions



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BEC Subjects 2012, Comparison



| Subject | AQS | Rank | A or B % | А% | Number |
|----------------------|------|------|----------|-------|--------|
| Economics | 4.68 | 22 | 54.45 | 12.63 | 132 |
| Marketing & Tourism | 4.20 | 31 | 46.3 | 8.7 | 144 |
| Accounting & Finance | 4.04 | 38 | 40.54 | 10.45 | 162 |
| Management | 4.01 | 39 | 45.32 | 4.81 | 250 |
| NZ Mean | 4.66 | 42 | 53.33 | 13.22 | 6311 |

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Managing Research Performance: Principles



- Strategic focus on research
- Recruit excellent researchers and research leaders
- Develop comprehensive policies incl. specific guidelines for research quality and quantity
- Provide resources and incentives
- Facilitate strong research culture
- Routinise research and writing
- Monitor research performance systematically and follow up on non-performance

Managing Research Performance: Pitfalls/Challenges

- · Research as "residual" activity
- Quality of leadership
- Effective implementation of policies, processes and practices
- Alignment of interests with strategic focus
- Taking actions for non-performance

Performance-Based Research Fund, PBRF Objectives



The primary objectives of the PBRF are to:

- increase the quality of basic and applied research at New Zealand's degreegranting TEOs;
- support world-leading teaching and learning at degree and postgraduate levels;
- assist New Zealand's TEOs to maintain and lift their competitive rankings relative to their international peers; and
- provide robust public information to stakeholders about research performance within and across TEOs.

In doing so, the PBRF will also:

- support the development of postgraduate student researchers and new and emerging researchers;
- support research activities that provide economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits to New Zealand, including the advancement of mātauranga māori; and
- support technology and knowledge transfer to New Zealand businesses, iwi and communities.

http://www.tec.govt.nz/Funding/Fund-finder/Performance-Based-Research-Fund-PBRF-/

Research Contributions (RC)



- Research Contributions provide staff members with an opportunity to demonstrate:
 - the **esteem** in which their peers, within and outside of TEOs, hold their research;
 - their role and the **contributions** they make, in creating a vital, high-quality research environment; and
 - any impact that their research has had outside academia.
- Research Contribution items will be indicators of a vital, high quality research environment.
- These items may also provide indicators of the social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits of the research including the advancement of Mātauranga Māori.
- Research Contribution items may be local, national and/or international in orientation and impact. esteem, recognition or acknowledgement of your research expertise by peers (up to 15 items)

Research: Intellectual Contributions



- Standard 2: The School produces high-quality intellectual contributions that are consistent with its mission, expected outcomes, and strategies and that impact the theory, practice and teaching of business and management.
- Intellectual Contributions
 - Basic or Discovery Scholarship
 - Applied or Integration/Application Scholarship
 - Teaching and Learning Scholarship
- Impact of Intellectual Contributions impact is concerned with the difference made or innovations fostered by intellectual contributions what has been changed, accomplished, or improved?
- **Impact** is defined as "an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia" (REF, 2011)
- Impact scope may be local, regional, national, or global