## COUNCIL Public Meeting Agenda

# UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

## Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha

### Agenda

**DATE** Thursday 14 August 2025

TIME 9:00am

**VENUE** Council Chamber, 6th Floor, Matariki Building

Refer to Page No. (matches Diligent).

#### WELCOME & KARAKIA (opening meeting)

Kia hora te marino

Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei
Aroha atu, aroha mai

May peace be widespread
May the sea be like greenstone
A pathway for us all this day
Let us show respect for each other,

Tātou i a tātou katoa for one another Hui e! Tāiki e! Bind us all together!

#### 1. APOLOGIES

#### 2. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

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#### 3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Every Council Member has an obligation to declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest with any University of Canterbury activities and to ensure that such conflicts of interest are noted and managed appropriately.

#### 4. MINUTES

4.1. Confirming minutes of meeting held on 26 June 2025 – For Approval

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#### 5. <u>MATTERS ARISING</u>

#### 6. FROM THE CHANCELLOR

6.1. Degrees Conferred in Absentia for Jul&Aug (Executive Committee) – For Information -

#### 7. FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

7.1.	Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report – For Information	11
7.2.	Upcoming UC Events Quarterly Update – For Information	18
7.3.	Academic Board Report (13 June & 11 July) – For Information	20
	(Associate Professor Alison Griffith)	

#### 8. 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	Council & Vice-Chancellor Only Time	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
5.0 5.1	Minutes Confirm public excluded minutes of 26 June 2025	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	Refer to previous minutes
6.0 6.1 6.2	Matters Arising Action Schedule Information Papers	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)
7.0 7.1	Health & Safety Monthly Health & Safety Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
8.0 8.1	Strategy & Planning Statement of Service Performance 6-month Update	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
9.0 9.1 9.2	Finance International Student Fees & Student Services Levy 2026 Monthly Financial Update July 2025	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
10.0 10.1 10.2	Research Research Medal Recommendations Innovation Medal Recommendation	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
11.0	Capital & Investment Committee Capital & Investment Committee Meeting Minutes (2 July 2025)	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
12.0 12.1 12.2	Other Magna Charta Universitatum 2020 Update Graduation Regulations Minor Amendments	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
13.0 13.1	Major Projects  Kōawa Studios Digital Screen  Project Quarterly Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
14.0 14.1 14.2	From the Chancellor Draft October Strategy Day Agenda 20 November 2025 Council Meeting Suggested Date Change	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
14.3 14.4 14.5	Change Executive Committee Tait Foundation Gift Decision Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Verbal Update Council Updated Workplan		
15.0 15.1	2025 From The Vice-Chancellor	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)

15.2	Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report Academic Board Minutes (9 May & 13 June 2025)	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)
16.0	General Business	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
17.0 17.1	Council-Only Time People Committee Update	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 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.

#### 9. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

#### 10. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 11. <u>NEXT MEETING</u>

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25 September 2025 starting at 9.00am.

#### **KARAKIA** (closing meeting)

Unuhia, unuhia Remove, uplift Te pou, te pou the posts

Kia wātea, kia wātea in order to be free. Āe, kua wātea Yes, it has been cleared.

## **UC Council Register of Interests** (14 August 2025)

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
Amy ADAMS	2021	AMDON Farms Limited	Director and Shareholder
(Chancellor)	2021	AMDON Investments Limited	Director and Shareholder
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2025	Gas Industry Company Limited	Director
	2021	Hampton Downs Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
	2021	Melanoma NZ	Director
	2021	Montford Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
	2021	St John	Volunteer Ambulance Officer
	2025	Southern Cancer Society	Chairperson (from April)
	2022	University of Canterbury Foundation	Trustee
Cheryl DE LA REY	2020	Association of Commonwealth Universities	Council Member and Chairperson
(Vice-Chancellor)	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2019	Universities New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee	Member
	2025	Universities New Zealand Education Committee	Chair
	2019	University of Canterbury Foundation	Trustee (Ex-officio)
	2019	University of Canterbury Trust Funds	Vice-Chancellor
Jack HEINEMANN	2023	Academic Board (ex officio Council)	Member
	2022	Academic Freedom Aotearoa (TEU)	Member
	2023	American Society for Microbiology	Member
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2023	Centre for Integrated Research in Biosafety (UC)	Director
	2023	Cluster for Community and Urban Resilience (UC)	Member
	2023	European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility	Honorary Member
	2023	Higher Education Academy	Fellow
	2024	Informal group of co-mentors for academics in governance roles	Member
	2023	Institute for Health and Environmental Research (Australia)	Board Member
	2023	International Brotherhood of Teamsters	Member
	2023	New Zealand Employment Court	Expert Witness
	2023	New Zealand Society of Microbiology	Member
	2023	Queenstown Molecular Biology Society	Member
	2021	Tertiary Education Union	Member

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2021	University of Canterbury – Faculty of Science, School of Biological Sciences	Employee
	<u>&amp; 2023</u> 2023	(and sub-committees) and biochemistry programme University of Wisconsin Alumni Association	Lifetime Member
Keiran HORNE	2023	AJ & MJ Horne Family Trust	Trustee and Discretionary Beneficiary
Kenan HOKEL	2019	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary  Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2024	CEC Charitable Trust	Trustee and Treasurer
	2019		Director
		Cooperative Bank	
	2019	Conductive Education Canterbury	Treasurer
	2023	Enable Networks Ltd and Enable Services Limited	Director & ARC Chair
	2019	Horne Wildbore Family Trust	Trustee and Discretionary Beneficiary
	2024	New Zealand Antarctica Institute trading as Antarctica New Zealand	Board Member
	2019	Quayside Holdings Ltd	Director, Chair Audit Risk Committee
	2019	Quayside Properties Ltd	Director
	2019	Quayside Securities Ltd	Director
	2019	ScreenSouth Ltd	Chair
	2021	Son	Student at UC
	2019	Spey Downs Ltd	Shareholder
	2019	Timaru District Council	Member, Audit and Risk Committee
Bruce IRVINE	2024	Air Rarotonga Ltd	Director
	2024	B.R. Irvine Ltd	Director/Shareholder
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2024	CSO Foundation	Trustee
	2024	Heartland Bank Ltd and subsidiaries	Director/Shareholder
	2024	House of Travel Ltd and subsidiaries	Director
	2024	John Britten Trust	Trustee
	2024	Market Gardeners Ltd and subsidiaries	Director
	2024	Scenic Hotels Ltd and subsidiaries	Director
	2024	Skope Industries Ltd	Director
	2024	University of Canterbury Innovation Medal	Judge
	2024	University of Canterbury MBA Course	Presenter (occasional)
Luc MACKAY	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2024	University of Canterbury	Student
	2024	University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA)	President
Rachel ROBILLIARD	2022	Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board	Board member / Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu appointee

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2022	Chapman Tripp	Employee
	2022	Kaihautū Matua, Executive Director, Office of Treaty Partnership UC	Aunty
	2023	Kōwhai Enterprises Limited	Shareholder
	2022	Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd	Kaitaiki representative for Te Taumutu
			Rūnanga
	2023	Robby Robilliard Family Trust	Trustee
	2023	Tāwhaki Joint Venture	Riaka Te Aka Matua Rōpū
	2025	Southbridge Playcentre	Bi-Cultural Officer / Office Holder
	2022	Te Taumutu Rūnanga	Kaitiakitanga portfolio member
Gillian SIMPSON	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2024	Christ's College	Board Deputy Chair
	2019	Ministry of Education Statutory Services Provider	Independent Contractor
	2019	New Zealand Education Scholarship Trust	Trustee
	2022	Sport New Zealand Governance Services	Independent Consultant
	2025	UC MBA Programme	Mentor
Lisa TUMAHAI	2023	Arahura Holding Ltd	Director
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2023	Hauora Māori Advisory Group (Ministerial advisory)	Board Member
	2023	He Pou A Rangi Climate Change Commission	Deputy Chair
	2023	Hinemoana Halo Partnership Fund Ltd	Director
	2024	Manuka Charitable Trust	Trustee
	2023	Ngāi Tahu Research Centre (UC)	Advisory Board Member
	2023	Poutini Ngāi Tahu Pōkeka Ltd	CEO
	2023	Te Kura Taka Pini Ltd	Director
	2023	Te Niwha	Assurance Group Member
	2023	Te Runanga o Ngāti Waewae Inc	Trustee
	2023	Waitangi National Trust Board	Representative South Island
	2023	West Coast Health	Trustee
Poto WILLIAMS	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
(Pro-Chancellor)	2024	Eastern Community Sport & Rec	Board Member
	2024	John Macmillan Brown Estate Trust	Special Trust Advisor
	2024	New Brighton R.S.A.	Patron
	2024	South Island NRL Bid	Board Member (Community Engagement)
Catherine WOODS	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2023	Public Service Association	Member
	2023	Statistics New Zealand	Husband - Employee
	2023 & 2025	UC Business School - Research Committee and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee	Member
	2023	UC Student	Daughter
	2023	UC Wellbeing Advisory Group	Member

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
Adela KARDOS	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trust Beneficiary (All Staff)
(General Counsel   Registrar)	2024	Christchurch Hungarian Club Incorporated	Executive Committee Secretary
	2020	University of Canterbury	Employee

## COUNCIL **Public Meeting Minutes**



## Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha

DATE Thursday 26 June 2025

TIME 9:00am

**VENUE** Council Chamber, Level 6, Matariki Building

**PRESENT** Hon. Amy Adams (Chancellor), Professor Cheryl de la Rey (Vice-

> Chancellor), Professor Jack Heinemann, Ms Keiran Horne, Mr Bruce Irvine, Mr Luc MacKay, Ms Rachel Robilliard, Ms Gillian Simpson (via Zoom), Ms Lisa Tumahai, Hon. Poto Williams (via Zoom), Ms

Catherine Woods.

Ms Heather Couch, Academic Quality & Records Team Leader, IN ATTENDANCE

> Associate Professor Alison Griffith, Mr Grantley Judge, Governance & Compliance Manager, Mr Keith Longden, Executive Director Planning, Finance & Digital Services, Professor Catherine Moran Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Mr Paul O'Flaherty, Executive

Director People, Culture & Campus Life.

There were no apologies. **APOLOGIES** 

The Chancellor opened the meeting with a Karakia. WELCOME

**REGISTER OF INTERESTS** 

The Chancellor requested that the Registrar be advised of any

amendments to the Register of Interests.

**CONFLICTS OF** 

INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Confirming the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2025

Moved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2025 be confirmed as

a true and correct record.

Carried

**MATTERS ARISING** There were no matters arising.

#### FROM THE **CHANCELLOR**

#### **Degrees Conferred in Absentia**

#### Moved:

That Council approves the June list of degrees to be revoked and awarded in absentia for the public record.

Carried

#### FROM THE VICE-**CHANCELLOR**

#### Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report

The Vice-Chancellor presented her report, including a health and safety update, and responded to questions.

It was suggested that "Research Strategy" be added to the list of possible topics for the next Council Strategy Day.

#### Moved:

That Council notes the Vice-Chancellor's monthly report.

Carried

Ms Heather Couch left the meeting.

#### **Academic Board Report**

Associate Professor Alison Griffith presented the Academic Board Report.

#### Moved:

That Council notes the 9 May 2025 Academic Board Report.

Carried

#### **PUBLIC EXCLUDED** MEETING

#### Moved:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting, pursuant to section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987:

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	Council & Vice-Chancellor Only Time	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(h) 7(f)(i)
5.0 5.1	Minutes Confirm public excluded minutes of 15 May 2025	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	Refer to previous minutes
6.0 6.1 6.2	Matters Arising Action Schedule Information Papers	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)
7.0 7.1	Health & Safety Monthly Health & Safety Written Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h) 7(f)(i)

7.2	Staff and Student Wellbeing Plans 2025	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	
8.0 8.1	Audit & Risk Committee Audit & Risk Committee Report (9 June 2025)	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or	7(h) 7(f)(i)
8.2	Verbal Update External Audit 2024 - Audit NZ Management Report	between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	
9.0	Capital & Investment Committee	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
9.1 9.2 9.3	Capital & Investment Committee Meeting Report (9 June 2025) Verbal Update Workday Business Case Annual Statement of Investment and Objectives (SIPO) 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)
9.4	UC Trust Funds Year-end Financial Report		
10.0 10.1	Strategy & Planning Strategy Implementation	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
1011	Q1-2025 Update	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)
11.0 11.1	Finance Student Fees (UCIC 2025,	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
11.2	Domestic & UC Online 2026) Monthly Financial Update May 2025	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)
11.3	31 March 2025 Summary Consolidated Financial Statements	Omversity.	
12.0 12.1	From the Chancellor Draft People Committee	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
12.2	Terms of Reference Proposed 2026 Council & Committee Meeting Dates	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)
12.3	Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Verbal Update	University.	
12.4	Council Updated Workplan 2025		
13.0 13.1	From The Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.  To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or	7(h)
13.2	Academic Board Minutes (4 April 2025)	between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(f)(i)
14.0	General Business	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice	7(h)
		or disadvantage, commercial activities.  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)
15.0	Council-Only Time	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(h)
		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.

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS	There were no items of general business.
NEXT MEETING	The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday 14 August 2025 at 9:00am in the Council Chamber.
MEETING CLOSED	The public meeting closed at 12.34pm.
SIGNED AS A CORRECT	RECORD:
DATE:	

#### COUNCIL ACTION SCHEDULE

from the meeting held on 26 June 2025

	Action	By Whom	<b>Due Date</b>	Expected
1.	Add "Research Plan" to the Workplan as a possible topic for the next Council Strategy Day.	Mr Judge	Jun 2025	

#### **Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council**



#### August 2025

#### Introduction

From a national policy perspective there are several changes under consideration that will have implications for the University.

The latest is the Minister of Education's announcement of a proposal to replace NCEA with new national qualifications. Proposed changes would be to replace NCEA Level 1 with a Foundational Award in numeracy and literacy, as well as making English and Maths compulsory until Year 11. NCEA Levels 2 and 3 would be replaced with new qualifications - the New Zealand Certificate of Education for Year 12 and the New Zealand Certificate of Education at Year 13, with minimum pass requirements and grades applied. Consultations are open until 15 September, with a final decision due at the end of the year.

Earlier this month the New Zealand Government released its International Education Going for Growth Plan, which aims to double the economic value of international education to \$7.2 billion by 2034, with clear targets for increased student enrolments, global awareness, and preference for New Zealand as a study destination. The plan proposes driving growth from high-potential markets like India and Vietnam, enhancing post-study pathways through expanded work rights, and leveraging the value of cross-cultural exchange on campus. The plan supports our intent to increase international enrolments and diversify our global reach.

At the end of June Dr John Roche, the new Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor, visited UC. The visit included a roundtable discussion with representatives from Research and Innovation, the Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Health, and tours of the HIT Lab, Wireless Research Centre, and the Nano Lab. He also had a meeting with Gateway Antarctica representatives and a tour of Kōawa Studios. The visit was a valuable opportunity to connect Dr Roche with our research leaders and share information about UC's research strengths and plans.

Minister Shane Reti visited UC on Friday 1 August to view some of UC's research and commercialisation initiatives. Along with the Executive Director Finance, Keith Longden, I met with Minister Reti before accompanying him on a tour of CAPE and Kōawa Studios. He also visited the research site mentioned in a UC article, *The insect eating our pollution | University of Canterbury*, and met with researchers, UC School of Earth and Environment senior lecturers Dr Maria Gutierrez Gines and Dr Ali Reza Nazmi.

During the past month the UC community was saddened to learn of the passing of two former University leaders: Vice-Chancellor Professor Albert Brownlie (VC 1977-97), and Chancellor lan Leggett (Chancellor 1992-98). I attended their funerals and conveyed condolences to the families on behalf of UC.

In my academic capacity I accepted an invitation to be appointed as a member of the newly established International Union of Psychological Science Presidential Task Force on Psychological Science Diplomacy. The Task Force will fill a strategic role in applying psychological science in global policy, international collaboration and diplomacy to inform evidence-based solutions to global social challenges and promote cross-cultural understanding.

#### **Engagement**

Te Mātāpuna Mātātahi | Children's University and UC hosted a two-day campus experience event on 25-26 June, bringing together 473 children from 16 schools to explore a range of subjects and activities led by various UC academics. The children explored subjects, including Maths, Product Design and Business, as well as learning about Antarctica, Volcanology and Computer Science. This year 1,190 young learners from 42 schools will also have the opportunity to attend a Campus Experience Day at either UC or Lincoln University as part of their learning journey with Children's University.

The Doc Edge Festival, supported by Kōawa Studios as a Bronze Partner, opened in Christchurch on 16 July with a screening of the award-winning film *Mighty Indeed*. Director Vanessa Wells, filmmaker and part-time tutor at UC, won Best Director and Best New Zealand Feature, making her film eligible for consideration for the 2026 Academy Awards. As part of the Doc Edge Festival, Kōawa Studios hosted an immersive industry event *Beyond the Screen: The Future of Immersive Storytelling* on Wednesday 23 July. This was attended by industry stakeholders and UC staff and students, and featured a panel talk with director, writer and filmmaker Ian Sweeney, UC lecturer and animator Tim Budgen, US-based Emmy award-winning director Michaela Ternasky-Holland and AI Director and Artist Arthur Machado.

On Friday 25 July Mayor Phil Mauger visited UC as part of the regular engagement between the City and UC. He also toured Kōawa Studios and visited Engineering.

The Faculty of Engineering officially unveiled the new name of the Department of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering on Thursday 17 July. The new name is Te Tari Pūhanga Metarahi me te Taiao | Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The event included a number of keynote addresses and it was attended by industry stakeholders along with students, staff and alumni. The presentations reflected on the department's history, achievements and future direction.

UC in collaboration with UC Careers and Volunteering Canterbury hosted the annual Volunteering Expo on Tuesday 5 August. This year's event featured 26 not-for-profit organisations, offering a range of volunteering opportunities to staff and students, with over 400 attending throughout the three-hour event.

The project team for the new Recreation Centre, Takurua, ran a drop-in session for neighbours in early July. Ahead of the build starting, locals were able to see information about the project, and meet representatives of the UCSA, the University Recreation and Sport team and UC's construction partner Apollo Projects.

#### **Education – Accessible, Flexible Future Focussed**

With graduation at the end of August, the academic year is at the mid-point of the third term.

During the mid-semester break, many faculties continued teaching UC students but also supported local schools. The Faculty of Arts hosted NCEA Spanish and Japanese students across two days to support their studies and to work with the schools. Both days were successful with nearly 800 students across both programmes.

At the start of the second semester 30 Erskine Fellows were welcomed to UC. Erskine Fellows will be teaching students across a range of faculties and topics such as theoretical and computational mechanics and building acoustics. Eleven countries are represented this semester.

Following the release of Semester 1 grades and analysis of UCount student survey data, Analytics and Institutional Research completed another round of Kia Angitu programme analysis. Student experience for our scholarship enrichment programmes and Kaitoko first year advising was significantly positive. The PALS programme continued to predict significantly higher GPAs and pass rates.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Catherine Moran, and Associate Dean Engineering, Professor Rua Murray, shared an institutional approach to student success during the July staff hui.

Several new programmes were accepted at CUAP, including the new Master of Project Management. The new Bachelor of Health was also approved along with a new conjoint degree between the Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability and Commerce, which complements the list of existing conjoint degrees.

On 11 July the UC Business School announced it has been re-accredited by both AACSB and EQUIS, reaffirming its prestigious Triple Crown status. The UC Business School is one of 141 institutions worldwide (approximately 1% of business schools) holding all three major accreditations: AACSB, EQUIS, and AMBA.

#### Research - Impact on a Changing World

On Wednesday 6 August the UC Library and Graduate School hosted our annual Research Student Showcase, celebrating the creativity, communication skills, and impact of our Doctoral and Research Master's students. Sponsored by UCSA, the event was held at Haere Roa and brought together the live finals of the Three-Minute Thesis competition, as well as a showcase of Visualise Your Thesis and Exhibit Your Thesis displays. Ali Adams, CEO of ChristchurchNZ, delivered the keynote address. Donors Emeritus Professor Eric Pawson, engineering specialists ENVCO, and environmental management experts e3Scientific generously funded some of the prizes.

Two UC PhD students Felix Goddard and Jack Patterson have been awarded New Zealand Space Scholarships in South California at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). This 3-month internship will mean working alongside scientists and engineers who are involved in world leading NASA missions.

Chemical and Process Engineering PhD Candidate Katherine (Katie) Ellis has been awarded a Science and Innovation Graduate Award from Fulbright New Zealand, Te Tūāpapa Mātauranga o Aotearoa me Amerika. Katie will research the influence of the mechanical microenvironment on endometriosis behaviour at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

PhD student Alexandra Strang (Biological Sciences) has been awarded an Ella Yelich-O'Connor Antarctica Doctoral Scholarship from Antarctica New Zealand. Alexandra's research will be Assessing population trends in an important Ross Sea sentinel, the Adelie penguin.

Eleven UC Connect Doctoral scholarships have been launched to address gaps in knowledge across the broad theme of sustainability (including economic, social and environmental sustainability). Co-funded with local partners, each scholarship is tailored to meet specific sector needs, ensuring that postgraduate research outcomes translate into meaningful, real-world impact.

The University had its best-ever result in the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Endeavour Fund Smart Ideas round, with five research proposals awarded funding. The funded projects and lead investigators are:

- Professor Adrian MacDonald (Physical and Chemical Sciences): Optimizing Next-Generation Climate Model Precipitation Projections for Improved Climate Resilience
- Dr Rachael Wood (Chemical and Process Engineering): 3D-printed Bioscaffolds for Directional Neurite Outgrowth after Spinal Cord Injury
- Professor Aaron Marshall (Chemical and Process Engineering): *Highly active low-cost electrodes:* Exploiting the non-obvious interactions during plasma spray coating
- Dr Leighton Watson (Mathematics & Statistics): Next-Generation Volcanic Monitoring with Fibre Optic Technology
- Dr Wai Wong (Civil and Environmental Engineering): Smart transport systems: Using vehicle connectivity for safer evacuations

University of Canterbury researchers are involved in three of the seven new joint research programmes with Singapore announced by MBIE. The research is focused on two themes: Future Foods and Healthy Ageing.

- Professor Ren Dobson (School of Biological Sciences) is leading a project within Future Foods: A scalable, novel process for affordable, market-ready hybrid meat production
- Dr Tracy Melzer (School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing) is involved in a project within the Healthy Ageing theme led by the University of Auckland, An Ai-Driven Risk Score for Dementia ready for Clinical Use
- Distinguished Professor Geoff Chase (School of Mechanical Engineering) is part of the team in another of the Healthy Ageing projects, being led from the University of Otago working on AI-InterRAI: AI-Assisted InterRAI Assessment and Evaluation for Person-Centred Care Planning and Healthy Ageing

Associate Professor Susie Smith was made a Fellow of Physical Education New Zealand (PENZ) at their conference in June. This award was made in recognition of her outstanding leadership in the field of Physical Education.

Associate Professor Laura Revell has been appointed to the United Nations independent panel to examine the physical and societal consequences of a nuclear war, having been nominated by the New Zealand government.

Professor Thomas Bennett and Dr Matthew Cowan were part of an international team awarded the Dalton Horizon Prize by the Royal Society of Chemistry. The team was recognised for creating a new family of hybrid glasses, the first of its kind since the 1970s.

#### People - Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

The Term 3 Toolkit for new students included information about how to complete enrolment, organise timetables, explore the UC Libraries and take part in orientation events. Students were also advised about how to find the UC Notices website and join UC social media channels for ongoing communications.

The UCSA ran a Re-Ori programme for Semester 2, including three warm-up connection events, an International Food Festival, a Quiz Night, a Karaoke Night and CUBA (Canterbury University Boardriders' Association) JIB '25. Jibbing is where snowboarders and skiers perform tricks in an urban setting. A section of the UCSA carpark was transformed into a snow park, complete with mini ski jump. The UCSA also hosted the Winter Wellness Expo which included a further opportunity for a free Meningococcal vaccination.

The Faculty of Engineering hosted Thrive, a wellbeing event designed to support Faculty students with information about University life, including flatting. It included free pizza, and a chance to connect with UC support services.

In the 2025 Employer Branding Research survey, run by Randstad Recruitment Agency, UC is rated number one for employer attractiveness in the Tertiary Education sector. There were 4,000 survey respondents, the majority of whom are from the North Island. The University of Auckland and AUT were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Learning and Development opportunities for staff have included the pilot of a new programme for leaders on managing performance, a team leadership course on strategy, communication and culture, a bespoke cybersecurity workshop for the Financial Services team, a mens' health webinar and a workshop on Te Reo in the workplace. The University's employee assistance programme (EAP) partner TELUS Health ran a webinar entitled *Couples: Connection and Communication*. As part of a leadership series hosted jointly by UC, University of Otago and Victoria University of Wellington, there was a workshop entitled *Leadership with Kinder Conversations*.

UC and staff now have access to new resources for supporting researchers facing online abuse. Developed by the New Zealand Science Media Centre with support from Universities New Zealand, these include guidance for research organisations, advice for staff supporting researchers facing harassment, and a checklist for staff receiving reports of online abuse.

On 1 July the Advancement team hosted a Wills Workshop for all UC staff presented by UC Foundation Trustee Andrew Oh of Duncan Cotterill. 85 attendees were offered tailored guidance on will creation followed by an opportunity for questions and answers. Feedback has been very positive.

The Think First communications campaign encouraged students and staff to focus on the fundamentals of keeping themselves and others safe during winter. Topics included allowing time for a safe commute, travel hazards such as ice, the wearing of high visibility gear by cyclists, safe behaviour at busy crossings, staying home if sick, safe use of heaters, healthy eating and sleeping, and information about access to the Health Centre and Student Care. There were also reminders about the 13 help towers and the Security team 0800 number.

The Emergency Management and Business Continuity team continues to deliver training sessions to faculties and service units to promote awareness and preparedness for emergency situations, supporting the use of UC's Emergency Procedures Flipcharts — a set of guidelines to help keep our

UC community safe. The flipcharts have recently been re-developed by our Emergency Management and Business Continuity Manager, Sonali Chandratilake, which has attracted interest from both tertiary institutions and other organisations across New Zealand for their practical applicability in emergency preparedness.

#### **Health and Safety**

Minister van Velden has made an announcement proposing a change that aims to match hazardous substances requirements for university laboratories with their risk levels. This is in response to submissions from a universities working group.

Contractors and subcontractors have been reminded of the importance of disclosing medical conditions in confidence during site inductions. This is after a worker with an undeclared pre-existing medical condition suffered a seizure, from which he made a full recovery.

The Ernest Rutherford building was evacuated on 16 July when a cooling unit overheated. Despite some water damage in the affected area, the building was available for research and teaching the next day.

#### Internationalisation - Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

The Semester 2 Welcome event for international students was held on Thursday 10 July, with nearly 300 new international students, including those on study abroad and exchange programmes in attendance. As a significant event in our international student calendar, the Welcome marks the beginning of a comprehensive programme of transition activities designed to support students' integration into life in Ōtautahi Christchurch and provide critical academic and cultural orientation.

Our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) was renewed in a signing ceremony on 10 July. The MoU underpins several years of research collaboration with UC's HIT Lab NZ and UTM's ViCubeLab Research Group.

UC also hosted delegates from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) from across Asia and the Pacific on 10 July for an on-campus gathering focused on emerging technologies and their real-world applications. Engineering Executive Dean Professor Saurabh Sinha delivered the keynote address.

During 29-31 July I attended the PIE Asia-Pacific conference in Australia, and delivered a session with Education New Zealand Chief Executive, Amanda Malu, on *New Zealand country updates and trends*.

UC welcomed a significant number of international VIP delegations to campus over the last month, with Heads of Mission from Pakistan, senior delegations from Poland, and Vice Chancellors and government officials from the Philippines all spending time on campus and in our field stations (Mt John).

The Director of Global Engagement, Dr Graham Wise, travelled to Wellington on 16 July to formalise a Letter of Intent with long-standing partner Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), in a signing witnessed by the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia. The new agreement supports collaboration in chemical and process engineering, with a particular focus on UniKL's interest in Halal food processing.

Every year a group of UC Engineering students and staff, led by UC Mechanical Engineering Associate Professor Debbie Munro, travel to Tonga to carry out essential medical repairs and improvements. We were proud to confirm the 2026 trip in a 14 July media release.

On Monday 23 June, UC hosted the Brazilian Association of Presidents of State and Municipal Universities (ABRUEM) delegation. UNZ facilitated and coordinated the delegation's visit, which represents 46 Brazilian state and municipal universities, enabling engagements across all eight New Zealand universities. Their visit was part of a national mission to explore new partnerships across New Zealand and included a showcase of our LiDAR research and a tour of Kōawa Studios.

#### **Organisational Efficacy**

Digital Services continues to listen to feedback and implement regular updates to our student management system. Extensive preparations were made for the Semester 1 student results release in July, to ensure students and staff experienced reliable and responsive access to the Student Management system. Key improvements included upgrading our system's infrastructure to automatically accommodate higher user demand, compared with previous problems experienced during peak system use times.

The Digital Services quarterly showcase and market stall event was held on 8 July. This event, open to all UC staff, provided three presentations from UC and Digital services staff to showcase initiatives and improvements enabled by that Digital Services.

Progress continues with all the capital facilities projects. Karl Popper occupation by the Faculty of Law will take place during the mid-term break in August. This will allow consequential moves for the Business School and Faculty of Health.

#### **Environmentally Sustainable**

Staff in the EPECentre are leading a project to develop a UC Energy system. They have consulted a diverse range of stakeholders and other businesses in New Zealand to gather information on topics ranging from use and supply of biomass, to how to use heating efficiently for buildings, whether large scale battery storage is an option, and other matters. The steering group received a progress report in July.

We have used analytical tools to review how our publications over the last five years match the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), as a follow up to the tagging of our taught courses to the SDGs that we did last year. The match is quite close in some areas, with SDG 3, Good Health and Wellbeing, coming out as the most widely referenced in both our taught courses and peer reviewed papers.



## **Events for UC Council, as at 7 August**

Date	<b>Event Name</b>	Venue	Purpose	How Council members can participate
26 August  27 August	Pacific Graduation  Eke Tangaroa Graduation	Christchurch Arena  Ngaio Marsh, Haere roa  Riccarton Park	<ul> <li>Celebrate graduating students</li> <li>To acknowledge graduates for their hard work and the completion of their academic journey</li> <li>To increase our presence and impact in Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury</li> <li>Celebrations:         <ul> <li>Tuesday 26 August, 10.00am</li> <li>UC Business School, Faculty of Arts, and Faculty of Law</li> <li>Tuesday 26 August, 2.00pm</li> <li>Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Health, Faculty of Education, and Faculty of Science</li> </ul> </li> <li>Celebrate graduating students</li> <li>To acknowledge graduates for their hard work and the completion of their academic journey</li> <li>To increase our presence and impact in Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury</li> </ul>	Attend as stage party  Attend
		Racecourse	<ul> <li>Celebrations:         <ul> <li>Wednesday 27 August, 10.00am</li> <li>Pacific Graduation</li> <li>Wednesday 27 August, 1.00pm</li> <li>Eke Tangaroa Graduation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
2-3 September	THE Campus Live ANZ	City/Campus	<ul> <li>Promote UC's research approach: Impact in a changing world</li> <li>Increase UC's reputation with New Zealand and Australian higher education leaders to influence our rankings</li> <li>Build UC leaders' reputations as thought-leaders in accessible, flexible, and future-focused learning</li> <li>Position UC academics as thought-leaders in their respective areas of expertise</li> <li>Emphasise UC's expertise in advancing analytics and Al-driven approaches to enhance curriculum design, teaching strategies, and student outcomes</li> <li>Promote Indigenous education and Treaty Partnership models</li> <li>Encourage knowledge exchange on regional and global challenges</li> <li>Showcase and present UC as leading the way in Aotearoa New Zealand, highlighting our unique environment</li> <li>Promote an understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's place in the world, in the context of higher education, and its cultural distinctiveness</li> <li>Strengthen our relationship with THE to support growing our national and international research profile, reputation and ranking</li> </ul>	If you are interested in attending, please contact Aleisha Blake, Associate Director, Communications and Events.
5 September	Rā Tōmene   Open Day	Campus	<ul> <li>Create an experience that contributes positively to the attendee's view of UC as a truly holistic place of learning</li> <li>Provide future students with the information and advice they need to confirm their decision to study at UC</li> <li>Supply whānau/support people with the information and advice they need for them to confirm UC as their university of choice</li> <li>Provide an opportunity for future students to explore Ōtautahi Christchurch</li> <li>Engage with a diverse range of future students including priority learning schools, Māori, Pacific and priority schools from regions</li> </ul>	Come to campus and experience the atmosphere
16 September	Raising the Bar	Various bars around Canterbury	<ul> <li>Present 20 talks across 10 bars on one night in Christchurch city and Canterbury.</li> <li>Showcase research excellence and build reputation of impactful UC research with Canterbury audiences.</li> <li>Raise UC's profile and reputation in Christchurch and Canterbury by engaging with the public and presenting relevant research.</li> </ul>	Pick a talk you are interested in and attend
19 November	Graham Nuthall Research Symposium	C-Block lecture theatre, Ilam Campus	<ul> <li>Showcase UC's research strengths and impact in Education.</li> <li>Position the Faculty of Education as a leader in research-driven teaching and learning, and research student supervision.</li> <li>Demonstrate the Faculty's commitment to engaging with the wider education community.</li> </ul>	Attend

			<ul> <li>Honour Graham Nuthall's legacy by ensuring the event reflects his commitment to evidence-based educational research.</li> </ul>	
20 November	Pō Whakamānawa	Ilam Campus	<ul> <li>Award and celebrate the 2025 UC Council medallists and newly appointed Emeritus Professors in the company of guests</li> <li>Recognise the outstanding contribution the 2025 medallists have made to the University</li> <li>Celebrate and promote UC as an institution that creates, critiques, disseminates, and protects knowledge – where teaching, learning and research take place in ways that are innovative and inspirational</li> <li>Express the UC Strategic Vision of nurturing staff, empowering students and aligning with UC's values, especially manaakitanga – caring for and empowering others – and tiakitanga – nurturing resources such as knowledge and empowering people</li> </ul>	Hosted by UC Council - attend
26-27	Children's University	Christchurch Town Hall	Celebrate graduating Children's University Tamariki	Attend.
November	<b>Graduation Celebrations</b>		To increase our presence and impact in Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury	RSVP <u>here</u> by 10 November.
			<ul> <li>Celebrations:</li> <li>Wednesday 26 November 2025, 5.30pm-7.30pm</li> <li>Thursday 27 November 2025, 5.30pm-7.30pm</li> </ul>	
10-14 December	Special Olympics	Various sporting facilities around Christchurch	<ul> <li>UC is supporting Special Olympics in Christchurch with accommodation at Halls of Residence</li> <li>Supporting Special Olympics New Zealand to deliver an outstanding sporting event in Christchurch</li> <li>Strengthen city partnerships while supporting the success of a city event</li> </ul>	Let Grantley know if you would like to attend, opening or closing ceremonies or events/medal presentations



## Council Memorandum/Pukapuka

Report To:	Council	
Date of Meeting:	14 August 2025	
Report Title:	Academic Board Report	
Date of Report:	25 July 2025	
Report Author:	Professor C de la Rey, Associate Professor A Griffith, Eleri Nugent	
For:	Information	

#### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the Academic Board report for the meetings from 13 June and 11 July.

That Council approves the 19 new qualification proposals (full details in Diligent) which will then be submitted to CUAP.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Academic Board report from meetings on 13 June and 11 July 2025.
- 2. CUAP proposals in **Diligent Reference** folder: "Academic Board Background Papers":
  - Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology
  - Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Strategic Communication.
  - Master of Sustainable Futures and Innovation, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Sustainable Futures and Innovation
  - Master of Illustration, Postgraduate Diploma in Illustration and Postgraduate Certificate in Illustration
  - Master of Virtual Production, Postgraduate Diploma in Virtual Production, Postgraduate Certificate in Virtual Production
  - Proposal to introduce a minor in Graphic Design to the Bachelor of Arts
  - Postgraduate Certificate in Policy and Governance in the Pacific
  - Proposal to introduce a major and minor in Writing and a minor in Creative Writing to the Bachelor of Arts
  - Proposal to change the name of the Bachelor of Music major in Creative Music Technology to Music Production
  - Proposal to introduce a new interdisciplinary minor in the Bachelor of Arts in Gender and Sexuality Studies
  - Proposal to replace two majors in Strategy and Entrepreneurship and in Innovation in the BCom with a new major in Innovation and Entrepreneurship
  - Proposal to introduce a Postgraduate Certificate in Business Information Systems
  - Proposal to introduce two new majors in Business Analytics and Technology Management to the Master of Business Information Systems
  - Proposal to introduce a Master of Business Management to replace the Master of Business major in Management
  - Postgraduate Diploma & Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Psychology
  - Proposal to delete the Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Teaching
  - Proposal to introduce a Diploma in Sport

- Proposal to introduce a Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Supervision
- Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours), Postgraduate Diploma in Psychological Science and Postgraduate Certificate in Psychological Science

#### ATTACHMENT ONE



#### TE POARI AKORANGA | ACADEMIC BOARD

# REPORT TO THE COUNCIL FROM TWO MEETINGS OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 13 JUNE AND FRIDAY 11 JULY 2025

#### **BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR**

In June, the Vice-Chancellor gave a presentation on the implications of the recent budget. She reported that the total Vote Tertiary Education remains at around \$3.9 billion overall, but there have been \$240m savings from the ending of first year fees free and completion of other minor projects. The government has announced \$202 million extra for tuition subsidies and stated that 99% of student demand will be funded. However, the per-EFTS funding rates overall will experience a net decrease, differentiated by subject with some up 1%, and some down 4%. Annual maximum fee movement (AMFM domestic student fee increase) for 2026 is set at 6% (as for 2025) but PBRF remains flat and generally research funding is declining, so the overall picture is about a 0.7% decline in funding for UC. Another factor is that the budget announced that employers will make a larger contribution to employees KiwiSaver funds and the impact of this will need to be worked through for UC. The cost of electricity has also been rapidly rising.

In July, the Vice-Chancellor reported that at a recent meeting of the Academic Leadership Group, she had talked about the budget for 2026. Overall, the University would face a net decrease in funding of 0.7% compared to 2025 however, with disciplined financial management this would be manageable, and she anticipated that 31 new academic FTE staff could be appointed in areas of growth if sufficient full fee international students are recruited. For general and administrative staff, the current level of staffing would be maintained.

#### REPORT FROM THE UCSA

In recent months 141 students attended feedback sessions where topics included barriers to lecture attendance, car parking and pressures on study spaces. The UCSA Exec are encouraging students to consider the wider campus for study spaces and not just the central library, and there is optimism that this culture change will gradually lessen the pressure point of the library space. GenAI remains a popular topic - students want more sources of information on how it can be used; through information from their lecturers in class but in other areas such as on Learn sites and on how they will use it in the world of future employment.

#### REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Consideration of proposals for the third and final CUAP round in 2025 was now complete. The Vice-Chancellor thanked all those who had been involved in preparing and reviewing the proposals.