

COUNCIL Public Meeting Agenda Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha



Agenda

DATE	Wednesday 25 February 2026
TIME	9:00am
VENUE	Council Chamber, 6th Floor, Matariki Building

Refer to Page No.
(matches Diligent).

WELCOME & KARAKIA

<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 19 November 2025 – For Approval 8
5. MATTERS ARISING
6. FROM THE CHANCELLOR
6.1. Degrees Conferred in Absentia – For Information -
7. FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
7.1. Vice-Chancellor’s Monthly Report – For Information 13
7.2. Academic Board Report (21 November 2025) – For Information 19
(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 4.1	Minutes Confirm public excluded minutes of 19 November 2025	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	Refer to previous minutes
5.0 5.1 5.2	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(2)(f)(i)
6.0	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(2)(h) 7(2)(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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
8.0 8.1	Strategy & Planning UC Planning & Reporting Outline for 2026	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
9.0 9.1 9.2	Audit & Risk Draft Annual Report 2025 (SSP & Financials) Audit New Zealand Fee Proposal Letter (Audit Fees 2025-2027)	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
10.0 10.1 10.2	Finance 31 December 2025 Q4 University Actuals vs Budget Report Monthly Financial Update January 2026	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
11.0 11.1 11.2 11.3	Honours & Appointments Committee Committee Meeting Verbal Update Revised Council Skills Matrix & Council Member Term Expiries Honorary Doctorate 2026 Recommendation	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
12.0 12.1 12.2 12.3 12.4 12.5 12.6 12.7 12.8	Other Council Constitution Proposed Changes UCTF & UCF Amalgamation Proposed Amendments to Trust Deed Proposed Changes Arbitration Matter Update Student Accommodation Development Update Capital & Investment Committee 2026 Chair Election Council Policies Annual Update ICT Building Renaming Executive Committee Decisions over Recess	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. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
13.0 13.1	From the Chancellor Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Verbal Update	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)

13.2	Council Self-Review Timing Update		
13.3	Updated Council Workplan		
14.0	From The Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report Emeritus Professor Nomination Academic Board Minutes (10 October)	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
14.1		To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
14.2		To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(a)
14.3			
15.0	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
16.0	Council-Only Time People Committee Update	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
16.1		To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)

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

- Tuesday 24 March 2026 starting at 9.00am.

KARAKIA

*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.*

University of Canterbury Council Register of Interests (25 February 2026)

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	Crown Facilitator – Water Services	Specialist - Adhoc
	2025	Gas Industry Company Limited	Director
	2021	Hampton Downs Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
	2021	Melanoma NZ	Director
	2021	Montford Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
	2025	Ombudsman’s Assurance & Risk Committee	Chair
	2025	Police Commissioner’s Assurance Risk Committee	Member (Acting Chair to end of May 2026)
	2021	St John	Volunteer Ambulance Officer
	2025	Southern Cancer Society	Chairperson
	2022	University of Canterbury Foundation	Trustee
	Sina COTTER TAIT	2025	Building Innovation Partnership Advisory Board (Government advisory board)
2025		Canterbury Kaikoura Lotteries Committee	Committee member
2025		Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Review Panel	Group member
2025		Christchurch City Council – Legal Services	Son is an employee
2025		Christchurch City Holdings Ltd	Director
2025		Collective Success Ltd	Director, shareholder
2025		Consulting Engineers Advancement Society	Board member
2025		Cotter Tait Family Trust	Trustee
2025		Engineering NZ – Professional Institute	Chartered member
2025		Engineering New Zealand Foundation	Trustee
2025		Indemnity & General Ltd	Director
2025		Institute of Directors – Consulting Engineering Company	Shareholder
2025		KiwiRail Holdings ltd	Director
2025		Lewis Bradford and Associates Ltd (local government)	Aunt is currently Deputy Mayor
2025		Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust	Trustee
2025		Te Waihanga (NZ Infrastructure Commission)	Director
2025		University of Canterbury – Professional Institute	Fellow, Chartered
2025		University of Canterbury – Building Innovation Partnership (Faculty of Engineering) Advisory Board	Advisory Board member

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2025	Waihanga Ara Rau Pacific Reference Group	Adjunct Researcher
	2025	Whitestone Contracting Limited (Council-owned company)	Director
Cheryl DE LA REY (Vice-Chancellor)	2020	Association of Commonwealth Universities	Council Member
	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)
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 Society of Microbiology	Member
2023		Queenstown Molecular Biology Society	Member
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
Bruce IRVINE		2024	Air Rarotonga Ltd
	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

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2024	Skope Industries Ltd	Director
	2024	University of Canterbury Innovation Medal	Judge
	2024	University of Canterbury MBA Course	Presenter (occasional)
Tumarū MATAIO	2026	University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA)	President
Rachel ROBILLIARD	2025	Anderson Lloyd	Employee
	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	Kaihautū Matua, Executive Director, Office of Treaty Partnership UC	Aunty
	2023	Kōwhai Enterprises Limited	Shareholder
	2022	Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd	Kaitaiki rep 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 Rangī 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
Steven WAKEFIELD	2025	199 Johns Road Limited	Shareholder, Director
	2025	Accord Group Holdings Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2025	Brackenridge Services Limited	Director
	2025	Carolina Homes Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2025	Christchurch Cathedral Reinstatement Limited	Director, Chairman
	2025	Christchurch Heritage & Arts Walking Tours Ltd	Director, Shareholder

Name (Council Member)	Date notified	Person and/or organisation with interest	Nature of interest
	2025	Church Property Trustees of the Anglican Diocese of Christchurch	Trustee, Deputy Chair
	2025	Cookie Time Group	Director
	2025	Court Theatre Trust	Chairman
	2025	Deloitte Limited	Former Partner
	2025	East Lake Trust	Trustee
	2025	EVNEX Limited	Director
	2025	Foodstuffs South Island Cooperative Limited	Independent Director
	2025	Foodstuffs S.I Properties Ltd	Director
	2025	Greater Christchurch Schools Network Trust	Chairman of Trustees
	2025	HealthOne (General Partner) Limited	Director
	2025	Innovative Software Limited	Director, Shareholder
	2025	Lincoln Medical (2024) Limited	Director
	2025	MastaPlex Limited	Shareholder
	2025	MedSalv Limited	Director
	2025	Murdoch Manufacturing Ltd	Director
	2025	NZ Health Innovation Hub Limited (t/a NZ Health Ventures)	Chairman of Directors
	2025	Old Boys Collegians Cricket Club	President, Life Member
	2025	Paenga Kupenga Limited	Director
	2025	Performing Arts Parking Limited	Director
	2025	Ravenscar Capital Trust	Trustee
	2025	Ravenscar Trust	Chairman
	2025	St Barnabas Church (Fendalton Parish)	Vestry member
	2025	St Barnabas Fendalton Trust	Chairman
	2025	Steve Wakefield Services Limited	Shareholder and Director
	2025	Streamliners NZ Limited	Director
	2025	Swallowing Technologies Limited	Chairman, Shareholder
	2025	Syft Limited	Shareholder
	2025	Te Whata Limited	Director
	2025	Townsend Fields Limited	Managing Director
	2025	Wakefield Holdings Limited	Director
Poto WILLIAMS (Pro-Chancellor)	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 Student	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	Wednesday 19 November 2025
TIME	9:00am
VENUE	Council Chamber, Level 6, Matariki Building
PRESENT	Hon. Amy Adams (Chancellor), Professor Cheryl de la Rey (Vice-Chancellor), Mr Bruce Irvine, Mr Luc MacKay, Ms Rachel Robilliard, Ms Gillian Simpson, Ms Lisa Tumahai, Hon. Poto Williams (Pro-Chancellor), Mr Steve Wakefield, Ms Catherine Woods.
IN ATTENDANCE	Ms Heather Couch, Academic Quality & Records Team Leader, Ms Kat Cuttriss, University Librarian, Associate Professor Alison Griffith, Professor Lucy Johnston, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Mr Grantley Judge, Governance & Compliance Manager, Ms Adela Kardos, General Counsel & Registrar, Professor Catherine Moran, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Ms Tumaru Mataio, UCSA President 2026, Mr Paul O’Flaherty, Executive Director People, Culture & Campus Life.
APOLOGIES	Professor Jack Heinemann, Ms Sina Cotter Tait.
WELCOME	<p>The Chancellor opened the meeting with a Karakia.</p> <p>Ms Tumaru Mataio (UCSA President 2026) was warmly welcomed to the meeting and Mr Luc MacKay (UCSA President 2024-2025) was sincerely thanked for his contributions and professionalism with Council over the past 2 years. Council acknowledged the importance of having the student voice represented.</p>
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 25 September 2025

Moved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 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 November list of degrees to be 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.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked Mr Luc MacKay, UCSA President, for his leadership of the UCSA over the last two years and the constructive way he presented matters for discussion.

Ms Kat Cuttriss, University Librarian, provided an update on the negotiations with the four global academic publishing companies and how New Zealand and Australian universities were working together to secure a better deal.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked staff and students for their work, dedication and achievements throughout 2025.

Moved:

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

Carried

Academic Board Report

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

The Academic Board's terms of reference was due for review next year. Council would discuss at a later date when the Council would commence the review.

Moved:

That Council:

- 1. notes the 12 September and 10 October 2025 Academic Board Reports.*

2. *approves the semester dates for 2027 and provisional dates for 2028.*
3. *notes the reports of Graduating Year Reviews and the deletions of existing qualifications. These reports were endorsed by the Academic Board and have been reported to the Committee on University Academic Programmes.*

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 4.1	Minutes Confirm public excluded minutes of 25 September 2025	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	Refer to previous minutes
5.0 5.1 5.2 5.3	Matters Arising Action Schedule Draft Strategy Day 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(2)(f)(i)
6.0	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
7.0 7.1 7.2	Health & Safety Monthly Health & Safety Report Revised Health & Safety Work Plan	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
8.0 8.1 8.2	Strategy & Planning Strategy Implementation Update Q3-2025 Final Triennial Plan 2026-2028	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
9.0 9.1	Major Project Kōawa Studios Digital Screen 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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
10.0 10.1 10.2 10.3 10.4 10.5 10.6 10.7	Finance University Budget 2026 UCF Trust Budget 2026 UCTF Trust Budget 2026 Consolidated UC & Trusts 2026 Budget 30 September 2025 Summary Consolidated Financial Statements Monthly Financial Update October 2025 Principles for Trust Funds	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(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
11.0 11.1	Capital & Investment Committee	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)

11.2	CIC Meeting (3 November 2025) Verbal Update	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
11.2.1	CIC Recommendations to Council		
11.2.2	Pūtaiao Koiora Building Business Case		
11.2.3	Ilam Campus Mains Water Replacement Business Case		
11.2.4	Digital Connectivity Programme		
11.2.5	UC Trust Funds Eriksens Report (30 September 2025) & Recommendation Project Assurance Programme 2026		
12.0	Audit & Risk Committee	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
12.1	ARC Meeting (3 November 2025) Verbal Update	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
12.2	External Audit Plan for the Year Ending 31 Dec 2025		
12.3	Year-end Key Accounting Issues December 2025		
12.4	Audit NZ Audit Fee Proposal Letter (Audit Fees 2025-2027)		
12.5	Greenhouse Gas Omissions Target Update		
13.0	Honours & Appointments Committee	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
13.1	Meeting (29 October 2025) Verbal Update	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
13.2	Canterbury Museum Trust Board Report	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(a)
13.3	Canterbury Museum Trust Board UC Representative		
14.0	Other	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
14.1	Chancellor Election	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
14.2	Delegation Schedules Annual Review		
14.3	Delegation of Authority to Executive Committee over Recess		
14.4	Executive Committee Decision (5 November 2025)		
15.0	From the Chancellor	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
15.1	Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Verbal Update	To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(a)
15.2	Council Work Plans 2025 & 2026 Update		
16.0	From The Vice-Chancellor	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
16.1	Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
16.2	Academic Board Minutes (11 July & 12 September 2025)		
17.0	General Business	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
		To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
18.0	Council-Only Time	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
		To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(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 Wednesday 25 February 2026 at 9:00am in the Council Chamber.

MEETING CLOSED The public meeting closed with a Karakia at 1.15pm.

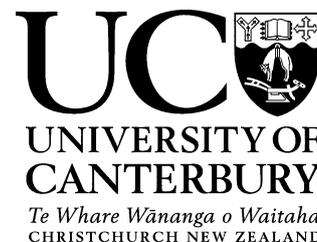
SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD: _____

DATE: _____

COUNCIL ACTION SCHEDULE
from the meeting held on 19 November 2025

	Action	By Whom	Due Date	Expected
1.	Academic Board terms of reference review – suggest date that the review paper could be presented to Council for consideration.	Ms Kardos	Feb 2026	

Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council



February 2026

Introduction

UC is on track to record its sixth consecutive year of enrolment growth, finishing 2025 with more than 27,000 students and continuing the upward trend in 2026. Growth has been driven by strong domestic enrolments, both from within the Canterbury region and around the country, alongside international demand in both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Semester 1 started on 16 February and was preceded by several events:

Minister for Universities Hon Dr Shane Reti officially opened UC's new hall Tupuārangi on 12 February, alongside Mayor Phil Mauger, Chancellor Hon Amy Adams, and myself.

On 13 February we welcomed over 2,200 students to campus for Welcome Day, an informative and inclusive event that introduced students to their programmes of study, support networks and the wider UC community.

Congratulations to College House, which in late November celebrated its 175th anniversary. College House was established in 1850 as part of Christ's College and in 1873 became the first residential college to the forerunner of UC, Canterbury College. It moved from the city to its Waimari Road site in 1970.

Engagement

In mid-December UC was the accommodation provider for the 2025 Special Olympics National Summer Games, via accommodation partners Arcady, College House and UniLodge. Over five nights, 7,500 beds were provided to competitors, coaches, supporters, and officials. Around 20 students in the Bachelor of Digital Screen (Hons) collaborated with the Special Olympics team, filming and producing video content for the Games. This provided valuable hands-on experience, allowing students to apply technical and creative skills in a live, high-pressure professional context. The montage created by the students was shown at the opening ceremony of the Games.

At the start of February, via the UC Neighbourhood Meet and Greet, residents from the Ilam and Riccarton areas were invited to meet the key stakeholders at UC and UCSA – including the Director of Facilities Management, Director of People and Culture, Security Manager and the new UCSA President. After short introductions the community was invited to talk one-to-one with hosts and learn more about events and projects at UC and UCSA this year.

The second drop-in session for Takurua, the new student facility replacing the current recreation centre, was held on Tuesday 10 February. Representatives from the project team shared building updates and visuals with members of the community.

On 15 January the Teece Museum team hosted the opening of the Bricks of Olympus exhibition, which runs until 19 April. The launch event in the Great Hall of the Arts Centre included opportunities for children to assemble a giant mosaic and participate in Maths Crafts, supported by colleagues and students from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Inside the museum 250,000 Lego bricks have been used to create a spectacular mobile theatre, built by Jake Roos and Emily Fryer (winner and runner up in Season One of LEGO Masters New Zealand). More than 1,400 visitors were welcomed on the opening day, marking the event as a great success.

In mid-January UC academics engaged with the community as part of Robot Week at Shirley Library, inviting young people and their families to explore robotics and artificial intelligence in fun, accessible, and thoughtful ways. UC Professor Kathryn MacCallum and PhD candidate Angel Moore (Education), along with Associate Professor Yilei Zhang and PhD candidate Shimanto Sarker (Engineering), collaborated with Christchurch City Libraries to help demystify AI and encourage informed conversations about how these technologies are shaping everyday life.

The *Whāia te Taniwha* exhibition at Christchurch Art Gallery is grounded in *Taniwha: A Cultural History*, a Marsden Fund research project led by Dr Kirsty Dunn and Dr Madi Williams (Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies, Faculty of Arts) and demonstrates an excellent translation of research into public-facing cultural practice.

Education – Accessible, Flexible Future Focussed

Thrive lectures were delivered to approximately 2,000 incoming students throughout the same week as Welcome Day, with the purpose of showing first years how to navigate the start of the year. Halls offered orientation-style activities, and UniLife welcomed 563 students in a programme for students not in halls to foster social connection and academic preparation - a four-fold increase compared to 2025. For the first year, UniLife offered a summer programme with over 100 participants who stayed on to support the newcomers at the beginning of the year.

This year had the busiest summer school period in the last five years with 2,374 students taking part in summer school, an increase of nearly 300 students compared to the year before. While many students were taking classroom courses, the PACE programme, which is focused on work-integrated learning, welcomed its largest cohort to date with more than 140 students from all faculties undertaking internships with a wide range of regional and national organisations. Students worked with employers across the technology, government, health, and not-for-profit sectors, gaining valuable experience that supports employability, interdisciplinary learning, and community engagement.

The TEC-funded *He Kokonga* student success initiative successfully completed its first year of the two-year programme. The implementation plan has since been endorsed, and four of the seven Quarter One initiatives commenced in January. These initiatives focus on improving data quality and accessibility, strengthening data capability across the institution, and leveraging technology to support successful student outcomes.

The library was part of successful CAUL consortium negotiations concluded in December 2025, resulting in new Read and Publish agreements with Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, Springer Nature, and Wiley. These agreements provide comprehensive access to key journals and uncapped publishing opportunities for UC researchers, while delivering improved value for money and price certainty over the coming years.

Emeritus Professor Phil Bones was featured in national media for his leadership of an innovative engineering project in which UC graduates developed an animatronic bird inspired by the South Island kōkako.

Student success was recognised at a national level, with Louise McDermott, a Bachelor of Environmental Science with Honours student, receiving the New Zealand Coastal Society 2025 Undergraduate Excellence Award for her academic achievement and commitment to coastal studies.

Research – Impact on a Changing World

UC researchers continue to lead advances in important technologies and economic growth. New grants in 2026 include awards to Associate Professor Sarah Kessans (Product Design), from the Ministry of Primary Industries, for the project *Towards the delivery of commercially viable pasture-based methane inhibitor solutions*, and to Professor Aaron Marshall (Chemical and Process Engineering) for a Horizon Europe project looking at clean energy *Next-generation scalable AEM electrolyzers as sustainable hydrogen production system (NEREUS)*.

Three other UC researchers – Professor Wolfgang Rack (Gateway Antarctica), Associate Professor Mads Thomsen (Biological Sciences), and Dr Hamish Avery (Electric Power Engineering Centre) – have also received new funding through involvement in Horizon Europe projects. Dr Avery is part of the MBIE-led delegation currently in Europe to lobby for the inclusion of associated countries in the next iteration of Horizon and to host a booth at the Horizon Europe information days in Brussels.

Four UC projects were among the 15 nationally funded projects within the inaugural cohort of MBIE's Applied Doctorates Scheme, involving collaboration between universities and industry partners. The University has funded another four UC projects from the MBIE shortlist through the UC Connect Doctoral Scholarship Scheme to continue the collaborations with the industry partners.

In a time of increasing serious weather events, new research led by Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Lea Dasallas (Civil and Environmental Engineering) as part of a Horizon Europe project, points to the importance of shifting from static flood maps to dynamic models to improve urban resilience and emergency planning. Her recently published research shows that even shallow floodwater can be powerful enough to knock people off their feet or sweep vehicles away if it is moving fast enough. Most public flood maps to date focus almost entirely on how deep water gets, not how quickly it flows.

A new CryoLab in the Department of Mechanical Engineering is New Zealand's only research group combining cutting-edge cryogenic refrigeration research and development as well as consulting to industry in cryogenics, fluids and thermodynamics. Cryogenics is a key enabler for technologies that rely on extremely low temperatures, including MRI scanners, superconductors, night-vision systems, low-noise sensors, satellites, space telescopes, biological storage, quantum computing and cryogenic fuels such as liquefied natural gas and liquid hydrogen.

A research collaboration with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) has commenced with joint funding of seed projects bringing together researchers from UC and UTM. A formal opening of the virtual joint research laboratory will be held in Malaysia in April 2026.

The Times Higher Education (THE) Subject Rankings were released in January, ranking the top institutions in each of the 11 major subject areas. UC's global rank improved in two subjects (Business and Economics, Law) and our rank within New Zealand increased in three subjects (Business and Economics, Computer Science, Law) and decreased in one subject (Arts and Humanities).

Time Magazine has produced a new ranking of the top 500 world universities. Six New Zealand universities were included in the top 500 with UC ranked 259th, behind the Universities of Auckland (88) and Otago (155) and above VUW (261), Lincoln (416) and Waikato (440).

Professor Clemency Montelle (Mathematics and Statistics) has become the first person from outside the United Kingdom to receive the Agnes Mary Clerke medal from the Royal Astronomical Society. The medal for Historical Research in Astronomy or Geophysics is presented by the UK's Royal Astronomical Society every three years. Professor Montelle received the 2026 medal in recognition of her outstanding research in the history of astronomy, particularly her ground-breaking scholarship on Indian mathematical astronomy and other major pre-modern astronomical traditions, and the connections between them.

Associate Professor Enda Crossin (Electrical Engineering) was awarded the Australasian Association for Engineering Education's Research Design Award for his leadership of The BeLongEng Project.

PhD student Kate Truman (Data Science) was awarded the Publisher's Award for Excellence in Systematic Research (2025) by the Society of Systematic Biologists and Oxford University Press.

People – Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

The Start of Year Communications Campaign to students, run via social and on-campus media, has provided new students with the information they need in their first term at UC to ensure they have the best possible start, go on to have a positive student experience, and successfully complete their first year of study. They have received information to raise awareness on important topics including meningitis, prevention of harmful sexual behaviour, health and safety, and the availability of student support services. Students were advised of events, groups and activities available from both UC and the UCSA, and were encouraged to make the most of their time at UC by getting involved in a range of experiences and meeting new people.

UC presented 66 student leaders across all halls of residence with the Residential Advisor|Taurima micro credential, in recognition of the skills and experience gained in 2025 while working in the role.

A new initiative this year was a Start of Year Staff Marketplace, to provide information for staff about services, benefits and support available to UC employees. There were 20 stalls with information on a range of topics, for example the Analytics for Course Engagement (ACE) programme, UOnline, Cybersecurity, Staff Wellbeing, Capability and Benefits. UC staff now have access to a new purchasing discounts scheme that includes offers for shopping, entertainment and travel.

The UC Accommodation Services team received the 2025 International Education Association New Zealand Pioneer Partners Award, in recognition of the Accommodation Student Ambassadors programme that has championed global citizenship and developed cross-cultural leadership within halls of residence over the past three years.

Health and Safety

The Minister for Workplace and Safety has announced regulatory changes for research, teaching and testing laboratories, after representations from a sector group in which UC played a central role. Currently laboratories are subject to the same regulatory requirements as industrial operations that use hazardous substances. By the end of this year there will be new regulations for the sector and an Approved Code of Practice that will set out guidance on how to manage risks. Universities New Zealand and the Independent Research Association of New Zealand estimate that the costs of compliance, unless changes were made, was likely to be between \$1.5 billion to \$3 billion.

Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

UC's international academic connections remain strong, with 29 Erskine Visitors scheduled to arrive in Semester One and 6 UC academic staff undertaking Erskine Grants overseas. These exchanges continue to enrich UC's teaching and research environment through international collaboration.

On 23 January, UC and the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) signed an Memorandum of Understanding continuing into a fourth term. The partnership is globally significant - UC researchers are investigating topics that are critical to Antarctica's future, such as climate change impacts on ecosystems, atmosphere and ice, the impact of microplastics, and air-chemistry climate interactions.

A research collaboration with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) has commenced with joint funding of seed projects bringing together researchers from UC and UTM. A formal opening of the virtual joint research laboratory will be held in Malaysia in April 2026.

UC hosted 109 summer school participants from 20 Chinese universities for a 2-week short program on Global Competence Development. This course provides an opportunity to promote understanding of New Zealand's place in the world and its cultural distinctiveness, including Māori and Tangata Whenua.

In January I travelled to Tonga together with a UC delegation, including Distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva as PVC Pacific. We were hosted by Lord Feleti Sevele, UC alumnus and Honorary Doctorate recipient, and the National Reserve Bank of Tonga. While there, the UC-Lincoln University Tonga Alumni Association was launched, reflecting the growing strength and impact of its alumni community in the region. The alumni launch was graced by the presence of HRH Princess Sālote Mafile'ō Pilolevu and it was livestreamed and watched by some 500 people. We visited a group of UC biomedical engineering students who, as part of an annual training project led by Associate Professor Deborah Munro, were repairing and doing maintenance work on crucial lifesaving equipment such as ventilators, blood pressure monitors and oxygen concentrators. The visit was highlighted through a Radio New Zealand feature in which Associate Professor Munro and Club President Liam Bately discussed the impact of the trip. The itinerary included a meeting with the Prime Minister, who was also present at the alumni launch event. The UC delegation visit was given high profile coverage in the local media. Since our return cooperation is in progress with the Tonga National University and the Tonga Campus of the University of South Pacific.

In early February a UC delegation spent time in India, participating in the QS India Summit and meeting with a number of potential partner institutions. I was invited to speak in the opening spotlight panel on *Philanthropy as a way forward to promote publicly accessible and world-class education in India*. A central theme of the discussion was the importance of institutional clarity of purpose. UC Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation Professor Lucy Johnston,

Executive Dean of Engineering Professor Saurabh Sinha, and Executive Dean of Science Professor Stuart Parsons, joined Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Dean of International Programmes Professor Anil Verma and Director of Ground Force Concrete Consultancy LLP Dr Sivakumar Kandasami, to lead a masterclass on *Partnerships with purpose*. Professor Lucy Johnston also spoke on the panel *Impactful research for nation building*.

Organisational Efficacy – of a sustainable scale by 2030

Continued improvements were made to the University's digital systems and infrastructure during December and January, ensuring core platforms remained robust during the busiest period of the academic calendar. Enhancements to workflow performance, the introduction of automated archiving, and new capabilities that enable staff to update and submit course selections on behalf of students have contributed to improved turnaround times and created a more seamless student experience during a critical time of year.

Work to modernise digital infrastructure across the halls has progressed well over the summer. Students entering the halls in 2026 are benefitting from significantly improved speed, stability, and accessibility of network services, supporting both their academic engagement and wellbeing. These enhancements have been delivered across 37 buildings to date and will continue through to May.

The Cloud Enablement Programme reached completion in December, concluding three years of major transformation activity. The programme has delivered a scalable five-petabyte storage platform, expanded secure cloud services, modernised backup and recovery environments, and deployed a high-performance research compute platform already experiencing strong demand.

Environmentally Sustainable

UC biochemistry student Olivia Cooper was one of the students selected for the Summer Startup Programme, run through the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship (UCE) over 2025/2026, to progress her PacSea venture (formerly Green Shift Packaging). PacSea is developing seaweed-based alternatives to single-use plastics, and biodegradable and home-compostable materials are created to reduce waste and protect the environment. The Summer Startup Programme helped connect Olivia with experts across sustainability, materials science, and product design, and provided an intensive period to progress prototype products.

UC students George Gilbertson, Darcy Kusabs, Bailey Mourton, Ashley Pedersen and Hannah Smith completed a study in December into how targeted trapping is reducing rats, possums, mice and mustelids across the 45-hectare Barnett Park Reserve in Redcliffs. This was undertaken as part of the students' Research for Resilient Communities and Environments UC geography course, and focused on assessing the efficacy of a trapping programme carried out by Predator Free Redcliffs over the past two years. Their report was warmly received, as it established a baseline and provided recommendations for future trap placements based on identified pest hotspots.

Dr Rebecca Peer, UC Senior Lecturer in Civil and Natural Resources Engineering, won a prestigious Mana Tūānuku Research Leader Fellowship in December. This work will develop tools and insights that will guide New Zealand's shift to a resilient, low-carbon energy system. Dr Peer will develop sophisticated modelling tools that integrate energy system analysis with risk, decision-making and policy assessment. These will enable a more informed understanding of the trade-offs between economic, environmental and social pressures when designing energy policies, and help guide New Zealand's transition to clean energy in a secure, efficient and fair manner.

Council Memorandum/Pukapuka

Report To:	Council
Date of Meeting:	25 February 2026
Report Title:	Academic Board Report
Date of Report:	21 November 2025
Report Author:	Professor C de la Rey, Associate Professor A Griffith, Eleri Nugent
For:	Information

Executive Summary

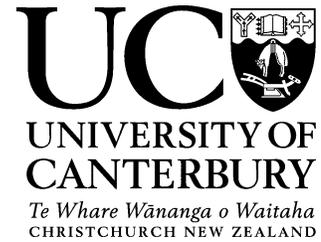
Council is asked to note:

- *the 21 November 2025 Academic Board Report.*

Recommendation

That Council notes the Academic Board report from 21 November 2025 (attached).

ATTACHMENT ONE



TE POARI AKORANGA | ACADEMIC BOARD

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

FROM A MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

HELD ON FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2025

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Professor de la Rey updated members that the final Council meeting of the year approved the budget for 2026. The budget is tight and much depends on meeting the targeted EFTS. At this early stage, both domestic and international EFTS look to be on target. There are provisions in the budget for more academic staff in areas where there is clear growth; it will be up to the relevant Faculty how this money is spent. Council also approved the business case for refurbishments to Te Kura Pūtaiao Koiora which will be strengthened to meet 100% of the building code for earthquake compliance. She acknowledged the patience of staff who had moved to other locations whilst investigations were under way. She said she expected the building works to be completed by the end of 2027 if all went to plan.

She also:

- commended those involved in the successful Adaptation Futures conference.
- thanked staff who are UC donors.
- congratulated the many staff who had recently received a wide range of awards.
- noted that the demand for student accommodation continues to be a pressure point. The accommodation team is now inviting students on the waiting list for Halls' rooms to a webinar to ensure that they are kept up to date with developments and reassuring them that the room availability situation will change over time. The newest Hall: Tupuārangi is due to open on time to welcome students in 2026.
- thanked staff for all their hard work during the year.

She announced that 2026 will be her last year in the role as Vice-Chancellor, and that towards the end of the meeting, she would recuse herself to allow Associate Professor Griffith as Deputy Chair the opportunity to pass on information from Adela Kardos as General Counsel and Registrar on the recruitment process for the next Vice-Chancellor.

REPORT FROM THE UCSA

Jenro Fortich noted that this would be his last meeting and thanked all staff for their collaboration and productive partnership during 2025. He highlighted the following achievements from the year:

- there is stronger engagement with class reps, higher numbers have been recruited, and steps are now in place to ensure that student feedback is acted on and acknowledged.

- Regular student contributions have been made to the AI working group.
- Study space remains a priority – Haere-roa was set up to address this during times of peak demand.
- The Exec has developed stronger links with academic clubs, Te Akatoki, and the wider student population.
- Many successful events were held including Tea Party, Coffee Party and Stress Less week.

Luc Mackay added that this would also be his last meeting as President after two years in office. He said he had enjoyed the rigor of conversation at meetings and felt that UC has a special understanding that students are core to the university's purpose and staff are truly committed and engaged with delivering the best for them.

The incoming 2026 UCSA President Tumarū Mataio and Vice-President Evangeline Rong were introduced to the meeting.

RESEARCH PLAN

Professor Johnston introduced the plan which had evolved since the previous meeting to include feedback from members and the wider UC community. She thanked members for their input and highlighted the feedback around engagement with Māori. The next steps would be around implementation and the development of projects where there would be an opportunity for further engagement. Following discussions which were mostly around implementation, the Board endorsed the Plan.

UPDATE ON CAUL NEGOTIATION FOR UC LIBRARY READ AND PUBLISH DEALS

Kat Cuttriss updated members on the status of negotiations with various publishers. A good deal has been struck with Taylor and Francis, and final negotiations are underway with Wiley whilst more nuanced negotiations are taking place with Springer Nature. Negotiations with Elsevier are paused. There are many other international examples of collective negotiations leading to a successful outcome however she cautioned that this approach could take over a year to work through.

The Australian and New Zealand universities consortium is unified in their approach. – There is likely discontinuation will take effect from 1 January 2026. As there are some differences for disciplines and individuals, Kat Cuttriss welcomed members to contact her with any enquiries and confirmed she would continue with Faculty and UC committee updates. She indicated the continuity of access resources identified in her report including Open Access content, the Post-Termination Access agreement, and the ability to self-deposit in the UC Research Repository.

PROCESS FOR SELECTING THE NEXT VICE-CHANCELLOR

Associate Professor Griffith reported that, following Professor de la Rey's decision not to seek reappointment as Vice-Chancellor when her term of office finishes at the end of 2026, Adela Kardos has informed her that there will be some differences in the recruitment process this time round. The Council wish the next Vice-Chancellor to be in place by 1 January 2027, with the intention that a short handover period be in place. It is not intended that there will be an Acting Vice-Chancellor position before the role is filled. As this is a tight timeline, the process is starting now with Council appointing Perret Laver, an Australian executive search firm based in Australia with extensive experience in the higher education sector. The position will be advertised from mid-December and Council are seeking the views of stakeholders and others including academic and professional staff, UCSA, and Ngāi Tahu. A survey will shortly be circulated to Academic Board members and Heads of School/Department. The responses will help Council assess the applicants. Members who receive the survey need to canvas their colleagues' views and submit a combined response. The survey will only be open for two weeks. All survey responses will be anonymous. Surveys should be sent to the provided address and not direct to Council members to ensure they are all received safely.