

Deloitte Top 200

Young Executive of the Year Award

Sponsored by the University of Auckland Business School

As the leading business school in the country, our vision is to shape the future of Aotearoa New Zealand. This begins with educating, developing, and inspiring the next generation of leaders. We see the Young Executive of the Year Award as a great platform to showcase these young leaders' visions, passions, and achievements. As leaders, to keep up with personal growth and uncertainty, we believe in lifelong learning. This category also demonstrates how continuous learning has helped these young emerging leaders on their journey.



BUSINESS SCHOOL

Penny Dell, recipient of the Young Executive of the Year Award at the 2023 Deloitte Top 200 Awards, impressed the programme's independent judging panel with her exceptional performance at ANZ. The judges recognised Penny's commitment to career development, goal setting, and her industry vision alongside her strong leadership qualities and ability to think strategically.

In an interview with the Top 200 team, Penny provides some insights for this year's applicants based on her experience winning the award:

Why did you enter the Deloitte Top 200 Awards and how did you prepare for the nomination process?

Penny: I was asked by the ANZ leadership team to consider putting myself forward for the Young Executive award. Preparing my nomination required some intense but valuable self-reflection on what I had achieved, what had challenged me, how I am perceived by others, and what I want to achieve in the future.

How has your involvement in the awards helped your career journey?

Penny: Involvement in the awards has really helped me in many ways. Getting feedback on how I am

managing my career from the calibre of judges involved with the award was valuable and has inspired me to keep growing. The award helped to build my profile across the New Zealand business community and there has been a great lesson in the whole experience around putting myself out there and seeing what comes of it.

What role do you believe mentorship and networking have played in your career, particularly in the context of receiving this award?

Penny: Sponsorship and networking have become more and more critical to me as my career has progressed. Receiving the award has certainly helped to get me noticed by key people who can influence my career, and it has given me new opportunities.

How do you balance the demands of a high-level executive role with personal life and wellbeing?

Penny: I have an amazingly supportive family who help enable me to do my role. It's a never-ending juggle but we are OK with that. When I saw the video of my nine-year-old daughter watching me win the award via the livestream and see her squealing with excitement, it was quite the realisation to see how much inspiration my family get from seeing me do my role.

Looking back, what is one piece of advice you wish you had received earlier in your career journey?

Penny: Take opportunities as they come and don't be afraid to throw yourself into the unknown!

What would you say to other young executives considering applying for the award this year?

Penny: It's a fantastic, valuable, and supportive experience. Go for it!

Penny Dell

Treasurer, ANZ Bank New Zealand Limited

Young Executive of the Year Award winner, 2023

Please apply for this year's University of Auckland Business School Young Executive of the Year Award before 1 August 2024.