INNOVATION OFFERING NEW PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Centre for Microbial Innovation

The Centre for Microbial Innovation (CMI) brings together researchers with a range of expertise in microbial systems. As a cross-disciplinary environment for theoretical and practical research, CMI has a strong focus on problem solving.

CMI’s development of specific microbial diagnostics, products and processes have practical applications in the areas of food innovation, wine science, environmental, industrial and biomedical processes and product development.

Innovation in Agritech

UniServices and the University of Auckland are dedicated to linking science and practice to support New Zealand’s critically important primary sector. By developing knowledge, training people and working with partners, the University of Auckland’s Agritech Programme has a practical application in the field.

Engender, a UniServices spin-out company, has gained a global award for University of Auckland Photon Factory Director, Associate Professor Cather Simpson. Her team have applied advanced photonics and microfluidics to sort sperm by sex for the dairy industry. The company is poised to go global and promises to make a major impact on the efficiency of the dairy industry.

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Your Partner in Policy

UniServices understands the value of discussing ideas and proposals face-to-face, and our Wellington-based Government Relations Manager, Rebecca Adams, is conveniently located right in the heart the public sector precinct.

Rebecca is happy to meet with you and your colleagues wherever you are located in the country.

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Your partner in policy.

Partnering with UniServices means collaborating with a team that is committed to helping government meet the demands of global, social and economic change.
Collaborate with leading researchers at Auckland UniServices Limited and develop effective, evidence-based policies that address real-world challenges.

Governments across the globe understand that policy development needs to proceed from a strong evidential base. By teaming up with Auckland UniServices Limited you can be confident that the decisions made by your department are informed and impactful, and result in demonstrable social, health, educational and economic benefits for New Zealand.

UniServices’ core business is to transform knowledge into solutions for real-world challenges. We respond to the growing public expectation that decisions affecting areas such as public health, agriculture and the environment are supported by robust research and data.

As the University of Auckland’s commercial research, knowledge transfer and custom education company, UniServices has a track record of working with government spanning more than 25 years.

Our research programmes have the future focus now deemed imperative in effective policy development, with innovative projects that align with the challenges faced by the New Zealand Government, now and tomorrow. Investing in Auckland UniServices Ltd and University of Auckland’s joint expertise and research-led thinking will help your team realise its objectives.

PROGRAMMES WITH REAL-WORLD IMPACT

**Raising immunisation rates**

The Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) is a nationwide organisation based at the School of Population Health at the University of Auckland. Led by Associate Professor Dr Nikki Turner, IMAC provides New Zealanders with a local source of independent, factual information based on international and domestic scientific research regarding vaccine-preventable diseases and the benefits and risks of immunisation.

IMAC also provides information and training for health professionals, national immunisation coordination and policy advice and research into many aspects of vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases.

IMAC translational research has been a core component in achieving the immunisation target of 95% fully immunised at two years and closing the historic equity gaps for the most vulnerable. Its international engagement is helping shape international policy settings at the World Health Organization.

**Boosting participation in tertiary study**

The Starpath Project for Tertiary Participation and Success was established in 2005 to undertake high quality research and implement an evidence-based school-wide intervention, aimed at improving the educational outcomes for students who are currently not meeting the criteria required to progress into degree-level study and, as a result, are under-represented in tertiary education.

Involving the workforce at each step and enhancing whānau engagement has been integral to the Starpath Project. At the completion of Phase One, parent/whānau/fanau attendance increased from around 20% to between 70% and 80% in each of the five schools and feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive.

**Programmes that benefit a range of sectors**

**Informing effective anti-family violence initiatives**

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse (NZFVC) is the national centre for family and whānau violence research and information, directed by Associate Professor Janet Fanslow and Associate Professor Robyn Dixon, and with support from research fellow Dr Pauline Gulliver.

During UniServices’ stewardship, NZFVC has experienced exponential growth across all facets of the service – including increases in users accessing the service; newsletter subscribers; library users; engagement activities and requests for information. An integral part of the Clearinghouse service is to compile and publish summaries of family violence statistics gathered from government and non-government agencies and research studies.

**Pacific Science for Health Literacy Project**

Based in Tonga and the Cook Islands, this project aims to encourage young people’s engagement and achievement in science, and improve the long-term health outcomes for them and their families.

The project sees teachers work with the health practitioners to build school-based programmes that enable young people to explore challenges such as food security, obesity, and non-communicable diseases including Type 2 diabetes and heart disease. Six culturally adapted learning modules, linked to the national curricula of the Cook Islands and Tonga, are being developed and evaluated by the partners from 2013 - 2016.

**Using data driven approach to improve health outcomes**

Another excellent example of UniServices’ ability to manage, link and leverage large health data sets to inform policy development, drive system improvements and deliver optimal health outcomes for New Zealanders is the New Zealand Acute Coronary Syndrome Quality Improvement and Interventional Cardiology Registry (ANZACS-QI). This is managed by the National Institute for Health Innovation and delivered in partnership with DHBs, the Ministry of Health and Enigma Solutions Limited. The registry is making a significant contribution towards New Zealand’s global reputation as a hub for data-driven healthcare.