

What's happening with AUTECH during the lockdown?

From Tuesday 23 March 2020

Suspension of Ethics Approvals

As you are aware, New Zealand is moving to a level four public health alert over the next 48 hours. AUTECH has decided to suspend all ethics approvals that require physical proximity until the public health alert level reduces below 2.

This means that you may not collect data or recruit participants for research where your method means that you are near people, e.g. interviews, focus groups, observations, performance tests, or anything where you are in the same space as your participants.

If you do wish to use online or other remote means to collect data or recruit participants, then you will need to seek an amendment to your approval. When considering such an amendment, AUTECH will take into account public health and ethical issues, including informed and voluntary consent, within the context of social distancing and self-isolation.

If you already have approval to use online or other remote means to collect data, then you may continue to do so in accordance with your approval.



Drop Ins

North, Millennium, and South Campuses

Due to the restrictions on social interaction, these will not occur until the alert level is reduced below level 3.



Advisory Workshops

Where possible, these will take place using Zoom. These are usually part of the Postgraduate Student Researcher Development programme and You can [register for these here](#).



AUTEC Faculty Representatives

The AUTEC Faculty Representatives may be available to discuss matters with researchers using email.

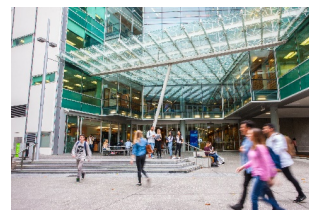
Email katey.thom@aut.ac.nz for Business, Economics, and Law.

Email chris.jenkin@aut.ac.nz for Culture and Society

Email adam.taylor@aut.ac.nz for Design and Creative Technologies

Email liz.binns@aut.ac.nz for Health and Environmental Sciences

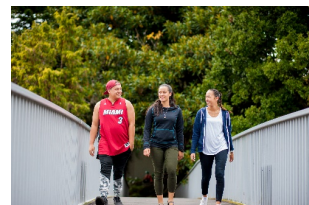
Email elisa.duder@aut.ac.nz for Te Ara Poutama



Health and Environmental Sciences Research Support Clinics

The Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences offers regular research support clinics providing advice on research design, specifically focusing on biostatistics, data management, epidemiology, Māori and Pacific health, research ethics, and research planning and funding.

For further information please email biostats@aut.ac.nz or nick.garrett@aut.ac.nz.



Research Ethics Advisor

The Research Ethics Advisor is available to discuss ethics related matters.

Please email charles.grinter@aut.ac.nz in the first instance.



Submitting Ethics Applications

Applications are to be submitted by email as there is no access to any other mail. A single .pdf file containing the application and all related documents is to be emailed to ethics@aut.ac.nz. The application and documents must be scanned into a single .pdf file with the EA form at the beginning and the other documents in the order stated in the form. The application must have all the required signatures.



CONTACT DETAILS

While the COVID-19 alert is at level three or level four, the Secretariat is not able to be contacted by telephone. Please email us with your preferred contact arrangements and we will get in touch with you.

AUTEC SECRETARIAT – ethics@aut.ac.nz

Charles Grinter - Kaitohutohu Matatika Rangahau | Research Ethics Advisor

Dr Carina Meares - Kaiwhakahaere Matua o AUTEC | Executive Manager,

Erin Moloney - Executive Officer Research Ethics

The AUTEC Secretariat is located on the fourth floor of the WU Building at 46 Wakefield Street.

CHAIR

Professor Kate Diesfeld

AUTEC FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

Dr Katey Thom – Business, Economics, and Law

Dr Chris Jenkin - Culture and Society

Dr Adam Taylor - Design and Creative Technologies

Liz Binns – Health and Environmental Sciences

Dr Elisa Duder - Te Ara Poutama

NEXT AUTEC AGENDA CLOSING DATES

The full schedule of AUTEC dates is available [here](#).

Alternative arrangements are in place for AUTEC's meetings, so this schedule remains active. However, as many applications are reviewed under delegated authority, it is beneficial to submit your application to the Secretariat as soon as it is ready. Waiting for the agenda closing day may delay its review.