Applying for grants: a practical perspective

David Smith QUALRAN workshop 9 February 2021



#### **RMIT Classification: Trusted**

#### **ARC grants**

- DECRA/Discovery, Linkage
- High prestige/funding; low success rates
- Selection criteria vary slightly across the schemes
- Discovery: Investigator; Proposed Project Quality and Innovation (these first two are weighted most heavily), Feasibility, National Benefit
- National benefit:
  - Will the completed Project produce significant new knowledge and/or innovative economic, commercial, environmental, social and/or cultural benefit to the Australian and international community? Will the proposed research be cost-effective and value for money?

### **CIMA grants**

- Grants for management accounting research
- Ad-hoc and targeted (themed) schemes
- Two categories in 2020:
  - Seedcorn funding for ECRs (up to 7 500 GBP)
  - Experienced researchers (up to 30 000 GBP)



## CIMA grants: from the funder's perspective



- A professional body that exists to support its members
- Evaluation panel comprises both academics and practitioners
- Proposals should have a strong practitioner focus
- Funders want to manage risk

# Helping the funder feel comfortable

- Strong track record
- Ability to write proposal in a way that indicates you can speak to a practitioner audience
- Give the funder confidence the proposal will lead to a final product
  - Reasonably developed 'priors'
  - Have case organization/s access organised
  - Build sufficient contingency plans into the proposal
  - "Trust me" applications tend not to be rewarded with funding

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#### **AFAANZ Grants**



- Applications via Faff pitching template
- Easier to get than CIMA/ARC funding, but funds awarded to each individual grant tend to be fairly small