Focus on UC 2021
About Te Tumu Whakarae
Vice Chancellor

Professor Cheryl de la Rey has been Tumu Whakarae Vice-Chancellor of Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | the University of Canterbury since February 2019.

Professor De la Rey has over 18 years of experience as an executive in higher education. Prior to moving to Aotearoa New Zealand, she was Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Pretoria, South Africa’s largest research university.

After an academic career in South Africa’s university sector, Professor De la Rey took up her first executive position, executive director at the National Research Foundation. Later she was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cape Town and CEO of the Council on Higher Education.

Professor De la Rey has also served on a number of national and international committees and boards over the years. She was vice-chairperson of the Council of the Association of Commonwealth Universities and the founding co-chairperson of both the Australia-Africa Universities Network and the South Africa-Japan Universities Forum.

She was a board member of the International Council for Science, the University Social Responsibility Network and vice-chairperson of the Talloires Network, an international association of institutions committed to strengthening the civic roles and social responsibilities of higher education.

“UC is now poised to focus wholeheartedly on its academic mission and ensure that we set the course for our long-term future in a 21st century world that is challenging, dynamic and complex.”

Professor Cheryl de la Rey
Tumu Whakarae | Vice-Chancellor

### UC in the city

The University of Canterbury purposefully supports the development, growth and success of its city and region.

UC has been shaped by its context and its historical evolution is inextricably interwoven with the history of Waitaha Canterbury and Otago. Universities like UC, where town and gown grew via an interconnected trajectory, over time come to function as anchors or nodes within towns, cities and regions.

The operations of a city-based university like UC are integrally connected to the wealth and wellbeing of Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement</th>
<th>2020 Actual</th>
<th>2020 Target</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Knowledge Commons projects underway</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of domestic students aged 25 or older</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of first-year domestic students from Canterbury</td>
<td>2,251</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2,190</td>
<td>2,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of contracts between UC and Christchurch-based agencies</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The quantitative measures of UC engagement with Waitaha Canterbury and Ōtautahi Christchurch have similar results over the past three years. These set a baseline to measure the impact of the 2020–2030 UC Strategy, which has a strong focus on engagement with the city and region.
The UC Strategy

The University of Canterbury has been making a difference to people’s lives and to society for nearly 150 years. This Strategic Vision sets the direction for UC to further increase our impact for good in the coming years, regionally and globally.

1. UC as an Engaged University
   UC will purposefully support the development, growth and success of its city and region.

2. Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked
   UC will strengthen and grow its international partnerships to increase teaching and research impact.

3. Education – Accessible, Flexible, future Focused
   UC is adopting curriculum and pedagogy principles to enhance its existing programmes to be meaningful and relevant for both staff and students.

   UC has a proud, rich, deep and broad portfolio of world class research and will continue to deliver global impact and relevance to the world’s key problems.

5. People – Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students
   UC will provide a sustaining environment where the holistic wellbeing of students, staff and the community enables its people to be successful, engaged, empowered and making a difference.

6. Organisational Efficacy
   The UC’s structures and systems empower those who work with them, are integrated and streamlined, promote a constructive culture, and have one focus – quality learning, teaching and research.

7. Environmentally Sustainable
   UC will become more sustainable and contribute to the world’s sustainability.

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Excellence
building our future on the bedrock of excellence

Relevance
responding to a changing world

Impact
making a difference locally & globally

Kotahitanga
working as one university
Welcome to UC

Immersed in the heart of Ōtautahi – the second largest city in New Zealand – Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury provides an experience unlike any other university. Nestled between Kā Tiritiri o te Moana, the majestic Southern Alps, and Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, the abundant Pacific Ocean, the University of Canterbury offers students endless opportunities for education, exploration and recreation, with all the conveniences of a modern city.

People come first at the University of Canterbury, reflecting our intrinsic values:

- **Whanaungatanga** – He mana tō te tangata | We value people and their differences
- **Manaakitanga** – Kia aroha kī te tangata | We extend care and empower others
- **Tiakitanga** – He Kaitiaki tātou katoa | We will enhance and nurture our resources

These values are rooted in trust, care and reciprocity, and were embedded over generations of Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu presence in the region. In fact, in 1861 Pita Te Hori, the first Upoko of Ngāi Tūāhuriri, instructed the founders of Ōtautahi: “kia atawhai ki te iwi – be kind to your people.” Today, these words underpin the relationships we foster amongst our students, staff and community. We are proud to open our doors to students and staff throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and the world, welcoming everyone to learn from one another and contribute to our diverse and flourishing community. The University of Canterbury is a place for everyone.

Our vision for the University of Canterbury is a contemporary university, a place of learning that is grounded in our shared history, values our differences, and aspires towards research and tertiary education that is equitable and accessible to all. We are determined to remain agile, responsive and pioneering, pushing boundaries to meet the evolving needs of our students. Since the Canterbury Collegiate Union was founded with Henry John Tancock’s inaugural address in 1872, the University of Canterbury has stood for the encouragement of talent without barriers. With our 150th anniversary on the horizon in 2023, we are reflecting on our past so that we can take our successes and our learnings into the future as we set our aspirations for the next 50 years.

Our relationships with manawhenua are integral to these aspirations, as we strive to ensure that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the bedrock of the University of Canterbury. As we continue to strengthen our partnership and grow our understanding of mātauranga Māori, we are creating a programme of collaborative knowledge creation that sets UC apart. In doing so, we also acknowledge New Zealand as an integral Pacific nation, and embrace the shared whakapapa and reciprocal relationships with our Pacific neighbours.

We seek to cultivate a spirit of curiosity that honours those who have gone before us, while contributing to the pool of diverse knowledge that we will in turn pass on to the next generation. In this, we are inspired by the Ngāi Tahu whakataukī: mō tātou, ā, mō ngā uri ā muri ake nei – for us and our children after us. We know that our students are our future, and we believe in empowering them to overcome the challenges of the changing world, and to create a more sustainable, equitable and inclusive future for us all.

The University of Canterbury provides a learning and research gateway, from the vast expanse of the galaxy and to the depths of the Antarctic continent – offering the connection, understanding and opportunities that will enable us to overcome the challenges facing our society. We pride ourselves on delivering a high standard of education and facilitating creative and innovative research for the benefit of both local and global communities. Our international networks provide opportunities for partnerships, research collaborations and student exchanges. Our academic leaders are encouraged to be courageous, forward-thinking and generous with their knowledge. They explore their fields of expertise with integrity and vigour, encourage conversations and challenges, and share their learnings with the intent of creating better outcomes for everyone.

Our people are powered by resilience and determination, using our combined knowledge and experience to chart a course into the future – aukahatia tō waka, he hekenga tai roa. We stand with our community in times of need, mobilising our networks to provide solutions, resources and simple kindness.

Our students are smart, innovative and caring, and we are proud to support them to grow as individuals and members of our warm and vibrant University of Canterbury community. We offer endless opportunities outside traditional learning, giving our students the chance to find themselves, to connect with others and to positively contribute to a changing world. When you graduate from the University of Canterbury, you join a whānau more than 140,000 strong, a cohort of engaged and empowered alumni affecting change across the globe. There is a place for you at the University of Canterbury – nau mai, tau ti mai – come join us.
Research and Innovation

The University of Canterbury’s Research & Innovation initiatives support the development of ambitious, excellent, and well-defined research that has the potential to transform our future in the areas of engineering and applied science, artificial intelligence, disruptive technologies and health and wellbeing-related innovations.

UC has a proud, rich, deep and broad portfolio of world-class research, and will continue to deliver global impact and relevance to the world’s key problems by:
1. Developing and supporting transdisciplinary research to better impact local and global challenges
2. Improving UC’s national and international research profile, reputation and ranking of the University
3. Increasing and diversifying funding sources for the University’s research portfolio including for research institutes and clusters
4. Improving strategic local, regional and international research collaborations to increase research impact
5. Providing, accessing and sharing “state of the art” research, equipment, facilities and e-infrastructure.

Through strong national and global connections with industry, the University of Canterbury actively builds strategic partnerships that support mutually beneficial research and commercialisation projects.

UC Conferencing

The University of Canterbury is uniquely well-prepared to make a global impact, forge new international relationships and implement our new strategy to be locally and globally networked.

UC has emerged as a resilient and innovative leader in academic and research excellence. Increasingly, we are sharing our stories and our strengths with the world and developing exciting collaborative projects.

It is important that we continue to grow awareness of the high caliber academic work being done at UC while promoting the excellence of our world-class research facilities.

Hosting more international conferences helps to build on this reputation, and raise our profile as a global leader.

UC has partnered with Tourism New Zealand and ChristchurchNZ, agencies with a wealth of resources and an established track record of bringing prestigious conferences to Aotearoa New Zealand, to help our academics prepare strong bids and market their conferences.

Te Rautaki Whakawhanake Kaupapa Māori – UC’s bicultural strategy

The University of Canterbury is committed to graduating students who demonstrate bicultural competence and confidence. The University, in partnership with local iwi, Ngāi Tahu, is working to advance indigenous knowledge and enhance educational outcomes and opportunities for Māori students.

At the heart of UC’s connection with our community is our relationship with mana whenua, the people of the land, Ngāi Tūāhuriri and with Ngāi Tahu more broadly, which is supported by the UC-Ngāi Tūāhuriri Partnership agreement to guide our collaboration and drive outcomes.

UC will realise the objectives of the partnership through ongoing engagement with Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Ngāi Tahu, and city partners to recognise mana whenua, and support Māori learning and aspirations.

“Ngāi Tahu appreciates the core values that underpin the University of Canterbury and the teaching of open contestable knowledge. Knowledge, its creation, production and distribution within an open society that has learnt to be tolerant and appreciative of difference is why Ngāi Tahu supports the University.”

Dr Te Maire Tau
Ūpoko o Ngāi Tūāhuriri

UC contacts

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**UC at a Glance**

- **18,771** students enrolled at UC in 2020
- **1,476** Scopus research outputs published
- **3,644** graduates including:
  - 153 PhDs
  - 850 Masters
  - 384 Postgrad/Honours
  - 2,257 Bachelors
- **$42m** external research revenue earned...
  - ...by **1,395** academic staff...
  - ...as part of a total workforce of **3,373 staff**
- **UC Strategy** for 2020–2030 (launched 2019) began implementation
  - Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora
  - Engaged, Empowered, Making a Difference
  - 8 strategic goals,
  - 38 key objectives,
  - 145 programmes,
  - 425 projects started

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**Key Figures**

In 2020 the University of Canterbury reported that all new-to-UC enrolments by domestic students were up 3% across the board on 2019 numbers, following a 2% increase the previous year.

International students decreased by 18% in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of Aotearoa New Zealand's borders. Postgraduate student numbers reached 3,154, an increase of 3% on the previous year.

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**Distribution of students by college**

- College of Arts: 18.53%
- College of Business & Law: 20.73%
- College of Education, Health and Human Development: 14.70%
- College of Engineering: 27.84%
- College of Science: 17.12%
- Service Units: 1.03%

Information correct as at April 2021.