

## Faculty of Health Sciences Guide for NRF-rating Internal Evaluation

This document provides guidance to the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) NRF-rating internal evaluation. It provides a clear definition of key terms and an evaluation criteria to ensure objective internal evaluation of NRF-rating applications submitted by Faculty of Health Science staff. This guideline can also be used for self-evaluation and mentoring junior research.

### **Definitions of key terms**

- **International recognition-** The researcher is well known to their peers for their innovative work in his field of research and to some degree known by other scientists working outside the narrow field of specialization. This will be demonstrated by evidence of serving in international boards committees or research groups as well as invited talks by international bodies in their field, large external funding and research awards.
- **High quality research outputs-** Research article/s published in quantile one (Q1) journals.
- **Impact of research outputs -** High number of citations from research outputs and/or evidence of **translation of research into policy and practice/product patent.**
- **Impact of researcher -** This is measured by the researcher’s H-index.

**Table 1: NRF rating evaluation guide**

Cat	Definition	Subcategory	Description	Evaluation questions (yes/no)	Example of justification statements/points for the selected rating- more details can be provided for each applicant
A	Researchers who are unequivocally recognised by their peers as leading international	A1  A2	A researcher in this group is recognised by all reviewers as a leading scholar in his/her field internationally for the high quality and wide impact (i.e. beyond a narrow field of specialisation) of	Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international boards - related to their field, in a leadership position equivalent to Chair of board?  Does the researcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The researcher presents evidence of serving in international boards related to their field in a leadership position equivalent</li> </ul>

<p>scholars in their field for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs.</p>			<p>his/her recent research outputs.</p> <p>A researcher in this group is recognised by the overriding majority of reviewers as a leading scholar in his/her field internationally for the high quality and impact (either wide or confined) of his/her recent research outputs.</p>	<p>present evidence of serving in international/national boards outside their field in a leadership position equivalent to Chair of board committee?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in high impact (Q1) international journals boards as a Chief Editor?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in national boards, e.g. Chair of board committee?</p> <p>Does the researcher lead a productive research group/cluster/entity in their research niche area?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of at least five invited talks in internal conferences or research meetings?</p> <p>Does the researcher have</p>	<p>to Chair of board committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international/national boards outside their field in a leadership position equivalent to Chair of board committee</li> <li>● The researcher presents evidence of serving in high impact (Q1) international journals boards as a Chief editor</li> <li>● The researcher presents evidence of serving in national boards, e.g. Chair of board committee</li> <li>● The researcher leads a productive research group/clust</li> </ul>
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				<p>an average H-index of &gt;30?</p> <p>Does the research present evidence of their research that was translated into policy, practice and product patent?</p> <p>Are all researchers' top five outputs published in Q1 journals?</p> <p>Are all researchers' top five outputs highly cited with &gt;50 citations?</p> <p>Has the researcher supervised at least 10 PhD candidates to completion?</p> <p>Does the researcher present high-impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students?</p>	<p>er in their research niche area (state the name of group/cluster/entity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher presented evidence of at least five invited talks in internal conferences or research meetings</li> <li>• The researcher has an average H-index of &gt;30</li> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of their research that was translate into policy, practice and product patent</li> <li>• All researcher's top five outputs published in Q1 journals?</li> <li>• All researcher</li> </ul>
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					<p>s' top five outputs highly cited (&gt;50 citations)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher supervised at least 10 PhD candidates to completion</li> <li>• The researcher presents high impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students</li> </ul>
B	<p>Researchers who enjoy considerable international recognition by their peers for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs.</p>	B1	<p>All reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs, with some of them indicating that he/she is a leading international scholar in the field.</p>	<p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international boards related to their field?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international journals as an associate editor or issue editor?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in national boards?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in international boards related to their field</li> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in international journals as an associate editor or issue editor</li> <li>• The researcher presents</li> </ul>

				<p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in national boards outside their research niche area?</p> <p>Does the researcher lead a productive research group/cluster?</p> <p>Does the researcher present an average H-index of &gt;20?</p> <p>Does the research present evidence of their research that was translated into policy and practice?</p> <p>Are the majority (at least 3/5) of the top five outputs published in Q1 journals?</p> <p>Are some of the researchers' top five outputs highly cited with &gt;50 citations?</p> <p>Has the researcher supervised at least 5 or more PhD candidates to completion?</p>	<p>evidence of serving in national boards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in national boards outside their research niche area</li> <li>• The researcher leads a productive research group/cluster (state the name of group/cluster/entity)</li> <li>• The researcher presents an average H-index of &gt;20</li> <li>• The research presents evidence of their research that was translated into policy and practice</li> <li>• Majority (at least 3/5) of the top five</li> </ul>
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				<p>Does the researcher present high-impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students?</p>	<p>outputs published in Q1 journals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are some researcher s' top five outputs are highly cited with &gt;50 citations</li> <li>• The researcher supervised at least 5 or more PhD candidates to completion</li> <li>• The researcher presents high-impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students</li> </ul>
		B2	<p>All or the overriding majority of reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality</p>		

		B3	and impact of his/her recent research outputs. Most of the reviewers are convinced that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs.		
C	Established researchers with a sustained recent record of productivity in the field who are recognised by their peers as having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• produced a body of quality work, the core of which has coherence and attests to ongoing</li> </ul>	C1	All of the reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant is an established researcher as described and who, on the basis of the high quality and impact of his/her recent research is regarded by: <p>Some reviewers as already enjoying considerable international recognition;</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The overriding majority of reviewers as being a scholar who has attained a sound/solid international standing in their field, but not yet considerable</p>	Does the researcher have an average H-index of >10? Are some of the top five outputs published in Q1 journals? Are some researchers' top five outputs highly cited with >20 citations?  Does a researcher lead a research group/cluster?  Has the researcher supervised at least one or more PhD candidates to completion?  Does the researcher present research outputs published by their supervised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher has an average H-index of &gt;10</li> <li>• x number of the top five outputs are published in Q1 journals?</li> <li>• Some researchers' top five outputs highly cited with &gt;20 citations</li> <li>• The researcher leads a research group/cluster (state the name of cluster)</li> <li>• Has the researcher supervised</li> </ul>

	<p>engagement with the field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrated the ability to conceptualise problems and apply research methods to investigating them.</li> </ul>	<p>C2</p> <p>C3</p>	<p>international recognition;</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The overriding majority of reviewers as being a scholar whose work focuses mainly on local and/or regional issues and who as a scholar at a nationally leading level has substantially advanced knowledge and understanding in the field by contributing to new thinking, a new direction and/or a new paradigm. *</p> <p>All of the reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant is an established researcher as described. The applicant may, but need not, enjoy some international recognition for the quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs.</p> <p>Most of the reviewers concur</p>	<p>postgraduate students?</p>	<p>at least one or more PhD candidates to completion?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the researcher presents research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students?</li> </ul>
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			that the applicant is an established researcher (as described).		
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P	Young researchers (normally younger than 35 years of age), who have held the doctorate or equivalent qualification for less than five years at the time of application and who, on the basis of exceptional potential demonstrated in their published doctoral work and/or their research outputs in		Researchers in this group are recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having demonstrated the potential of becoming future international leaders in their field on the basis of exceptional research performance and output from their doctoral and/or early post-doctoral research careers.	<p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international boards related to their field?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in international journals as an associate editor or issue editor?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of serving in national boards?</p> <p>Does the researcher present an average H-index of &gt;20?</p> <p>Does the researcher present evidence of their research that was translated into policy and practice?</p> <p>Are the majority (at least 3/5) of the top five</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in international boards related to their field</li> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in international journals as an associate editor or issue editor</li> <li>• The researcher presents evidence of serving in national boards</li> <li>• The researcher presents an average H-index of &gt;20</li> <li>• The research presents evidence of their research</li> </ul>
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	<p>their early post-doctoral careers are considered likely to become future international leaders in their field.</p>			<p>outputs published in Q1 journals?</p> <p>Has the researcher supervised at least 5 or more PhD candidates to completion?</p> <p>Does the researcher present high-impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students?</p>	<p>that was translated into policy and practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Majority (at least 3/5) of the top five outputs published in Q1 journals</li> <li>• The researcher supervised at least 5 or more PhD candidates to completion.</li> <li>• The researcher presents high-impact research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students</li> </ul>
Y	<p>Young researchers (40 years or younger), who have held the doctorate or equivalent</p>	<p>Y1</p> <p>Y2</p>	<p>A young researcher (within 5 years from PhD) who is recognised by all reviewers as having the potential (demonstrated by research products) to</p>	<p>Does the researcher have an average H-index of &gt;5?</p> <p>Are some of the top five outputs published in Q1 journals?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researcher has an average H-index of &gt;5</li> <li>• Some of the top five outputs published</li> </ul>

<p>t qualification for less than five years at the time of application, and who are recognised as having the potential to establish themselves as researchers within a five-year period after evaluation, based on their performance and productivity of quality research outputs during their doctoral studies and/or early post-doctoral careers.</p>		<p>establish him/herself as a researcher with some of them indicating that he/she has the potential to become a future leader in his/her field.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A young researcher (within 5 years from PhD) who is recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having the potential to establish him/herself as a researcher of considerable international standing on the basis of the quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs.</p> <p>A researcher in this group is recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having the potential to establish him/herself as a researcher (demonstrated by recent research products).</p>	<p>Has the researcher supervised at least one or more Masters or PhD candidates to completion?</p> <p>Does the researcher present research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students?</p>	<p>in Q1 journals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>• The researcher supervised at least one or more Masters or PhD candidates to completion</li> <li>• The researcher presents research outputs published by their supervised postgraduate students</li> </ul>
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### ***Evaluation form***

The evaluation form is available via the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13GvcXVgCyRzRrfEp4OYZx9no47xaVm178B4kopSZUDI/edit>

### ***Scoring and allocation of rating category***

#### *A category*

A1-(Yes answer to all evaluation questions)

A2- (One no answer and the rest must be yes)

#### *B category*

B1- (Yes answer to all evaluation questions)

B2- (One no answer and the rest must be yes)

B3- (Two no answers and the rest must be yes)

#### ***C category***

C1- (Yes answer to all evaluation questions)

C2- (One no answer and the rest must be yes)

C3- (Two no answers and the rest must be yes)

*P category-* (All yes answers)

#### *Y category*

Y1- (All yes answers)

Y2- (One no answer the rest must be yes)