

THEME: Working with industry: Driving innovation and growth

TITLE: Designing our national Industry PhD scheme to catalyse research collaboration, drive innovation and deliver economic and societal benefits

AUTHOR(S): Helen Ross - Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland

HOW DOES THE ABSTRACT ALIGN WITH THE THEME?

Industry PhDs and how we can design and deliver components to drive innovation and growth at a national level

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

See abstract

ABSTRACT:

In 2024, the New Zealand Government called for registrations of interest to manage a national industry PhD - the Applied Doctorates Scheme. The NZ University sector responded to this challenge, and a consortium of the University of Auckland, Victoria University Wellington, University of Otago and Massey University were awarded the contract, with the Scheme due to start in mid-2025. This presentation will outline the key components of the New Zealand Scheme: Industry-based research projects within strategically themed cohorts; an extensive co-curricular programme of skills training; increased pastoral and student support; and enhanced training and support for University and Industry supervisors. We'll explore how our scalable Scheme is specifically designed to increase nationwide University-Industry collaboration, spark future innovative partnerships, and increase employment-ready PhD graduates across the country. We'll also reflect on the challenges and opportunities of collaborating across multiple Universities, their Graduate Research Schools, Research Offices, Business Development, TTO functions and Industry Partners to create a meaningful and successful proposal, all within the extremely demanding deadlines of government procurement processes.