Focus on UC
Our mission

We have a vision of people prepared to make a difference — tangata tū, tangata ora.

Our mission is to contribute to society through knowledge in chosen areas of endeavour by promoting a world-class learning environment known for attracting people with the greatest potential to make a difference.

We seek to be known as a university where knowledge is created, critiqued, disseminated and protected and where research, teaching and learning take place in ways that are inspirational and innovative.

Looking towards 2023, the 150th anniversary of our founding, the primary components of our strategy are to Challenge, Concentrate and Connect.

Dr Rod Carr was appointed Vice-Chancellor in 2009. Prior to this, he was managing director of Jade Software Corporation Ltd and spent five years at the Reserve Bank of New Zealand as a director and Deputy Governor. He was also Acting Governor for five months. During an 11-year career in commercial banking, Dr Carr worked in a range of senior executive and management roles.

He has a PhD in insurance and risk management; an MBA in money and financial markets; an MA in applied economics and managerial science; and undergraduate honours degrees in law and in economics.

Dr Carr is a director of the Lyttelton Port Company and the Canterbury Employers’ Chamber of Commerce. He chairs the board of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand and is also a Trustee of the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust.

Dr Rod Carr
Vice-Chancellor
June, 2014
Welcome to UC

When established in 1873, Canterbury College, as the University was originally known, was the second university in New Zealand. It was located in central Christchurch until 1975 when it was relocated to Ilam. It now sits in 87ha of park-like surroundings.

UC has a long tradition of promoting and encouraging research excellence and has established an international reputation for its high quality degrees and the calibre of its teaching staff.

As a research-led institution, students at all levels of the University are taught by staff who are actively engaged in generating new knowledge and who are scholars in their chosen fields. Teaching is informed by cutting-edge research, creating a learning environment that is inspirational, innovative and dynamic.

In New Zealand, UC has the largest proportion of academic staff involved in teaching who are actively engaged in research, according to the Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF).

UC has been producing leaders for 140 years — our graduates have the skills to make an informed and genuine contribution to local, national and international communities.

AMONG UC’S WELL-KNOWN GRADUATES ARE:

- New Zealand’s current Prime Minister, the Right Honourable John Key
- Nobel Prize-winning scientist Ernest, Lord Rutherford
- New Zealand’s first Māori graduate, Sir Apirana Ngata
- Award-winning children’s author, Dame Margaret Mahy

The University today

UC has embarked on a period of renewal and regeneration to create a stronger and more sustainable tertiary institution. These changes were spurred by the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes, which impacted on the Canterbury region as a whole.

While the earthquakes had a significant impact on the University’s infrastructure, enrolments and finances, UC is using the region’s rebuild as an opportunity to create a modern, sustainable learning environment.

The University has completed the remediation and modernisation of its 20,000sqm, 3500 seat Central Library and social learning space, as well as the staff and student facilities for the College of Business and Law.

By mid-2014, the University will have remediated and reinstated nearly 50,000sqm of built space. Over the next five to seven years, 80% of campus space will be transformed to create a learning environment that is innovative and engaging, and one that will continue to support 21st century, research intensive higher education.

“These are exciting times. Ruaumoko and his earthquakes have torn apart not just the land, but also the limitations of last century’s thinking and structures. We now have an unavoidable responsibility to weave ourselves together into the next chapter of this country’s constantly maturing identity. This is the time to weave Ngāi Tahu’s traditions and values and aspirations into a partnership that reflects the dynamic nature of the world in which we live. It is the genuine inclusion of all the past and present strands of our communities that will allow us to realise our collective future potential.

Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi / When the old net is worn it is cast aside and the new net goes fishing.”

Sir Tipene O’Regan / Ngāi Tahu kaumatua and Adjunct Professor, University of Canterbury
UC at a glance

Snapshot

- UC has five colleges: Arts — Business and Law — Education — Engineering — Science;
- It is the first QS five star university in New Zealand;
- UC is ranked in the top three percent of universities worldwide (QS World University Rankings, 2012/2013);
- It is ranked among the top two of New Zealand’s eight universities in 10 of 17 disciplines in the 2012 Tertiary Education Commission PBRF assessment;
- UC produces graduates for more than 40 professions;
- It offers more than 2000 courses and 100 programmes of study;
- UC has more than 20 research centres and three national research institutes;
- It has an extensive network of field stations, more than any other university in New Zealand — at Kaikoura, Cass, Westport, Harihari, the sub-Antarctic Snares Islands and Antarctica, and New Zealand’s premier astronomical research facility at Mount John, Tekapo. In addition, UC operates a field station in Nigeria as part of the Nigerian Montane Forest Project;
- There are eight accommodation options available for students;
- UC hosts an international college, UCIC, to prepare international students for degree study at UC;
- UC has more than 100 partner universities with exchange agreements;
- It has the largest proportion of academic staff who are full professors of any New Zealand university;
- UC earned the highest average amount of PBRF funding per eligible academic staff member;
- Two Crown Research Institutes are co-located on the University’s Ilam campus.

Key figures*:

As of 31 December 2013, the number of students enrolled at the University was more than 14,800, the equivalent of more than 12,000 full-time students.

MORE

$23,110
Operating income per Equivalent Full-Time student

$68,710
Research funding per Full-Time Equivalent academic staff

$7,434
New capital investment per Equivalent Full-Time student

*These figures are accurate as of 31 December 2013
Our future

The University is taking the opportunity created by the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011 to revitalise its campus to create a learning environment that is innovative and engaging, and one that produces outstanding graduates in all disciplines.

The University’s renewal is also being supported by Government investment of up to (NZ)S260 million towards a planned decade-long S1 billion capital investment programme. Part of this investment will be targeted at two major construction projects:

1. **Regional Science and Innovation Centre**
   
   This $213 million development, due for completion in 2017, will see the creation of an international centre of excellence in science that will be a cutting-edge centre for teaching, learning, research and innovation in science and science and technology education.
   
   It will provide a high quality research and teaching environment where state-of-the-art infrastructure encourages and promotes individual excellence and cross-disciplinary thinking and collaboration.
   
   The centre will build on the University’s international reputation for scholarly excellence and innovation in the science and technology fields, and will play an integral role in the economic development of the Canterbury region and New Zealand as a whole.

2. **College of Engineering Precinct**
   
   The $143 million development of the College of Engineering will create a 21st century learning environment that will produce graduates with the skills, hands-on experience and knowledge sought by industry.
   
   This modernisation will feature state-of-the-art facilities that will support and encourage the generation of ideas and knowledge that will drive New Zealand’s economic growth through innovation, productivity and industry.

3. **Transforming our graduates**
   
   The University is committed to producing graduates who are:
   
   - Globally aware and connected
   - Knowledgeable and respectful of New Zealand’s indigenous culture and capable of contributing to a bicultural society in a multicultural world.
   
   To do this, the University is enhancing the relationships it already has with a wide range of organisations and is creating new connections to provide students with opportunities to engage with their community, spend time in the workplace and gain overseas experience during their studies.
UC connections

The University of Canterbury is committed to promoting a teaching, learning and research environment that is not only connected to its local community but also has a global outlook.

Local

• UC is one of Christchurch’s largest employers;
• UC will contribute up to (NZ)$15 billion to our region’s economy between 2014 and 2024;
• The University will invest $4 billion over 10 years in teaching and research, and produce 30,000 graduates;
• Members of the student-initiated Student Volunteer Army support and contribute to volunteer work in the community;
• UC students are given the opportunity to take part in work integrated learning and community engagement as part of their study;
• UC, in partnership with local iwi Ngāi Tahu, is working to advance indigenous knowledge and enhance educational outcomes and opportunities for Māori students.

National

• UC hosts three national research institutes — the New Zealand Institute of Language, Brain and Behaviour; the New Zealand ICT Innovation Institute NZI3; and the Biomolecular Interaction Centre;
• Through the Research & Innovation unit, the University has well-established links with industry, business and funding agencies;
• UC CEISMIC, a federated digital archive, is designed to preserve the earthquake memories and experiences of people of the Canterbury region, creating a national heritage asset and a resource for researchers worldwide;
• UC is an active participant in National Science Challenges.

International

• The unique Erskine global exchange programme uses earnings from a $50 million endowment to bring an average of 75 scholars to UC each academic year, ensuring students are exposed to leading academics;
• This programme also allows an average of two UC academics a month to spend time at an overseas university, ensuring our research and teaching are of a high international standard;
• UC has more than 100 partner universities in Asia, the United States, Europe, Canada and Australia;
• And more than 118,000 living alumni in New Zealand and overseas;
• Students from more than 80 countries are studying at UC.

UC Contacts

University of Canterbury, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand
Telephone: +64 3 364 2555, Freephone (in New Zealand): 0800 VARSITY (827 748), Email: info@canterbury.ac.nz
www.canterbury.ac.nz