

COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha

EMBARGOED UNTIL 3pm WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Agenda

Date **Wednesday 30 September 2020**
4.00pm
Venue Council Chamber, Matariki

Refer to
Page No.

1. APOLOGIES:
2. REGISTER OF INTERESTS 3-6
3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
Every Member has an obligation to declare any material interests relevant to any University of Canterbury activities and to ensure that any conflict arising from the material interests is noted and managed appropriately
4. MINUTES
4.1 26 August 2020 7-12
5. MATTERS ARISING
6. FROM THE CHANCELLOR
6.1 Chancellor's Meetings 13
6.2 Degrees Conferred in Absentia
7. FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
7.1 Monthly Report 14-30
8. ACADEMIC BOARD 31-35
9. PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING
Motion by the Chancellor for Resolution to Exclude the Public Pursuant to s48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987:
I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Item on Public Excluded Agenda	General Subject Matter	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
4.0	Minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2020 with the public excluded	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	
5.0	Matters arising from those minutes		
5.1	Equity Report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
6.0	From the Chancellor		
6.1	Honours and Appointments Committee	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(a)
6.2	Council Work Plan	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(f)(i) and 7(h)
7.0	From the Vice-Chancellor		
7.1	The Vice-Chancellor's report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
7.2	IT Transformation Progress Report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
8.	From the Finance, Planning and Resources Committee		
8.1	Draft minutes FPRC meeting 21 September 2020	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
8.2	Domestic Fees 2021	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
8.3	Student First Ecosystem Business Cases	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
8.4	Financial Forecast	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
8.5	UCTF/UCF Amalgamation	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
9.0	General Business	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)

I also move that staff identified by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor as having knowledge relevant to particular matters to be discussed be permitted to remain at this meeting. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters discussed, and is relevant because of their involvement in the development of the reports to Council on these matters.

10. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION
11. GENERAL BUSINESS
12. NEXT MEETING –Wednesday 28 October, 2020 at 4.00pm

UC COUNCIL
Register of Interests
September 2020

Name (Council members)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
Sue McCORMACK (Chancellor)	2020	Canterbury Earthquakes Insurance Tribunal	Member
	2019	Canterbury Museum Trust Board	Trustee
	2009	Dress for Success	Honorary Solicitor
	2017	KiwiRail Holdings Ltd	Director, Deputy Chair
	2017	Swiftpoint Ltd	Trustee Shareholder
	2019	UC Foundation	Ex-officio Trustee
Steven WAKEFIELD (Pro-Chancellor)	2019	199 Johns Rd Ltd	Shareholder, Director
	2017	Brackenridge Services Limited	Director
	2017	Canterbury Angels Association	Founding Member, Board member
	2017	CDHB – Quality, Finance, Audit and Risk Committee	Committee member
	2017	Carolina Homes Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2019	Christchurch Cathedral Reinstatement Limited	Board member (Ex officio – CPT Rep)
	2017	Church Property Trustees of Anglican Diocese	Trustee
	2018	Co-op Money (NZ Associations of Credit Unions)	Director
	2017	Court Theatre Trust	Citizens' Trustee
	2017	Crop Logic Limited	Director, Shareholder, Chair
	2017	Deloitte Limited	Former partner (now retired)
	2019	East Lake Trust	Trustee
	2018	EVNEX Limited	Shareholder, Director
	2019	Facts Limited (Trading as Co-op Services Ltd)	Director
	2018	Foodstuffs South Island Cooperative Limited	Independent Director
	2018	Foodstuffs South Island Properties Ltd	Director
	2017	Greater Christchurch School Network Trust	Chairman of Trustees
	2019	Health One Programme Steering Group	Independent Chair
	2017	Innovative Software Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2017	INOV8 Limited	Director
	2018	Lincoln University	Graduate (Post-Grad Diploma)
	2017	Mastaplex Limited	Shareholder
	2020	Medsalv Limited	Director
	2019	Menumaster Limited	Shareholder and Director
	2018	Murdoch Manufacturing Ltd	Director
	2019	New Zealand Credit Union Baywide	Board Member
	2017	New Zealand Health Innovation Hub	Director, Chair
	2017	Nutrient Rescue Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2020	Paenga Kupenga Limited ³	Director

	2017	Ravenscar Trust	Chairman
	2017	RHOAD Limited	Director
	2017	St Barnabas Fendalton Parish	Vestry Member, Synod Rep
	2017	St Barnabas Fendalton Trust	Chairman
	2017	Sons, Christopher and David Wakefield	Students at UC
	2017	Steve Wakefield Services Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2017	Syft Limited	Shareholder
	2018	The Taurus Trust	Trustee
	2017	Townsend Fields Limited	Managing Director
	2018	University of Canterbury	Post Graduate Student
	2017	Wakefield Holdings Limited	Director
Peter BALLANTYNE	2013	Canterbury District Health Board subcommittees	Member Quality, Finance, A&R
	2019	Canterbury Scientific Limited	Shareholder via Hawkins Family Trust
	2012	Deloitte	Consultant
Liz BOND	2019	Tertiary Education Union	Member
	2019	University of Canterbury	Employee
Rachael EVANS	2020	Kereru Trust	Trustee
	2020	Law Society	Member
	2020	Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu	Contractor
	2020	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Tama	Member
	2020	Whanganui Iwi	Member
John HOLLAND	2019	JCG Trustee Limited	Family trust
	2018	Carter Group Ltd	Consultant
	2018	Court Theatre Foundation	Trustee
	2018	Glasson Trustee Ltd	Director
	2020	Hickman Family Trustees Limited	Director
	2019	SIG Trustee Limited	Family Trust
	2018	Southbase Construction Ltd	Chair and Shareholder
	2019	Winders Consulting Limited	Director
	2019	Winders Investments Limited	Director
Keiran HORNE	2019	AJ & MJ Horne Family Trust	Trustee and Discretionary Beneficiary
	2019	Breastscreen Otago Southland Ltd	Director
	2019	CEC Charitable Trust	Trustee and Treasurer
	2019	Christchurch City Council	Member, External Advisory Group, Infrastructure Strategy
	2019	Coalcorp Services Ltd	Director
	2019	Conductive Education Canterbury	Treasurer
	2019	Crown Asset Management Ltd	Director
	2019	Hamilton City Council	Chair, Audit Risk Committees
	2019	Horne Wildbore Family Trust	Trustee and Discretionary Beneficiary

	2019	New Zealand Lotteries Commission	Commissioner, Chair Audit Risk Committee
	2019	Nexia Christchurch Ltd	Consultant
	2019	Quayside Holdings Ltd	Director
	2019	Quayside Properties Ltd	Director
	2019	Quayside Securities Ltd	Director
	2019	ScreenSouth Ltd	Chair
	2019	Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd	Deputy Chair
	2019	Spey Downs Ltd	Shareholder
	2020	Television New Zealand Ltd	Director
	2019	Timaru District Council	Member, Audit and Risk Committee
Tori McNOE	2020	Interim Regional Skill Leadership Group (MBIE)	Member
	2020	Momentum Investment Committee	Committee member
	2020	University of Canterbury	Student
	2020	UCSA	President
Professor Roger NOKES	2015	University of Canterbury	Staff
Warren POH	2020	Christchurch Netball Centre	Board Member
	2018	GHD Limited	Employee
	2017	E&S Hop Holdings Limited	Director
	2018	GHD Limited	Shareholder
	2017	M&W Nominees Limited	Director and Shareholder
	2020	NOSSLO Group Limited	Director
	2018	Olsson Fire and Risk New Zealand Ltd	Director and Shareholder
	2017	Ofwarren Limited	Director and Shareholder
	2020	University of Canterbury	Husband of enrolled student
Cheryl de la REY (Vice-Chancellor)	2020	New Zealand Qualifications Authority	Board Member
	2019	Universities New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee	Member
	2019	University of Canterbury Foundation	Trustee (Ex-officio)
	2019	University of Canterbury Trust Funds	Vice-Chancellor
Gillian SIMPSON	2019	Anglican Schools Board	Board member
	2019	Canterbury Rugby Football Union	Independent Director
	2019	Christ's College Canterbury	Board member
	2019	Ministry of Education Statutory Services Provider	Independent contractor
	2019	New Zealand Education Scholarship Trust	Trustee
Shayne TE AIKA	2020	Rannerdale Home Care Limited	Director
	2020	Rannerdale War Veterans Home Ltd	Director
	2020	The Karshay Group Ltd	Director and Shareholder
Adela KARDOS (General Counsel/Registrar)	2020	University of Canterbury	Staff member

COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha

Minutes

Date	Wednesday 26 August 2020
Time	4.20 pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Level 6 Matariki
Present	Ms Sue McCormack (Chancellor), Professor Cheryl de la Rey (Vice-Chancellor), Mr Steve Wakefield (Pro-Chancellor), Mr Peter Ballantyne, Ms Liz Bond, Ms Rachael Evans, Ms Keiran Horne, Ms Tori McNoe, Professor Roger Nokes, Mr Warren Poh, Ms Gillian Simpson, Mr Shayne Te Aika.
Apologies	None
In Attendance	Ms Adela Kardos, General Counsel/Registrar and Council Secretary Professor Ian Wright, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Catherine Moran, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Mr Keith Longden, Executive Director, Planning, Finance and IT Ms Robyn Nuthall, Director Strategy and Planning Mrs Raewyn Crowther, University Council Coordinator

The meeting was opened with a karakia timatanga.

REGISTER OF INTEREST	Corrections and updates were to be supplied to the Registrar.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	There were no conflicts advised for the public section of the meeting.
MINUTES	The minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2020 were approved and signed as a correct record.
MATTERS ARISING	There were no matters arising.
FROM THE CHANCELLOR	<p>Report from the meeting of the Universities New Zealand Chancellors' Group</p> <p>The Chancellor reported on her meeting with the Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors, noting that all universities were facing difficult challenges at this time. To raise their public profile the high level contributions made by universities would be communicated publically. The Tertiary Education Commission would be working on a joint statement which</p>

would go back to the Chancellors' Group for further discussion in a month's time.

Chancellor's Meetings

The list of Chancellor's meetings was noted.

Moved

That: Council note the report on the Chancellor's meetings.

Carried

Degrees Conferred in Absentia

Ms McCormack advised Council that the schedule of degrees awarded in absentia had been approved and the names of the graduates were entered into the public record.

Moved

That: Council approve the degrees awarded in absentia for the public record.

Carried

UCSA Representative on Council

Ms McNoe advised Council of the process of the election of the new UCSA Executive, with 35% of the student body taking part in the election. Ms Kim Fowler, a fourth year Chemistry honours student had been elected president and the transition would commence from October, with Ms Fowler being invited to attend Council meetings towards the end of the year.

Moved

That: Kim Fowler be appointed to the University Council as the student representative from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021.

Carried

FROM THE VICE- CHANCELLOR

Monthly Report

The Vice-Chancellor presented her report, noting in particular:

- The return to pandemic alert level two had been a little disappointing and the return to on-line teaching had proceeded just ahead of test week. The current two week break would enable consideration of what face-to-face teaching could be done in the fourth quarter, in addition to the online teaching and labs and tutorials currently being provided in level two. Planning was also underway for the scenario of being in level two at the commencement of 2021.
- The significant contribution to the pandemic response of Professor Michael Plank and Associate Professor Alex James had been recognised by the Prime Minister.
- The Knowledge Commons proposal, led by Professor Ekant Veer was gaining momentum, with partners soon to enter into a signed Memorandum of Understanding.
- There was intense competition amongst universities for domestic enrolments.

- Metrics reflecting tone were now available to better track UC's presence in the media.
- There had been a speaking opportunity for the Vice-Chancellor at the REANNZ board meeting which was hosted at UC.
- Many events had been postponed due to the level two lockdown, including the 1 September Graduation celebration which would now be held on 14 December.
- Internationalisation:
 - Although New Zealand would not be admitting international students for some time, UC continued to pursue internationalisation in its broadest sense.
 - Professor Ian Wright, representing UC, had joined in a Times Higher Education webinar with 900 participants.

In discussion it was further noted:

- The library was running well in level two though at peak times demand for seating outstripped supply. Alternate study spaces had been made available.
- The future of textbooks was electronic, however access was expensive and the time period was often limited unless the books were available on open source. An international effort was being made to encourage open source publication but academic freedom to choose where and how academics published their work remained.
- By 2024 NCEA assessments could be online. Universities would need to prepare for students who were becoming unaccustomed to blended learning.
- Council members would be provided with information about events on campus and would indicate whether they would like to be invited.
- NZ universities had different areas of expertise to contribute to the COVID-19 response, with UC offering modelling, sociology, education and engineering solutions.

Moved

That: Council note the Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report.

Carried

**FROM THE AUDIT
AND RISK
COMMITTEE**

Ms Keiran Horne, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, provided a report on the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee of 17 August 2020.

**Health, Safety and
Wellbeing Report**

Ms Horne noted that the report contained updates on the investigation of a number of incidents. Critical risks across campus had been identified and the recruitment of a new Health and Safety Manager was underway.

Moved

That: Council note the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report.

Carried

Revised Internal
Audit Plan

It was noted that the plan had originally listed seven internal audit projects which had been reduced to three given the delays caused by the COVID-19 lockdowns.

Moved

That: Council approve the revised internal audit programme for 2020.

Carried

UC Trust Funds
2019 Financial
Statements

Following discussion of this item at the Audit and Risk Committee, clarification had been sought as to whether Council was required to approve these accounts given they had been included in the consolidated accounts which had already been approved. The Registrar advised that such approval would not be required under the terms of the current legislation and the new Trustees Act. Council noted that the funds had achieved the desired objective of CPI plus 4.5%.

**FROM THE
ACADEMIC BOARD**

There was no report from the Academic Board this month.

**PUBLIC EXCLUDED
MEETING**

Moved

That: the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

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4.0	Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2020 with the public excluded	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	
5.0	Matters arising from those minutes		
6.0 6.1	From the Chancellor 2020 Teaching Medal	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(a)
6.2	Emeritus Professor nomination	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(a)
6.3	Ratification of Council Decision	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(a)
6.4	Council Work Plan	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(f)(i) and 7(h)
7.0 7.1	From the Vice-Chancellor The Vice-Chancellor's report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
7.2	IT Transformation Progress Report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
7.3			7(f)(i)

	Ministerial Letter re closure of UC Futures GOG	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	
8.	From the Audit and Risk Committee		
8.1	Draft Minutes ARC meeting 17 August 2020	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
8.2	COVID-19 Risk Register Review	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
8.3	PCI DSS Update	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
9.	From the Finance, Planning and Resources Committee		
9.1	Draft minutes FPRC meeting 17 August 2020	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
9.2	Rehua IQA5 Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
9.3	Financial Forecast	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
10.0	General Business	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)

and that staff identified by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor as having knowledge relevant to particular matters to be discussed be permitted to remain at this meeting. This knowledge would be of assistance in relation to the matters discussed, and was relevant because of their involvement in the development of the reports to Council on these matters.

Carried

RETURN TO PUBLIC MEETING

Council returned to public meeting at 6.08pm and confirmed in the public record:

- The awarding of Emeritus Professor status to Professor Neville Blampied.
- The awarding of the 2020 Teaching Medal, the recipient's name to remain confidential until formally announced in due course.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Parking Fees

A request to have parking fees refunded in August due to the reintroduction of level two had been made to the Vice-Chancellor. It was noted that in terms of the Parking Statute the decision sits with the Vice-Chancellor. The fee had previously been refunded when in levels three and four, but as the university remained open in level two and its services were being well utilised by students during this time, no further refund would be offered.

The meeting was closed with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting ended at 6.15pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for 4.00pm on Wednesday 30 September 2020.

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD: _____

DATE: _____

Memorandum

Chancellor's Office

Email: chancellor@canterbury.ac.nz



To:	Council Members
From:	Sue McCormack, Chancellor
Date:	23 September 2020
Subject:	CHANCELLOR'S MEETINGS

I outline for you the key events I have attended on behalf of UC since the last Council meeting. Items marked with an asterisk indicate events at which I gave a speech. Those speeches can be found on the Council Sharepoint site.

- Met weekly with General Counsel/Registrar
- Several meetings with the Vice-Chancellor
- Met with VC, Chair of FPRC and Registrar re the FPRC agenda
- Attended UC Foundation DSG meeting
- Attended Canterbury Museum Trust Board meeting
- Attended Health and Safety Tour
- Attended FPRC meeting

Meetings planned between today and the Council meeting on 26 August:

- Meeting of the Honours and Appointments Committee

Sue McCormack

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sue McCormack'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sue McCormack
Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council

September 2020

Summary

We are pleased to be at Alert Level 1 from Tuesday 22 September and are hopeful that we will remain at this alert level until the end of the semester. However, another change in alert level is possible and we have plans in place to enable the UC community to continue to adapt should this be required. I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to our staff and students for their cooperation during this challenging time.

The beginning of Term 4 has brought a lively atmosphere to campus, as many students have welcomed face-to-face teaching and prepared themselves with face coverings to safely attend classes. The return to level 1 has been especially welcomed by the UCSA and residence halls as a number of social events can take place.

On a sad note, 23 September marks one year since the tragic passing of Mason Pendrous. We have reached out to Mason's family, student friends and to RAs in all halls with offers of assistance. UC has reviewed and addressed all the Toogood recommendations and we are implementing a new framework to support all students for academic success and to improve identification and support of students at risk.

Preparing a sustainable budget for 2021 is challenging as we now face the reality of continued closed borders at the beginning of next year and uncertainty as to when new international students may be admitted for on campus study. In response to my invitation, staff have submitted a number of ideas regarding our 2021 budget which are under consideration. I feel confident that by working together UC will navigate the contours of the current financial challenges successfully.

It is with delight that I offer my congratulations to the [winners of the 2020 UC teaching awards](#) and the UC teaching medal. For the first time in the 19 year history of the teaching awards, all of the winners are women. They are: Associate Professor Eileen Britt, Psychology, Dr Kelly Dombroski, Earth and Environment, Dr Val Sotardi, Educational Leadership and Associate Professor Ximena Nelson from Biological Sciences. A special mention also to Kay-Lee Jones, Teacher Education who secured not only a UC teaching award but also the national Ako Aotearoa tertiary teaching award, kaupapa Māori. UC's highest award for teaching, the [teaching medal](#), will be awarded later in the year at a Council function to Dr Richard Lobb from Computer Science.

Engagement

UC's platform of engagement with Ōtautahi Christchurch and the wider Waitaha Canterbury region continues to be developed via the concept of the Knowledge Commons. Professor Ekant Veer has drafted a multilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the city's Chief Executives to review. The draft MOU outlines a commitment to kotahitanga and engagement between the University and our partners.

Professor Veer has also convened a core working group from across UC to support the engagement kaupapa and one of the ways we are acknowledging the contribution of staff and students is through the 150 Stories of Impact project. I wish to thank everyone who has provided their thoughts so far, with nearly 50 projects submitted in the last three weeks.

The University of Canterbury is being well represented by numerous people on a range of fronts as a result of this enhanced commitment to collaboration. Examples of such engagement include, contributing our voice to developing the city's overarching narrative, providing knowledge and support to local schools in developing a carbon-neutral high school campus, and supporting the Canterbury Police to create more inclusive practices for members of the Rainbow community.

Alert Level 2 impacted on a number of engagements in August including events for two books published by Canterbury University Press: the book launch for *Llew Summers: Body and Soul* by John Newton and the *Merchant, Miner, Mandarin* talks at Dunedin Library and U3A Rutherford could not go ahead, although the talk on the latter book at Auckland Library on 26 September is still planned to take place. Media coverage for both publications has been excellent. The Wellington Alumni Chapter also went ahead with its guest lectures from alumna Nicola Willis MP, which followed Duncan Webb's lecture the previous month.

Nominations for the University of Canterbury Young New Zealander of the Year Award closed at the end of August. While we are awaiting final numbers, a few days before nominations closed they were up 540% on last year. This sponsorship showcases our support for young leadership across Aotearoa New Zealand, provides an opportunity to highlight our new programme, the Bachelor of Community and Youth Leadership, and reinforces our core 'Engagement' message on the national stage.

In this month's *Metropol*, ChristchurchNZ CEO Joanna Norris says Christchurch is already seeing the benefits of an agreement between UC and ChristchurchNZ, through ThincLab Canterbury. This new incubator programme from UC Centre for Entrepreneurship (UCE) is designed specifically to support Ōtautahi's most ambitious startups. Launched through [a partnership with the University of Adelaide](#), it joins five other ThincLab incubators around the world.

UC is the first university in the world to sign up as a Research and Knowledge Partner with the Smart Cities Council, which is a major win for our MBA students. Executive Director of Smart Cities Council Australia New Zealand (SCCANZ) Adam Beck says, "This partnership is an exciting one for the Council, being our first partnership with a research and knowledge institution. With the combined resources of SCCANZ and UC's MBA programme, we strongly believe we can help students lead in the strategic foresight of future city shaping and management". [Read more in the article.](#)

On 12 September 2019, the Prime Minister Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and the Education Minister Hon Chris Hipkins announced that New Zealand history would be taught in all schools and kura by 2022. Almost exactly a year on from the Government's announcement, on 8 September the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Arts, Professor Jonathan Le Cocq, chaired the Canterbury Historical Association's

“History in Schools” panel. The panel brought together four expert speakers drawn from across the secondary and tertiary sectors to debate and discuss the future of the teaching of history in our schools. These speakers were Associate Professor Jane Abbiss from the College of Education, Dr Rowan Light of the Maxim Institute, and two UC graduates: Mikaela Hood, now a history teacher at Villa Maria, and Defyd Williams, who has become a member of the Ministry of Education’s working group on teaching New Zealand history.

The Composers’ Association of New Zealand sponsors an annual five-day workshop of composers and performers from throughout New Zealand in Nelson, and at this year’s conference UC’s School of Music was represented by the largest cohort of students and staff in memory. New works by Keisha Gilling, Thomas Bedggood, Robin Watson, Freddie Gash, Gabriel Baird, Luka Reardon, Oscar Kersey, Rakuto Kurano and Oscar Days were presented, performed and workshopped. As well as being appointed as one of the workshop’s mentors, UC’s Head of New Music Reuben de Lautour performed as a pianist and conductor. Head of Performance Professor Mark Menzies was a featured guest performer, presenting a highlight duo recital with Otago-based violinist Nathaniel Otley as part of the conference.

The Child Well-being Research Institute is funding a three-year PhD scholarship researching the impact of Te Mātāpuna Mātātahi | Children’s University. The Children’s University team is planning for two graduation ceremonies this year, to be held on 25 and 26 November.

Education – Accessible, Flexible, Future-focused

The University community has continued to adapt to changing alert levels by optimising delivery to suit a range of needs of students and staff. Alert Level 2 teaching arrangements were revised for Term 4, allowing students to choose to continue with online lectures or attend lectures in person if they prefer. Safe on-campus teaching is being managed through the use of the Government QR code and tracer app for sign-in, designated seating in venues restricting capacity to 50% to ensure physical distancing, and the expectation that students will wear masks in class to reduce the risk of infection while they are in confined spaces for an extended period.

Many students have welcomed the opportunity for face-to-face teaching again and have come equipped with their own face coverings, while others are continuing with online lectures. The UC Students’ Association (UCSA) has endorsed and supported this move, and the Student Volunteer Army has been busy making and distributing reusable masks to students. Overall, staff and students seem to have adjusted well to the Alert Level 2 conditions although this has created additional pressure on timetabling, especially for required activities such as tests where additional space needs to be scheduled.

Given the short window in which changes in alert levels can occur, we have plans in place to ensure that the University can revert to teaching at Alert Level 3 or 4 at short notice, should this be required. A return to Alert Level 3 or 4 during Term 4 would not impact significantly on teaching as most lectures are already being recorded. However, research, labs and other activities that require access to specialist facilities and equipment would need to be managed under the approved safety plan approval process established earlier in the year. Particular attention is being given to designing appropriate online assessments for the end-of-year examination period. Online invigilation solutions are being explored but it is proving challenging to identify a scalable solution with any confidence.

UC is not alone in this endeavour; most other New Zealand universities are limiting online invigilation to a small percentage of final examinations. The most viable solution is Zoom invigilation with the option of a lockdown browser. UC Business has already piloted the Zoom invigilation and piloting of the lockdown browser is underway. A team of invigilators has been identified to be responsible for priority examinations where alternative forms of assessment are difficult, and the team members will be trained in the online invigilation methods.

Evaluation of how students are engaging continues with the Analytics for Course Engagement (ACE) system. During Term 3, when ACE was redeployed, 1,400 first-year students were contacted, up from 300 students in Term 2. The coordination of alerts is working smoothly, with only 24 cases escalating to emergency contact (5 students more than the 19 who progressed to emergency contact status in Term 2). External interest in ACE is growing: one large polytechnic has requested a presentation to Student Success staff; and later this month, the ACE team will be showcasing the programme as part of a webinar series connected to the Australian and New Zealand Student Services Association.

As part of UC's commitment to making a university education more accessible to Māori, Pasifika and first in family students, we have provided inspiration to nine priority schools in Christchurch in the form of 31 posters featuring alumni of the school and UC and their careers post education. Each of the alumni provided an inspirational quote, and all the posters shared the line "UC was the pathway to my successful career but it all started at xxx High School!" Feedback from staff and schools has been very positive.

In late July, 120 taiohi Māori from 17 schools across the Canterbury region were welcomed onto the campus for Aukaha Tau 12. This event gives Year 12 taiohi Māori students the opportunity to explore UC and to understand and develop pathways to help them attend university. Attendance increased by 186% from 2019 and 12 Māori schools that are a UC priority were in attendance. Feedback from Aukaha was very encouraging: 70% of taiohi Māori felt great about being welcomed on to campus and 58% said they could see themselves studying here. Students were engaged throughout the event, with the tuākana, college sessions and campus tours all providing great insight into what studying at UC is like.

The College of Engineering has introduced further support measures for students who are engaged in their studies but not succeeding fully. In late Term 3, it trialled using Learn data to identify students who were spending a lot of time on their ENGR102 quizzes but attaining low scores. It then offered these students an extra weekly two-hour tutorial session with teaching assistants and academics, as well as snacks. Although only a small number of students took up the opportunity, those who attended gave good feedback and they did better in their next quiz. The strategy is to focus in on students who are engaged and working hard, but not understanding the material and at risk of failing the subject. This is an important group to focus on in the middle of Terms 1 and 3 because it is hard for students to recover in many first-year Engineering courses beyond this point if they have had no engagement.

Te Kura Umanga | UC Business School's programmes are now officially recognised by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. This new accreditation is another notable achievement for the School.

The August 2020 Māori Law Review contains the first report on a proposed bijural legal education system for Aotearoa New Zealand. Adrienne Paul has been leading the UC Law School's participation in this nationwide initiative, funded by the Borrin Foundation. The project is an important step towards integrating Māori law into Aotearoa New Zealand's legal system. For more details, see the [Māori Law Review's report](#).

In an innovative move, the UC LLB curriculum has been restructured to make it more cohesive and more attractive to domestic students, with the aim of increasing UC Law's market share. One focus of this quality improvement scheme is to develop a recognisable cohort in the LLB, which will also make it easier to implement the UC graduate attributes and retain students. For this reason, from 2021 LLB students will be required to complete the core courses as a cohort. In this ongoing renewal process, another focus is to develop a Capstone course in the LLB as a way of providing practical and clinical elements to all final-year students; the pilot will be rolled out in 2021.

Research – Impact on a Changing World

Research continued apace across UC at Alert Level 2, but preparations are in place should the South Island move to Alert Level 3 or 4. To continue providing much of its support for research bidding and contracting, Research & Innovation (R&I) has moved its systems and processes online, and well-developed plans for both on and off-campus research activity are in place to operate at Alert Level 3 if needed.

With the move to a single R&I Director, which occurred after Dr Maxine Bryant resigned as Co-Director to take up an Associate Research Director role at AgResearch, an international recruitment process has commenced for this important position. In the interim, Dr Rebecca Hurrell from the College of Science have been seconded into R&I to provide leadership and support over the coming months.

The results of the latest Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Endeavour Fund round were released in early September, with the government investing \$178 million in 17 new research programmes. UC was not awarded funding for any UC-led proposals. However, approximately \$4.3 million has been awarded to UC through subcontracts on externally led programmes across a range of research areas including: Solar tsunamis; Waerau waikawa iti rongōā patuopi: New generation peptide antibiotics; Powering New Zealand's green hydrogen economy; and Amiomio Aotearoa: A circular economy for the wellbeing of New Zealand. For the second year in a row, the funding awarded has dropped (by about 4%). The fund is also becoming more competitive (with the number of applicants increasing by 5% per year), which resulted in an overall drop in our success rate to 13.3%. The MBIE Endeavour Smart Ideas funding round was cancelled in April due to COVID-19. That funding was instead used to provide six-month costed extensions on MBIE Endeavour contracts due to finish in 2020. UC had eight contracts finishing and now has variations in place totalling an additional \$2.4 million of funding. Planning and preparation for the 2021 Endeavour Fund round is well under way.

In contrast to the Endeavour Round, UC has been very successful in the recently announced Strategic Science Investments Fund "Advanced Energy Technology Platform" call, with Professor Neville Watson leading a successful bid entitled "Architecture of the Future Low Carbon, Resilient, Electrical Power System" worth \$13.3 M over seven years. With contributions from Electrical and Computer Engineering and the EPEC Centre) working with partners comprising University of Auckland, AUT, Victoria University of Wellington, and University of Waikato. UC is also a partner in one of the two other funded programmes led by Victoria University of Wellington, is worth \$880 K over seven years, with UC's contribution being led by Dr Andrew Laphorn (Electrical and Computer Engineering).

UC is continuing to build new research relationships with Australian universities and Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs), in which the university and industry sectors work in partnership. Recently UC has entered collaborative partnerships with: The Reliable Affordable Clean Energy 2030 CRC (RACE 2030), hosted by University of Technology Sydney; SmartCrete CRC, which is developing new technologies and capabilities for the engineered design and advanced manufacturing of concrete products and is hosted by Macquarie University; and an emerging Well and Productive CRC, hosted by the University of Sydney, which will work towards the dual goals of enhancing work productivity and improving employee wellbeing.

UC has had further success in commercialisation and innovation. Associate Professor Aaron Marshall of Chemical and Process Engineering and former UC master's student Jonathon Ring have formed the spin-out company Zincovery, and are the national winners of the prestigious C-Prize, sponsored by Callaghan Innovation. The prize, worth \$100,000 in cash plus additional business support to the value of \$50,000, is awarded to the company with the best, world-leading innovative solution to environmental problems. Zincovery's technology was developed here at UC using KiwiNet funding and is targeted at extracting value from and improving the environment through the treatment of waste from the galvanising industry. Both Associate Professor Marshall and Jonathan have been mentored through the KiwiNet Emerging Innovator programme to hone their business and entrepreneurial skills.

University of Canterbury is associated with two finalists in the KiwiNet Research Commercialisation Awards, which are designed to celebrate impact from science through successful research commercialisation within New Zealand's universities, Crown research institutes and other research organisations.

- Associate Professor Aaron Marshall is one of three finalists for the Breakthrough Innovator Award, which recognises an upcoming entrepreneurial researcher who is making outstanding contributions to business innovation or is creating innovative businesses in New Zealand through technology licensing, start-up creation or providing expertise to support business innovation.
- Invert Robotics is one of three finalists in the Commercial Impact Award, which celebrates excellence in research commercialisation that delivers outstanding innovation performance and has the potential to generate significant economic impact for New Zealand. Invert Robotics started as a spin-off from UC's School of Engineering, where the team developed the world's first robot capable of climbing on stainless steel. The business has since grown to provide remote robotic inspection services with unprecedented levels of safety, accuracy and speed to service the food production, chemical, aviation and energy industries.

Elizabeth Hopkins, UC Director Commercialisation, will support both Associate Professor Marshall and Invert Robotics at the judging sessions in mid-October.

In addition, Senior Lecturer Debbie Munro of Mechanical Engineering and Professor Maggie-Lee Huckabee of the School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing have both been selected as finalists for the inaugural HealthTech Supernode Challenge, delivered by UCE and the Ministry of Awesome, which aims to position Christchurch as New Zealand's centre of health innovation. They will both experience a six-week pre-accelerator programme consisting of mentorship and business training before presenting to a panel of experts on a Demo Night, to be held on 22 October at Manawa, in the heart of Te Papa Hauora Christchurch Health Precinct. Judges include microbiologist and media commentator Dr Siouxsie Wiles and Dr Ian Town, New Zealand's chief science advisor at the Ministry of Health and former UC DVC.

A fixed-term role has started to gather data for UC's forthcoming submission to the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking Index. Submissions will be made on the following United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 4 Higher Education, SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13 Climate Action, SDG 15 Life on Land, SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

In the area of postgraduate research, applications for the new Aho Hīnāore | Accelerator PhD Scholarship programme closed on 15 September. While these applications have yet to be formally processed, the Scholarships team has received approximately 90 applications. Selection will follow a two-stage assessment process. First, sub-committees of the respective college research committees will review and rank applications in late September. Second, a central panel chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) will make the final decisions. Successful applicants will be notified on Friday 16 October and a formal event will be hosted to celebrate them.

UC has recently relaunched three prestigious scholarships to support students to continue their studies overseas. With a combined value of over \$200,000, the Lord Rutherford, Sims Empire and Tytheridge Scholarships have all been redeveloped to support students wishing to travel and study overseas after completing their studies at UC. We are anticipating that increased stipends associated with the scholarships will attract a significantly higher calibre of applicant, who will become strong future ambassadors for UC as they continue their studies overseas.

Three UC students were among 37 students across the country to make it through to the Rhodes Scholar interview stage. From here, a shortlist of applicants will be invited to a second interview, where final decisions are made.

Tait Communications, through the UC Foundation, has recently committed funding to Engineering Aho Hīnāore projects. The total support of \$54,000 in 2020 comprises two Engineering students' summer projects at \$6,000 each and two Engineering students' Accelerator PhD Scholarships (\$7,000 a year for three years for each student).

In 2020 to date, 126 international students have accepted an offer of a place in the PhD programme at UC but are yet to enrol. The proposed start dates of these students vary, with some set for 2021. However, of the 126 students, 40 were due to start between 1 March and 1 September this year but have not yet begun due to COVID-19 border restrictions. UC has recently promoted a process for international PhD students to start their programme while overseas. To date, seven overseas commencements have been approved by the Dean of Postgraduate Research and a further seven are under consideration (awaiting further information from supervisors). Applications are supervisor driven, and carefully reviewed to minimise risks to UC and to the student, and to maintain standards of academic quality and rigour while the student is studying from overseas.

The UC final of Three Minute Thesis (3MT) was held virtually, in conjunction with the final of Visualise Your Thesis, on 8 September. A number of outstanding presentations were delivered and I wish to congratulate all 12 students who participated in the UC final. My congratulations go to the winner, Flynn Adcock (master's student in the School of Biological Sciences), second place-getter Samuel Martín Treceño (PhD candidate in Chemical and Process Engineering) and Morgan Tracy (PhD student in the School of Biological Sciences), who received third place. I would also like to congratulate Amanda Board, from the School of Biological Sciences, and Sripana Saha, from the Schools of Teacher Education and Earth and Environment, who were awarded Highly Commended. Thanks are due to the judges: Joanne Noble-Nesbitt, Academic Quality Team Leader at UC; Art Martinson, Head of Digital Solutions & Data Technology at Christchurch International Airport Ltd; and Professor Alessandro Palermo, Postgraduate Research Director, Civil and Natural Resources Engineering at UC.

The UC Research Endowment Fund and UC Trusts have supported UC's PhD Aho Hīnātoro | Accelerator Scholarship programme with \$250,000. Two UC ECON390 students are undertaking a research project on how UC donors who donate by cheque will be affected by the move of New Zealand banks to phase out cheques. Springfree is supporting Professor Nick Draper's Trampoline research project with a donation of \$50,000.

Graduates Sulaiman Sarwary (LLM) and Holly Faulkner (LLM ILAP) have been awarded full PhD scholarships to study community and governance resilience to predicted volcanic events in Taranaki and Auckland, with funding from Transitioning Taranaki to a Volcanic Future and Resilience to Nature's Challenges and Determining Volcanic Risk in Auckland, respectively. The College of Science supervisors for these projects will be Professor John Hopkins, Dr Sarah Beavan and Professor Tom Wilson as part of the research programme of the Aotearoa New Zealand Institute of Law, Emergencies and Disasters. Holly is currently working as a researcher on the QuakeCoRE Wellington Regulating for Resilience project and, like Sulaiman, will be starting her PhD studies towards the end of this year.

Several emerging researchers from across the University have progressed to the interview stage of the prestigious Rutherford Discovery Fellowship process. A University-wide team has been involved in preparing and supporting those staff as they get ready for the final interviews in Wellington next week.

Professor Natalia Chaban of the College of Arts co-edited, with Arne Niemann and Johanna Speyer of Germany's Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU), *Changing Perceptions of the EU at Times of Brexit: Global Perspectives*. This book, published by Routledge, brings together 26 contributors from 17 countries to conceptualise and measure perceptions of the European Union (EU) in strategic regions around the world in the aftermath of the Brexit referendum in the United Kingdom. It resulted from a two-year collaboration across time zones and oceans, which started with a creative two-day workshop at JGU in the summer of 2018. The workshop, led by the co-editors, was sponsored by the Thyssen Foundation, the University Association for Contemporary European Studies, the EU's Jean Monnet Programme and JGU. After that, Professor Chaban and her co-editors organised several panels of contributors at leading international conferences in 2018 and 2019, where they tested the case studies.

The development of a Joint Postgraduate School on Food Transitions 2050 is making good progress. A call for PhD project proposals was released at the end of August, and a virtual joint staff forum to provide more information attracted 180 participants from across the five partner organisations. A workshop was also held to explore integrative research – what it means, the different forms it can take and when it is appropriate to apply each of those forms – and a further workshop on the same theme is planned for a wider group later in the year.

People – Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

At the Australia-based Tertiary Access Group's CampusLink Awards this week, UCSA was the winner in two categories: 'Best new or refurbished facility/building over \$600K' for Haere-roa and 'Most successful event – student focused' for Band Together in March 2019.

Demand for mental health services and support has steadily increased as the impact of COVID-19 unfolds. To the start of Term 4, the team at the Health Centre has managed 3,289 consultations compared with 3,067 at the same stage in 2019, which represents a 7.2% increase in the year to date. In most part, the Health Centre has met this demand by increasing staff levels and having ongoing support from the triage counsellor.

Among the other initiatives to manage this increase in demand, both the Health Centre and Student Care have been promoting the 1757 free text service and online support model. They are also in the final stages of engaging Puāwaitanga, a remote online and phone service to be available free for students, funded fully by the Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB). Finally, the team has improved online communications through the new Wellbeing Hub and increased the frequency of wellbeing messaging to students and staff.

Nationally, the increase in mental health needs has been described in this month's report by Rochelle Menzies, Sir Peter Gluckman and Richie Poulton, *Youth Mental Health in Aotearoa New Zealand: Greater Urgency Required*. The authors identify that the last decade has seen a rapid and concerning rise in youth psychological distress and suicide rates, that poor mental health for youth nationally is persistently inequitable and worsening, and that the impacts of COVID-19 on youth mental health are likely to be extensive and enduring. UC is collaborating with other universities to establish a more joined-up approach to addressing mental health issues among students and is engaging with CDHB Specialist Mental Health Services to clarify roles and responsibilities.

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW), a number of activities have been arranged for the UC community. The week's events, based around the MHAW theme "Reimagine Wellbeing Together – He Tirohanga Anamata", are for both staff and students. A Wellbeing Expo on Monday 21 September starts off the week, with over 20 groups taking part. A series of lunchtime seminars follows through to Friday 25 September 2020:

Tuesday: Live webinar with Sir John Kirwan and Dr Fiona Kritchton
Wednesday: Presentation by UCSA clubs, Lads Without Labels and UC Women's Wellbeing
Thursday: Professor Katharina Naswall, Wellbeing – Supporting your own and others'
Friday: Professor Julia Rucklidge, Nutrition for Wellbeing; Practical suggestions for improving your mental health under stress.

On Wednesday 23 September, a number of UC cafes will be running the promotion "Take a Mate for Coffee", which is all about connection.

UC's staff newsletter *Tū ki te tahi* has promoted UC's Payroll Giving and given staff the chance to vote for favourite charities they would like to support. So far, 163 votes have been counted.

Congratulations to:

- Dr Pan Zheng, lecturer in the Department of Accounting and Information Systems, who is the 2020 recipient of the UC Business School Early Career Researcher Award. Pan first joined the UC Business School in 2017 as a teaching fellow, and was appointed to the full-time continuing position of lecturer in 2018. He brings to the Business School a unique set of skills and acumen at the cutting edge of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Pan has established research collaborations with teams and research institutes in Malaysia, China, Australia and Spain, and is an Adjunct Research Fellow with the top-ranked China University of Petroleum. In the last eight years, Pan has published 25 journal articles, 4 book chapters in edited books and 3 conference proceedings. He has 24 Scopus-indexed publications, including 12 Q1 and 8 Q2 journal articles, of which three are published in highly regarded outlets such as *PLOS One*. His Q1 article published by Nature in its *Scientific Reports* in 2016 hit the top 1% in the field of computer science for citations on Web of Science, and is one of only 300+ papers worldwide across all disciplines that have received Essential Science Indicators (ESI) highly cited paper status
- UC Law and Arts alumnus, now Christchurch Coroner, Anna Tutton, on her appointment as New Zealand's Deputy Chief Coroner. For more information, visit [the article in the New Zealand Doctor](#)
- UC Business and Law graduate Robbie Morrison on receiving a Fulbright New Zealand Award. Robbie graduated with an LLB (Hons First Class) in 2018 and a BCom in 2019. He is set to complete a Master of Laws at Duke University in North Carolina. For the full list of Fulbright Award recipients, [visit the Fulbright website](#)
- Yukita Rangari, UC Master of Business student, on being selected as one of five finalists for the Canadian based TaxCOOP Go Green Contest. Her environmental tax proposal stood out to the jury, who made their selection based on the following criteria: overview of the problem targeted by the tax or incentive; description of how the tax or incentive works; innovative nature of the proposal and realistic nature of the effects of the proposal; and clarity and quality of presentation and evocative and coherent visual design with the proposal.

This month, the College of Arts returned to the remediated Elsie Locke building, which marks the final stage in its post-earthquake return to the three main Arts buildings on campus. The College Office is now located on the ground floor of Locke, forming a quad with the North Arts Lecture Block. A unique feature of the new building is that the elevator doors are decorated with artworks by six students from the School of Fine Arts. The students, chosen as the winners of a competition organised for the reopening, are Sang Kyu Moon, Zara Dolan, Sophie Ballantyne, Irenie How, Olivia Sinclair and Janneth Gil. Each has provided a pair of matched artworks for the elevator doors in one of the six floors of the building. Visitors are welcome to come and view the doors.

The University was recently named as one of New Zealand's top five employers of choice for 2020 by respected international human resources company Human Resources Director (HRD). In giving the reasons for this choice, HRD cited the [staff benefits](#) and professional and career development that UC offers. It particularly noted our flexible working policy and [n3 discount purchasing scheme](#). A number of the benefits also have a focus on staff wellbeing.

Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

Interest from international students to study at UC in 2021 continues to be strong. Boosted by the popularity of New Zealand as a destination in these COVID times, applications to enrol (ATEs) are tracking well ahead of last year, up 25% year on year.

The focus is now on four main areas of influence:

- recruiting and retaining international students who are graduating from New Zealand high schools
- recruiting new international students into 2021 ‘online to on-campus’ pathways
- supporting and retaining UC international students who remain unable to travel to New Zealand to start or continue their studies
- ensuring that UC is prepared for when New Zealand quarantine facilities are open to international students.

The online to on-campus pathway programmes for February 2021 will be available shortly. We will market these programmes to those who deferred this year or have enquired already, as well as through our agents to new prospects. It is important to note the QS Enrolment Solutions finding that international students have a conversion period of 12 months on average from enquiry to enrolment. Therefore our pipeline building work for 2022 is underway with a robust international recruitment positioning of “World’s Best Choice” and communications and conversion strategies in place. We have also commissioned research to understand which international markets represent the greatest potential in terms of both entirely online and online to on-campus pathways.

The School of Biological Sciences is developing a 2+2 degree arrangement for Biological Engineering degree students under the existing agreement with Yantai University.

Dr Chris Jones, Dean (International) and Department of History, will represent UC at the **Virtual University Fair** held at Woodstock School, in the Indian foothills of the Himalayas, on 9 September alongside a select group of Australian and British universities. Founded by British missionaries in 1854 during the era of the East India Company, Woodstock is Asia’s oldest international boarding school. It came under American management during the Raj and, at times, provided refuge for those who opposed British rule in India. Since independence, it has become an elite international school attracting students from not only India but across Asia.

The University of Canterbury has been invited to join leading universities as part of a panel discussion focusing on the use of Zoom in education. Entitled Zoomtopia, the Asia-Pacific conference, which is available worldwide, reaches nearly 200,000 viewers. Specifically UC has been invited to share insights on how education has changed in 2020 and discuss the growing mindset of lifelong learning, and how technology can help to shape the experience so people can learn anywhere, any time to gain the knowledge they need for career progression and/or personal development.

In partnership with the Asia New Zealand Foundation, UC Business School is presenting four public webinars focused on business in Asia. In the first webinar, *Plugged in: How will Asia’s digital innovation impact on New Zealand business?*, the panel of experts discussed Asia’s economic growth and its production of a robust innovation ecosystem. Asia New Zealand Foundation Executive Director Simon Draper says, “We’re delighted to be partnering with UC on this series. It is more critical than ever for business to keep up with developments and innovations in Asia, as the region will be central to New Zealand’s economic and social recovery from COVID-

19. It's not just business as usual in the region, and New Zealanders will need to be very savvy in their engagement." To view the latest webinar and previous Hihiko webinars, go to the [UC website](#).

Among other initiatives, a virtual alumni event was organised featuring the UC Business School (Hihiko webinar) for overseas alumni and a new Alumni Ambassador has been appointed for Saudi Arabia.

Organisational Efficacy

Recruitment

Funded through our existing budget, a new UC brand campaign, Believe U Can, went to market at the end of August through digital media and billboards in Christchurch and Wellington. Bus shelters in priority locations outside schools around Aotearoa New Zealand have also been updated from our UCME campaign to Believe U Can with inspirational messages.

After being postponed twice, UC Open Day had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Alternative arrangements have been made, with opportunities for small groups to tour campus, as well as webinars with each of the accommodation providers to give some insight into life in the halls. The Virtual Open Day facility has also been opened up again to allow registered attendees to view extensive materials on each of the courses offered, along with details about scholarships, Māori and Pasifika information and general information on Ōtautahi Christchurch.

Because COVID-19 has disrupted the opportunity for prospective students and their whānau to tour halls in large numbers, we have adopted new ways to support the hall recruitment activities. Virtual tours have had 16,915 views since 6 July 2020, averaging 1,879 per week. Halls are also conducting webinars with Q&A sessions which have attracted a further 384 registrations and at level 1 will run tours on request. Started applications are currently running about 3% up on 2019.

As part of our outreach to mature students, we have held a workshop to develop a more strategic approach to engaging alumni as returning students for Semester 1, 2021. In addition, UC is partnering with the Ministry of Social Development to support job seekers with appropriate qualifications to consider tertiary study in 2021.

The second 2020 Business Taught Masters (BTM) intake marks the end of recruitment (except for Summer School) for the academic year 2020. Although small changes can be expected between now and the close of the BTM withdrawal date, almost final figures suggest that UC has done relatively well in 2020 considering the impacts of COVID-19. Semester 2 BCom and Certificate of Proficiency Commerce online students who were not enrolled in Semester 1 needed to commit to the rest of the second semester by 28 August. Out of the 148 'new to UC' students who enrolled at the start of Semester 2 (102 of whom were eligible for the deferred payment or refund period), five students withdrew before the deadline, leaving 143 students still enrolled. This includes the 34 KYS Business School students who their sponsor ultimately allowed to stay enrolled here. In total, UC Business and Law has 606 full-fee equivalent full-time students (EFTS) enrolled currently. This is 52 EFTS above the revised end-of-year forecast from June 2020.

Tupuānuku is on schedule to be completed and handed to UC on 23 December. Both UC and UniLodge have signed the contract and service-level agreement. This signals a new era for contract management, reporting and partnering, incorporating the requirements of the Interim Code of Pastoral Care 2019.

Total full-fee EFTS are down by only 7.8%, which is a substantially better performance than was expected in the revised 2020 financial forecasts. Due to border closures, new to UC international EFTS are down by 15.5% in 2020 year on year. A substantial part of that reduction is because of a continuing decline in the UC International College (UCIC) pipeline. New to UC EFTS from UCIC were down 37.6% year on year, accounting for a disproportionately large 43% of the overall drop in new to UC students.

Development

UC is working to identify UC Foundation funds that can support activities in 2020 and the next financial year. Drawdowns in the year to date are low against expectations at \$2.6 million. Income is at \$4.3 million to UC Foundation and \$0.5 million direct to UC for donations, sponsorship, non-research grants and bequests, comprising 475 funders and 932 transactions in total.

The School of Law emailed its annual newsletter and Hihiko webinar to alumni. The UC Alumni Community published 15 LinkedIn posts and 19 Facebook posts; the highest interaction, gaining 142 clicks, was the ‘COVID say NOVID’ video share by UC alumnus Jono Entwistle. Five young alumni have been nominated for the University of Canterbury Young New Zealander of the Year Award, which is part of the Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Awards programme and has UC sponsorship. The UC Foundation [annual report](#) has been sent sustainably by email to the 958 donors from 2019.

Finances

August 2020	Actual Year to Date \$000	Budget Year to Date \$000	Budget Variance Year to Date \$000 Fav/(Unfav)	Budget Full Year \$000	Forecast Full Year \$000	Full Year Forecast to Budget Variance \$000 Fav/(Unfav)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	3,068	(3,778)	6,846	3,818	1,590	(2,228)
Capital Expenditure	60,190	77,527	17,337	111,988	94,159	17,829
Cash/ Short Term Investments	233,500	207,193	26,307	153,628	192,802	39,174

We had been budgeting for an operating **deficit** as at the end of August 2020 of (\$3.778) million, but have returned an operating **surplus** of \$3.068 million.

This is a favourable variance to budget of \$6.846 million. This favourable variance mainly relates to \$22.230 million less operating expenses (largest savings are in travel and conference expenses, consultancy expenses, outsourcing/ contracts, scholarships, commission and levies, contract teaching, contractors, promotional activities, and laboratory consumables), the majority being related to the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown. Some of these favourable variances will be sustained and have been reflected in the year end forecast.

Other favourable variances relate to \$0.730 million of 2019 SAC funding wash-up and \$0.444 million more interest income.

This favourable variance has been partially offset with unfavourable variances coming from (\$4.176) million less research external income, (\$6.110) million less full fee tuition income, (\$2.114) million more depreciation, and (\$2.154) million less sundry income.

We are forecasting for a surplus for the full year of \$1.590 million. Expected reductions in revenue in relation to full fee tuition fees, PBRF, research income and forecast increases in expenses in relation to depreciation expenditure and retirement provision, are largely offset by improved interest revenue and forecast reductions in expenses in relation to personnel and operating expenses.

Capital expenditure is \$17.337 million below budget. Most projects are under budget but expenditure related to the UC futures projects is (\$6.887) million over the year to date budget of \$2.482 million, largely as a result of the \$9.184 million Rehua final payment paid in March that was not considered in the budget. The remaining capital spend (excluding UC Futures) is favourable by \$24.224 million, against a year to date budget of \$75.045 million. As one might expect, the Covid-19 lockdown significantly curtailed capital expenditure, but which is now returning to normal levels.

The August 2020 cash position of \$233.500 million is higher than budget by \$26.307 million. The higher than expected opening cash balance and lower capital spend has been partially offset by less cash from operating activities (largely due to less income).

For further details please refer to the latest monthly financial report.

	EFTS			
	Full Year Enrolled			
	Actual	Actual	Forecast	Budget
	2018	2019	(as at Jul) 2020	2020
Domestic 1st Year	3,662	3,767		
Returning	8,704	9,255		
Total	<u>12,366</u>	<u>13,022</u>	<u>13,644</u>	<u>13,735</u>
International 1st Year	922	952		
Returning	781	918		
Total	<u>1,704</u>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>1,670</u>	<u>2,015</u>
	-	-	-	
Total	14,069	14,891	15,313	15,749

Notes:

Budget and Forecast is not calculated down to year at UC

Enrolment data is based on the same date across years i.e. 6th Jan vs 6th Jan

Applications to Enrol data is now report on the same date across years i.e. 6th Jan vs 6th Jan

ATE data is based on student headcount and based on the students citizenship status rather than fee type.

Enrolments data is based on EFTS and the students fee type (Domestic or International).

'International' refers to the students NZ citizen/residency status rather than their fee paying status. Most international students will pay International fees but not all. As PhD students generally pay domestic fees this table groups them with Domestic Students.

Environmentally Sustainable

Associate Professor David Evison and Facilities Management staff have been making progress on options to expand carbon sequestration using the UC estate. The focus is on extending the portion of Mount Barker, which is included in the Emissions Trading Scheme. We are also considering a small portion of Cass Field Station for new planting of natives as well as including existing land covered in mānuka.

UC and Lincoln University are co-hosting the third New Zealand SDG Summit in September next year. In preparation, branding work and detailed planning are underway for a November summit this year, which will be the first of the online events that make up the Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2020–21 series.

The Master of Disaster Risk and Resilience class was hosted by the Canterbury Emergency Management Office early in August at the Justice and Emergency Services Precinct. The Office staff gave the class a tour of the incredible Emergency Operations Centre (which has only just stood down from the COVID-19 response) and discussed their roles in disaster risk management. The Office is a valued partner in the MDRR degree. UC's Disaster Risk and Resilience group collaborates with the Office on a number of research programmes, including Project AF8, Resilience to Nature's Challenge, and various natural hazard risk and resilience projects in the Canterbury region.

We have decided to implement the Government's [employer e-bike purchase support scheme](#), which may involve two phases. First, we will offer a 'purchase only' arrangement where staff can order and purchase discounted e-bikes. We would like to roll out this phase in October as part of 'Biketober' events. The second possible phase we are exploring is to offer low-interest or interest-free loans for staff to buy e-bikes. If this is possible, our intention would be to implement this phase at the beginning of 2021.

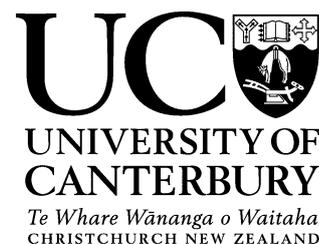
Currently the Sustainability Office is working with the Student Volunteer Army to coordinate workshops on making reusable masks for our community. To date, we have completed 500 masks, which are being distributed throughout the support service teams at UC to ensure they reach those in need. Eighty student and staff volunteers have been involved in the face mask workshops, with further input from 45 students as part of their CHCH101 coursework.

Finally, the Sustainability Culture Index survey of staff was run for the first time at UC in August. It received 415 responses and the report on the results is currently being written.

Past Events	
31 August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended meeting with ChristchurchNZ • Visited Student Volunteer Army face mask workshop
1 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joined, via Zoom, the Ako Aotearoa Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards online ceremony
2 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke at the 2020 Māori Research Hui • Attended farewell for David Meates
9 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited Cass Field Station and High Country Pastoral Leases
15 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke on a panel at the Local Government Professionals Annual Summit
17 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Early and Emerging Career Researcher Award presentation • Attended, via Zoom, UC Foundation in America Meeting • Attended the UC Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting
18 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended, via Zoom, Universities New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' (UNZ VC) meeting
22 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the Department of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering 'Bake off' as a judge • Met with Principal of Christ's College
23 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Wellbeing Expo for Mental Health Awareness Week
24 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended New Zealand Qualifications Authority board meeting in Wellington
25 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke at UCSA Staff of the Year Awards

Upcoming Events	
1 October – 5 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chancellor away on annual leave
5 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Formal Dinner with Rochester & Rutherford Hall
6 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending 2020 Leaders Debate with Stuff
7 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending, via Zoom, Association of Commonwealth Universities Pacific Regional Committee meeting
8 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Lincoln University graduation ceremony
9 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending, via Zoom, Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business re-accreditation meeting
10 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Blues Awards dinner
14 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting Christchurch Knowledge Commons Update on campus
16 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending UNZ VC meeting

Memorandum/Pukapuka



To:	Ki:	University Council
From:	Nā:	Professor Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor
Date:	Rā:	21 September 2020
Subject:	Kaupapa:	Academic Board report

Recommendations:

- *that the Council notes the report of the Academic Board;*

Purpose:

To advise Council on the Academic Board proceedings at its September meeting.

Executive Summary:

The Board considered various items including an update on the 2021 budget, a request from UCSA for universal lecture recording and a presentation on the recent Times Higher Education rankings.

Key Points/Strategic fit:

The discussions encompassed UC strategy's aims of being an Accessible, Flexible Future-Focussed education provider, nurturing staff, thriving students with organisational efficacy.

Financial implications:

None.

Attachments:

- **Academic Board report**

Full papers commence overleaf.

Paper Progress:

To:	Date:	Decision:
PFRC/RAC	N/A	
SLT	N/A	
FPRC/ARC	N/A	
COUNCIL	September 2020	Pending

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL FROM A MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2020

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed new members from the College of Arts. She noted the proposed dates for meetings in 2021 and that nominations had been called for a new member of the Discipline Committee. She thanked those who had put forward nominations for the Advisory Working Group to Assess Research for UC Academic Promotions which will begin meeting shortly, chaired by Professor Gail Gillon.

Members joined the Chair in congratulating the winners of the UC teaching awards and teaching medal. Professor Moran added that one of the winners, Kay-Lee Jones had also recently been awarded the Ako Aotearoa National Tertiary Teaching Excellence (kaupapa Māori) award. She also acknowledged Dr Richard Lobb from Computer Science on the award of the UC teaching medal.

The Chair noted that te wiki o te reo Māori was launching next week when people across Aotearoa aim to substantially increase their daily use of te reo Māori and encouraged staff to participate and join a range of events at UC.

UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ON THE 2021 BUDGET

The Chair said that it had become clearer since the previous meeting that it was unlikely that New Zealand's borders would be open to international students by the beginning of 2021. She asked Mr Longden for an update on the draft budget.

Mr Longden said that the presentation he had given at a staff forum earlier in the year had been based on the assumption that the borders would be open, but the latest thinking was that the borders would remain closed so reconsideration of the budget was required. He said he also intended to prepare another update based on the scenario of the borders opening in time for Semester 2 2021. He said that income is currently down by \$10 million, and that expenditure is increasing by \$17 million, of which \$10 million is in personnel costs with the remainder including software licences, IT contracts and insurance costs. Assuming that TEC will fund domestic enrolments at 100%, the likelihood is that the deficit will be \$27 million. Council will be presented with a series of options and will need to decide if they are willing to accept a deficit, and if so at what level. He said that the hope was to preserve a sum for work relating to implementing the strategy as that was in part about revenue growth. He warned that the impact of fewer international students in 2021 would flow on to future years.

A member asked how much of the \$191 million cash forecast reported at the end of the year is committed to signed capital projects as he felt that this was a time to be spending as much as possible. Mr Longden replied that the cash is for future capital spread over time according to needs. For example the replacement of the boiler was set to continue but the work planned for the Recreation Centre had been deferred. It was agreed that further information could be supplied on the source of the projected \$27 million deficit to see where savings might be made. Mr Longden said that a third update would be sent to staff in the coming week. The Vice-Chancellor said that the intention was to

get a consensus on suggested ways forward by the end of September to present scenarios to Council in October. She thanked Mr Longden for his presentation.

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed the return of students to campus and thanked all staff for going the extra mile over recent months. She had received positive feedback from students she had spoken to. She reported that many of the events listed in the written report have not taken place due to level 2 restrictions, including Open Day. However she was pleased that early indications from Applications to Enrol for 2021 were looking positive. She had been able to attend the annual Māori research hui and had enjoyed the good scholarly debate. She commended Professor Macfarlane for his leadership in organising the annual Māori hui.

Questions and comments from the floor included:

- What is UC's formal position about supervising PhD students virtually? The Dean of Postgraduate Studies confirmed that UC is accepting PhD students offshore through a specified process. She had approved four applications to date and was aware of a further eight in the pipeline.
- Is UC proactively engaged with the government about providing a pathway for international students to come to New Zealand? The Vice-Chancellor confirmed that she is involved in discussions and that government departments and agencies have drawn up university sector guidelines to be met if the borders open up and managed quarantine facilities are available. She said that quarantining would not take place on campus but that she was in talks with other South Island providers about a combined approach if the restrictions were eased. The Ministry of Education had announced that priority would be given to 'high value students' but this had not been defined. She anticipated that any change would be a managed and phased process.
- A member of staff has been reported in the media using UC credentials, making some extreme statements about various issues. Was this to be considered his right to express such views under the umbrella of Academic Freedom or was this inappropriate behaviour? The Vice-Chancellor said she was unable to comment on the particular case as it was subject to employment relations. However she said that UC has a clear policy on Academic Freedom and acting as the Critic and Conscience of Society which supports the rights of staff to speak out, but emphasises that they also have responsibilities and each case is to be judged on its specific circumstances.
- Does UC support an increase in offering executive short courses? Yes. It would also be helpful if staff could anticipate probable success in research contracts and consultancy rather than taking an overly cautious approach as that will help balance the books.

REPORT FROM THE UCSA

Ms Mills said that students were happy to be back on campus and with how UC responded to the changing COVID-19 environment. Students were still facing significant challenges, but were also showing great resilience for example with the work of the SVA making masks. The UCSA Executive has been involved with UC projects including work on microcredentials, the Academic Liaison Group and teaching quality metrics group. She said that the College rep system was working well but the take up of class rep positions in Semester 2 was disappointing and she is keen to work with UC to strengthen this. She particularly commended the work of Derrick Edward in the UCSA international space who had been working with stakeholders and the International Student Experience working group to gather more information about the campus experience for international students.

The UCSA has been forming closer relationships with Pasifika including commissioning a Pasifika artwork for Haere-roa and working with Te Akatoki on supporting events in te wiki o te reo Māori. The turnout at the recent Executive elections had not been as high as previous years, but was still the highest in Australasia. The current Exec had been working with the Electoral Commission to encourage students to enrol to vote in the national elections, and had secured 67 new enrolments on campus in the previous week.

A member asked whether students are anxious about employment prospects on graduation. Ms Mills confirmed that they are and that internships are not leading to expected opportunities and part time work opportunities are also being cut. Following a question on lecture attendance, she said that having reduced capacity due to social distancing requirements had made some students more reluctant to attend in person, and she acknowledged that there was still some anxiety around the virus.

UCSA REQUEST FOR UNIVERSAL LECTURE RECORDINGS

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) introduced the report and thanked the UCSA for bringing it to the Board. Ms Mills said this was a huge issue for students and that the feedback in the paper was new but this had been a sustained concern, accelerated by COVID-19. She said that recordings catered for diverse learners including Māori, Pasifika and international students, and those who were working or had childcare commitments and allowed them to access material when and where they wanted to learn.

A member commented that there is a lot of evidence that active learning is better than passive lecture theatre style learning, and this proposal seems to run against efforts in place to make learning more participatory at UC. Ms Mills agreed that active learning was desirable, but said that lecture recordings were intended as a supplement and not a replacement for attendance which could enable more class time for active learning.

- There is a problem with decreasing attendance at lectures with or without recording. This however may be primarily about how students are engaged with their learning and not the technology.
- The Academic Strategy commits UC to flexible and accessible learning and allowing students to re-listen and slow down content can help them engage in a deeper way. The College of Education, Health and Human Development has been using flexible modes of delivery for around 15 years. This delivery is not all using a transmission model it can also include active learning.
- Capacity for lecture capture is currently in excess of 95%, and actual lecture capture requested for 2021 is already in excess of 70% of material so the request would represent a small increase in capture.
- Students may feel inhibited in asking questions if they are being recorded. This may have privacy implications. Ms Mills said she was aware of students being hesitant to actively participate in Zoom classes during lockdown for these reasons. She said that the University of Auckland had provisions to protect privacy which could be factored in for UC.
- There will need to be agreement from relevant professional bodies.

Professor Heinemann thanked the UCSA for their research-based approach to the report. He supported the principle but suggested that further work be carried out on the most effective learning environments before the recommendation is sent to Council. Professor Moran agreed that the discussion should be continued by a sub-committee, including student representation and that this group should report back to the November Academic Board meeting.

PBRF REVIEW CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE RECENT TIMES HIGHER RANKINGS

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research noted that UC would be preparing a response to the PBRF consultation but that individuals were also free to do so. He welcomed the move to enable more Māori and Pasifika researchers and noted that the consultation ignores the previous funding recommendation of an allocation of an additional \$100 million. He asked any member wanting to contribute to the UC response to email him.

Professor Wright presented data around the recent Times Higher Education rankings. He said that a major factor in UC's continued slip down the rankings was the importance of citations and the use of Scopus. UC's score for teaching, research and international outlook remained stable but the citations have dropped significantly. He emphasised the need for staff to publish in high quality journals, and said that non-Scopus indexed journals are not productive for UC's rankings.

A member asked about how publishing in open access journals which had been encouraged at previous meetings aligned with these concerns. Professor Wright recommended that colleagues speak to library staff about getting manuscripts into the library repository which is an easy method of open access which increases citation rates. The Vice-Chancellor thanked Professor Wright for his presentation and said that this discussion was continuing in the Colleges and other groups.

JOINT POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL FOOD TRANSITIONS 2050

Professor Lawson updated members that the call for proposals for PhD scholarships had been issued with a deadline of 18 September. A joint virtual all-staff forum covering all five partners had been held in the previous week with an attendance of around 170. The second meeting of Vice-Chancellors and Chief Executives was due to take place in October with the official signing of the MOU, terms of reference and the naming of the initiative. She would give further updates to the Board as the work progressed.

ACADEMIC REVIEW: GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN TEACHING AND LEARNING (EARLY CHILDHOOD)

The Associate Academic Dean of Education, Health and Human Development introduced the reports. It was confirmed that the single condition had subsequently been removed, following clarification.

Moved:

That the academic review report be received.

Carried

REPORT FROM THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

A member noted the appointments to the teaching awards committee. He said that whilst he had no objection to the named members, he was concerned with how such appointments across UC were made. He noted that a number of such positions appeared to be appointed by managers and not on a collegiate basis. The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged that issues around this topic were on her agenda but had been moving slowly due to the interruption caused by the COVID-19 response.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A tribute was paid to Nekeurangi Paul, Kaitakawaenga Māori, Macmillan Brown Library who had recently passed away. His significant contributions to New Zealand research were noted.