

Engaging with HIT Lab NZ

The HIT Lab NZ is an outward facing research centre of the University of Canterbury. Many research projects are in collaboration with external partners and embedded in real-world use cases. As such, the HIT Lab NZ welcomes enquiries for collaboration by potential research partners.

Our website, <https://www.hitlabnz.org/>, provides a good overview of the main research topics we focus on, as well as our educational offerings, completed and on-going research projects, and much more.

We are happy to discuss potential collaboration, which might include a visit to the HIT Lab NZ. These must be carefully planned to avoid disruption of ongoing research and educational activities. Collaboration should support the research and education at the HIT Lab NZ, in line with the partner's goals.

As an applied research centre, the majority of projects conducted through the HIT Lab NZ are funded by external organisations and/or research grants. All of our student projects are carefully selected and most are also funded. If you are considering reaching out to the HIT Lab NZ for joint research, please be aware of the ways we seek engagement below:

1. **Support for students** — usually in the form of scholarships for postgraduate degrees (Masters and PhD).
2. **Research project funding** — projects vary in scope, size, and cost:
 - a. HIT Lab NZ Academic and Development staff can help with project scope and technical support.
 - b. HIT Lab NZ Centre Manager can help with contracting and cost estimates.
3. **Consultancy funding** — depends on project requirements, but organisations can “buy-out” HIT Lab NZ staff time:
 - a. HIT Lab NZ Academic and Development staff can help with scope and deliverables.
 - b. HIT Lab NZ Centre Manager can help with contracting and cost estimates
4. **Donation** — donations can be made to HIT Lab NZ via UC foundation:
<https://www.alumni.canterbury.ac.nz/donations-hit-lab-scholarships-nz>.

Contact us at info@hitlabnz.org for more information about these engagement options.

Examples of Recent Partnerships

- **Snowsports NZ** — supported two consultancy agreements and a PhD project to explore AR/VR application for athlete training.
 - **Escea Fireplace** — supported a Masters student/project to explore approaches for the development of a digital fireplace.
 - **FENZ** — supported two sequential PhD projects to explore high-risk/high-cost fire training and simulation.
 - **Christchurch International Airport** — supported a consultancy agreement with funding for a Research Assistant to explore and build capacity of Pepper humanoid robots.
 - **Trimble** — supported a Masters student to explore AR capabilities.
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