

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Faculty Secondment to Centre Scheme (FSCS)

AIM

This scheme is designed to provide encouragement to academic staff of the Faculty to increase their research portfolio through a period of secondment to one of the Faculty Centres, that is either the Centre of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan (CoPAAL) or the National Centre for Clinical Outcomes Research (Nursing and Midwifery) (NaCCOR).

The Faculty has set aside funds to enable academic staff to undertake research within either of the faculty research centres. The funds will be provided to the staff member's school to release them from teaching duties up to 0.5 of their load.

ELIGIBILITY

Those eligible to apply for the FSCS must:

- hold a full-time or at least a 0.5 fractional appointment as a Level A, B or C academic in the Faculty of Health Sciences;
- have been employed at ACU National for at least one (1) year (equivalent full-time) prior to the application;
- ideally have completed a Doctoral qualification within the previous five (5) years, or alternatively be undertaking a PhD at ACU National and wish to work on an aspect of their studies;
- have developed an emerging research portfolio in line with the goals of the respective research centre and the University's research agenda;
- be able to demonstrate a plan for the research activities to be undertaken during the seconded period.

PROCESS

Prior to making an application, prospective applicants should liaise with the Head of School and the Director or Deputy Director within the Centre to which they wish to be seconded. Liaison will establish possible research projects with which they might link, as well as any potential mentoring that may be provided. Essentially they may wish to seek advice on how well any proposed research plans and activities, such as proposed journal article submissions, grant applications, or advancing a substantial part of an existing project, fit with the Centre's profile.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

To apply for secondment, eligible staff should prepare a submission that sets out:

1. a detailed and argued plan, including time line and tangible outcome(s), of the process and activities they seek to undertake within the Centre;
2. an indication of support by their Head of School and Centre Director or Deputy Director;
3. an up-to-date CV.

The completed application setting forth the plan must be no more than six (6) pages in total and the last paragraph should summarise the significance of the research in relation to 1) the goals of the Centre and 2) the contribution to the University's research agenda. The font size should be 12, with no less than single-spacing. A statement about research track record relative to opportunities sought may also be included in addition to the six (6) pages. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that sufficient detail is provided in the application to enable the Committee to fairly assess the application.

SELECTION PROCESS

Successful applicants will be selected by a committee consisting of the Associate Dean (Research, Research Training and Partnerships) or her nominee, the directors of the centres, and, depending on the applicant, deputy directors of centres, and one academic staff member who is not an applicant for secondment.

REPORTING

A detailed **final** report must be submitted **within 3 months of the completion** of the time-line submitted in the application. All reports must be submitted to the Associate Dean (Research, Research Training and Partnerships) of the Faculty or her nominee. A presentation at a Faculty Seminar is also an expectation.

Applications close on the 31st of October for secondment in the first or second semester of the following year.

Applications should be sent to the Faculty Executive Officer

The FSCS cannot be used in conjunction with, nor as a substitute for, other schemes available within ACU National e.g. secondment to the Institute for the Advancement of Research.

Faculty of Health Sciences
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Support from Head of School:

Signature:.....

Support from Centre Director or Deputy Directors:

Signature: