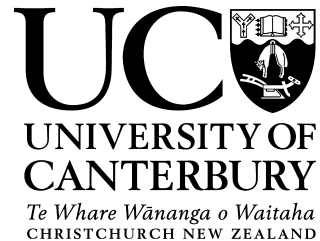


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**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT TO
UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2019**

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1. INTRODUCTION

After a short break for students, the final term of the year is underway. During the semester break, several events and conferences were hosted on campus. I gave a welcome address at the Career Development Association of New Zealand (CDANZ) conference which was hosted by UC. There were 140 delegates comprising career practitioners from public and private sectors, policy makers, educationalists and representatives from the TEC and other government agencies. It was a highly successful conference covering topics such as career development and learning and practice in the future world of work.

Among the UC events in August, a particular highlight was the Women in Leadership Breakfast | Ngā Māreikura. UC leaders, including the Chancellor and I, as well as some of the women PVCs, hosted 130 of Canterbury's emerging young women leaders to learn from inspiring speakers and explore opportunities available at UC. This was a 17% increase in attendees since last year, including young women students from local schools, career advisors and teachers.

Diversity Fest began on 9 September with Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Language Week, and will continue until 11 October. Marking the start of Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Language Week on campus was an opening ceremony of "Kia Kaha te Reo Māori" in which staff and students joined in song. To follow, free te reo Māori lessons were offered around campus, along with UCSA organised events such as the International Fashion Showcase, Rainbow Film Night and International Food Festival along with more across the coming weeks. The objective of Diversity Fest is to encourage students and staff to engage with others from different backgrounds in an open, social and fun way by participating in events and activities. The aim is to raise awareness about what diversity means to different people and promote UC's drive towards a biculturally confident and competent community.

To assist in the development of focussed interventions to increase the proportion of Maori and Pasifika students and students from lower decile schools, the Vice-Chancellor of AUT kindly agreed to host a visit by myself, Catherine Moran and Keith Longden to AUT's South Auckland Campus. Discussions covered AUT's 10 year journey, reimagining the curriculum, relationships with lower decile schools, successful recruitment strategies, outcome reporting and community and industry engagement.

Following the workshop hosted by UC on 24 July to plan a research platform to focus on addressing the consequences of the various traumatic events in Christchurch and the Canterbury region, the heads of the four Canterbury tertiary institutions met on 5 September. We agreed to revisit the concept of a Canterbury Tertiary Education Alliance which was formally established via a MoU signed by Prof Roy Sharp on behalf of UC in 2007 but seemed to have fallen in abeyance post-earthquakes. The next meeting will be hosted at Ara.

Subsequent to the news that the partnership proposal between UC and LU submitted at the end of last year was not approved by Minister Chris Hipkins, the senior management of the two institutions met to discuss the way forward. It was agreed that the concept of a joint postgraduate school focusing on areas of mutual strength and opportunity will be investigated further and discussions with the CRIs based at Lincoln will be a key next step.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings were announced on 12 September (NZT). Of the 1396 institutions ranked, UC was in the 301-350 band and remains 4th in New Zealand after Auckland University, Otago University and Auckland University of Technology. Component scores increased for Teaching, Research, Industry Income and International Outlook while Citations decreased which suggests that the rate of increase for competing institutions is faster than UC has currently achieved.

The major changes for NZ Universities were increased rankings for Auckland University (179=) and Auckland University of Technology (251-300). Otago University held its ranking (201- 250). The other four New Zealand universities ranked 501-600.

On a pleasing note, the Standards and Accreditation Board of Engineering New Zealand has formally confirmed that all of the Engineering degrees that applied for re-accreditation in 2018 have been approved for further accreditation for the next six years.

Another cause for celebration has been UC Business School's achievement of the MYOB Education Partner of the Year award at the 11th annual Australia and New Zealand Partner Connect Gala Dinner. In gaining this award, the School receives recognition as an education partner that has gone above and beyond to help its students succeed in 2018/19.

In the last month, I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet with donors and alumni, establish new relationships and support and strengthen existing ones. Events included a stewardship event in Auckland for College of Engineering corporate funders and a celebration of the Chalky Carr Trust's first Scholarship award, which raised UC's profile with the New Zealand rugby fraternity.

Fisher Leadership, global recruitment firm that we have used for other academic appointments has been commissioned, to assist in conducting an international recruitment search for the role of Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the College of Education, Health and Human Development. I am grateful to Professor Letitia Fickel who has agreed to act in the role until the end of March 2020 by which time we anticipate a permanent appointment will be made.

2. STRATEGIC MATTERS

2.1 E Tū, Kia Ora –Strategy Development

The UC Strategic Framework is now in the final stages of development and is with the University due to be presented to the Council for approval. The overarching theme is one of engagement – engagement with our city, province, nation and internationally. The development of an implementation plan is currently in progress with the aim of finalisation by the end of October. Eight working groups have been focussing on the implementation of the Strategic Framework. Each of these groups is led by an SMT member, including Academic Board members working alongside professional staff with some student representation to ensure a well-rounded implementation plan.

The Staff Forum planned for 3 December 2019 will be an occasion at which we mark the concluding phase of the rebuild and the beginning of the new strategy and associated implementation plans.

2.2 UC Futures Programme – UC Ki Mua

The official opening of the final building in the rebuild programme, the Beatrice Tinsley building, is scheduled for 1 October. The construction contractors, Dominion, and the UC teams involved are all working hard to ensure that the building will be ready for the official opening. The building showcases a high-tech wooden structure developed here by UC academics and BECA engineering and it will be the first multi-storey, all timber 'moment'-framed building in New Zealand, and possibly in the world. A moment frame is a two-dimensional series of interconnected members that uses rigid connections. It can resist lateral and overturning forces, is more flexible than other options and allows larger movement in earthquakes.

With regard to graduate outcomes, in recent years, UC has focused its international student recruitment and domestic professional development activities on postgraduate taught master's programmes. As a result, it has broadened its range of taught master's options.

Currently, UC offers over 50 taught and research master's, allowing for a wide range of professional qualifications at that level for both domestic and international students. Almost all are taught on campus, an attractive option for international students also wishing to apply for residency in New Zealand.

International enrolments in the taught master's programmes in UC Business are currently running 12% up year on year, an indicator of the success of this approach.

3. STUDENT RECRUITMENT

3.1 Domestic Recruitment

A new event for the 2019 recruitment calendar, UC Experience Day, was held in Auckland in conjunction with the colleges. The event included engaging sessions on various topics, information on student clubs and support services, accommodation and opportunities for course planning. A similar event will also be held in Wellington.

With applications due by the end of the month, Accommodation Services are tracking 10% above 2018 numbers for the undergraduate first-year market. Conversion is well underway as the Liaison Office continues course planning visits to secondary schools around the country. So far, over 1,400 future students have had their courses planned, during visits in Canterbury, Waikato, West Coast, Southland, Otago, Auckland and Wellington this month.

Work is underway to reassess UC's positioning in various markets with the aim of articulating and promoting the UC Strategy once it is approved and launched. In domestic recruitment, now that UC Me 2019 has concluded, preparation for the 2020 UC Me campaign has begun.

Our brand online results are still tracking well with total results (clicks and views) up 32% year on year and cost per result down 13% year on year. Our key 'click drivers' remain Google Adwords, Snapchat and GDN banners. The UC Go Canterbury campaign produced great results this year with clicks up 69% on the back of a minimal 2.9% increase in online spend.

Our adult market campaign ended mid-August. Having three separate target segments allowed us to tailor the media mix to best reach each sub-target, and deliver bespoke creative content to resonate with each group. Overall the campaign results are very good with 22,122 clicks to website recorded (up from 9,831 clicks last year).

The Summer School campaign will also commence this month, incorporating both an internal and external focus. Flight two of the 'Accommodation' campaign will be in market in the week leading up to the close of applications. College-specific campaigns are in market, including BCom, MBA, LLB/BCJ, LLM/ILAP/MCJ, Arts (Fine Arts, Music, Social Work, BA, BC, Teece Museum) and CUP.

The recent Postgraduate & Professional Development Evening was a great success, with a 90% increase in attendees over last year. In total, 110 people attended the event to discover what further study options are available at UC. This event was part of Postgrad Options Week, which aims to highlight postgraduate opportunities. Sessions were set up with each college to showcase their postgraduate courses.

3.2 International Recruitment

As no enrolment intake has taken place since July, there are no changes to report in regard to full-fee equivalent full-time students (EFTS) for 2019. UC is currently 10% higher year on year, and indications are that the October intake for the Business taught master's will be 10–12% higher than last year. The latest forecast is 1,885 full-fee EFTS for the 2019 year, representing approximately 12.5% of total EFTS at UC.

As 2019 comes to an end, attention is quickly shifting to recruitment and conversion for Semester 1, 2020. A recent review and restructure of admissions and conversion processes and procedures has provided the opportunity to create a more focused approach to conversion management within existing resources. A critical part of this activity will be ensuring colleges and current students are involved more closely and in a more coordinated way, providing applicants with a better sense of what it is like to be a student at UC.

4. STUDENT EXPERIENCE

4.1 UC Careers

The Annual Volunteer Expo, organised in collaboration with Volunteer Canterbury, was a very successful event. In student evaluations, 98% of respondents said they would recommend the event and 96% agreed that volunteering is a useful tool to help them into employment. Among exhibitors at the event, 100% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the Volunteer Expo was a worthwhile experience.

UC Careers also ran job-ready seminars for international students jointly with ChristchurchNZ. These seminars were well attended (by approximately 175 students in total) and covered the following topic areas: finding a job in New Zealand; making a good impression with New Zealand employers; and New Zealand employment rights and responsibilities. Presenters included staff from UC Careers, ChristchurchNZ, Immigration NZ, Skybase and Canterbury Tech. The videos from the event are available on YouTube.

4.2 Student Care

The Student Incident Response Plan (SIRP) SharePoint system is now fully developed and tested and will be presented to senior management shortly. All critical student incidents and students of concern can now be recorded into the system, where they will be coded with their own identification number. Any incident will be coordinated by a Student Incident Response Manager, who will be supported by a SIRP team, and confidential information will be filtered and shared with appropriate stakeholders.

4.3 Student Experience Team (SET)

UC has recently received an International Student Barometer benchmark report on international student experience (32% response rate). The highlights from the report are:

- 88% overall satisfaction (90% New Zealand benchmark)
- 80% propensity to recommend (78% New Zealand benchmark)
- net promoter score of 18 (13 New Zealand benchmark).

Areas where UC performed at 95% satisfaction or above included: library, disability support, UCSA, faith, Student Care, Health Centre, counselling, clubs, campus, International Relationships Office, eco-friendly, expert lecturers, technology, and learning spaces.

Satisfaction has increased in many areas: internet, accommodation cost and access, earning money, financial support and living costs, work experience, home friends, formal welcome, opportunities to teach and social activities were all up by 7–15%. It is notable that the survey was in field in April–June, following the 15 March event.

Areas for further development are: accommodation condition and cost, host friends and overall costs. Plans are being developed to address areas for improvement and to promote UC's strengths.

We are also completing funding applications for the Ministry of Education International Student Wellbeing Strategy. The applications will focus on two potential initiatives: (1) pre-arrival videos based around cultural competencies while studying at UC; and (2) engagement with a marae as an experience for both domestic and international students together, enabling them to better connect with each other and build up their bicultural competence and confidence.

4.4 Wellness Services

4.4.1 Rec & Sport

The Australasian Universities Health Challenge is underway. UC staff and students are encouraged to join in and record their steps on the UC team. Currently, we have 177 participants registered and are ranked second for average steps per participant. The challenge runs until 29 September 2019.

UC Sport has been working with UC's five major sporting clubs (football, hockey, rugby, basketball and netball) to develop a draft Service Level Agreement between the individual clubs and UC. The intention of these agreements is to improve both on- and off-field performance of the clubs while ensuring students receive a positive club experience.

UC Rec&Sport has aligned the five clubs uniforms so they now have the same colour and design, leading to UC sport's clubs having one identifiable look. The five clubs will all purchase their teamwear from the same supplier, as negotiated by UC Sport, which creates greater buying power and in turn, cheaper uniforms for clubs. This will be phased in over the next 2-3 years.

A small line of UC branded merchandise and clothing is now available for sale at the RecCentre. We are using a low risk purchasing approach to learn about our market, along with survey feedback from our members to build slowly with an eye to the future in the online space, and our new facility.

We are currently developing a Secondary School Sports Academy to cater to the needs of high school students and teams who wish to continue their training during the school holidays. This programme will provide a high-quality experience at UC, ideally increasing future recruitment of school leavers to UC. The programme will take a holistic approach focusing on the students' overall wellbeing as well as on their performance and training needs specifically.

The UC Ultimate Frisbee club recently competed in the University and Tertiary Sport NZ (UTSNZ) Ultimate Frisbee competition. UC finished second in the competition, remaining unbeaten until the final. UC currently sits third overall in the UTSNZ competition behind Auckland and Massey universities.

4.4.2 Health Centre

Demand for counselling has continued to track significantly above the previous year's figures. In Term Three 2019, a total of 2,904 counselling appointments were provided, an increase of 573 appointments or 24.5% compared with Term Three 2018. Conversely the number of appointments for general practitioners (GPs) and nurses is down by 2.8%.

The total for the whole clinic to end of Term Three 2019 is 31,173 consultations compared with 32,031 to the same period in 2018, representing a drop of 2.6%. Health Centre enrolment numbers at the end of August are 7,837, of which 2,413 (31%) are registered Community Service Cardholders. The total number of UC staff seen in the year to date is 1,130 (747 by a GP and 383 by a nurse), which equates to 3.5% of total consultations.

Flu numbers in the region have now dropped below the average for the past four years in the Christchurch area. The Health Centre has administered 2,528 vaccinations in the year to date.

The online patient portal is slowly expanding. The portal enables patients to view results, communicate securely with their GP, request prescriptions and book appointments.

5. PEOPLE AND CULTURE

Two academic publications – “Why isn’t my Professor Māori?” and “Why isn’t my Professor Pasifika?” – recently received national media coverage.

Māori are under-represented in the UC academy. Among the New Zealand population, 15% identify as Māori, including 9% of Cantabrians. By contrast, only 3.3% (27 FTE) of UC academics identify as Māori, compared with 5% across the sector.

UC programme “Kia Ngaringari” financially incentivises hiring managers to prioritise suitable Māori candidates but it has had only limited success. One inhibiting factor is that iwi and other organisations are competing for similar candidates. Another is that the pool of suitable Māori candidates is limited; recruiting a Māori academic staff member invariably means they are transferring from another university. Recognising this, the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors’ Committee recently approved a sector-wide learning and development programme for current and prospective Māori leaders. It will soon consider a combined proposal for the eight universities to develop an internship programme for Māori postgraduate students who are interested in an academic career. Our Senior Management Team is also considering a similar local initiative in an attempt to grow the numbers of potential candidates for academic roles. Alongside these programmes, our student recruitment teams are working hard to further increase the diversity of our student body, including the numbers of Māori and Pasifika scholars.

In the general population, 6% of New Zealanders have a Pasifika background. So the Pasifika community is relatively better represented nationally among academics, at 5% of workforce. However, at UC only 0.68% (5.5 FTE) of academic staff identify as Pasifika. Many of the same factors that inhibit a growth in Māori staff also apply to the Pasifika community. In addition, 93% of New Zealand’s Pasifika community live in the North Island. Nevertheless, there is scope for UC to improve. The programmes that are being developed to increase UC’s Māori staff numbers, once they are underway and then assessed for effectiveness, could also be used to increase Pasifika numbers.

5.1 Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Alongside UC’s internal review of procedures after the 15 March event, the Ministry of Education released a KPMG report to all Canterbury schools and early childhood centres on 19 August. The report highlighted some learnings and opportunities, including for schools and early childhood centres to:

- review their lockdown procedures
- have multiple communication methods
- review the accessibility of their emergency supplies
- consider a default emergency message in multiple languages.

UC had reviewed its lockdown procedures soon after the incident, soliciting feedback from childcare centre staff, parents and campus security. This review identified most of the matters raised in the KPMG report.

Some changes were made to our lockdown procedures, notably that parents (mostly UC staff or partners) will no longer be allowed into the centre once lockdown has been declared. This change is to avoid compromising the safety of those in the building and has been discussed with parents.

6. LEARNING AND TEACHING

As the end of the academic year approaches, students will be focused on preparing for exams, which commence on 29 October and run for two weeks. That ends the year's study for some but not all. Summer courses begin on 11 November, with over 100 undergraduate and postgraduate offerings from across all colleges. In the summer of 2019/20, over 1,400 students are enrolled – a jump of almost 200 students from the previous two years. Students choose summer courses for a variety of reasons; however, the growth indicates their shared interest in pursuing options outside the standard academic year.

Students who recently graduated from UC have the opportunity to provide feedback on their experiences through the Graduate Destinations Survey. To make best use of the data, a dashboard is being developed to get the immediate feedback to colleges for their use. The opportunity for a first look came for the College of Science Executive in late August and then the College of Business and Law in September.

Academic excellence is made possible through excellent teaching. For our academic staff, Teaching Development workshop planning is underway with a delivery date of content and 'open for registration' for 2020 offerings commencing in December. These are jointly driven by Flexible Learning Advisors and Academic Development. Human Resources will work with and assist Learning Evaluation and Academic Development in promoting teaching and learning at UC across the recruitment, appointment and lifecycle of academic staff.

Children's University

The Children's University team will be running five free campus experience events during the October school holidays for Children's University members. Two will be at the University of Canterbury, two at Lincoln University and one at Ara.

The inaugural graduation ceremony will be held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 20 November at the Christchurch Town Hall. The Minister of Education has been invited to deliver a short speech. The Acting the Vice-Chancellor of Lincoln University and I will also speak at the ceremony.

7. RESEARCH

UC researchers have secured a number of high-value research projects in recent weeks. Professor Steven Ratuva (Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies) has won a Health Research Council award to research 'Enrichment of community health through targeted social protection strategies', while Professor Misko Cubrinovski (Civil and Natural Resources Engineering) has been funded for a 2019 Flagship Programme within QuakeCoRE and Associate Professor Clemens Altaner (School of Forestry) has secured further annual funding under an MBIE Partnerships Programme in collaboration with Forest Growers Research Limited.

The total value of research contracts secured during August was \$2,332,000. A further \$122,000 was secured via consulting contracts.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, with the Research and Innovation Commercial Director, hosted guests and two UC Emerging Innovators at the Kiwinet Commercialisation Awards in early August. The annual UC Innovation Jumpstart Competition has opened applications with a close date in mid-October. This year, the competition is especially encouraging social innovation and enterprise entrants.

An inaugural internal Research Futures Symposium attracted more than 120 registrations and was a forum to highlight the future of digital technologies to support research.

8. POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

The Postgraduate Research Office continues to track doctoral and research master's enrolments and completions. Doctoral enrolment numbers for 2019 are trending lower than in 2018 (which will potentially impact on 2020 doctoral numbers), but for currently enrolled students, submission and completion rates are significantly higher. Conversely, for research master's students, enrolment numbers are substantially up, but completion rates are tracking lower than in 2018.

Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies from all New Zealand universities attended an annual workshop in late August (held in Dunedin this year) to discuss generic issues related to postgraduate education. Interesting points to emerge were: student visa delays remain a major concern for all New Zealand universities particularly around international doctoral recruitment, but visa application success rates are typically better than 95%, with a few notable exceptions; postgraduate growth throughout New Zealand continues but is particularly notable at UC; extra diligence is required around doctoral recruitment due to issues of academic fraud and inflated curriculum vitae; UC has the most advanced digital thesis submission process in New Zealand; the current domestic-fees policy for PhDs has been enormously successful and is a 'powerhouse' of value for international students; and finally all other universities have increased their doctoral stipends for 2020.

9. BICULTURALISM

To celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, "Kia Kaha te Reo Māori" was launched at an opening ceremony on Monday morning. The event was attended by both staff and students and free te reo Māori lessons were offered by Ka Poupou Reo students (Mātauraka Mahaanui, a local Ngāi Tahu organisation). The range of activities offered during the week culminated in a Kamupūtu/Gumboots quiz and games night at the Engineering Core on Friday.

Kaiurungi (Māori Student Advisors) attended Ngā Manu Kōrero, the national secondary school Māori speech competitions, in Palmerston North to promote the programmes offered by the University of Canterbury and encourage students to enrol. Initial feedback indicates that the Kaiurungi engaged extensively with ākonga, kaiako and kaimahi from attending schools.

10. FINANCES

August 2019	Actual Year to Date \$000	Budget Year to Date \$000	Budget Variance Year to Date \$000 Fav/(Unfav)	Budget Full Year \$000	Forecast Full Year \$000	Full Year Forecast to Budget Variance \$000 Fav/(Unfav)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	6,245	(1,615)	7,860	2,080	8,432	6,352
Capital Expenditure	66,074	87,025	20,951	123,637	116,253	7,384
Cash/ Short Term Investments/ Short Term Government Stock	313,372	272,895	40,477	173,363	190,965	17,602

We had been budgeting for an operating deficit as at the end of August 2019 of (\$1.615) million, but have returned an operating surplus of \$6.245 million.

This is a favourable variance to budget of \$7.860 million. This favourable variance mainly relates to \$7.748 million less operating expenses (largest savings are in consultancy expenses, asset purchases <\$2,500, contract teaching, and contract research, partially offset with higher commissions and levies).

Other favourable variances relate to a \$2.850 million reduction in the retiring allowance provision, based on the 30 June actuarial valuation, compared with an expected increase in provision of \$1.500 million that was in the budget, resulting in a \$4.350 million favourable variance; \$1.629 million less depreciation; \$1.344 million more interest income; and \$0.750 million more net profit that was realised in May on the Fire and Emergency New Zealand deal due to lower demolition costs than had been budgeted for.

This favourable variance has been partially offset with unfavourable variances coming from (\$1.440) million less (non-research) income from UC Foundation/Trusts (\$3.780) million less tuition income including SAC, (\$1.303) million less Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) income following recent reassessment of UC PBRF-related performance, and (\$1.205) million less research external income.

We continue to forecast a surplus above budget for the full year. Expected reductions in revenue in relation to international tuition fees and PBRF are offset by improved interest revenue and external research revenue, with savings in personnel and depreciation expenditure.

Capital expenditure is \$20.951 million below budget. To date, \$18.047 million of the expenditure incurred is related to UC Futures (Rutherford Regional Science and Innovation Centre, Rehua, and Canterbury Engineering the Future) against a year to date budget of \$30.979 million, much of which relates to programme delays and final account payment requests yet to be received for the larger building projects.

The August 2019 cash position of \$313.372 million is higher than budget by \$40.477 million due largely to higher than expected balances at 31 December 2018, and lower capital spend.

For further details please refer to the latest monthly financial report.

	Headcount			EFTS		EFTS			
	Applications to Enrol			Actual Enrolment		Full Year Enrolled			
	ATE Enrolment Week: 50 (07/09/2019)			Enrolments (07/09/2019)		Actual	Actual	Forecast (as at June)	Budget
	2017	2018	2019	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2019
Domestic 1st Year	5,205	4,979	6,018	3,597	3,697	3,262	3,662		
Returning	9,771	9,995	10,719	8,576	9,133	8,409	8,704		
Total	<u>14,976</u>	<u>14,974</u>	<u>16,737</u>	<u>12,173</u>	<u>12,830</u>	<u>11,671</u>	<u>12,366</u>	<u>13,022</u>	<u>12,972</u>
International 1st Year	3,278	3,891	4,993	878	913	744	922		
Returning	815	947	1,124	777	911	674	781		
Total	<u>4,093</u>	<u>4,838</u>	<u>6,117</u>	<u>1,655</u>	<u>1,825</u>	<u>1,418</u>	<u>1,704</u>	<u>1,886</u>	<u>2,019</u>
						-	-	-	
Total	19,069	19,812	22,854	13,829	14,654	13,089	14,069	14,908	14,990

2018/19 Budget and Forecast is not calculated down to year at UC.

Enrolment data is based on the same date across years, i.e. 6 Jan vs 6 Jan.

ATE data is based on student headcount and on student citizenship status rather than fee type. Enrolments data is based on EFTS and student fee type (Domestic or International).

‘International’ refers to the students’ New Zealand citizenship/residency status rather than their fee-paying status. Most international students will pay International fees but not all. As PhD students generally pay domestic fees, this table groups them with Domestic Students.

11. MAJOR PROJECTS & FACILITIES

Rutherford Regional Science and Innovation Centre 1 and 2 Programme: Fletchers is addressing the small number of defects on the Ernest Rutherford building that have not yet been remedied, in accordance with the contractual requirements. The main contractor for the Beatrice Tinsley building has increased site working hours in an endeavour to complete works by the end of the third week of September. Every indication is the contractor will be undertaking non-essential Certificate for Public Use (CPU) works after the end of September but this will not put at risk the planned official opening on 1 October or the occupancy of the building that is set to begin almost immediately afterwards.

Canterbury Engineering the Future: The recently installed ECU fan and motor have been removed and returned to Wellington for modifications to meet resource consent by Windsor Engineering, the designers/manufacturers. Reinstallation and resolution of the consenting issues is targeting end of October.

Rehua: The project is complete and is currently within budget. The processes of cleaning and inspecting the fluid viscous dampers (FVDs) initiated by UC are 97% and 58% complete, respectively. Granting of Practical Completion (PC) will follow.

Haere-roa (UCSA building): The building is now occupied and is operational under a CPU. PC approval is targeted for 27 September with no significant issues or key risks likely to frustrate award of PC.

Garden Hall student accommodation: The project programme remains slightly ahead of schedule and within budget. Steel erection is now complete for all six floors on the eastern wing and is well underway on the western wing. Most of the pre-fabricated underlying floor slabs have been installed on the eastern wing and the reinforced slab above them has been poured on more than one floor.

Logie and Locke: On-site momentum has been sustained, with the project on programme for completion of Logie building in October 2019 and Locke building in June 2020. All of the asbestos products have now been removed in the Logie building and both Levels 2 and 5 in Locke.

School of Product Design: The project remains within budget. The final stage will be completed after other College of Science occupants relocate to Beatrice Tinsley in October.

Recreation Centre: Preliminary Design approvals are due in mid-September. Developed design is anticipated to start on 23 September. The project remains within budget.

Low-carbon Ilam boiler replacement project: A final business case, which also considers external financing and sourcing proposals, is being prepared for Council consideration in November.

12. UC LIBRARY | NGĀ PUNA MĀTAURAKA O WAITAHA

The Library's annual Continuing Resources Review process is underway. Comment on cancellation of resources has closed and the Information Resources Advisory Group will meet in September to discuss the new subscription recommendations.

Sixteen artworks were safely removed from the Elsie Locke building in preparation for building remediation work. The works will be temporarily stored until they can be displayed again.

The e-Learning Support team has developed a suite of e-learning and blended learning professional development offerings for academic staff. These complement the existing professional development opportunities offered by Human Resources (Learning & Development), but have an e-learning and blended teaching focus. Completion of these courses will be recognised officially by UC and recorded in PeopleSoft as professional development. The courses offered are: LEARN visual design, creating and sharing learning materials, online assessment, encouraging student engagement online, using teaching space technologies with confidence, web conferencing for learning and teaching and course (re-)design.

13. IT SERVICES | TE RATONGA TAUTOKO HANGARAU

IT Services, in collaboration with the Research and Innovation team and the Library, hosted the inaugural Research Futures Symposium. The two-day symposium included talks and demonstrations on the changing nature of research with an eye on the future, providing an opportunity for researchers to discuss their changing research support needs. The topics discussed will inform the development of IT's Digital Transformation Strategy.

The migration of Oracle Financials to a new environment was successfully completed in August without any disruption to the University's business or staff. This will result in cost savings from September onwards. Over August, upgrades to the Jade Student Management System and the University's website were also completed.

14. COMMUNICATIONS

In August, 50+ media queries were handled, on topics including the LAWSOC Revue, Crusaders sponsorship, academic staff employment and the Extinction Rebellion protests. Other media queries and stories concerned freedom of speech, the Hong Kong protests, Pasifika staff numbers, the youngest UC students recorded, insulin sensor technology, ADHD micronutrient research, coal usage, student failure data, exam timetables, parking, UC Health Centre enrolments, redox flow battery invention, crime rates in Ilam, the Minister of Education's announcement on the Lincoln University (LU)–UC proposal, and weka seed dispersal, among other topics.

An analysis of coverage delivered from 1–31 August 2019 (Broadcast, Internet, Print) found 661 items. This coverage reached a cumulative audience of 13,508,430 and had an advertising space rate of \$2,041,495.

The following UC media releases and news stories appeared in broadcast, internet and print media in August:

- UC leaders resolve to strengthen inclusiveness
- Shameless thief or good forest citizen? Weka bring hidden benefits to New Zealand forests
- UC investing \$2.6m in cutting edge research equipment
- Micronutrients affect gut bacteria associated with ADHD in small but promising study
- Hayden Paddon partners with UC Motorsport to develop a world-first electric rally car
- The future of powering our lives – continuously rechargeable batteries
- Octopus wrestling and short fictions: new book
- Statement on LU UC proposal decision
- Dame Ngaio Marsh's Hamlet script returns to UC
- Canterbury students officially open new home and theatre
- UC Connect public talk: Women on the cutting edge of engineering
- Drone doctor: Measuring whale health from above – new UC research
- Dementia Prevention Research Clinic launches in Christchurch
- UC Connect public talk: Never Say Die – Silicon Valley and the pursuit of immortality
- Award-winning research paper links birthdate with NCEA results

14.1 Engagements with Alumni and Donors

UC Foundation income in the year to date is \$5.5m comprising 1,253 donations from 765 individuals, corporates and foundations. Of this total, \$3.8m has been distributed to projects across the University.

A stewardship event in Auckland for College of Engineering corporate funders took place in August, giving Pro-Vice-Chancellor Engineering Professor Jan Evans-Freeman and I the opportunity to meet with existing partners, celebrate their engagement and support and strengthen ongoing relationships.

Two legacies are currently going through probate – \$60,000 for History and \$460,000 for Fine Arts – with a third of \$400,000 waiting to be confirmed by Wellington High Court. A new supporter has joined the Partners in Excellence society with a legacy pledge in support of the UC Research Endowment.

Supporters to the annual appeal received an impact report in August. UCSA supporters have been invited to see the building first hand at a variety of events and private tours.

I joined the Chalky Carr Trust to celebrate its first Scholarship award, which featured a most impressive student. The event raised UC's profile with the New Zealand rugby fraternity and marked the start of this relationship.

The Golden Graduates afternoon tea is scheduled for this month with over 130 registrations. The event in the UCSA building will be hosted this year by Professor Jan Evans-Freeman and the guest speaker is Sir Colin Humphreys, inaugural Distinguished Erskine Fellow in Engineering.

For Canterbury University Press (CUP), the tender process for the 150 History publication is progressing well. In August, CUP published Ngaio Marsh's Hamlet, The Father of Octopus Wrestling and other small fictions.

14.2 Other Engagements

In August, senior UC women, including the Chancellor and I, hosted the Women in Leadership Breakfast | Ngā Māreikura at UC. Attending were 130 of Canterbury's emerging young women leaders (a 17% increase on last year) to learn from inspiring alumnae and discuss the opportunities available to women at UC.

The new student building, Haere-roa, had its official opening, which was captured across multiple media outlets including The Press NZ, Architectus and Newstalk ZB Christchurch.

I hosted 26 local business and community leaders at a breakfast in the Manawa building to share UC's vision for the academic strategy and how we can bring city and business leaders, and the University closer together for the benefit of our local community. Feedback at the event and subsequently was very positive and engaged.

UC hosted three conferences in August. The two on-campus conferences (AUC2019: Workshop for Analytical Ultracentrifugation and New Zealand Institute of Forestry Conference – ANZIF) attracted 135 delegates in total from across New Zealand.

15. COLLEGE SUMMARIES (PROVIDED BY PRO-VICE-CHANCELLORS)

College of Arts / Te Rāngai Toi Tangata

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College of Business and Law / Te Rāngai Umanga me Te Ture

Colleagues welcomed Ms Ruth Ballantyne, newly appointed Senior Lecturer in Family Law to the College this month. A Barrister and Solicitor of the NZ High Court, Ruth was formerly Professional Practice Fellow at Otago University Law School. She has published extensively on New Zealand Family Law and policy, and has specific research interests in surrogacy, children's rights, domestic violence and child poverty.

UC Business School received the MYOB Education Partner of the Year award at the tech company's 11th annual Australia and New Zealand Partner Connect Gala Dinner on 23 August in Melbourne. This award celebrates an education partner that has gone above and beyond to help its students succeed in 2018/19. UC students have been involved in the MYOB IT Challenge hosted by the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship since 2016. Members of the MYOB leadership team, including CEO Tim Reed, also are guest lecturers at the Business School.

The Law School hosted a delegation of 28 Thai judges on Monday 26 August led by Mr Anuwat Mutikakorn, Chief Justice of the Central Criminal Court for Corruption and Misconduct Cases. The visitors attended a presentation from UC academics on the rudiments of common law, as well as features of New Zealand private law and the structure of NZ criminal law, process and evidence.

College of Engineering / Te Rāngai Pūkaha

The University's first Distinguished Erskine visitor Professor Sir Colin Humphreys CBE, FRS, FREng, FIMMM, FInstP, will spend two weeks at UC giving lectures to a range of audiences and delivering a UC Connect lecture. Sir Colin is well known in the United Kingdom for his spin-out companies based on blue LED technology, and the current Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the College carried out joint research projects with him prior to arriving at UC.

The Standards and Accreditation Board of Engineering New Zealand has formally confirmed this month that all of the Engineering degrees that applied for re-accreditation in 2018 have been approved for further accreditation for the next six years. We would like to acknowledge the considerable amount of work that many people in the relevant departments have done in contributing to this excellent result.

At a recent event in Auckland for supporters of the College of Engineering, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, many attendees offered further support either by way of equipment donations or scholarships for recruitment events such as our annual WiECAN event for Year 12 girls. We are busy following those up and planning for sponsors' recognition.

Staff in the Civil Engineering Department are going to assist a New Zealand surveying consultancy company with re-measuring the gradient of Baldwin Street in Dunedin after the street recently lost its world's steepest street title to a road in Wales.

College of Education, Health and Human Development / Te Rāngai Ako me Te Hauora

The College's annual Graham Nuthall Prestige Lecture was a resounding success. This year's guest speaker Amorangi | Professor Angus Macfarlane provided the audience with a thought-provoking and inspiring lecture entitled "The evolving passage of culturally responsive pedagogies: restlessness, resoluteness and reason".

The School of Teacher Education and Centre for Professional Practice and Partnership hosted 35 primary principals from across the region for our annual Primary Principals' Day. The principals have the opportunity to meet the current cohort of graduating students and undertake early recruitment of new teachers. The event was very successful, with principals acknowledging the quality of College graduates.

The Child Well-being Research Institute has secured \$734,165 from the Rātā Foundation for a two-year research project focused on supporting young children's oral language and self-regulation ability. The project, to be led by Associate Professor Brigid McNeill, will involve working directly with early childhood teachers from across 30 early childhood centres in Canterbury to support children from lower socio-economic areas. A key outcome will be the development of an online professional learning and development resource that can positively impact professional learning long beyond the period of funding.

This month, the College's morning gathering for karakia and waiata was filmed by the UC Marketing team to use as part of the University's promotional package. The morning gathering is an opportunity for staff and students to build manaakitanga, and supports our journey in developing bicultural competence and confidence.

College of Science / Te Rāngai Pūtaiao

In the Ernest Rutherford building, the College is pleased that the final defects in the PC2 laboratories on level 4 have been corrected. Staff are currently completing the relevant Ministry for Primary Industries training and we expect full PC2 operating compliance to be confirmed by the Ministry shortly. A further issue has unfortunately been discovered in the level 5 PC2 laboratories. We are currently working with Learning Resources to rectify the situation. Staff continue to exercise patience as we resolve the issues.

A notable staff moment in the last month has been the Royal Society's appointment of Professor Matthew Turnbull, Head of School of Biological Sciences, to be the New Zealand representative to the International Union of Biological Sciences. This appointment is a significant recognition of Matthew's leadership and wisdom not only in his own field of plant biology, but also more widely across the broader discipline. The College congratulates Matthew and wishes him all the best in his work in representing New Zealand in this role.

16. VC Activities

Past	
29 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with St Kentigern College Principal and Head of Student Futures in Auckland • Attended Auckland Engineering Alumni & Donor Dinner
30 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Juliet Gerrard, Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor, in Auckland • Professor Derek McCormack, VC of Auckland University of Technology (AUT), hosted a UC delegation (myself, Catherine Moran and Keith Longden) at the AUT South Auckland Campus.
3 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened the UC Early Career Academic Workshop and attended its networking function
4 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Graham Nuthall Lecture
5 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened Career Development Association of New Zealand Conference • Attended a meeting of the Tertiary Education Alliance with David Murdoch, Professor Bruce McKenzie and Tony Gray • Attended Ōtākaro Stakeholder meeting
6 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the UC Admin Length of Service Celebration • Visited Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research with Professor Wendy Lawson
11 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chancellor and I met with senior staff at Lane Neave with regard to the law firm's sponsorship of UC's Gala Dinner • Attended the UCSA International Fashion Show as part of Diversity Week
16 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended an event hosted for the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme
18 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Linda Noble, CEO of Governance NZ on campus • Met with Andy Kai Fong, Principal of Haeata Community Campus • Attended Westpac Champion Business Awards
19 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Governance Oversight Group meeting
Future	
24 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with the new Chief Executive of Antarctica NZ, Sarah Williamson
2 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Beatrice Tinsley building opening
3 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Kashere, Nigeria
6 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending UNESCO NZ Youth Forum Closing Ceremony
9 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Hon Grant Robertson at School of Fine Arts
10 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Universities New Zealand Vice-Chancellors meeting in Wellington
16 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Alumni Speaker Series in Dunedin
17 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Royal Society New Zealand Research Honours Dinner in Dunedin
18 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Professor Harlene Hayne, Vice-Chancellor at Otago University
21 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending opening of the Medbury School Foundation Building
22 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting Liberty Oberlander (ACU) on campus
23 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending UC Gala Dinner
24 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing welcome at the School of Biological Sciences Annual Biology Conference • Meeting with President of New Zealand Association of Counsellors
25 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking at the Institute of Directors breakfast event