

COUNCIL

Public Meeting Agenda

Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha



Agenda

DATE Thursday 26 June 2025
TIME 9:00am
VENUE Council Chamber, 6th Floor, Matariki Building

Refer to Page No.
(matches Diligent).

WELCOME & KARAKIA (opening meeting)

<i>Kia hora te marino</i>	<i>May peace be widespread</i>
<i>Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana</i>	<i>May the sea be like greenstone</i>
<i>Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei</i>	<i>A pathway for us all this day</i>
<i>Aroha atu, aroha mai</i>	<i>Let us show respect for each other,</i>
<i>Tātou i a tātou katoa</i>	<i>for one another</i>
<i>Hui e! Tāiki e!</i>	<i>Bind us all together!</i>

1. APOLOGIES

2. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

3

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 15 May 2025 – For Approval

7

5. MATTERS ARISING

6. FROM THE CHANCELLOR

6.1. Degrees Conferred in Absentia – For Approval

-

7. FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

7.1. Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report – For Information

11

7.2. Academic Board Report (9 May 2025) – For Information
(Associate Professor Alison Griffith)

17

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 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 7.2	Health & Safety Monthly Health & Safety Written Report Staff and Student Wellbeing Plans 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)
8.0 8.1 8.2	Audit & Risk Committee Audit & Risk Committee Report (9 June 2025) Verbal Update External Audit 2024 - Audit NZ Management 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)
9.0 9.1 9.2 9.3 9.4	Capital & Investment Committee Capital & Investment Committee Meeting Report (9 June 2025) Verbal Update Workday Business Case Annual Statement of Investment and Objectives (SIPO) Review UC Trust Funds Year-end Financial 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)
10.0 10.1	Strategy & Planning Strategy Implementation Q1-2025 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)
11.0 11.1 11.2 11.3	Finance Student Fees (UCIC 2025, Domestic & UC Online 2026) Monthly Financial Update May 2025 31 March 2025 Summary Consolidated Financial Statements	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 12.3 12.4	From the Chancellor Draft People Committee Terms of Reference Proposed 2026 Council & Committee Meeting Dates Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Verbal Update Council Updated Workplan 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)
13.0 13.1 13.2	From The Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report Academic Board Minutes (4 April 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)

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. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14 August 2025 starting at 9.00am.

KARAKIA (closing meeting)

Unuhia, unuhia

Te pou, te pou

Kia wātea, kia wātea

Āe, kua wātea

Remove, uplift

the posts

in order to be free.

Yes, it has been cleared.

UC Council Register of Interests (26 June 2025)

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
Amy ADAMS (Chancellor)	2021	AMDON Farms Limited	Director and Shareholder
	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	Tokona Te Raki (Māori Futures Academy)	Board Member
	2022	University of Canterbury Foundation	Trustee
Cheryl DE LA REY (Vice-Chancellor)	2020	Association of Commonwealth Universities	Council Member and Chairperson
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2022	Tokona Te Raki (Māori Futures Academy) Advisory Board	Board Member
	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

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2021	Tertiary Education Union	Member
	2021 & 2023	University of Canterbury – Faculty of Science, School of Biological Sciences (and sub-committees) and biochemistry programme	Employee
	2023	University of Wisconsin Alumni Association	Lifetime Member
Keiran HORNE	2019	AJ & MJ Horne Family Trust	Trustee and Discretionary Beneficiary
	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trustee and Trust Beneficiary
	2019	CEC Charitable Trust	Trustee and Treasurer
	2024	Cooperative Bank	Director
	2019	Conductive Education Canterbury	Treasurer
	2023	Enable Networks Ltd and Enable Services Limited	Director & ARC Chair
	2019	Hamilton City Council	Director, Chair Audit Risk Committee
	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)

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
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
	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	Kaitiaki 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
	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)

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
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 Students	Daughter
	2023	UC Wellbeing Advisory Group	Member
Adela KARDOS (General Counsel Registrar)	2024	Canterbury Educational Reserves Sale and Leasing Act 1876 (CERSLA)	Trust Beneficiary (All Staff)
	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 15 May 2025
TIME	9:00am
VENUE	via Zoom Video Conference
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 Lisa Tumahai, Ms Catherine Woods.
IN ATTENDANCE	Associate Professor Alison Griffith, Professor Lucy Johnston (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Innovation), Mr Grantley Judge, Governance & Compliance Manager, Ms Adela Kardos, General Counsel & Registrar, Mr Keith Longden, Executive Director Planning, Finance & Digital Services, Ms Dawn Miller-Taggart, Graduation Coordinator, Professor Catherine Moran (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic), Mr Paul O'Flaherty, Executive Director People, Culture & Campus Life, Ms Alexandra Teague.
APOLOGIES	Hon. Poto Williams (Pro-Chancellor), Ms Gillian Simpson.
WELCOME	The Chancellor opened the meeting with a Karakia.
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 27 March 2025 <u>Moved:</u> <i>That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.</i> <div>Carried</div>
MATTERS ARISING	There were no matters arising.

**FROM THE
CHANCELLOR**

Degrees Conferred in Absentia

Moved:

That Council:

- 1. notes the Executive Committee approved the April list of degrees to be revoked and awarded in absentia.*
- 2. approves the May 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.

Moved:

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

Carried

Academic Board Report

Associate Professor Alison Griffith presented the Academic Board Report and responded to questions.

Moved:

That Council notes:

- 1. the 4 April 2025 Academic Board Report.*
- 2. the proposals for new and amended qualifications, which were endorsed by the Vice-Chancellor under her delegated authority, and have been reported to the Committee on University Academic Programmes on 1 May 2025:*
 - a. Major changes to the Certificate in Foundation Studies.*
 - b. Introduction of a Master of Financial Analysis.*
 - c. Introduction of a Master of Project Management, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Project Management.*
 - d. Introduction of a Master of Public Health and Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health.*
 - e. Proposed deletion of the endorsement in Renewable Energy in the Postgraduate Certificate in Civil Engineering.*

Carried

Associate Professor Griffith left the meeting.

**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:

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5.0 5.1	Minutes Confirm public excluded minutes of 27 March 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 7.2 7.3	Health & Safety Monthly Health & Safety Written Report H&S Observations Sessions Record Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy Review	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	Finance Monthly Financial Update (April 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)
9.0 9.1 9.2 9.3	Other Magna Charta Universitatum 2020 ARC & CIC Terms of Reference Review Council Handbook Review	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	Major Project 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)
11.0 11.1 11.2 11.3	From the Chancellor June Council Strategy Day Postponed Council Updated Workplan 2025 Proposed 2026 Council Meeting Dates	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 12.3 12.4	From The Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report Emeritus Professor Nomination Academic Board Minutes – 4 April 2025 Upcoming UC Events	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	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)
14.0	Council-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)

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 26 June 2025 at 9:00am in the Council Chamber.

MEETING CLOSED The public meeting closed at 12.36pm.

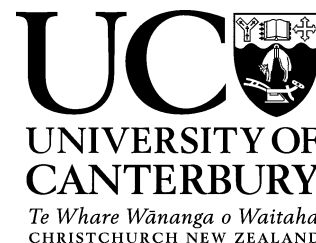
SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD: _____

DATE: _____

COUNCIL ACTION SCHEDULE
from the meeting held on 15 May 2025

	Action	By Whom	Due Date	Expected
1.	No action items.			

Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council



May 2025

Introduction

The government announced its 2025 Budget on 22 May. Unlike previous years there is no core increase in subsidy funding; instead there is categorization into priority areas with increased funding by either 0.9% for priority or decreased by 3.7% for non-priority areas.

As part of ongoing science reforms, the government announced that three new public research organisations will be established from 1 July. The New Zealand Institute for Bioeconomy Science, New Zealand Institute for Earth Science, and the New Zealand Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science will focus on delivering innovation and support for industries to strengthen the economy and boost national resilience.

Dr Alan Bollard CNZM and Mr Robin Hapi CNZM were appointed as Chair and as Deputy Chair of the Board of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). They joined the TEC board earlier this year and their appointments are until 31 October 2027.

The King's Birthday Honours list was announced on 2 June. We were proud of our many UC alumni who were recognised for their outstanding contributions to a wide range of sports and services – cricket, swimming, cycling, business, fire safety technology, the community, filmmaking, governance, music, engineering, arts, history, Māori health, education, astronomy. Mr Alan Gilmore and Ms Pamela Kilmartin, observers and technicians at the Mt John Observatory from 1980 to 2014, were recognised for their contributions to furthering astronomy in New Zealand by being made members of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the King's Birthday Honours 2025. Alan holds an adjunct appointment in the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences.

Engagement

Celebrating our city's exceptional architecture and design, UC joined 51 sites for Open Christchurch during 3-4 May. College House offered pre-booked tours, while Puaka-James Hight Library, Beatrice Tinsley, and Ernest Rutherford buildings opened to the public on 4 May. The Macmillan Brown Library hosted two special archive sessions with Professor Ian Lochhead and archivist Erin Kimber. The event offers visitors to campus a unique opportunity to experience the University's blend of historic and contemporary design from within.

On 13 May UC hosted the annual STEM Careers Fair attracting nearly 2,000 students – up 20% from 2024. With 86 employer booths, the Fair was a vibrant showcase of UC's local and national industry connections.

On 15 May there was an informal alumni gathering in Oxford at Jericho Coffee, owned by UC alumnus James Armitage. Special guests included UK Trust Board Chair Alene Wilton and trustees Jeremy Wilson and Stuart Harray.

On 24 May the Advancement Team hosted the first of two 2025 trips to Mt John Observatory to engage alumni and donors, strengthen their connections with the University, and showcase UC's astronomy research.

Following its inaugural meeting on 28 May, we announced our new Digital Screen Kōawa Studios Industry Advisory Board. The Board's role will be pivotal in ensuring UC's offerings are future focused, industry-connected, and globally relevant, as well as supporting the growth of Kōawa Studios. Chaired by Ingrid Taylor, a Christchurch-based commercial property lawyer with extensive governance experience, Board members include award-winning film director Michelle Walshe, Whitebait Media founder Janine Morrell-Gunn ONZM, media-tech entrepreneur and Emmy judge Catherine Warren, creative technologist Nikora Ngaropo, among leaders from ChristchurchNZ and the global screen and technology sectors. Media and industry releases were picked up by Inside Film (international coverage), Showtools, Inside Government and ED Insider, and shared on Kōawa Studio's LinkedIn and the UC website.

Also on 28 May Southbase and UC hosted Minister for Building and Construction, Chris Penk, and MP for Ilam Hamish Campbell for a site visit of Tupuārangi, UC's new accommodation facility. In the evening Canterbury University Press launched Gabrielle Huria's debut poetry collection Pakiaka at the Canterbury Club.

Six of the eleven New Zealanders recognised in the 2025 Forbes 30 under 30 Asia list released in May are UC alumni, capturing 54% of New Zealand's representation.

In the lead-up to Matariki, the University marked the occasion with a post on its official LinkedIn channel, highlighting the significance of Matariki and its meaning within the context of Te Wai Pounamu and Ngāi Tahu. The content acknowledged the cultural and seasonal importance of the celebration and reflected the University's values of manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, and tiakitanga.

Education – Accessible, Flexible Future Focussed

With exams approaching, May was a month with many assessments and projects for students. For instance, the HIT Lab NZ MHIT students presented prototypes developed during a 3-week project, supervised by Dr Donald Degraen and Associate Professor Heide Lukosch. The students worked with the International Antarctic Centre on interactive visitor experiences, improving the visitor flow and education on climate change in playful ways.

Between finalising assessments and preparing for exams, the library was well used and although the numbers were reportedly high, additional configurations and opening of spaces not typically used for study meant that the numbers were manageable. UC students and staff are continuing to work together to create a wider variety of study spaces for students. Online students are also making great use of the library from a distance. The subject librarian in Health Sciences has been particularly busy supporting students with the expansion of nursing and counselling delivered through UCOOnline.

There continues to be interest in artificial intelligence and curriculum. Trends for Generative AI within the context of Work-Integrated Learning was the topic of conversation for the Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) Programme-led networking event on 22 May. The event was held at Business Canterbury, with 62 delegates from 44 PACE community and industry organisations in attendance. Participants enjoyed the opportunity that PACE provided them to compare notes on how the next generation are using AI as a tool in the workplace.

In another excellent collaboration, Professor Ben Kennedy and Doctors Rob Cruickshank and Sara Kross were awarded \$300,000 over three years by the Tait foundation for their Scientists in Schools program to train UC students in science communication, science teaching and work ready skills whilst working with local year 9 and 10 science teachers and their classes to develop and deliver authentic science experiences. UC students can take this course through the PACE program and receive science credits for the course. Professor Kennedy is collaborating with Children's University to help coordinate and run the course.

Finally, curriculum development continues with the CUAP proposals being reviewed for the second round. At UC, 37 staff across faculties are peer-reviewing the proposals received from other universities. UC's proposal to shift the Certificate of Foundation Studies to an onshore programme focused on international students was recently approved. This will provide excellent transition support to international students coming to UC.

Research – Impact on a Changing World

We have retained our ranking of 261 on the QS World Rankings. This is up one place in New Zealand to 5th, and we remain in the top 18% of ranked institutions (8,467 across 106 countries). Within New Zealand we are second highest ranked for employment outcomes and sustainability, 3rd for employer reputation and international faculty, 4th for academic reputation, 5th for international research network, 6th for citations per faculty, 7th for international students and lowest for faculty student ratio. Work is underway to implement measures to increase performance on all measures.

School of Biological Sciences PhD candidate and recipient of a UC Doctoral Scholarship, Daniel Hernandez-Carrasco, along with his supervisors, Associate Professor and Rutherford Discovery Fellow Jonathan Tonkin and Professor Jason Tylianakis, had a paper published in the prestigious journal, *Science*, *Ecological and evolutionary consequences of changing seasonality*. The research explored the disruptive consequences of climate change on of Earth's seasons and impact on biodiversity.

Associate Professor David Monger received an award from the United States' National WW1 Museum's inaugural Writing Prize 'for a non-fiction article on the Great War and its enduring impact on the global community' for his article *A 'not uncongenial task': British propaganda veterans and propaganda's post-First World War reputation*, published in *First World War Studies* in 2022.

People – Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

UC and the UCSA worked together on a Harmful Sexual Behaviour Prevention campaign. Part of this was a video quiz on UCSA social media. 1,000 students answered each question and 3,600 students viewed Instagram stories. The quiz was also shown on digital screens inside Ilam Campus buildings.

Other promotions for students in Semester One have been a flatting and wellbeing workshop, a kai and kōrero event for adult students, an Indian Spices workshop for students wanting to learn from international colleagues, and a blood drive run by the NZ Blood Services. The Wellbeing Navigators have run a programme of drop in events. Wellbeing Navigators are UC students trained to offer peer support and help connect students with the right services.

The 2025 National Tertiary Sports Championship Series is underway, with UC as the defending champion. The first event was rowing where UC was a close second.

The 2025 student international ambassador programme is underway. The students involved come from a range of halls and have joined the programme to lead the development of events that build a sense of community among international students living in student accommodation.

A new video developed by the Student Accommodation Services team on the application process for domestic students is now live.

Staff have been offered a range of programmes or workshops over the past month, including *Retirement – Planning to Retire in the Next Few Years*, and *Taking Charge of Your Financial Wellbeing*. The online workshop *LGBTQIA+ and Ally Awareness* introduced participants to acronyms and their meanings, unconscious biases and how to be an ally to work colleagues. A local law firm has run a staff workshop on Wills. UC Leaders were offered workshops entitled *Decision Making*, *Supporting Staff Mental Wellbeing*, *Leading Change*, *The Influential Leader*, and *Fostering and Embedding A Growth Mindset* and academic staff have been able to attend events on Early Career Academic Interdisciplinary Networking and The Academic Promotions Process for Applicants.

Pink Shirt Day was observed by a number of departments on 16 May, as part of a programme to raise awareness about eliminating bullying and celebrating inclusion and diversity.

On 3 June the Canterbury University Samoan Students' Association hosted the Ava Ceremony in the Puaka James Hight library to launch Samoan Language Week at UC. Following the ceremony attendees connected over light refreshments.

Health and Safety

Among the issues were:

- Seven slips, trips and falls have occurred on campus, with no or first aid only injuries. There is a campus maintenance programme that aims to mitigate these risks, and a "Think First" safety campaign.
- The ongoing response to disproportionate levels of corrosion in the Ernest Rutherford building plant room. The most likely cause has been identified as the permeable design of the ducting connectors. Air testing has confirmed no risk to the building occupants.
- A successful programme has been implemented to dispose of legacy waste in laboratories and storage facilities in the Faculty of Science.
- A student was taken to hospital after an allergic reaction to a catered lunch. The Health and Safety team is implementing a programme for approval of food safety plans, which mitigates this risk.

Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

On 16 May I hosted His Excellency Sakias Tameo, High Commissioner of Papua New Guinea to New Zealand during his first visit to Christchurch. The visit included discussions around UC's work developing the Pacific Security Hub (PSH), and PNG's important role in this. HE Tameo highlighted a need for capacity building across PNG institutions and requested UC's support.

Also on 16 May UC announced its first officially recognised joint education programme with Qufu Normal University (QFNU), approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education under its prestigious Sino-Foreign Cooperative Education (SFCE) scheme. Over two years in the making and launching in September 2025, the agreement represents a major milestone in UC's internationalisation strategy and our first formal education partnership of this kind in China.

Three agreements have been signed between Latin American entities (LATAM) Universities New Zealand on behalf of the 8 universities. These agreements have developed after the visit from UNZ (including Rebecca Hurrell from UC) to Latin America last year:

- BECAL – a Paraguayan scholarship funding agency, for the establishment of a scholarship program.
- CONACYT – a Mexican scholarship funding agency, for the establishment of a scholarship program.
- USFQ – Universidad San Francisco de Quito - we are working on a joint virtual research symposium with them to be held in July/August.

During 6-14 May Professor Joce Nuttall, Executive Dean of Education, and Professor Christoph Teschers, travelled to Germany and Czech Republic to progress Horizon Europe collaborative research planning with Bielefeld University and engage with the NEOLAIa European Universities Alliance. The work strengthens UC's international footprint in education research and builds a deeper connection into Horizon funding through European partners.

UC has finalised a collaboration proposal with the South African Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority (CHIETA) and Sasol Ltd. The proposed Accelerated Renewable Energy Upskilling Programme aims to bridge the skills gap in South Africa's chemical and energy sector. This work focusses on a 3-month professional development programme delivered by UC to offer industry professionals a Postgraduate Certificate or a Certificate of Proficiency in the area of renewable energy engineering.

Organisational Efficacy – of a sustainable scale by 2030

On 29 May the 2024 Annual Report was published to the University website, including key highlights from the year.

Digital have successfully deployed Cogniti in pilot at UC. Cogniti is a generative AI tool developed at the University of Sydney, powered by GPT-4, designed to augment human intelligence and support teaching and learning. It allows educators to create custom chatbot agents and load resources to enhance student learning experiences. The pilot currently involves 40 academics across multiple disciplines, providing insights into how Cogniti's capabilities can enhance literature reviews, grant writing, and course planning. Initial feedback has been positive, and we're gathering data to inform broader rollout recommendations.

Our new UC Research Compute Hub (UC RCH) is live. It replaces our end-of-life Research Compute Cluster and offers varied workload management, increased data security, robust disaster recovery and easier ways for researchers to collaborate for researchers across departments and institutions. Our Physics and Maths departments have commenced using nodes on the UC RCH for both research and teaching projects.

The new Kōawa website went live in May. The Kōawa Studios and Digital Screen Production and Post-Production building is on schedule; forecast practical completion is scheduled for December 2025. The Jack Mann theatre construction is nearing completion, to be handed over by the contractor on 7 July for technology fit out (projectors and sound system) and the theatre will be available for use in Semester 2 this year.

Environmentally Sustainable

The Times Higher Education Impact rankings were publicly released on 18 June. The rankings measure university progress and achievements against all 17 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), on a mix of publication and evidence basis.

The overall global rank of the University has risen 28 places since the 2023 results, and we are now =61 in the world. We have also risen to second in New Zealand (after Auckland), and in SDGs 11,12 and 14 we are now ranked first in NZ.

The boiler conversion projects and the project to install the ground source heat pump outside Science are drawing to a close, with final contractor closure, and just minor financial adjustments being made by the quantity surveyor. The project has come in on budget.

Council Memorandum/Pukapuka

Report To:	Council
Date of Meeting:	26 June 2025
Report Title:	Academic Board Report – 9 May 2025
Date of Report:	20 May 2025
Report Author:	Professor C de la Rey, Associate Professor A Griffith, Eleri Nugent
For:	Information

Executive Summary

The 9 May 2025 Academic Board Report is provided below for information.

Recommendation

That Council notes the 9 May 2025 Academic Board Report.

Board Report

TE POARI AKORANGA | ACADEMIC BOARD

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

FROM A MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

HELD ON FRIDAY 9 MAY 2025

BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR

The Vice-Chancellor gave a short presentation on the Draft Freedom of Expression Bill which proposes amendments to the Education and Training Act and is likely to be a formal matter for discussion at a future Academic Board. University Council is likely to be required to develop and adopt a statement that sets out the university's approach to freedom of expression. Council is also likely to be required to establish a complaints procedure relating to academic freedom and freedom of expression which would be in addition to the existing complaints procedures, and also compile an annual report on how it has complied with its duties to protect and promote academic freedom and freedom of expression. The draft bill is available online. There will be a call for submissions, and the VC invited any staff who wished to contribute to do so. There would also likely be a combined UNZ response.

The meeting concluded early to allow sufficient time for a workshop facilitated by Professor Lucy Johnston, DVCR on the future directions for research at UC.

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

	(4 April 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)
14.0	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)
15.0	Council-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)

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.