

Department of Preventive and Social Medicine Research strategic plan 2015 – 2020

The aim of the Department is to develop and maintain excellence in research relevant to Public Health and its related disciplines.

Objective and Strategies to achieve this are:

1. Encourage staff to maximise both the number and quality of research outputs
 - a) Foster departmental expectations for staff research outputs
 - b) Regularly monitor and report on the number and quality of Department research outputs and grant applications
2. Release time for research
 - a) Adopt research-focused Fridays
 - b) Aim to minimise individual staff administrative tasks
 - c) Make research a Departmental priority
3. Build research capacity within Dept.
 - a) Identify and support expertise within the Department
 - b) Support essential skills interest groups (e.g. “Big Data”)
 - c) Skills workshops (e.g. statistical sessions)
 - d) Mentor new and emerging researchers (e.g. peer support groups etc.)
 - e) Provide an excellent training for research students
 - f) Facilitate writing groups and other in-house support.
4. Encourage a culture of collaboration
 - a) Within the department:
 - i) In-house convention
 - ii) Mid year research week
 - iii) Regular research meetings
 - b) Within the school/university:
 - i) Encourage staff to actively seek areas of collaboration
 - ii) Collaborate through specialist consultancy around areas of departmental expertise.
 - c) Nationally and internationally:
 - i) Support collaborative projects with other researchers and institutions within New Zealand and overseas
5. Increase external grant funding
 - a) Offer timely internal peer review for grant applications
 - b) Diversify funding streams
 - c) Encourage staff to participate in external grant funding assessment work (e.g. HRC committees etc.)
6. Encourage “departmental citizenship”
 - a) Value attendance at departmental and university-level research meetings
 - b) Create an inclusive environment for all staff regardless of how funded
 - c) Allow for these activities in workload models
 - d) Recognise and celebrate achievements

It is expected that progress towards these objectives and the success of these strategies will be reviewed biennially.