

Vice Chancellor's Report to Council

June 2020

The announcement of National Alert Level 1 on Monday 8 June was good news for the University as it advanced the final stages of our move from the Emergency Operational Committee to normal operations, often referred to as business as usual (BAU). There is a sense of positive anticipation about the beginning of Semester 2 as we look forward to a full on-campus experience.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the three incident controllers – Steve Gibling, Rīpeka Taumanui-Hurunui and Michel Fivet – as well as to Paul O’Flaherty (responsible Senior Leadership Team member) and all the workstream members who individually and collectively contributed to our operations throughout the various levels of lockdown.

Over the weeks of Level 2, campus activity increased steadily. The libraries were the busiest on-campus places for students. They opened to UC staff and students on the first day of Level 2 through a collaborative effort with Facilities Management, who have assisted with the location tracking and additional cleaning. Puaka-James Hight Library regularly reached the 600-user limit required for Level 2 social distancing in the 10 days that students had to study for exams at that alert level.

UC libraries have continued to use website and social media channels to communicate service changes (see <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/library/support/covid-19/>) and has now returned to normal opening hours, with all Library staff back on campus. The Library has continued to receive positive responses from UC staff and students to its services: “*Ask live has been a life saver during lockdown*”. As may be expected with the return to BAU, fines will be reinstated on 10 July to encourage the return of material.

Workstreams initiated under lockdown are continuing to progress. The Alternative Laboratory and Studio Delivery Options working group, led by Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, has been meeting regularly since April, and has now started investing in specific equipment to broaden and extend remote tuition in either labs or field trips. This not only gives UC an edge on using technology to teach remotely in practical situations where user interaction is critical, but also future-proofs us if we do need to restrict campus access again. Current projects include remote control of helicopters and field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs) in Electrical Engineering, training technical staff to use 360-degree cameras in their labs, led by HITLab staff, and creating more virtual science field trips.

Engagement

To strengthen our city relationships, we will sign memoranda of understanding with ChristchurchNZ and The Christchurch Foundation to coordinate collaborative opportunities. Together with ChristchurchNZ, we have formed workstreams to advance our strategic imperatives including industry engagement, research with impact and joint marketing activity. Working with

The Christchurch Foundation, we can apply for joint funding for collaborative projects to advance the development of our city.

The Centre for Entrepreneurship (UCE) with ChristchurchNZ along with Ministry of Awesome are establishing a new partnership to grow Christchurch's innovation ecosystem to contribute to the economic recovery of the region post-COVID-19. Under this partnership UCE will grow the city's most ambitious start-ups, attract talent, entrepreneurs and businesses to Christchurch and support the repositioning of the Christchurch economy for a sustainable future to support intergenerational wellbeing. There will be a multitude of opportunities for UC students and staff through start-up support, student internships/projects and research.

The Pathway to Tertiary project with ChristchurchNZ is underway, involving two schools in Christchurch East. A discussion with Ngāi Tūāhuriri has highlighted some opportunities to develop pathways for the students in Environmental Science and related areas. Specific programmes are underway with year 13 students at Linwood College to support them through to tertiary level. ChristchurchNZ is also facilitating links with industry so students can see a clear pathway towards both a career and making a social impact.

An example of how engagement may become integral to our learning and teaching is the MBA, which was relaunched at the end of last year. The upcoming Term 2 MBA courses, *Economic Uncertainty and Organisation Agility* and *Data-informed Strategy*, will run in collaboration with ChristchurchNZ. For the Economic Uncertainty course, led by Stephen Hickson and Patrick Rottiers, students will adopt an economic lens and a think-tank approach to research, producing pithy narratives on what recovery and repositioning might look like for key Canterbury industry sectors – manufacturing, food and fibre, and education. MBA Director Dr Chris Vas will lead the Data Strategy course in conjunction with senior executives from IBM and Google.

As the UC representative on Te Papa Hauora Advisory Board, Professor Letitia Fickel, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the College of Education, Health and Human Development, has supported the development of the recent *Te Papa Hauora: The Future of Health* newsletter series. The newsletter was launched in May and is dedicated to celebrating Canterbury's health, education and research sectors. It includes updates on Canterbury's response to the COVID-19 crisis, and the immense efforts that have been taken to protect our community. The highlighted efforts of the collaborative responses from the partners – University of Canterbury, University of Otago, Ara Institute of Canterbury and the Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB) – to COVID-19 showcase Canterbury's ability to collaborate and innovate, while demonstrating our compassion, resilience and willingness to help.

UC's vision of **making a positive impact on hauora wellbeing of the people of Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury** is captured in recent work of UC staff and students. Some examples are:

Supporting parents and whānau. Associate Professor Laurie McLay (School of Health Sciences) provided easily accessible videos for parents and whānau related to children's sleep patterns during lockdown.

Protecting health workers: College of Engineering Associate Professor Don Clucas (Department of Mechanical Engineering) developed a process for 3D-printing, laser-cutting and assembling a full-face protective visor in less than a minute.

Health students play their part: During Alert Levels 3 and 4 only a small percentage of health students were able to continue their training in the Canterbury clinical environment. Students in the

joint Ara Institute of Canterbury and UC Nursing programme continued to support local health efforts by working in aged care and general practice. Other students joined UC's Student Volunteer Army to provide childcare for health professionals and support vulnerable people in our community.

Professor Stephan Lukosch from the HITLab NZ and Associate Professor Tobias Langlotz from the University of Otago, with support from Tourism NZ, have successfully secured the hosting rights for the 2022 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces. This makes Christchurch the first city in the southern hemisphere to host the gathering of over 400 virtual reality experts from around the globe. It is the world's largest and most prestigious virtual reality conference.

Since 2 June 2020, paediatric clients and their whānau from the Canterbury and West Coast regions have been able to receive hearing aid fitting and rehabilitation in the newly upgraded Speech and Hearing Clinic at UC. This contract provides the opportunity to engage locally with residents and their families, expand clinical arrangements with the CDHB, enhance research links for our academics and expand clinical learning for our Master of Audiology students.

Education – Accessible, Flexible, Future-focused

Semester One teaching activity has drawn to a close and exams began on 8 June. The examinations were conducted online in various forms, ranging from open book exams to invigilated exams via Zoom. Reports have been positive and minor adjustments have been made to ensure the technology held up throughout the examination period. The end of the semester has brought an opportunity to pause and reflect on the rapid adaptations that were made and how to build on that to enhance future learning. Of note is the appointment and commencement of duty on 2 June of the *Dean of Future Learning and Development*, Professor Mick Grimley. Professor Grimley is leading the EdX developments along with online and future learning initiatives. With many in the university community working with him directly, we are seeing the rapid development of future offerings in terms of both massive open online courses (MOOCs) and microcredentials. At the beginning of June, approximately 30 MOOCs and a growing number of microcredentials have been proposed.

As COVID-19 has substantively changed the teaching relationship, understanding teaching quality has become even more critical. The *Teaching Quality Metrics Working Group* has completed the first stage of work aimed at identifying suitable measures for evaluating teaching quality, which could be used for continuous improvement and for promotions. An interim report containing a suite of measures is now complete. There is more to be done with the working group, as it focuses on application of measures. The first draft of this document will be presented at the upcoming Academic Board Promotions Workshop.

As a way of contributing to the Strategy's objective of rewarding talented staff and fostering an ethos of excellence, the deadline for UC teaching awards and the teaching medal has been extended to 10 July to allow staff further time for their applications. This is an opportunity for some of the innovative teaching displayed in the move online during lockdown to be recognised and rewarded.

Another area of significant activity is concerned with student retention and transition into the University. The Analytics for Course Engagement (ACE) system has been an important tool for keeping track of students' engagement throughout a challenging semester. Between the ACE coordinator, the colleges, Accommodation Services and Student Care, hundreds of first-year students were contacted and supported to re-engage or adapt their plans. A key initiative is aimed at improving retention of Māori and Pacific students. The Success Academy, led by the Office of

Māori, Pacific, and Diversity and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), is a multi-faceted approach that supports academic readiness within each student's own cultural framework.

In support of better student retention and progression, the College of Engineering continues to seek to rationalise its offerings, reduce the number of electives and make pathways clearer for students. Recently the Civil Engineering Department has been looking to revise the curricula of Civil Engineering and Natural Resources Engineering, which will resolve some course overlap issues.

The College of Education, Health and Human Development has identified a three-year education development plan that outlines strategic programme redesign/refresh and new programme development aligned to the UC Strategic Vision to provide accessible, flexible and future-focused offerings. This includes current efforts to refresh and revise three undergraduate offerings – Sport Coaching, Health Science and the Bachelor of Teaching and Learning (Early Childhood and Primary) – and the addition of the Youth Development pathway in the Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership. The work is being guided by stakeholder consultation, and review of benchmark and peer institutions, as well as by the need to align with relevant professional body regulations. A feature of the College's education development plan in collaboration with the College of Science through the Health Workforce Workgroup, is to develop a doctoral pathway for nursing and other health professionals as well as a suite of microcredentials identified through community and stakeholder consultation.

Research – Impact on a Changing World

UC is continuing to support research and innovation in response to COVID-19. Distinguished Professor Geoff Chase has been successful in receiving funding from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) COVID-19 Accelerator Innovation Fund for his project “Safely and Effectively Doubling Ventilator Capacity – A Rapid, and Highly Necessary Technology Solution to Save Multiple Lives”. This funding is about getting relevant research rapidly optimised and quickly into the hands of those parties who are going to make a difference in the COVID-19 response. Already Professor Chase's approach is receiving international attention through a short article on his idea for sharing ventilators, which featured in the top journal *Critical Care*.

UC researchers are engaged with local entrepreneur Peter Montgomery (founder of Clever First Aid), helping him prove and develop his Prox Bio proximity and social distancing app. The app uses Bluetooth technology, and opens up opportunity for further research and impact on the wellbeing and mental health of specific communities such as aged care. UC's Centre for Entrepreneurship will sponsor the first student trial.

UC Professor of Marketing Michael Hall, with co-authors Stefan Gössling (Lund University, Sweden) and Daniel Scott (Waterloo University, Canada), has written the most viewed article published in the *Journal of Sustainable Tourism* ever (Scimago Q1, Australian Deans Business Council (ABDC) ranking A*). “Pandemics, tourism and global change: a rapid assessment of COVID-19” (2020, DOI: 10.1080/09669582.2020.1758708) has been viewed almost 40,000 times in six weeks.

Professor Michael Hall is also co-author of another article on COVID-19, as part of a *Tourism Geographies* special issue on the transformation of tourism through COVID-19 (Brouder, P., Teoh, S., Salazar, N.B., Mostafanezhad, M., Pung, J.M., Lapointe, D., Higgins-Desbiolles, F., Haywood, M., Hall, C.M., & Clausen, H.B. 2020, “Reflections and discussions: tourism matters in the new

normal post COVID-19.” *Tourism Geographies* (Scimago Q1, ABDC ranking A), DOI: 10.1080/14616688.2020.1770325).

UC Law Professor John Hopkins has been appointed as a ‘curator’ of the COVID-19 research repository (hosted by Victoria University of Wellington in collaboration with other tertiary institutions around New Zealand). To access the repository, go to:
<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/law/centres/nzcpl/projects/covid-19>.

UC’s Research & Innovation office is currently progressing over \$1 million of Pre-Seed Accelerator Funding (PSAF) to commercialise UC technologies. A good example of a current project is the novel nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) technology Daniel Holland and Yevgen Matviychuk are developing. They secured a consultancy project with BASF, a leading global chemical engineering company, successfully demonstrating that the NMR technology could reduce BASF operating costs by about \$1 million per annum. Following this success, UC has secured \$132,500 of MBIE funding to validate the technology and explore the commercialisation pathway. Negotiations are underway with Magritek, a world-leading, New Zealand-based, NMR manufacturer. Under consideration is the possibility of partnering in a bespoke consultancy business, ideally with Callaghan Innovation funding, which will service significant New Zealand and international businesses.

Research & Innovation is also assisting Professor Maggie-Lee Huckabee to obtain a further \$250,000 of PSAF to support the commercialisation of BiSSkApp, a medical device to treat swallowing impairment. This product has resulted from UC Rose Centre for Stroke Recovery research and clinical engagement and follows on from the original commercialised product ‘BiSSkiT’, which has been sold globally to speech and language therapists. Use of this new technology will enable patients to relearn how to swallow solid food, often for the first time in many months, and will also help prevent the significant complications and sometimes even death among patients who have impaired swallowing.

Research & Innovation has successfully negotiated terms to license UC’s recently developed intellectual property in zinc recovery to Zincovery, a start-up formed as a vehicle to enable a UC staff member (Aaron Marshall) and a past Master’s student (Jonathan Ring) to raise capital to further progress the technology. Supported by PSAF funding, the academic and student entrepreneur have both been through the KiwiNet Emerging Innovator programme and received investment to develop their technology to an investible proposition. They are finalists in the C-Prize competition, run by Callaghan Innovation, which seeks to push the boundaries of what is possible through technology. They were also the first New Zealand enterprise to be invited to participate in the South Australian accelerator programme Inovyz, but declined the invitation as they felt the value added by Inovyz did not warrant the ownership stake they would need to give up. Led by Jonathan, Zincovery is now actively seeking seed or venture investment, with a technology incubator at an early stage of due diligence. Extensive market validation and industry engagement, locally and internationally, has the company poised to assist the metal galvanising industry meet environmental obligations and create wealth and employment.

Academic staff in the School of Teacher Education within the College of Education, Health and Human Development have been advancing development of three funding submissions for the Teaching and Learning Research Initiative (TLRI). TLRI is the most significant education-focused research funding pool in Aotearoa New Zealand. Dr David Pomeroy and Kay-Lee Jones are working on a project entitled “Enacting mana-affirming assessment and grouping in secondary te reo Māori and Pāngarau/Mathematics”; Dr Amanda Denston and Associate Professor Alison Arrow’s project focuses on developing a framework for teaching-learning, content-based literacy

skills and assessments in secondary schools; Dr Tracey Millan's project is "Writing wrongs in academic literacy development: Narrowing the academic writing achievement gap in New Zealand"; and Dr Andrea Delaune is proposing an investigation of the notion of 'equitable partnerships' in early learning.

Professor Andy Phelps in the HITLab has secured a book deal with Taylor and Francis on many aspects of games design and psychology. The first half of the book establishes a design framework built on psychology, game studies and design theory, while the second half is a practical examination of our theoretical framework as applied directly to successful (or perhaps unsuccessful) games.

People – Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

Colleges and service units have continued to support students' learning and career options. For example, Nicole Anfang (Business School Postgraduate Student Advisor) and Brad Cottam (Business and Law Outreach Coordinator) participated in the virtual UC science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers fair. They recorded a short video for their well-attended Q&A session explaining why STEM students might want to complete a business course or qualification and outlining possible options and combinations.

A second example is the Business taught master's programme, which started on 18 May. To support the new online students, Nicole Anfang trialled Zoom drop-in sessions using the waiting room function. The sessions were well-attended and student feedback was positive. Nicole has also been using Zoom to engage with prospective international students, who also appreciated being able to talk to a 'real person'.

At Level 1, student wellbeing services (Student Care, Health Centre and RecCentre) are transitioning from primarily online and restricted face-to-face delivery of services to almost normal BAU operations. In making this change, they are following sector guidance relevant to their service sector (for example, guidance from Sport NZ for RecCentre, and from the Ministry of Health for the Health Centre).

In collaboration with the University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA), UC has developed a strategy to support students facing hardship, in line with the Government's Hardship Fund for Learners (HAFL). This strategy builds on existing well-established processes, while ensuring new reporting requirements are met. Approximately 120 students – particularly postgraduates – have applied for support to date. UC has initiated discussions with other universities to exchange learning and help build greater consistency across institutions. We have stepped up communications with students, including by providing examples of what 'hardship' looks like and encouraging students to seek help. A noteworthy point is that a number of applications have been declined because they have considerable savings in their bank accounts. We anticipate levels of hardship will increase when the wage subsidy ends and students' part-time jobs diminish.

The COVID-19 response continues with a focus on areas of identified need for the wellbeing and progress of UC's doctoral student cohort. A robust process is being developed for international PhD students to commence their initial studies offshore and then move to Christchurch when the borders reopen

On Monday 8 June, GradFest was officially opened with a speech to postgraduate students that focused on their contributions to UC and our local, national and international communities. At a

lively and entertaining “Meet the Deans” session that followed, students posed questions to the Dean of Postgraduate Research, Associate Deans and Research Manager. The week-long programme of events will include a “Research in the COVID-19 environment” session with Professor Wright (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research) and invited academic staff as panellists, as well as discussions of mātauranga Māori and being an international student in the current climate.

Three UC students have won William Georgetti postgraduate scholarships, representing a third of all these scholarships offered across New Zealand. These scholarships will support the studies of Maui Brennan for his Master’s at Bocconi University, Benjamin Davies for his PhD at Stanford, and Robbie Morrison for his LLM at Duke University.

Science postgraduate geology students Kamen Engel and Sriparna Saha helped create a virtual demonstrator tool for the GEOL242 course. It allowed students while off campus to explore 3D rocks and see very thin slices of rock up close with interactive images taken under a microscope.

Geology PhD student Sam Davidson recently published a paper in the top-tier journal *Geology*, which dealt with part of his PhD research project based along the Hikurangi Margin, offshore from the East Coast of the North Island. The paper, entitled “Conjugate strike-slip faulting across a subduction front driven by incipient seamount subduction”, received very positive comments through the peer review process.

Robbie Morrison, who was a 2018 LLB Hons graduate and held an internship to the US Congress in 2017, has been awarded a William Georgetti Scholarship (adding to the Fulbright Scholarship he received in 2019). While also accepted at University of Texas at Austin and Cambridge, Cornell and New York Universities, Robbie will commence postgraduate studies at Duke University in January 2021.

Looking forward to Semester 2, UC teams are working closely with UCSA to inspire students with a sense of excitement and re-engagement with study and life on campus through a “Re-Orientation” programme in July.

With UC staff, the focus has been on ensuring that they have the support they need to administer assessments remotely and sufficient support to transition to work back on campus. Academic staff have worked hard since March to modify their teaching and learning and their examination methods. General staff have in the main reported that they were able to be productive during lockdown and that they received good support and communication from the University. There has been some feedback that those staff with dependents at home had some challenges balancing work and home commitments, particularly towards the end of the lockdown. The Incident Management Team members worked long hours, and they and others are being encouraged to take annual leave. Managers and People and Culture staff are working to understand these impacts on individuals and to ensure that University provides appropriate support for their wellbeing.

In line with government guidelines, and as semester two approaches, staff and students are being encouraged to continue to record their whereabouts on campus in case the University needs to contribute to a contact tracing exercise in the future. On top of existing systems such as class lists, Canterbury cards will provide data on building access and QR codes will give additional information about selected areas of high volume, for example cafes.

I am very pleased to advise that we have appointed Adela Kardos to the position of General Counsel and Registrar. Adela comes to us with a wealth of experience and is currently the General Counsel/Head of Legal Services at Christchurch City Council (CCC). With her Bachelor of Laws with Honours from UC, Adela has been a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand

since 2007. She currently manages a team of 16, including 12 lawyers, and plays a critical role as a Member of the Council's Executive Team providing strategic and legal advice on both governance and operational matters. Adela has been with the CCC for the past 9 years and is looking forward to taking on a new challenge. She has a passion for the Education sector and will be joining us from Monday, 3 August 2020.

Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

Two international ranking systems have reported recently. First, the Centre for World University Rankings, which is influential in Europe, has released its 2020–21 rankings in which UC is placed 499th among 2,000 universities, and third ranked in New Zealand. University of Auckland and Otago were ranked 263 and 341 respectively, while other New Zealand placings were Massey 671, VUW 691, AUT 1,057 and Waikato 1,075.

Second, Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), which operates one of the two most influential rankings systems in the world, has released its 2021 university institutional rankings. UC has dropped 43 places to 270 internationally, and remains marginally the fourth-best ranked university in New Zealand. It dropped in all component scores, with particular decreases in academic reputation, employer reputation, and citations per academic. Five New Zealand universities dropped in their QS rankings, while Auckland, Massey and AUT rose marginally. The rankings for the eight universities in descending order are: Auckland 83, Otago 184, Victoria University of Wellington 223, Canterbury 270, Massey 272, Waikato 375, Lincoln 387 and AUT 437. Professor Ian Wright is developing an action plan to reverse the decline in rankings.

In the College of Engineering, significant international awards were recently announced. Professor Misko Cubrinovski of Civil & Natural Resources has been awarded the Ishihara Lecture, which is the highest honour lecture in the field of geotechnical earthquake engineering, and Associate Professor Rua Murray from the School of Mathematics and Statistics has been recognised with a Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. Also of note is that Associate Professor Dan Zhao of Mechanical Engineering has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society in the UK.

On 25–26 May, working under lockdown conditions, Professor Natalia Chaban (Media and Communication) and Dr Henrietta Mondry and Associate Professor Evgeny Pavlov (Russian Programme, Global Cultural and Language Studies) organised and ran an international virtual symposium involving 15 scholars from New Zealand, the UK, Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Over two days, participants discussed the role and place of political communication, strategic narratives and perceptions in the information flows in the post-Soviet space. A special focus was on the political imaginations of Russia in relation to Europe and the European Union (EU) in post-Maidan Ukraine, in three Baltic EU member states and in Russia itself. Symposium papers will contribute to the special issue of the peer-reviewed *New Zealand Slavonic Journal*.

Dr James Mehigan, UC Law School, has joined an international research group preparing a report for the Yazidi Justice Committee on crimes committed against the Yazidis under international criminal law. The Committee is chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice, who prosecuted Slobodan Milosevic at the International Criminal Tribunal for (former) Yugoslavia.

International students is the area most affected by the pandemic. There are ongoing discussions between the university sector and government about timing, logistics and a phased approach to the re-entry of international students. There is consensus that the over-riding objective is to ensure that

when the borders re-open for international students it can be done in ways that do not compromise the gains that have been made in eradicating the virus.

In anticipation of resumption of international student mobility into New Zealand the International Relationships Office (IRO) is progressing a number of key initiatives as part of UC's diversification and COVID-19 recovery efforts. The main Semester 2 recruitment focus is on retaining students who are studying online, and converting students who have existing offers or have deferred offers from Semester 1. There is encouraging interest in the online to on-campus pathways in programmes such as Master of Applied Data Science and the suite of Business taught master's offerings.

The new "World's Best Choice" marketing campaign is developing at pace, with refreshed messaging about the opportunities for international students at UC for personal development, transformation and change. This campaign is a key part of efforts to build the profile of UC online and among agents in diversification markets such as Vietnam, Indonesia and Taiwan.

The UC Business School's Whānau programme is a new initiative for Semester 2 2020, to be delivered as part of the Business School's 'BusMe' peer mentoring initiative. The primary aims of this programme are to support the wellbeing and success of international students and to foster a truly international student experience (especially in a post-COVID-19 world where outbound student mobility is not an option for the foreseeable future). New, international BCom students (who will be based offshore) will be connected with current students of various nationalities through weekly online meetings to practise their English language skills and build social connections. The programme is intended to foster a sense of belonging among new international students and to enhance the cultural competence of all participants.

Organisational Efficacy

Student recruitment is a key focus for the balance of this year and beyond. UC kicked off a digital campaign for the adult market on 18 May and launched the first iteration of its 360-degree campus tour. The accommodation guide, along with 360-degree virtual tours, is being finalised to be ready for UC's first completely online domestic recruitment campaign.

The series of virtual Hui Tairanga | Information Evenings over the last three weeks is almost complete and has seen strong uptake and positive feedback. Numbers attending were similar to last year's in-person events. We are learning from the lockdown experience and virtual information evenings will certainly stay on the agenda for 2021 – both for regions the Liaison team is not able to visit physically and for prospective students who cannot attend their local evening.

Approximately 51% of those checking in to the virtual Information Evenings viewed the accommodation video. Interest in Tupuānuku at these events is encouraging. An online Tupuānuku campaign will launch mid-June to promote our new hall of residence for 2021.

UC Foundation income to date is \$4.3 million, with 525 donations from 306 donors and distributions of \$1.2 million in the year to date. Kono Iti, the emergency student relief fund administered by UCSA, has raised \$167,000 in donations and pledges to support students. UC is developing strategies and processes to support UC students through the Government's hardship grants for learners

The forecast financial deficit for this year remains around \$9M. A new set of financial targets has been communicated to SLT with the aim of getting this deficit down to \$4M by the end of 2020. A new set of financial measures has been issued and these measures will assist in achieving these

savings. From a cash point of view we are tracking \$8.6M behind budget but we still retain a healthy cash balance.

Forecast EFTS for 2020 are still unfavourable to budget by 826 EFTS of which 510 EFTS relate to International students. This equates to a revenue drop of \$18.3M against budget. We are however still up on the 2019 year by \$4.2M in revenue and 32 EFTS.

The IT review by Tenzing has been completed and is now out for consultation with the IT Services staff. After that, a change proposal will follow a consultation process. A Chief Digital Officer role is currently being recruited to lead the IT team to enable the delivery of a number of aspects of our new Strategy.

The Robotics team continues to deliver new bots to reduce administrative workload and pain points for processes across UC. It is currently implementing bots for human resources processes and contact tracing.

The outcome of a change proposal for Facilities Management was announced to staff recently. This involves a move away from the Learning Resources departments of Capital Works, Facilities Services and Campus Services, to create one department of Facilities Management (FM). FM now has four functions: Asset Planning; Asset Maintenance; Sustainability; and Security. The Asset Planning team will focus on further integrating the space management function with the campus development function, to reflect that space is one of UC's key issues.

First outputs from the Strategy's monitoring system will be available this month and a full review of progress will be undertaken in July for the first half of the year. Regular reporting on progress against the detailed implementation plan will keep the strategic goals at the forefront of decision making.

Environmentally Sustainable

Peter Holland, who was Professor of Geography at the University of Otago, has left a bequest of over \$1 million in his will for environmental science and ecology at UC. The bequest is to support two scholarships a year targeted at Māori and Pasifika students. After growing up in Waimate, Professor Holland completed an MSc in Geography at Canterbury in 1963 before undertaking a PhD in Australia. For a few years (1979–1982) he was a lecturer in Geography at Canterbury before moving to the University of Otago. It is a handsome bequest and we hope that it helps kickstart the careers of many Māori and Pasifika students.

The 2019 Sustainability report is now available and is included in the Council papers.

Communications and Profile

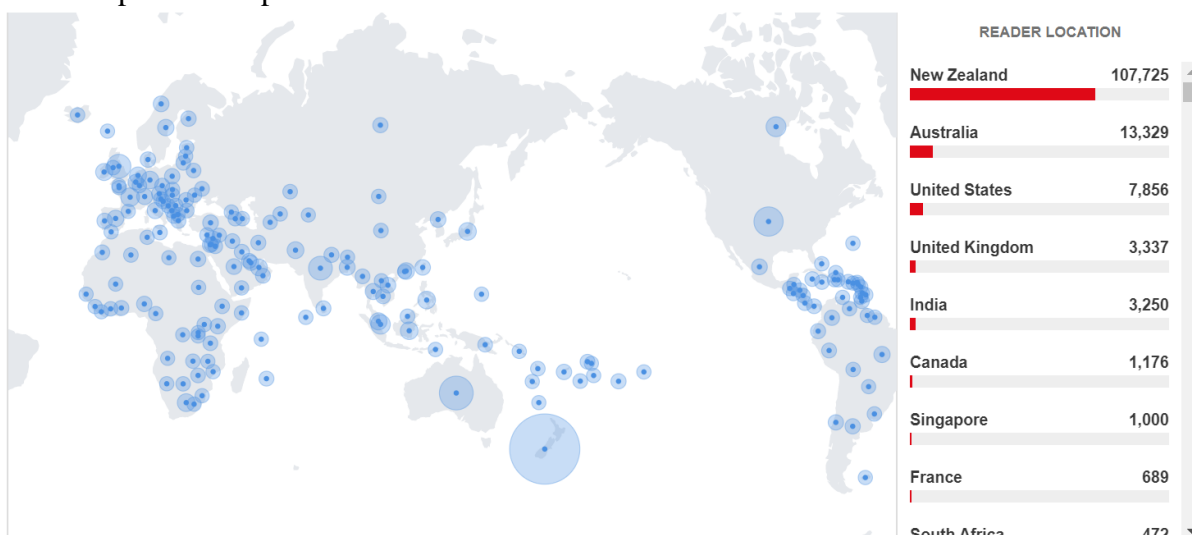
Two former senior staff in the College of Arts were represented in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Gender Studies pioneer Rosemary du Plessis and former Head of Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies, Lynne Te Aika, were honoured with the New Zealand Order of Merit. Nine other Honours recipients are alumni of the College: Derek Lardelli (Fine Arts), Anthony Lepper (BA), Brian Pauling (Political Science), Tom Rainey (Music), James Tomlin (Fine Arts), Donna Avia (BA and Ursula Bethell Writer in Residence), Donald Long (BA/MA), Ella Hanify (English and Music) and Marie Taylor (Journalism).

News media

Over the period 12 May to 9 June 2020 there were 606 mentions of UC across national online, print and broadcast media. Stories related to COVID-19 have become less dominant, although some still feature on expert advice, UC students volunteering their services, and innovations that have risen out of COVID-19. Interest has grown in steps forward post-lockdown, specifically in lifting New Zealand's economy in sectors such as tourism and infrastructure. Student input to successful regeneration in Tiromoana Bush has been covered, as have UC academics and alumni recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. In addition to the positive media coverage UC generated, more than 69 media queries were handled over this period. The following UC news stories appeared in national media over this period:

- UC students measure successful regeneration in Tiromoana Bush
- Ground-breaking UC academics, Māori culture champions among staff, alumni named in Queen's Honours
- UC 2020 artist-in-residence to examine museum's Pacific taonga
- Magic tricks and Netflix – Life under lockdown for Canadian teaching students
- UC Epidemiologist provides insight about New Zealand's ongoing Covid-19 response
- New UC technology doubling ventilator capacity could save thousands of Covid-19 patients
- UC Arts SSANSE Project provides advice on government policies for a Post-Covid Future
- Digital doctors' HealthPod puts healthcare in the community
- New study into mood-dysregulated teens' nutrition funded \$150,000
- Innovations in teaching overcome lockdown challenges
- Mimicking nature's best medicine opens door to new treatments
- New Zealand hits a 95% chance of eliminating coronavirus – but we predict new cases will emerge
- International UC students lend a helping hand during lockdown
- Crusaders on side for match-ups on marketing, research and student success.

Also in the period from 12 May to 10 June 2020 we published one article for The Conversation, which was also covered in Stuff: "New Zealand hits a 95% chance of eliminating coronavirus – but we predict new cases will emerge". This generated around 130,000 views in its own right. Views of all UC content reached just over 150,000 for this period. The diagram below shows the spread of readership over this period worldwide.



We are also seeing encouraging and consistent growth this year on our @UCNZ Twitter account and the UC News website. In May, @UCNZ Twitter gained 122 new followers and traffic to the UC News website increased by 70% over May 2019. The main reason for the additional traffic was that thecut.com, a New York magazine, published our story on astronomers Dr Antonio Herrera Martin and Associate Professor Michael Albrow, both from the School of Physical and Chemical

Sciences in the College of Science, who found an incredibly rare new Super-Earth planet towards the centre of the galaxy.

Canterbury University Press (CUP)

CUP received advance copies of *From Gondwana to the Ice Age* in May. Printing is underway for three other books: *Merchant, Miner, Mandarin: The life and times of the remarkable Choie Sew Hoy*; *Llew Summers: Body and soul*; and *Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process: Comparing adult rape trials with those in the Aotearoa Sexual Violence Court Pilot*. The publication of *Merchant, Miner, Mandarin* is on track for later this month and the authors will be interviewed on RNZ's Nine to Noon on 24 June.

Publications now available in digital editions include *Talking Baby: Helping your child discover language* and *Black November: The 1918 influenza pandemic in New Zealand*. CUP author of the latter book, Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Rice, continues to contribute to a wider public understanding of the COVID pandemic and the importance of learning from the past. He was quoted in an article in the *New York Times* by Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist David Segal about the worldwide lack of memorials to the 1918 flu pandemic; Segal describes Professor Rice's successful efforts to establish a memorial in Aotearoa New Zealand, opened by Prime Minister the Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern in November 2019. Professor Rice has himself just finished an invited article for the *Journal of Global History* with the working title: "How reminders of the 1918 influenza pandemic helped Australia and New Zealand to cope with COVID-19".

Two recent CUP titles were reviewed by Terry Toner on Radio Southland's Book Show: *Living Among the Northland Māori (2019)* on 6 and 10 May and *The Christchurch Town Hall 1965–2019: A dream renewed* on 20 and 27 May.

The College of Arts has introduced two new public-facing blogs. College news will now feature on its *Arts Update Te Rāngai Toi Tangata* blog (<https://artsupdate.canterbury.ac.nz/>) with regular items under headings of News, Views and Events. Aggregated posts will be sent out in a regular newsletter for subscribers, and selected entries will be tweeted through UC Arts Twitter channels. Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies has also launched its *Aotuhi* blog (<https://blogs.canterbury.ac.nz/aotahi>). This blog gives the School an opportunity to talk about the 360 degrees of Māori reality. It will give voice to the world of solutions, highlighting mahi that is happening now to advance the aspirations of Iwi Māori, and will include longer, more philosophical writing as well as insights from the lived experience of Māori elders.

UC Law Professor Elisabeth McDonald presented a webinar for the Institute of Judicial Studies (the educational arm of the New Zealand judiciary) on the key findings from her forthcoming book *Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process* (Canterbury University Press, 2020).

UC Law Professor Annick Masselot gave an interview entitled "Women, Pandemic and an Uncertain Future" for the religious online media platform A Thoughtful Faith Podcast, in which she focused on the many gender inequalities that the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed.

Series one of the UC Science radio podcast continues with interviews with Sally Gaw, Chris Gordon, and Julia Rucklidge. The Art of Science competition winners have been announced and artwork is being showcased online. In an interview on RNZ's Nine to Noon on 3 June 2020, Professor Simon Kingham discussed how COVID might change the way we move around. Associate Professor Ben Kennedy, technical staff Matt Cockcroft and Chris Grimshaw, and PhD student Nicole Allen appeared on the Kiwi kids' classic television programme *What Now*. Associate Professor Travis Horton stars in a video to mark World Oceans Day released by the US Embassy in New Zealand.

The Hihiko webinar series presented by Te Kura Umanga | UC Business School aims to support and enable organisations, schools and communities through presentations featuring national and international experts, notable UC alumni and the School’s world-class researchers. “Hihiko” means to be inspired, lively and invigorated.

Hihiko webinars are supported by the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship, the Institute of Directors, UC MBA Graduate Association, MYOB and the Asia NZ Foundation. Recent Hihiko speakers have included: digital marketing consultant and UC alumnus Sam Frost; former Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority CEO Roger Sutton; and Chair of the New Zealand Climate Change Commission Dr Rod Carr. The webinars have also showcased research from UC Business academics including Professor Bernard Walker and Adjunct Professor Venkataman Nilakant. The next scheduled Hihiko webinar will feature well-known Canterbury businessman Mike Pero, and Jane Anthony from Z Energy.

In mid-May four teams of students participated in the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship 48-hour Digital Doctors Disrupt Challenge. The multidisciplinary teams brought together students from UC, Ara, Otago Medical School’s Christchurch campus, and Lincoln University. Participants were tasked with reimagining general practice through improving patients’ experience of virtual consultations and the use of digital tools. The Challenge was supported by ChristchurchNZ and Pegasus Health – providing students with the opportunity to engage with 11 industry experts including general practitioners, technology entrepreneurs and healthcare providers.

Two ideas captured the imagination of the judges (Vince Barry, CEO, Pegasus; Mark Liddle, COO, Pegasus; and Mark Darvill, General Manager, Riccarton Clinic). One was Medsolve’s proposal for the ‘Home Hub’ to connect patients and doctors through smart devices and support communities with a simple, easy-to-use, patient-specific smart screen. Also making an impression was the medical kiosk concept of the Florence’s Nightingales, enabling patients to monitor chronic conditions more accurately as part of their regular routine. These ‘HealthPods’ would be widely accessible at local marae, schools and supermarkets.

Past Events	
28 May 2020	Presentation at UC Council Strategy Day
3 June 2020	Conducted interviews for General Counsel/ Registrar role
4 June 2020	Continued interviews for General Counsel/ Registrar role Met with Gaby Moore and TEU delegates Attended Zoom meeting for Universities New Zealand Presentation on UC Strategy to the UCSA Advisory Board meeting
5 June 2020	Met with David Meates CEO of Canterbury District Health Board
8 June 2020	Delivered welcome address at UC GradFest Attended Zoom meeting with TEC
9 June 2020	Attended UC Business and Law College Executive Meeting
10 June 2020	Interviewed by Sharon Curzen, UNZ Communications Manager
11 June 2020	Met with Leeann Watson, CEO of Canterbury Employers’s Chamber of Commerce via Zoom Attended a meeting with Duncan Cotterill Met with Rachel Simpson, BusinessNZ via Zoom Met with Tori McNoe, UCSA President
12 June 2020	Met with CEO of Christchurch City Council, Dawn Baxendale Met with CEO of ChristchurchNZ, Joanna Norris via Zoom

	Meeting with Hon. Chris Hipkins via Zoom Attended Academic Board
15 June 2020	Meeting with Arihia Bennett, CEO Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu via Zoom
17 June 2020	Presentation to UCSA staff on UC Strategy
18 June 2020	Held farewell for Acting PVC Science, Professor Carter Attended Faculty of Law meeting
19 June 2020	Attended Universities New Zealand meeting via Zoom Attended meeting with TEC in Wellington
22 June 2020	Meeting with Chairs and Principals of the independent Halls of Residence
23 June 2020	Visited Chairman and Principal of Ilam School

Forthcoming Events	
25 June 2020	Hosting Academic Board Workshop Hosting Brown Bag Lunch at UC
29 June 2020	Meeting of the Christchurch Knowledge Commons
10 July 2020	Presenting at the Transitions Programmes Graduation Ceremony Attending Academic Board