

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT TO UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2017

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1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Examinations are over, marking is progressing, Graduation is just around the corner and summer school is about to start. Before we break for Christmas we hope to achieve practical completion of CETF and RRSIC Stage One and close out accounts for both projects. That will mark a significant milestone in the history of UC. Applications to enrol for 2018 are ahead of this time last year and external research income and philanthropic support for UC are likely to achieve record levels. Revenue is ahead of budget, costs have been contained and a challenging but realistic budget for 2018 and forecast for 2019, in line with the targets in the Crown Funding Agreement signed in 2014, reflect the efforts and achievements of many people over the past seven years.

Transformation and growth now dominate our agenda, with 2018 seeing the planned completion of the final stages of response and recovery.

2. <u>STRATEGIC MATTERS</u>

2.1 UC Futures

New Zealand now has a new Government and UC has taken the initiative in writing a briefing for our new Minister of Education, the Hon Chris Hipkins, and the Associate Ministers, the Hon Kelvin Davis, (Māori Education), the Hon Jenny Salesa, and the Hon Tracey Martin. The briefing outlines the nature and substance of the UC Futures Crown Funding Agreement, which is the agreement signed in September 2014 for additional funding to support the recovery of the University. It also outlines the University's good progress in defining UC's graduate outcomes, growing student enrolment, financial recovery and the transformation of learning spaces at UC which has been able to be achieved through our rebuild.

2.2 Rutherford Regional Science and Innovation Centre (RRSIC)

UC eagerly awaits the completion of Stage One of the RRSIC project as construction closes and commissioning nears its end. The project team are reporting overall construction progress to be at 99%, the fit-out at 96% and commissioning at 85% complete at the end of October. At this stage, we are anticipating a construction completion date in early December. The College is fully prepared to move in, with work on Chemistry an important early step.

Stage Two of this project has hit a delay, with the asbestos removal process taking longer than expected, while UC and key regional and government agencies work out how best to ensure that the demolition waste is adequately and cost effectively removed and dumped. This will increase costs and may delay the construction programme for the replacement building to be known as Beatrice Tinsley.

2.3 Canterbury Engineering the Future (CETF)

On Friday 10 November, the Minister of Research, Science and Innovation, acknowledged the opening of the rebuilt Engineering Precinct at the annual Chancellor's Dinner. This auspicious occasion was attended by the UC Council, some SMT members, College of Engineering Te Rāngai Pūkaha Pro Vice Chancellor and heads of department along with donors, and their partners. The dinner was held in the Engineering Core with students still studying in the areas around the atrium as the dinner progressed. The Engineering CORE is a new facility which occupies a space that was once an underutilised grassed quad, and now forms the heart of the Engineering Precinct. Students and staff from across the University are now using it to socialise, study and meet.

Although not all wings are complete, and Mechanical Engineering has yet to begin its reoccupation of the building, UC is planning the close out of the entire construction project this year.

October saw the practical completion for the whole of Tranche 1 (Electrical and Computer Engineering, Chemical and Process Engineering and the Engineering Core).

UC has now rebuilt or remediated over 70% of the Engineering Precinct through the CETF project and earthquake remediation. This represents over 30,000 m^2 of space for the College of Engineering Te Rāngai Pūkaha.

2.4 Rehua completion and commissioning

As the summer break approaches, so does the relocation of the main parts of the Henry Field library across to the central library. The library has careful plans for both the relocation and for continuing support for the College of Education, Health and Human Development in the interim before the College moves to the Ilam Campus.

The Rehua construction project continues to be behind schedule, but with 180 to 190 workers on site and the fit-out construction now active on all floors, there is steady, if slower than planned, progress. However, façade installation continues to produce issues around time and quality. A nine point plan was developed to resolve UC concerns, and if Hawkins adheres to the plan, quality concerns will be resolved. In addition, lack of weather tightness is impacting the fit out programme, with some small areas still not watertight and unable to be fully fitted out.

2.5 Graduate Attributes

Core Attribute: Critically competent in a core academic discipline of their degree

Learning Objective: Students know and can critically evaluate and, where applicable, apply this knowledge to topics/issues within their majoring subject.

Across 2017, there were a range of course and programme developments both at undergraduate and post-graduate level. While the Graduate Profile is aimed at the undergraduate degrees, it was pleasing to see all new course proposals referencing the graduate attributes, including core academic discipline, across all course and programme proposals submitted. A wide range of programme reviews were conducted throughout 2017. Alignment with the Graduate Profile was explored in all the reviews and was explicit in the terms of reference of the undergraduate reviews. The end of 2017 will see the pilot of a workshop on Authentic Assessment that will align with the graduate profile and offer high-impact assessments.

At the conclusion of the UC Futures Programme, UC undergraduates will, in addition to mastering a core discipline, be: Biculturally Competent and Confident, Employable, Innovative, and Enterprising, engaged with the community (Community Engagement) and Globally Aware In our reports to government, there were two major milestones identified for the Graduate Profile: that 50% of all programmes be reviewed by December 2016 and all pilots completed, and that 100% of programmes be reviewed by December 2018. In October 2016, we reported that 67% of programmes had been reviewed. An additional four programmes were reviewed in 2017 with the remainder scheduled for 2018. Programme reviews continue and are now 75% complete; the Bachelors of Teaching and Learning (both Primary and Early Childhood) were reviewed last month. The Bachelor of Sports Coaching will be reviewed in November.

Attribute 1: Employable, innovative and enterprising

Learning Objective: Students will develop key skills and attributes sought by employers that can be used in a range of applications.

Throughout 2017, students have had numerous opportunities to be involved in a range of employable, innovative and enterprising activities. Students from across all Colleges took part in activities through the University Centre for Entrepreneurship including a cross-disciplinary 'boot camp' within a corporation, with legal experts and business people mentoring, to develop innovative solutions to complex problems. UC students took part in the MYOB IT Challenge nationally, placing second and third, and students across UC had an opportunity to take part in a course for aspiring directors with the Institute of Directors.

Within the curriculum, new course proposals submitted through Colleges and the Academic Board explicitly addressed employability with introduction of assessments and activities like professional communication and writing and engagement with employers and community partners.

Attribute 2: Biculturally Competent and Confident (BiCC)

Learning Objective: Students will be aware of, and understand the nature of biculturalism in Aotearoa New Zealand, and its relevance to their area of study and/or their degree.

There were several major developments in 2017 with regard to the BiCC attribute. Having mapped the attribute across the degrees, there was a focus on delivering the attribute explicitly. In 2017, there were new courses developed (e.g. SCIE 101) or trialled (e.g. BUSN201) and regulation changes to degrees to ensure the kaupapa are addressed (e.g. introduction of a general schedule for the BA). The professional programmes continued to excel in this area with external reviewers and employers noting the unique addressing of the Bicultural Competence in the teaching degrees in particular. The Office of the AVC (Māori) have lead the implementation with ongoing advice and delivery of professional development programmes. New to 2017 was the workshop in Culturally Responsive Pedagogy which will continue into 2018.

Attribute 3: Engaged with the Community

Learning Objective: Students will have observed and understood a culture within a community by reflecting on their own performance and experiences within that community.

In June 2017, the framework for Community Engagement was approved through Academic Board. Course developments across UC include identification and addition of activities involving community engagement such as students interviewing members of a community to understand various impacts in a range of disciplines (e.g. health and health policy, and science) and students engaging in community projects. In addition to existing courses in Community Engagement (e.g. CHCH101, GEOG 309), relatively new courses in Community Engagement are being developed and delivered (e.g. TEPI 230).

In the co-curricular space, over 1100 students have registered for the Co-Curricular Record. The Student Volunteer Army remains highly active with several events throughout the year including at Southshore Spit and in the Port Hills. The UC Community Engagement Hub offered a range of activities including having CHCH 101 students mentor high-school students through a Christchurch City Council grant.

Attribute 4: Globally Aware

Learning Objective: Students will comprehend the influence of global conditions on their discipline and will be competent in engaging with global and multicultural contexts.

In June 2017, the framework for the global awareness attribute was approved by the Academic Board. That was followed by the physical establishment of the Centre for Global Experience in the Karl Popper building. Students have ongoing access to tutorials through the UC Global Experience hub to prepare for student exchange. Workshops are available for staff through one-day 'Cross Cultural Interactions' workshops where staff can develop cross-cultural 'skills' for daily exchanges with students. UC also co-hosted Professor Shanton Chang from the University of Melbourne who delivered a talk related to understanding digital literacy from an international perspective. In the curricular space, Colleges are identifying where their programme focusses on global awareness and global perspectives and examining ways to make it explicit.

2.6 International

The International Relationships Office (IRO) visited 13 universities in China in October with a view to establishing new recruitment pathways there. It will also visit a further 16 Chinese universities in November. From these visits, a group of universities will be selected for further cooperation.

The IRO is developing a strategy and preparing promotional materials to increase UC's share of MFAT-funded New Zealand Scholarship students, and is launching a telephone based call-out conversion initiative for full fee students leading into Semester One.

2.7 International Growth Strategy

International student applications and enrolment for 2018 are well under way, and year-on-year comparisons of active applications show an almost 25% reduction in the number of incomplete applications. This reflects our continuing focus on improving the quality applications we are receiving from students with offshore agents. UC has a particular emphasis on its 'target markets' such as the US, India, China and Malaysia. Full offers of place to international students are up by 28% and conditional offers by 17% year on year.

UC's simplification of documentation requirements and the GPA review are beginning to show positive effects on UC's valued recruitment agents.

3. <u>CHALLENGE</u>

Promote an inspirational and innovative learning and teaching environment, recruiting and retaining students, raising standards and enhancing student success.

3.1 Marketing

Social media activity continues to be high, with good engagement across Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat and Twitter. Student takeovers and promotions (Spring, Halls of Residence, and giveaways) have driven growth. The Online WCMS phase III project continues with all Colleges live and the mega menu now launched. Google AdWords has experienced good growth as have video views and the response to banner advertising. Total online results (clicks, likes and video views) are up 97% year-on-year.

Twenty-five new UCME students have been recruited for the 2018 campaign. Student stories are being collected and photos will be taken in the New Year. Summer school and Enrol now campaigns have been in market and are due to run until December. Campaigns have also been in market for the College of Arts and the Schools of Law and Business. Online interactions measured by clicks and video views are up 96% year-on-year.

Development of specific 'brand stories' for the College of Education, Health and Human Development, the College of Engineering and the School of Law are almost completed. This has involved interviews with students, staff and alumni. A suite of videos will be implemented progressively– the Colleges of Arts, Science and Business have been completed.

Final work has been completed on the Calendar. The Publications team is now focusing on 2018 brochures and prospectuses.

3.2 Liaison

The Manager, Future Students, and two of her senior team members met with College outreach coordinators, or those who perform this function, and their managers from Science, Business, Engineering, and Education, Health and Human Development. Meetings are yet to occur with Law and Arts.

These meetings have discussed the effectiveness of 2017 activities and look ahead to 2018 to identify:

- specific Liaison support for College activities identified for recruitment;
- customisation of College involvement in less-relevant UC-wide events;
- events that might be re-targeted at a different age group or region to address school feedback.

The Senior Engagement Coordinator (Partnerships) held three focus groups with Year 12 and 13 students from Riccarton High and Burnside High to get their feedback on how they use the undergraduate prospectus. This information will assist in the content for next year's edition.

3.3 Admissions

The Admissions team is now back to capacity in preparation for 2018 enrolment.

A cross-unit collaboration between a team member from Admissions and the Enrolment Support and Training Coordinator has resulted in an electronic admission assessment process where assessments are sent to, and returned from, departments using JADE agendas. A successful trial was run and is ready to be implemented with departments and Colleges, significantly reducing time in processing admission assessments.

Other Team Members have been helping the Student First project, particularly with Domestic and Academic Equivalent Standing (AES) students.

The Admissions team has been working on Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade – New Zealand Aid (MFAT – NZAid) student applications. Offers of place have been sent to 20 students, with a further 25 under consideration. More applications are expected.

3.4 Enrolment

October was a good month with a number of highlights, including the enrolment of a new cohort of Executive Development Programme (EDP) students. Great planning by the College and programme co-ordinators, along with excellent communication between the College, Enrolments and Student

Finance streamlined the enrolment process, leading to less stress for staff, and a good first experience for the students.

Enrolments have been liaising with Lincoln University on how to improve the enrolment experience for students enrolling in joint qualifications such as Masters of Disaster, Risk and Resilience. An agreement is being drafted, whereby each university will be able to enrol a student based on evidence (passport, visa and insurance) and certified by the other university. This will mean the student will not have to go through the same process twice.

Going forward, the Enrolments team are working with the College of Education, Health and Human Development on streamlining the enrolment process of CANTEACH students, and are preparing for International Enrolment 2018.

3.5 Scholarships

Forty-three postgraduate level scholarship offers closed in October including the UC Doctoral and Master's Scholarships where over 250 applications were submitted. An additional 35 primarily postgraduate level scholarship offers will close in early November.

All school leaver scholarships that closed on 15 August have been offered to students, including offers to reserve candidates.

Planning is under way to address government changes to first-year fees and the implications for scholarships that pay for fees in the first year. This will affect scholarships funded centrally, within Colleges and funded by donors. An interim measure is likely for students beginning in 2018 who have already received their scholarship offer and a longer-term strategic solution will be developed for scholarships affected by the policy changes.

3.6 Accommodation

All first-year halls are now full with equivalent of 10% over offers and a waitlist. Historically all waitlisted students have been offered a place between now and the beginning of Semester One.

Campus Living Villages (CLV) is offering a fully-catered option at Sonoda for those students who did not receive a place at University Hall. A total of 36 students have signed a contract, with another 35 offers to be confirmed.

The operating agreement for CLV to manage Waimairi Village, Graduate House and 12 Kirkwood Avenue was submitted to CLV for comments by the end of November. The current intention is to sublease Waitakiri rather than place UC students in that accommodation in 2018.

Marketing photos were taken at the show home for the new Dovedale 1 development, now officially named Hayashi. Forty-three of the ninety rooms have already been contracted.

Work on the Kowhai blocks is progressing with a re-scoping of work and transfer of liability to CLV in relation to cladding and copper piping being agreed to facilitate completion in time for 2018 enrolment.

Early engagement with Rochester and Rutherford to clarify understandings of access to land on the corner of Homestead Lane and Ilam Road for early development for additional student accommodation took place in the last month.

Requests for expressions of interest from prospective developers, funders and / or operators of student accommodation on University land were sought this month.

	Applications to Enrol (Headcount) ATE Week 7 (18/11/2017)			Full Year Enrolled Students				
				2015	2016	201	7	
	2015	2016	2017	2018	EFTS	EFTS	Forecast (as at Oct)	Budget
Domestic 1st Year	1,869	2,818	3,069	3,254	2,974	3,254		
Returning	2,265	2,267	2,305	2,752	8,079	8,104		
Total	4,134	5,085	5,374	6,006	11,053	11,358	11,672	11,906
International 1st Year	2,109	2,427	2,815	2,799	445	607		
Returning	130	135	141	182	433	527		
Total	2,239	2,562	2,956	2,981	878	1,134	1,414	1,415
Total	6,373	7,647	8,330	8,987	11,931	12,492	13,086	13,321

3.7 Contact Centre and Shared Services

Shared Student Services are currently updating 2018 Fees on the website to improve the student experience of being able to estimate their fees, together with updating the Enrol web pages to be more student focussed and friendly.

The Student First programme released in October has been successful. The Student First team is using the Contact Centre team as an additional resource to correct any issues that arise.

3.8 Student Success

3.8.1 The Disability Resource Service

Disability Resource Service (DRS) staff have been supporting the Examinations team in coordinating a record number of students accessing special consideration arrangements for the end-of-year examinations. The 819 students requiring special examination arrangements mid-year has increased to 930 students needing support that includes reader/writer support, utilising a separate room or sitting exams with few others outside of the main cohort, use of ergonomic furniture, enlarged text, reformatted examination papers or extra time to complete examination papers.

About 370 DRS registered students utilised these services in more than 140 courses of study throughout the University. The examinations department now require 35 specialist exam supervisors and uses up to 25 separate rooms per day to accommodate students who require special considerations within the exam period.

The DRS has experienced a record number of students accessing the service in 2017. By the end of the 2016 academic year it had 565 registered students, compared to 640 registered students in 2017. This represents a growth of 13.2% year-to-date. Advisors are starting to re-register students seeking support from DRS for 2018.

3.8.2 Student Experience

Emerging Leaders Development Programme

A group of ten Emerging Leaders Development Programme (ELDP) alumni have been appointed as the ELDP Student Executive for 2018. The group comprises five returning executive members from 2017 and five new executive members from the 2017 ELDP recipients. A total of 40 applications were received for the ten places for 2018. The new Executive has completed a team bonding session and conducted initial planning for 2018.

Their training will resume in February with a series of training days. A total of 900 students were considered for the 2018 ELDP Scholarship and, of the 96 offers made, 84 have been accepted, with twelve still to confirm.

Go Canterbury (GC)

Recruitment of the 2018 GC Student Leaders took place in October. Twenty-eight applications were received, seven from current leaders and 21 from the 2017 GC recipients. Twenty students were interviewed for the twelve positions. Four of the twelve were Student Leaders in 2017.

2018 Go Canterbury events planning is under way, and while the majority of these activities will remain the same, several changes are being made to increase attendance and make the activities more achievable for all GC students.

UniLife

Fourteen of the UniLife students will be transitioning to the UC Mentoring and Tuākana programmes in 2018. Eight UniLife Leaders were recruited for the 2018 programme from a total of 28 applicants.

Based on feedback from students and leaders, some tweaks are being made to the programme to ensure an even better experience. The purpose of the programme is to support local students who do not live in halls to create strong social networks and build relationships during their first year. Changes include training leaders over a two-day intensive session alongside ELDP and Go Canterbury leaders, to build a cohort of highly capable student leaders. Applicants to the programme will also be screened to ensure those most likely to benefit are accepted and engaged, and the leader/student ratio will be lowered to ensure participants receive a high level of support. Feedback suggested students appreciate more small-group activities, so the 2018 programme of events will also reflect that.

Mentoring

Twenty new mentors were interviewed and trained in October. The new mentors include former Certificate of University Preparation (CUP) students to mentor the Semester Three CUP cohort. Mentors attended the advisor sessions and talked about their experience in CUP as well as how to get their own mentor. The College of Engineering Te Rāngai Pūkaha is introducing a mentoring programme for intermediate year students with a cohort of nearly 40 mentors selected for training.

Research Student Orientation

Nine international students attended the October PhD and Master's by Research Student Orientation. The students represented eight different countries including Austria, Chile, Colombia, Nepal, Pakistan, Vietnam, the UK and the USA. Eight students are enrolled at a PhD level, and one in a research Masters. All rated their experience of the session favourably.

3.8.3 Student Care Service

During October Student Care recorded a total of 432 student engagements. More than 200 of these were new student engagements. The Under 18 programme currently has 13 students. In addition, during October the team has been involved in:

- Ongoing staff enquiries seeking guidance about particular students;
- Two International Student Welfare fund applications;
- The ongoing management of critical incidents. Student Care supported the students involved and liaised with services on campus and in the community to manage these situations. The themes involved mental health, assault and harassment;
- Delivering an international student life training workshop for the UCSA;
- Participation in the review of the Student Care Website and preparation for the new team website;
- Orientation for the Emerging Development Leadership Programme (EDLP) new intake.

Student Advisors attended the International Education Association New Zealand (ISANA) workshop in preparation for the Pastoral Code of Practice review.

Student Care has continued to deliver targeted pastoral care to international students. With the rapid approach of the end of semester Student Care advisors have been completing interviews with the NZ Aid Scholarship students and also final pastoral care meetings within the U18 Student programme.

A meeting of Student Care staff and UCIC reviewed current procedures, aiming to ensure good collaboration and processes between the two services. The Under 18-year-olds' Homestay Guide has now been developed and is awaiting review prior to circulation.

The Forum for International Services Managers meeting in early October provided the opportunity for updates from all international support teams at New Zealand Universities. Development Officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Scholarships team gave an update on the current tendering process, reviewing of the current contracts, and the evaluation of the NZ Aid Scholarship Programme to ensure best practice. UC's Student Care team participated in the evaluation of the NZ Aid Programme during October.

The Student Care team also contributed to the review of the Pastoral Care Code of Practice, considering the policies and processes in place for international students particularly in the areas of safety and wellbeing, student support, advice and services for under 18-year-olds. UC is on track for its self-attestation by 1 December.

3.9 Pacific Development (PDT)

3.9.1 UC Pasifika Strategy Work.

The Acting Director visited Auckland University at the beginning of the month talking to Pasifika staff around their work with Pasifika students, with a particular focus around transition programmes. AU also has a five week summer 'Uni-bound' programme that is free to Maori and Pacific school leavers. Designed to prepare students for success at University, the programme includes field trips, a short stay in University hostels and course advice. It was interesting to note how Pasifika support staff are placed within their institution. The visit has helped shaped PDT's thinking around the best way forward for Pasifika development at UC.

The Acting Director and the Kaiārahi Pasifika presented on the progress of the Pasifika Strategy at a College of Arts Te Rāngai Toi Tangata staff forum on 25 October. Emphasis was on the College engagement with the Pasifika strategy. Questions at the end of the session and suggested strategies indicated genuine concern and interest in engaging effectively with Pasifika students.

The Ako Project working group also delivered a three hour workshop to Pasifika Advisory Groups from UC and ARA Institute in early November. The workshop provided a clear picture of what was happening for Pasifika students in both campuses and how advisory groups can further enhance this focus.

Resources from the Pasifika resource kit are in their second iteration and the website where Pasifika resources for staff will be located is in development.

Retention

The PDT held Student study sessions each day of exam study week from 10am to 4pm to encourage Pasifika students to use the week wisely. The sessions were very successful with 40 plus students attending throughout each day, and students were very grateful to have a Pasifika space to study in.

The final Mature Students event was held and the programme for the year was evaluated. Adult students were very grateful for the events and indicated that it did make their UC student experience better. These Mature student events will be repeated next year.

Student advisors have had heavy demand from students needing help with circumstances beyond their control affecting their studies, and have had a number of serious cases to help resolve.

Throughout October UC and PDT also celebrated Tuvalu, Fijian, Niuean, and Tokelauan language weeks.

Recruitment

The UCMe XL Holiday Programme was run at the beginning of October, attracting 100 plus students every day for two weeks. The programme continues to grow and has outgrown its normal venues and staffing. It is likely next year's programme will need to prepare for this increased popularity.

3.10 Student Experience

3.10.1 Visits and Memberships

October saw 28,893 turnstile visits to the RecCentre, for a year-to-date attendance of 250,440 (excluding casuals and group bookings). This keeps the RecCentre on track to hit around 280,000 attendances for 2018.

Memberships as at 31 October were at ~8,473, of which ~7,925 were UC Students.

3.10.2 UC Sport

UC Blues awards were held on 7 October, for the first time recognising arts and community engagement as well as sport. Sixty-one students received awards recognising their extracurricular achievements. An article is available at <u>https://blogs.canterbury.ac.nz/insiders/2017/10/13/uc-blues-awards/</u>, with the full list of recipients online at <u>http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/sport/blues.shtml</u>

4. <u>CONCENTRATE</u>

Enhance research and creative work in chosen areas of endeavor; increasing efficiency, especially in the use of time in teaching and related activities per EFT; raising quality in teaching effectiveness and research outputs; and increasing focus and concentration of effort.

4.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor

4.1.1 Academic Services

January represents the quietest period of the academic cycle in the University. However, the lead up to it is far from quiet, with examinations in full swing throughout November for both students and staff. Following the immediate course marking, are the examiners' meetings, academic progress meetings, and Graduation. It is a high pressure programme for Colleges and Centre staff. Academic services will coordinate over the coming weeks the Academic Progress round and the consequential student interviews.

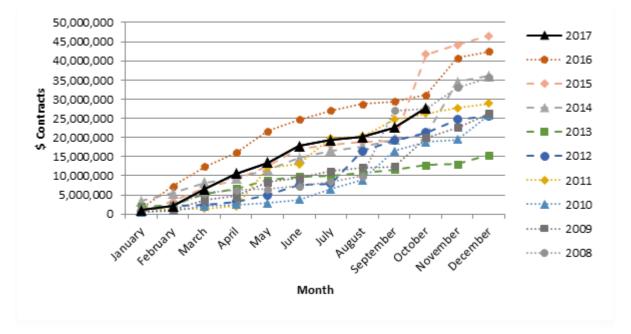
It is also a busy period with the Round 2 CUAP proposals and Graduating Year Reviews hitting their final submission into Universities New Zealand processes. Funding approvals for new programmes from TEC often occur in the week leading up to Christmas leading to urgent activity from UC to enable enrolment.

Academic Services are supporting special programmes including summer school and STAR over the coming weeks. Enrolments in summer courses appear to be largely in line with last year. This is a positive outcome given a degree of uncertainty that the incoming "free fees for 1st year students" government policy has generated, given that a number of the other NZ universities are reporting a decline in the November/December intake with students waiting for 2018.

The Institutional Research team are in full swing with data analysis of the UCPEQ (UC Postgraduate Experience Questionnaire) and GDS (Graduate Destinations Survey). It is pleasing to have been able to collect the student and alumni voice and to be able to share this in the future. Patience is requested on this front as a long-term strategy for resourcing capability in this area is worked through.

4.1.2 Research Funding

R&I are managing 389 research contracts, worth a total value of \$137.8M. In 2017 year to date, 169 contracts worth a total value of \$27.6M have been executed, and 54 contracts worth at least \$15.4M are pending (i.e. in the process of being executed). UC holds 58 National Science Challenges contracts worth \$21.5M and 44 CoRE contracts worth \$27.1M (with 10 NSC/CoRE contracts pending, worth \$1.3M pending).



4.1.3 Research Development

UC has commenced an internal process to identify groups of researchers, who form "criticalmass", and are strongly represented in national research collaborations, as potential credible TECfunded Centres of Research Excellence (CoRE) for the anticipated 2019 bidding round. Currently TEC funds over \$50M per annum to run 10 CoREs, with UC participating in 9 of these. However, UC currently only hosts QuakeCORE, and the university is planning to develop proposals that could result in new CoREs being hosted at UC.

Planning is ongoing for developing and registering UC's portfolio of proposal ideas for the 2018 MBIE applications for "Smart Ideas" and "Research Programmes" funding.

4.1.4 Research Reputation

Royal Society Te Apārangi have announced a number of new RSNZ Fellows from across New Zealand as peer recognition for outstanding scholarship and research. Professor Rick Millane from the College of Engineering Te Rāngai Pūkaha, has been awarded this honour, joining a list only 39 other University of Canterbury current or previous UC academics who have been awarded a prestigious RSNZ Fellow.

UC has maintained its 5 Star Rating by QS Rankings, scoring 5 stars across the categories of Employability, Research, Internationalisation, Facilities, Innovation, and Inclusiveness, and 4 stars for Teaching. Further, Time Higher Education rankings has ranked UC as 151-175 for the subject of *Clinical, pre-clinical & health*, and 201-250 for the subject of *Life sciences*.

A pan-university action plan to improve UC's QS Ranking has been developed and will be further honed by the Research Committee and Academic Board in the coming weeks. Some actions are already in-train with the aspiration of improving QS rankings 20-30 places over the next 2-4 years.

Associate Professor Sonja Macfarlane (School of Health Sciences) is the 2017 recipient of the prestigious Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti award, for her significant contribution to Māori education through her research.

UC Emeritus Professors John Blunt and Murray Munro have again been named as authors of a pharmacology and toxicology paper that is in the top 1% of papers receiving the most citations in 2017.

UC researchers have been awarded eleven Marsden grants in the 2017 award round (including Fast Start awards), with a total award value of \$6.4M. The UC recipients are:

- Kevin Watson, NZILBB/Linguistics "Towards an improved theory of language change: understanding the covariation of linguistic variables within and across speakers".
- Peter Gostomski, Chemical and Process Engineering "Removing nitrate from contaminated water using methane. Which microbes are doing the work?"
- Chris McGann, Civil and Natural Resources Engineering "A hybrid 3D-1D framework for site-specific seismic response analysis".
- Brendan Creutz, Mathematics and Statistics "Brauer groups, degrees and rational points on algebraic varieties".
- Charles Semple, Mathematics and Statistics "The Combinatorics of Reticulate Evolution".
- Mitja Remus Emsermann, BIC "Using synthetic communities to visualise bacterial plant leaf community development and pathogen invasion processes at the single-cell resolution".
- Elissa Cameron, Biological Sciences "Does mother know best? Mothers, fathers and sexual conflict in sex allocation".
- Jason Tylianakis, Biological Sciences "A bird in the bush with the data at hand: predicting ecological networks using traits and phylogenies".
- Alison Downard, Chemistry "Tailored environments for highly active and stable electrocatalysts".
- Daniel Price, Gateway Antarctica "The solution to the Southern Ocean's sea ice mystery its thickness".
- Anna Faye McLeod, Physics and Astronomy "The impact of massive stars on the lifecycle of galaxies: tracing massive star formation feedback in the nearby Universe".

4.1.5 Postgraduate Research

Postgraduate research student numbers have increased slightly in October with current PhD numbers at 1,102 and Masters thesis student numbers are 682. Highlights for the month include:

- Fifteen new PhD students enrolled in October all of whom were international students. A further 15 completed their examinations successfully while 20 PhD students submitted their theses for examination.
- Spring Gradfest ran for a week from 30 October 3 November. Gradfest is a week longseries of free sessions for Postgraduate Research students to provide them with additional skills and information. It is a joint effort between the Academic Skills Centre, the Library and the Dean of Postgraduate Research. This was the biggest Gradfest run to date with 40 seminars, talks and workshops, with a record attendance of over 200 students attending sessions.
- The Deans of PGR and Director of the Confucius Institute of UC attended the annual China Scholarship Council (CSC) PhD recruitment fairs in four Chinese cities during October. CSC provide PhD scholarships for four years for Chinese students to attend overseas Universities. Over 111 Universities attended from 20 countries. UK, and Australia were particularly well represented. Approximately 8500 potential students attended the fairs and approximately 30% more enquiries were received than last year.

4.1.6 Innovation

UC's Commercial Director and two Business Development Managers attended the recent world conference on Precision Agriculture, held in Hamilton and attended by 600 people from all around the world.

Several emerging themes were highlighted which have direct applicability to UC's research capability and potential commercial applications. Broadly, these can be summarised:

(1) The need for transforming data into information and knowledge, including; big data and data analysis; sensors, including large scale, satellite based, spectral sensing of crops and pastures and livestock sensors; and, data and decision support systems.

(2) The development of automation and robotics around crop harvesting, smart irrigation systems, and smart fertiliser systems.

(3) Developing healthy foods/sustainable products, including niche marketing in high value products, value enhancement, manufactured foods based on plant proteins, and managing ecosystems.

UC is already involved in some projects around these themes and has the capability to develop further, new, research programs in this space and clearly links to UC's development of a "primary industries" initiative for consideration by Council in 2018.

The conference further emphasised the current shift in the primary sector towards more research and development around technology, rather than pure science, which plays to UC's strengths in the relevant technologies outlined above.

4.2 Office of the AVC Māori

The major change in the last month is Darryn Russell's secondment to the role of Acting Executive Director, Learning Resources, for the period of November 2017 to March 2018 inclusive, while Alex Hanlon is on leave. Liz Brown is now in the role of Acting Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori for this period.

4.2.1 Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora staff professional development programme

The 2018 dates for Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora have been organised and sent to Learning and Development. The 2018 dates include general and tailored sessions. Colleagues should register their interest for early 2018 dates by sending an email to LearningDevelopment@canterbury.ac.nz

4.2.2 Te Ohu Reo

Mary Boyce, Jeanine Tamati-Elliffe and Lisa Beardsley have been working with the SharePoint consultants on a database and process tool for handling Te Ohu Reo requests. This work was completed in October and the new system is being explored and tested. Once this initial period of testing is over, the tool will provide an improved way of managing, tracking and completing requests. It is pleasing to note that the majority of requests are now arriving via the online form.

Te Ratonga Ākonga Māori - Māori Student Development Team

There are now 1,216 Māori students enrolled at UC, which is significantly above pre-earthquake numbers.

The Māori Student Development Team (MDT) has updated publications for 2018 and is in the process of updating the <u>http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/maoristudents/</u> webpages.

As pre-enrolment has now opened, MDT are receiving enquiries and visits from prospective students. At 15 November 2017, there are 284 enrolments for 2018, which is an increase on 2017 enrolments.

The Celebration for Māori Graduates will be held in the Engineering Core on Thursday 14 December 2017 and invitations have been sent to colleagues and confirmed with graduating students.

4.2.3 Māori Outreach and Recruitment

The Outreach and Recruitment Advisor continues to carry out detailed planning with Liaison colleagues for 2018, as well as for tailored programmes for Māori students in 2018. The final Ekea Year 10 programme for high school students was held on 8 November. Michelle Bergman will be part of the UC presence at Hui-a-Iwi at Tuahiwi marae next week, which is an excellent opportunity to present UC to many Ngāi Tahu rangatahi and whānau.

5. <u>CONNECT</u>

5.1 Communications and Engagement

Engagement Data			
Intercom	Open rate 40.5% (International benchmark = 21.8%)		
Insider's Guide (student newsletter)	Open rate 48.08% (International benchmark = 21.8%)		
Twitter	Ranked fifth for Twitter engagement.		
	5,620 followers		
Stakeholder Newsletter	869 Recipients		
	Open rate 41.1% (Sep: 38.9%) industry average 16.9%		
	Clicks 6.8% (Sep: 8%) industry average 2.2%		

5.2 **Project Communications**

A Think First campaign was trialled on social media with significant success. Previously, the highest number of Think First views on the student blog was 500. For this campaign each Think First post received between 1,500 and 1,800 views on Instagram, and almost 1,000 on Snapchat. The two channels will be used again for Think First activities in 2018. Work is now under way on Think First Orientation day activities.

The Capital Works website was updated and future-proofed for transfer to the new Web Content Management System (WCMS) for go live at the end of November.

Significant UC map updates for the start of the 2018 year, including directory boards, print and online versions and UC Finder App are progressing.

Filming for an induction video for sub-contractors who will work on the UCSA site was completed. The UCSA is now editing and producing the final version of the video.

Content for the Alumni bequest programme brochure is now at the design stage. Two case studies for inclusion in the brochure have been completed.

5.3 Media

October coverage of UC-related topics was again overwhelmingly positive.

Professor Julia Rucklidge's research linking nutrition and mental health again gained media attention. There was also significant coverage of Sir John Key officially opening UC's new trading room, and UC environmental chemists urging caution in using the Red Zone for food production. Coverage also resulted from a suggestion by new Ilam and Upper Riccarton Residents Association chair Phil McGoldrick that UC students were turning Ilam into a Dunedin-like slum; a claim rejected by both students and Dunedin residents.

An analysis of coverage produced in September (Broadcast, Internet, and Print) found 581 items. This coverage reached a cumulative audience of 13,416,381 and had an advertising space rate of \$2,951,124.

5.4 External Engagement

To finish the 2018 UC Connect public lecture series, both October lectures were very well attended. On 11 October, Professor Conan Fee explained how product designers will shape the world, and on 18 October, the Royal Society Te Apārangi launched its 150th anniversary national lecture series celebrating women's scientific discoveries, with UC academics Sally Gaw and Tammy Steeves giving a joint UC Connect public lecture – "Protecting taonga – a conservation geneticist and an environmental chemist will talk about their work protecting Aotearoa's natural treasures". Both lectures attracted significant media coverage.

5.5 Stakeholder Relations

The final 2017 Community Meeting on 2 October was well attended and residents' issues around student behaviour and the upcoming Tea Party events were discussed. The 2018 UCSA president Josh Proctor was introduced to the community at the meeting.

5.6 Events and Partnerships

In early November, 98 Year 10 Māori students from six schools joined us on campus for Ekea! – a half-day programme where students from Canterbury high schools participate in fun activities that help them discover how their interests can relate to future opportunities and where their NCEA subject selections can lead. Initial feedback from rangatahi is that the highlights were "learning new things", and "meeting new people". Their visit to Te Ao Mārama included the kahoot quiz which was also mentioned repeatedly as a highlight.

Combined this year with the prestigious Chancellor's Dinner and UC Council Awards was the Canterbury Engineering the Future (CETF) completion celebration. Some 146 of UC's supporters joined some senior staff to celebrate the success of medal winners and celebrate the new Engineering facilities. The Minister for Research, Science and Innovation, the Hon Dr Megan Woods, an alumna, officially opened the facilities.

In early December, UC's final recruitment event will be held. UC Bound is a conversion/welcome event for future students and their whānau, who have been through course planning in the Christchurch and Canterbury area. This event is to be an icebreaker event, allowing potential future students to meet other students from the Christchurch/Canterbury area who are planning to study in the same College as them. The objectives are for attendees to feel welcomed onto campus, become familiar with UC surroundings and meet staff and potential students so there are familiar faces in 2018. The target is to attract 200 participants.

This year the Events and Partnerships team has delivered, supported or provided advice for more than 170 events on campus. Its biggest success has been finding ways to operate more efficiently, freeing up resources and time for higher value activities and reducing overall costs. Examples of this include:

- Using Eventbrite for event registrations, including conference payments.
- Developing the Open Day app more than 2,300 people downloaded the app and it was accessed more than 27,000 times.
- Running event tasks lists on web-based software Asana, so information is real-time and can be shared across the university.
- Trialling the sending of invites via the web-based 'Paperless Post' for VIP events.

The team is also particularly proud of the growth in attendance numbers for Orientation Day, up 60% on 2016.

Planning for 2018 events is under way, specifically: Orientation Day, the Commemorative Cycleway opening (22 February), RRSIC Stage One – Ernest Rutherford (TBC), Rehua (TBC) openings, Employer Careers Fairs, Update Days for Careers Advisors, the Dovedale Residential Accommodation opening - Hayashi (TBC), Year 13 Discovery Day and UC's major recruitment event, Open Day.

5.7 UC Foundation

	Income	Distribution
2016 Year End	\$8.6m	\$4.1m
2017 Target	\$9.5m	\$4.5m
2017 YTD	\$7.0m	\$7.5m
Total since 2001	\$74.0m	\$40.0m

	Donors	Gifts
2001 to date	7,525	24,515
2017 to date	848	1,142

5.8 UCFA (US)

October visits to Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York provided excellent opportunities for donor stewardship of four major donors and cultivation of prospects. The California wildfires meant a day of meetings was lost. US\$205k was received in the US charity in October (and is not included in above figures). Appeal mailing for UCSA to US markets is being prepared for early November posting. It is likely we will have a new President of the UCFA in 2018, as David Teece looks to pass the baton following a period of strong leadership.

5.9 NZ Trust (UK)

Alumni from Scotland visited on 20 November, looking to establish a scholarship for disadvantaged students to come to UC (possibly via the Bright Start endowment). More information on the Government's free-fees policy and its implications will be key to the discussion.

5.10 Fundraising

The recent PwC audit noted key person dependency on the UCF accountancy role and we will be working with Finance on implementation of a more robust process for implementation in 2018. The Trading Floor opening, organised by Events and Partnerships and hosted by the College of Business and Law Te Rāngai Umanga me Te Ture saw excellent engagement with industry, predominantly alumni, which the College will look to leverage.

A meeting with the Rata Foundation confirms the UCSA building project is through to the final five projects for consideration – with a decision expected 4 December. The Lotteries decision on funding towards the UCSA Building is expected on 29 November.

5.11 Stewardship

Bright Start scholarship letters were well received by donors, resulting in the securing of additional gifts. Communications with donors to undergraduate, first year fees scholarships show no concerns of withdrawn funding due to the new Government's fee-free announcement, with donors happy to wait for advice from UC on how their funds can support first year living costs or later years' tuition.

5.12 Alumni

The 30 Year Reunion for those enrolled in the mid-1980s held at the Great Hall sold 90 tickets and established a Silent Auction. Profits from the event will support the UCSA building. Over \$30,000 was raised from this event. The Alumni team is supporting the MBA alumni group with its inaugural meeting at the end of November and is working with the College of Education, Health and Human Development Te Rāngai Ako me Te Ha, planning for the 2018 Graham Nuthall lecture.

Wellington and Auckland alumni events are coming up, with invitations sent. Updating the Alumni database and resolving lost contact information has proved successful. The Alumni 'Heroes' campaign has 15 confirmed alumni to feature and Alumni Legends campaign has been reviewed and updated by Communications and Engagement, with work under way to celebrate these alumni on the UC website.

6. <u>ENABLERS</u>

Efficient, effective and sustainable use of the human, physical and financial resources available to the University

6.1 Staff matters

The annual General Staff Remuneration Review was completed recently. Overall increases, including automatic step increases under the Collective Agreement, were constrained to 1% of total remuneration of eligible staff.

Thank you also to those staff who lead and supported this year's academic promotions process, including Heads and promotions committee members.

Staff on our collective employment agreements, or on individual agreements with the same terms and conditions as the collectives, will receive a 2018 increase of 1.9% p.a. This is the CPI figure for the year to 30 September 2017 and is in line with the agreement reached with the TEU covering the three year period 2016-2018. The current agreement is up for negotiation in the middle of next year.

6.2 Health, Safety and Wellbeing

A new staff webpage brings together the many policies and programmes that UC provides to help staff look after their own wellbeing, and to support each other's wellbeing. It is entitled "UC and Me – Our Wellbeing and Benefits Partnership" and can be found in the Benefits section of the HR Toolkit.

6.3 Infrastructure

Detailed project reviews are contained in the appendix.

It is now assumed Fletchers will proceed through final account processes under the contract rather than seek a full and final lump sum close out. Similarly we expect Hawkins to complete final account processes following practical completion in respect of CETF. Naylor Love are on programme for within budget delivery of the Dovedale accommodation blocks. Extension of time claims and cost claims are expected from Dominion arising from asbestos in von Haast. Leighs are on time and budget for UCSA.

Downer (ex Hawkins) spending rate remains below that consistent with programme delivery in late February 2018, the current programme completion date which we assess to be at risk. During the month the VC, Executive Director of Learning Resources and Director of Capital Works met with the NZ Managing Director of Downers and senior Downer Executive to review programme management.

October 2017	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)*
Total Operating Income	294,192	293,064	1,128	351,050	356,714	5,664
Total Operating Expenditure	291,747	298,951	7,204	360,170	356,977	3,193
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	2,445	(5,887)	8,332	(9,120)	(263)	8,857
Net Surplus/(Deficit) as a % of Total Operating Income	0.8%	2.0%		(2.6%)	(0.1%)	
Capital Expenditure	143,353	190,379	47,026	205,980	180,000	25,980
Cash/ Short Term Investments/ Short Term Government Stock	267,475	146,957	120,518	138,268	236,845	98,577
Working Capital	196,179	99,821	96,358	107,074	182,811	75,737

7. Financial Outcomes: (Management Accounts to 31 October 2017)

* A variance enclosed in brackets indicates an UNFAVOURABLE financial variance e.g. income is less than budgeted income OR expenditure is greater than budgeted expenditure.

Actual Total Operating Income is favourable to budget as at October 2017. This overall favourable position is due mainly to favourable variances in research external income and interest income. This has been partially offset with unfavourable variances to budget in tuition fees and Government grants. Actual Total Operating Expenditure is favourable to budget. This favourable variance relates to operating expenses, depreciation and total personnel expenses. At least \$4.076M of this variance relates to reduced building depreciation due to capital programme delays.

We had been budgeting for an operating **deficit** as at the end of October 2017 of (\$5.887)M, but have returned an operating **surplus** of \$2.445M. This is a favourable variance to budget of \$8.332M.

Capital expenditure is currently \$47.026M below budget. \$105.792M of the expenditure incurred to date is UC Futures related (CETF, RRSIC, and Rehua) against a year to date budget of \$135.073M. At this stage of the year the remaining capital spend (excluding UC Futures), against budget, is favourable by \$17.745M. While UC Futures projects are expected to complete by 31 December, other projects are being delayed and the forecast capital expenditure for the year was reduced to \$180.000M in the July forecast.

The current full year forecast is for Revenue to exceed budget by \$5.7M (including \$4M of insurance proceeds from EQC) and Operating Expenditure to be under budget by \$3.2M leading to an outcome \$8.8M ahead of budget and an operating deficit of \$0.3M. Year-end adjustments and valuations will impact the final result.

7.1 Cash Flow

The October 2017 cash position of \$267.475M is higher than budget by \$120.518M due largely to higher than expected balances at 31 December 2016, maturing term deposits, and failure to meet budgeted capital expenditure expectations. Adequate short term cash reserves are being held to meet expected capital costs for all mainstream projects.

Forecast cash flows including the Government's financial support now show no immediate requirement to borrow in the next three years. However, careful husbandry of balances will be required in 2018 and 2019, with capital and operating expenditure needing to be closely managed.

TEC, who must approve all borrowing under the Education Act 1989, have provided a borrowing consent, of which a key condition is that once UC is required to borrow more than \$65M an independent advisor will be appointed who will advise on the financial risk to the Crown and assist the UC Council in managing financial risk.

There are no specific additional MOE covenants, but the Funding Agreement with the Government sets out certain financial targets to be reported to the Governance Oversight Group (GOG) appointed under the Funding Agreement. The University's achievement for 2016 was within the ranges set and 2017 full year forecasts are also within target ranges.

7.2 Working Capital

Working capital¹ of \$196.179M at 31 October 2017 is \$96.358M more than budget, mostly due to the higher cash balance explained above partially offset by lower other current assets.

8. <u>COLLEGE SUMMARIES</u>

8.1 College of Arts (Te Rāngai Toi Tangata)

Members of the College have been successful in receiving a number of awards recently. Principal investigator Donald Matheson and associate investigators Chris Thomson, Paul Millar and Ben Adams, have been successful in the National Science Challenges 'Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities' category. Their project, "Understanding Place: Computational Tools for Harnessing the Meanings of Nature in Urban Landscapes" was awarded \$300,000 to help develop innovative, scalable tools to map micro-level cultural data that is currently 'below the radar' of much urban planning and policy.

Kevin Watson, Jen Hay and Lynn Clark (Linguistics) have been awarded a Marsden grant of over \$600,000 for the project 'Towards an improved theory of language change: understanding the covariation of linguistic variables within and across speakers'. Katie Pickles was awarded the 2017 James Cook Research Fellowship by the Royal Society Te Apārangi, one of only three New Zealand researchers recognized for their sustained research excellence. Katie will be supported to undertake her research for two years, examining heroines in modern global history. She will research what these exceptional individuals reveal about women's changing roles and status over the past 200 years, focusing on Aotearoa New Zealand.

Planning is well underway for the Oceanic Memory: Islands, Ecologies, Peoples conference, which the College is hosting at UC Arts (our Arts Centre city site) from 30 November to 2 December. Organised in conjunction with the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, the UC Pasifika Development Team, Massey University, the University of Otago, and the Memory Research in Aotearoa Network, the conference seeks to address the complex politics of cultural memory in the Pacific from a variety of critical perspectives. In addition to the conference proper, the event also includes a postgraduate master class with the plenary speakers, and a free evening of Pasifika performance and poetry, held in the Papa Hou space at the YMCA in Hereford Street.

For the longer term, Head of the School of Music Glenda Keam, in her role as NZ delegate to the International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM), has presented and secured New Zealand's formal bid to host the ISCM festival and meetings in April 2020 in Auckland and Christchurch. There are plans to link this to a festival for the Asian Composers League in Christchurch at the same time. This will be a landmark event for music in New Zealand, and reflects the growing profile of the UC School of Music in fostering contemporary music.

Sabine Will has been appointed our new marketing and outreach coordinator, and will take up the role in early December, and Chris Jones is taking up the role of Dean (International) and will also coordinate the PACE programme. Replacement positions have been approved in the Departments of Social Work and Human Services, and Global, Cultural and Language Studies, and we will be advertising these shortly.

More examples of the wide range of scholarly and cultural activities undertaken by the College are listed in our weekly newsletter, Arts Update, available at the following link: <u>http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/arts-news/archive/arts-update/</u>

8.2 College of Business and Law (Te Rāngai Umanga me Te Ture)

Alongside examination marking, academic staff recruitment is a current focus of activity for several colleagues. Interviews are underway for two new Lecturer roles in Law. The Business School has four new academic roles advertised, and recruitment is underway for a new Business Manager role in the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship. Meanwhile, Jamie Collins, (Sam Houston State University, Texas) has been appointed as UC Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation and will join UC in February 2018. His arrival will further strengthen the Business School's teaching and research strength in this area and provide additional support for the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship.

The Law School hosted its annual Hotung Visitor for 2017, Sir Geoffrey Vos, Chancellor of the High Court of England and Wales, who delivered a public lecture in the evening of 18 October, followed by a dinner attended by local judiciary and law faculty staff. More recently, on 2-3 November, the Dean of Law, Professor Ursula Cheer, attended the meeting of New Zealand Law Deans and also of the Council of Legal Education in Wellington. Once again, the meetings endorsed the ground-breaking longitudinal study being led by Canterbury Law School on the state of Teaching and Well-being at Canterbury, Auckland, Waikato and now also Victoria Law Schools.

In the Business School, around 20 postgraduate students in the Accounting, Taxation and Information systems disciplines participated in the second annual ACIS Postgraduate Conference on 25 and 26 October. Eight papers were presented by honours, masters and doctoral students and a panel discussion was conducted. The papers ranged from tax compliance and religiosity, and among trade apprentices and students, through neural networks, sales taxes on imported goods and owneroccupied housing, Chinese accounting in the early 20th Century, to corporate social responsibility from the world's largest gold mine to the Amungme and Kamoro peoples in West Papua. A faculty panel comprising Adrian Sawyer, Michael Falta, Anushia Inthiran and Markus Milne aired issues around doing research and being a researcher.

The UC Centre for Entrepreneurship has had another busy month supporting enterprising UC students:

- In February 2018, UC Law and Commerce student, Daniel Chan will represent New Zealand as part of a four-person business consulting team at the Heavener International Case Competition at the University of Florida. Twenty teams from across the world will compete in several business cases during the week.
- Two UC students, Evie Wallace and Nic Steyn, will represent the University of Canterbury in India this month as part of the NZ-India Sustainability Challenge. Evie will join a team from Delhi University with their project to use garbage to create electricity. Nic will join a team from Manipal Institute of Technology with their project VaxiBead, an innovative health platform to store vaccination data of children.
- Global China connection's Annual Awards were held last month at Dux Central in Christchurch City. Three students were announced as the Shanghai Shout winners, each selected to undertake a fully-paid internship in China this summer. Hugh Baird was selected for Fonterra, Brooke Leonard for Westland Milk, and Emily Barker for New Zealand Tourism.
- The fifth Summer Startup Programme was launched at EY Christchurch for the 2017/18 summer on 24 October. 30 students across 26 ventures have been selected from a range of year levels and disciplines, including six PhD candidates and four Masters students. During the Launch, EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2017 finalists, Jamie Bennett and Patrick Broadbent (Snap Rentals), and category winner, Will Lomax (Onguard Group) provided an insightful panel discussion about their very own startups. The Programme kicks off at the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship on 20 November 2017.

8.3 College of Engineering (Te Rāngai Pūkaha)

The College is pleased to see that the ATEs and accepted offers show that School of Product Design may be exceeding its targeted numbers in year one of its existence, 2018. The Engineering and Science Annex building is being modified to house the new School with innovative design for both the inside and the outside of the building. Plans are now being drawn up for 2019, when years one and two will be running, with increased EFTS. Potential academic staff are currently being interviewed resulting in several opportunities to appoint very able candidates across all three majors.

Next year, for the first time, the College will have a Dean (Intermediate), another tool to assist with enhancing the student experience in the Intermediate year. This is a very large cohort, and students can feel a bit lost before they join specific departments in year two. The first Dean (Intermediate) will be Professor Philippa Martin, who is passionate about the experience that the diverse student body has at UC. She and others have planned a series of engaging event in the Core in 2018 to maximise Engineering's new facilities whilst improving the experience, and thus the retention rates of Intermediate students.

The PVC and the College Dean (International) were involved in welcoming approximately twelve delegates/ambassadors from several countries as well as other distinguished guests to the College of Engineering. They were here for the Antarctic season opening season but also wished to see the new facilities within Engineering, as well as progress on the RRSIC. They visited the Engineering Core and were taken to the HiTLab to see some examples of how the University is developing future technologies. Their visit was initiated by the Christchurch City Council because they are interested in showcasing Christchurch as a centre of innovation.

On 8 November the College participated in the EKEA Year 10 Maori Student Event, hosting students from local schools to show them pathways into university in a fun, interactive and engaging way. The aim of the event is to inspire them to continue taking science and maths subjects at school and make them aware of what engineering is.

In light of new legislation and other concerns, the College has decided that increased compulsory PPE (specifically safety footwear) for students will be required in some labs throughout Engineering from 2018 onwards. Departments are currently identifying the respective areas and these will be communicated. Once these areas are confirmed, any staff or visitor entering those areas will also be required to wear the relevant PPE.

A main concern at present is that the delivery of the Mechanical and Civil wings is seriously delayed by Hawkins. This has impacted Mechanical severely as they currently have no access at all to some of their equipment. Civil are occupying about two thirds of their wing but the Fire Lab is not open yet. The Rehua delay has impacted Forestry, as the Centre for Entrepreneurship is still in the Forestry Building, but Forestry also need the space.

8.4 College of Education, Health and Human Development (Te Rāngai Ako me Te Hauora)

The College has hosted a series of successful events in the last month including the Better Start National Science Challenge Literacy Symposium with outstanding keynote addresses given by Professor Laura Justice (Ohio State University) and Lynne- Harata Te Aika (Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu). The two day symposium included a range of research presentations from the UC Better Start Science Challenge team and attracted over 250 attendees. In the following week the College also hosted the Flexible Learning Spaces Symposium where a sold-out audience enjoyed Professor Anne Sliwka's (University of Heidelberg) keynote address sharing insights into OECD findings on innovative learning spaces. The College, in conjunction with the Office of the AVC Māori and Te Rū Rangahau Māori Research Laboratory, also hosted an extremely successful and very wellreceived Māori Research Colloquium. The event was well-attended by educators, practitioners, Māori and Indigenous community leaders, and senior University staff. Highlights of the day included two keynote addresses - the first from illustrious Māori educator and leader Sir Toby Curtis (Ngāti Rongomai) who was welcomed at the mihi whakatau by preeminent Māori leader, Sir Tipene O'Regan (Ngāi Tahu). The second keynote was delivered by Dr Lana Leslie, a Kamilaroi woman from Western Sydney University. Both addresses were challenging, thought-provoking, and spoke to the heart of Indigenous histories and ways of knowing.

On November 6, the College held its first full-day College Postgraduate Student Showcase, an event established to celebrate the postgraduate research that has been conducted since the College has been based at the Dovedale Campus and to continue as an annual event in Rehua. The day concluded with an uplifting keynote from Adjunct Associate Professor John Freeman-Moir on the topic 'The Worth of a Doctorate'.

Simon Arnold and Tony Baird have recently returned from a worthwhile trip to China where they met with key education partners and officials in Chengdu, Nanchang, and Fuyang to promote UC as an education destination, explore potential MoUs and delegation visits, and discuss student exchanges and shared programmes.

Their return trip via Japan included with a short visit to Sonoda Women's University, and a follow up visit to Tokyo City University regarding the Tokyo City University student Semester Study Abroad project.

8.5 College of Science (Te Rāngai Pūtaiao)

As UC approaches the off ramp for 2017, the College is very pleased about the signals coming through in the weekly reports on numbers of applications to enrol to study in the College. As of 11 November, nearly 16% more domestic student Applications to enrol (ATE) had been received than at this time last year. This is an extremely pleasing result, which is attributable to our new products and especially our new 180 point Masters degrees, refreshed collateral focused on post-degree career pathways, a range of new and/or invigorated high-profile outreach events (including our online I Love Science competition run in conjunction with the Neil deGrasse Tyson tour), and a swathe of other initiatives that are now bearing fruit.

As part of the Executive's work in EFTS growth, the patterns of enrolments in our core undergraduate degree – the BSc are being observed and a fairly substantive piece of market research work commissioned. At the Executive Planning Day on 2 November, we received the results of that work. The process of digesting and action planning is ongoing, but this work provides very useful insights that will inform a range of actions at College level – and hopefully at UC level. For example, this work shows that students choose a BSc before they choose a university at which to study: which means that the College needs to target prospective students in a way that reflects that process.

The College is also very excited about recent research funding successes, and in particular the Marsden Fund results. Six out of eight proposals that made it through to the second round were funded, which is an excellent success rate at that stage. Three of those six were Fast Start grants of \$300k to early career researchers – Anna McLeod of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Daniel Price of Gateway Antarctica, and Mitja Remus-Emsermann of BIC/Biological Sciences. The three standard Marsden awards - with values ranging from \$853k to \$940k - were to more established researchers: to Jason Tylianakis and to Elissa Cameron, both of Biological Sciences, and to Alison Downard of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences

The College is of course eagerly anticipating the imminent move – or rather, the imminent start of a carefully planned process of moving - into Ernest Rutherford, which will begin later this month. As this finally becomes a reality, attention now turns to unresolved next steps, including the specialist science workshops that serve the needs of the labs in the building.

Finally, the so-called 'sharing economy' is coming to global science - and the College is engaged, having just secured a second contract to provide scientific services to a third party (a high profile US university) through Science Exchange, an online marketplace that allows scientists to outsource research and scientific analytics to service providers who have equipment or expertise they lack. Science Exchange was founded in California in 2011 by a group of entrepreneurs including New Zealander Elizabeth Iorns. NASA, Shire, Marck, Genentech, Sanofi and many top tier research institutions and universities are amongst their clients. The College is planning to grow its engagement with this non-traditional pathway to international collaboration and international revenue.

9. <u>Conclusion:</u>

While Government has yet to confirm who is eligible for free tuition in 2018 and how institutions will be paid in lieu of student tuition fees, there can be no doubt that eligible prospective students will face lower actual and perceived financial barriers to accessing a UC qualification. That is, unambiguously, a good outcome for students eligible for that support. All students eligible for loans and allowances will benefit from the higher rates to be implemented for 2018.

This is the final Vice-Chancellor report to Council for 2017. It is an opportunity to express appreciation for the support Council has provided to University staff over the past year and for me to acknowledge the vast effort and achievements this year. While there has been frustration at the uncertainty and delay around the major building projects, progress in the work around the graduate profile, streamlining enrolment processes, seeking external resources to support research and philanthropic support for a range of University activities has exceeded my expectations. Increased enrolments this year in all Colleges for both domestic and full fee students and levels of applications to enrol for 2018 are reassuring. 2018 promises to see closure on a number of significant projects and increasing focus on our transformation and growth opportunities.

10. <u>Appendices</u>

10.1 Appendix 1: Building Update

Overall

UC Futures projects are experiencing considerable transition particularly RRSIC Stage One (Ernest Rutherford) and CETF as they approach completion and occupancy by UC staff within the next month to six weeks. The numbers of tradespersons on campus are subsequently declining, reducing to between 350 and 400 persons, and will continue to decline by at least another 100 by the end of the year. Work is continuing safely on all sites with no major injuries again reported for the last period.

Campus Construction Safety Group

The Campus Construction Safety Group continues to meet, focussing on the construction projects noting that as projects reach their final stages, larger numbers of new tradespersons arrive on site to complete minor outstanding works and defects as the more site experienced sub-contractor staff move onto other city projects. This requires additional on-site Health and Safety management by the major contractors to ensure new arrivals are properly inducted and safe work practices and conventions are not compromised.

This emerging issue has been taken from the UC Campus Construction Safety Group to the Contractor Round Table Forum given growing concern and the issue has been acknowledged and is a focus for both the respective Fletchers and Hawkins Health and Safety site teams. A number of discussions at this forum have included Safety in Design and its implications for construction contractors, so over the next few meetings material presenting methodologies in managing issues related to Safety in Design by contractors will be distributed and discussed. An offer by a manager from one contracting company to present to the group members, has been received and accepted to improve awareness.

Current Building Status

Key Progress this month:

Major work

Rutherford Regional Science and Innovation Centre (RRSIC)

RRSIC Stage 1 – Ernest Rutherford

The Construction Programme status as follows:

- Baseline Practical Completion date 10 April 2017
- Contract completion date 2 May 2017
- <u>Current forecast Practical Completion date 21 November2017</u>

Programme delay is largely due to delays in commissioning of services as completion of building works is achieved across all floors and to the exterior of the building. Occupation for UC will be in late November. Moving the teaching labs being the first priority to achieve a Semester 1, 2018 start. UC are closely monitoring the works against the current completion programme with an emphasis on the contractor ensuring critical building activities in advance of commissioning are being met.

On site works are as follows:

- Carpet and vinyl flooring is complete on all levels and has been covered to prevent damage.
- Rubber flooring completed and protection installed.
- Services installations are substantially complete to all levels.
- Commissioning activities are down to the integrated testing between all systems which is progressing well with limited issues being found.
- Novalab laboratory joinery installation throughout the building continues, with final positioning of loose benches under way.
- Defects inspections by UC consultants have continued with three of the five floors being substantially completed.

The percentage of progress reported by Fletcher at the fortnightly Site Meetings during October is as follows:

- Overall progress on the Construction Programme: 99% (no change)
- Major building works in progress: Building Services 99.5% (an increase of 2.5 percentage points)
- Façade Curtain Wall 99% (an increase of 1 percentage points).
- Interior Fit out 96% (an increase of 4 percentage points)
- Commissioning 85% (an increase of 20 percentage points)

RRSIC Stage 2

• Asbestos still continues to be a major issue with the new requirements on clearance testing that came into force in November 2016 presenting a major impact on programme. Mitigation plans for the demolition sequence can only rescue some of the delay. Initial indications would show a completion of the project some five weeks late at end of January 2019. Solutions to address Work Safe concerns have been proactively managed by Dominion and different methodologies for a quicker and acceptable regime in removal of asbestos from contaminated surfaces are being explored together with alternative dumping sites to reduce overall cost. Laboratory testing continues to inform these options.

Canterbury Engineering the Future (CETF)

Tranche 1

- Practical completion has been awarded for both ECE and CAPE.
- The Engineering Core was handed over to UC on 15th February, 2017 and PC issued on 27 September, 2017.
- The close out of outstanding items within Tranche 1 buildings remains a priority issue, however whilst good progress is being made to complete the list of items a number of them have significant levels of complexity that require multiple actions/resources to achieve close out. These challenges include long lead times for procurement and delivery of redundant items discovered during the commissioning/handover process.

Tranche 2

- Under the conversion of the Hawkins contract to a Fixed Price Lump Sum (FPLS) the University elected to pursue a staged occupancy strategy for the Civil and Natural Resources (CNRE) wing. The following practical completion dates were agreed within the FPLS terms and conditions:
- Fluids and Structures labs 30 June 2017
- Whole of the contract works (balance of CNRE and all of the Mechanical wing) 30 September, 2017.
- The University took occupancy of the Fluids and Structures laboratories on 1 August, 2017.
- PC for the Structures and Fluids labs was issued on 20 October, 2017. The cranes are now in use.
- Finish date for the balance of Tranche 2 is forecast (by Hawkins) to be 27 November, 2017.
- Given the historical trend for significant programme slippage to occur in the later stages of the CETF project the University had already adopted an alternative storage strategy for the decant of Mechanical areas from their temporary space in the Warehouse to the wing. This was driven by the need to handover the Warehouse for the construction of a lecture theatre, to reduce the risk of disruptive works post occupancy and to provide programme certainty for decant activities.
- Currently, a strategy to take occupation of the building no later than 4 December, 2017 is being actioned to avoid considerable disruption to the College and avoid any further delay in use of the wings for teaching in Semester 1, 2018.

Link Reclad

- Some program delay has been experienced, nevertheless Dominion are planning for completion of interior works by 16 November, 2017 and full demobilisation by 8 December, 2017.
- Between 16 November, 2017 and 8 December, 2017 all work will be external to the building and will not interfere with reoccupation or normal use.
- Reoccupation of the building has seen minimal inconvenience by this delay.

Relocation of the College of Education Health and Human Development – Rehua (NEB)

- On site resource levels through October, 2017 are now averaging 180 to 190 onsite workers per day.
- The resubmitted programme rev L.4 is under review by both the Engineer to the Contract and Hinds Blunden in Melbourne. The first version was rejected by the Engineer but the proposed PC date currently presented by Hawkins is 28 February 2018.
- UC works for AV and FF&E installation have been reprogrammed to take place in January and February 2018 given notice of additional programme delay.
- UC storage of recently procured FF&E is being arranged from December, 2017 until the building is ready for occupancy.
- Progress is being monitored weekly by TPO with a report copied to UC and Hawkins, the report provides valuable information to assess progress.
- Whilst the project is currently on budget, the major budget risk is continued programme delay.
- Completion of the external façade remains a critical programme risk with numerous unresolved quality issues and ongoing delays with shop drawings, a matter that has been escalated to Downer Executive management. Hawkins has responded by exercising direct control over the façade subcontractor labour and planning.

- UC contingency plans for delayed occupancy until at least Easter 2018 are well developed in conjunction with the Colleges and the UC Timetabling team, given the lack of PCG confidence in the contractor achieving the program.
- Delays in Atrium glazing and West curtain wall continue to allow water into the building and further delay the fit-out works. The basement that was previously flooded is now drying out and the waterproofing risk in this area is reducing.
- Internal façade panels are now fitted to 90% of the building elevations and façade glazing is 90% complete.
- Fit-out works are proceeding behind schedule across the north and south buildings. First fix fit-out work however, is near completion in both building wings.
- Painting and floor coverings are progressing where spaces are complete.
- Housekeeping and tool test certificates continue to be a challenge on site. However, the incidents reported in October are minor and Hawkins are proactively managing their response to the incidents and the ongoing education of subcontractors.

Other Buildings/ Projects

UCSA – Haere-roa

- The project remains on track for the building to be operational by February 2019.
- Preparation for construction for the concrete ground beams and excavation works below the slab are underway with minor delays which are expected to be absorbed within the project program.
- The Wellness Precinct infrastructure works are progressing well with the first bore underway.
- The Health Centre and new sub-station construction works are now underway.
- The UCSA fit-out design and procurement strategy has commenced.

James Logie and Elsie Locke refurbishment

- The works involved with the refurbishment of the toilets are now complete.
- The team of consultants has been appointed, design work is ongoing. A design team meeting planned for 9 November 2017 finalised the detailed scope, allowing the quantity surveyor to complete their cost estimate.
- The intention is to submit the consent application prior to the Christmas break, with tender information to be issued to contractors in the New Year.

Postgraduate apartments at Dovedale - Hayashi

- All of the structures were completed by the end of October 2017 with exterior cladding and painting now underway and scaffolds being progressively dropped across the site.
- Works during the study and exam period were closely monitored in order to manage noise nuisance to the neighbouring student accommodation.
- Furniture has been procured and a show apartment was completed for photography and tours by the operator and SSAC staff in October 2017. This has now been dismantled so that defects and completion works can continue.
- The townhouses will be completed before Christmas with some landscaping and sprinkler commissioning to extend into mid-January 2018.
- The project remains on programme for occupation in February 2018.

Upgrade of Existing Residential Halls

- CLV have confirmed that they are willing to shorten student contracts to allow the required access period for Connon to be strengthened in the 2018/19 summer period.
- Investigations will be undertaken in the 2017/18 summer period to enable works to be planned.

Warehouse Lecture Theatre Project

- A methodology has been agreed with the Council to ensure that the space will be operational under a Certificate of Public Use in time for Semester 1 2018.
- A contract has been executed with Brosnan Construction Limited for the works and site establishment is underway.
- The critical dependency of the CETF decant being complete, and the space handover to the contractors on the 8 November 2017 was achieved.
- A variation to the contract is being established to include the Sports Labs required under the recently approved Clearing the Villages Business Case, this will not impact the delivery of the Lecture Theatre.

Projects in planning this month include:

- New Learning and Teaching Spaces planning for 2018/2019.
- Communication Disorders relocation.
- NZ Fire Station/Education Centre proposal.
- College of Business and Law growth/accommodation planning.

Date (day/date/month)	Event name	Key goal
Wednesday 29 - Friday 1 December	New Zealand Tertiary Recreation Managers Conference	Conference
Monday 4 - Friday 8 December	International Conference on Computers in Education	Conference
Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December	Geospatial Research Conference (GRC2017)	Conference
Wednesday 6 December	UC Bound: Christchurch	Recruit
Monday 11 & Tuesday 12 December	Climate change in the National Science Challenges / Mitigation research in New Zealand	Conference
Wednesday 13 December	Graduation: Colleges of Engineering and Arts	Engage
Wednesday 13 December	Graduation: College of Education, Health and Human Development	Engage
Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 December	Annual Conference of the Australian & NZ Law and History Society (ANZLHS)	Conference
Friday 15 December	Graduation: College of Science	Engage
Friday 15 December	Graduation: College of Business and Law	Engage

10.2 Appendix 2: Upcoming Events Calendar

2018 Events (February)

Date (day/date/month)	Event name	Key goal
Monday 5 February	Community Meeting	Promote
Friday 9 February	RRSIC and CORE public showcase	Promote
Saturday 10 February	Emerging Leaders Development Programme 2018 Retreat	Retain
Monday 12 February	International Welcome	Retain
Friday 16 February	Orientation Day	Retain
Thursday 22 February	February 22 Earthquake Acknowledgement and Commemorative Pathway opening	Promote
Tuesday 27 February	Late International Welcome 2018	Retain

10.3 Appendix 3: VC Activities

Past	
27 October	Hosted UCSA Exec Dinner
1 November	Met with Paul Viney (CEO Powerhouse Ventures)
1 November	Presented PG PIPs to Ngāi Tahu Holdings Subsidiary Chief Executives
2 November	• Attended UCSA Event to farewell James and Exec team
7 November	Presented PG PIPs to ANZCO
9 November	Presented PG PIPS to Ravensdown
10 November	Spoke at 2017 Chancellor's Dinner
14 November	• Spoke at Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management: Postgraduate Conference at Lincoln University
15 November	Spoke at New Staff Induction
16 November	Chaired the UNZ Committee for International Programmes Meeting
16 November	Hosted Geospatial Research Institute Board meeting/dinner
22 November	Hosted an event for the UC Centre for Entrepreneurship
24 November	Spoke at Careers Advisors and International Directors Breakfast
27 November	Attended Pacific Peoples Advisory Committee (PPAC) and Pasifika Strategy Action Group meeting
Future	
7 December	Attending University New Zealand meeting in Wellington
13 December	Attending Graduation
14 December	Attending Celebration for Māori Grandaunts
15 December	Attending Graduation

10.1 Appendix 4: UC Awards

We are proud to note the following achievements received by those in the UC community.

JANUARY

New Year Honours recipients with UC connections

- John Fiso, ONZM for services to sport, education and the Pacific community.
- Benesia Smith, MNZM for services to the State.
- Catherine Russell, ONZM for services to health and governance.
- Dr David Mitchell, ONZM for services to education.
- Desmond Smith, MNZM for services to rugby and the community.
- Graham Leslie (posthumous), QSM for services to education.
- James Jefferies, QSM for services to local government, theatre and business.
- Emeritus Professor John Frederick Burrows, CNZM, ONZM, QC. Appointed CNZM for services to the State.
- Huei (Lyn) Lim, MNZM for services to New Zealand-Asia relations and governance.
- Maata McManus, QSM for services to Māori and health.
- Vi Cottrell, ONZM, QSM. Appointed ONZM for services to Trade Aid and the Fair Trade movement.
- Stewart Alexander (PhD student in Chemistry), Liam Boardman (studying for a BA in History and Political Science), Catherine O'Donnell-Jackways (BA Law), Alexander Amies (PhD student in Mechanical Engineering) and Jack Hayes (studying for a BA in History and Japanese) won the University Challenge game show. The final was screened on Prime TV in January 2017.

FEBRUARY

- Professor Steven Ratuva won a prestigious Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to carry out research as a visiting professor to three United States universities including Duke University in North Carolina, Georgetown University in Washington DC and the University of California in Los Angeles.
- Dr Regina Eisert was awarded a Pew Marine Conservation Fellowship recognising more than a decade of work protecting the world's oceans. Dr Eisert will analyse the long-distance movements, diet, preferred habitat, and foraging areas of the Ross Sea's largest predators killer and sperm whales during the three-year fellowship project.

MARCH

- Professor Brendon Bradley was awarded the Prime Minister's MacDiarmid Emerging Scientist Prize for his research into the effects of ground-shaking caused by earthquakes.
- Engineering students Jack Hendrikz, Jeremy Walters, Cam Thompson, Reuben Audley, Byron Engler, Sandy Morris, Simon Yip and Frank Sullivan were awarded a prestigious Design Award at the Asian leg of the Shell Eco-Marathon in Singapore.

APRIL

- Pip McCrostie Honorary Doctorate in Commerce
- Dr Julie Maxton Honorary Doctorate in Law
- Peter Holdsworth Honorary Doctorate in Engineering
- Wesley Mauafu received a Youth Champion Award in recognition of his work advocating for and supporting young Pasifika people in the area of wellbeing and suicide prevention.
- Alumnus Lachlan Matchett was named the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) Young Engineer of the Year. He is currently Rocket Lab's vice president of propulsion.
- Science PVC Professor Wendy Lawson won the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards Professional of the Year Award.

JUNE

Queen's Birthday Honours recipients with UC connections

- Emeritus Professor John Hearnshaw, MNZM for services to astronomy.
- The Right Honourable Sir John Key, GNZM for services to the State.
- Dame Peggy Koopman-Boyden, DNZM, CNZM for services to seniors.
- Alan Parris, MNZM for services to mathematical education.
- Anthony Hall, CNZM, MNZM for services to education and sport.
- Beryl Bowers, QSM for services to the community.
- Brian Palliser, QSM for services to the community.
- Clarice Anderson, QSM for services to the blind and seniors.
- Cranwell Bull, MNZM for services to cricket.
- Desmond Ashton, ONZM for services to the New Zealand Defence Force and aviation.
- Graeme Steel, ONZM for services to sport.
- John Maughan, MNZM for services to health.
- Lee Robinson, MNZM for services to the community and sport.
- Lilian Biddulph, MNZM for services to literacy education.
- Linda Webb, MNZM for services to music education.
- Lynda Reid, ONZM for services to education.
- Mary Gavin, QSO for services to women and the community.
- Merrilyn George, QSM for services to education and the community.
- Michael Gorman, QSO for services to the community.
- Richard Madden, QSM for services to music.
- Robin McNeill, MNZM for services to conservation.
- Sally Brooker, MNZM for services to science.
- Timothy Gresson, MNZM for services to law and sport.
- Aisling Rayne (Bachelor of Science with Honours) and Tim van Ginkel (to support doctoral study at UC) both won a Todd Foundation Award for Excellence
- Alison Chamberlain was awarded the 2017 FMB Reynolds Scholarship in Law to carry out postgraduate study towards a Bachelor of Civil Law at the University of Oxford.
- Alexandra Hudson and Caleb Wenborn both won a KiwiRail Scholarship.
- Jessica Davies and Seamus Woods won a William Georgetti Scholarship to encourage postgraduate study.

Fulbright New Zealand Science and Innovation Graduate Award which recognise promising graduates with the acumen to support growth and innovation in New Zealand.

- Hazelle Tomlin, to complete her Master of Environmental Science at Colorado State University.
- Lottie Boardman, to complete her Master of Environmental Management at Yale.
- Paige Thomas, to continue to research the impact of skill training on motor neuron disease at Colombia University in New York.
- Richard Hunter, to complete his Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Award

• Alex Cheesebrough, to study at Duke University.

JULY

• Associate Professor Te Maire Tau received a Blake Leader Award for leadership achievement in New Zealand.

MYOB IT Challenge for innovative business solutions

- Angus Schuler
- Hugh Baird
- Stephan Hofmann
- Fiona Ambler
- Logan Williams
- Prasanth Sasikumar
- Daniel Chan
- Misikuki Pepa and Courtney Joblin won Kupe Scholarships, in both cases a Graduate Diploma of Teaching and Learning (Secondary).
- James Addington and Stuart Robinson each won a Prime Minister's Scholarship for Latin America James to undertake a business internship in Buenos Aires, and Stuart to study a Master of International Business in Latin America.

August

2017 New Zealand Excellence Awards from Education New Zealand were awarded to Indian students to experience New Zealand excellence in the fields of business, fashion and STEM-related programmes.

- Arijit Chakraborty (Pune, Maharashtra) Professional Master of Engineering Geology.
- Jenny Karathara James (Kochi, Kerala) Master of Applied Data Science.
- Selva Ganapathy Ramasamy (Chennai, Tamil Nadu) Graduate Diploma in Business Administration.
- Poonam Saini (Mukerian, Punjab) Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Geology).
- Rushabh Prakash Shah (Pune, Maharashtra) Professional Master of Engineering Geology.
- Prachi Jog (Pune, Maharashtra) Master of Science in Applied Psychology.

Sustained Excellence awards from Ako Aotearoa National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence were awarded to:

- Professor Ursula Cheer, Dean of Law
- Associate Professor Ben Kennedy, Department of Geological Sciences
- Selva Ganapathy Ramasamy and Joyce Chen (EDP MBA programme) were winners in the Scheider Electric global competition Go Green in the City.

Vice-Chancellor General Staff Development Awards:

• Ashalyna Noa, Pauline Luafutu-Simpson, Damian Cairns, Leonie Partridge, Nigel Harris and Stuart Broughton.

Health and Safety Awards

• Catherine Sellin, Julian Farmer, Kirsten Carey, Bryany Joslen, Freddie Jefferd, Pamela Chivers, Sarai Roper and Will Shannon.

September

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's 2017 Endeavour Round success for:

- Professor Andy Nicol, for research into the discovery of petroleum associated with buried volcanoes.
- Professor Antony Fairbanks, for research into the manufacture of structure-optimised homogenous glycoprotein therapeutics.
- Distinguished Professor David Schiel, for research into recovery trajectories of the marine ecosystem from the Kaikōura earthquakes.
- Associate Professor Paul Gardner, for research into building bioinformatic software for controlling protein expression.
- Associate Professor Renwick Dobson, for research into the development of a simple, general and novel assay platform for detecting and quantifying analytes in non-laboratory settings.
- Dr Allan Scott, for research into low carbon magnesium oxide cement and hydrogen manufactured from olivine basalt.
- Ashley Stuart won the Arts and Humanities section at the 2017 New Zealand Top Student Awards. Studying towards a BA in Political Science and History the award recognises Ashley's academic excellence, participation in an internship in Thailand and Model EU in Hong Kong, presidency of Canterbury's UN Youth, and captaincy of UC's A netball team.

October

- Dr Laurie McLay (School of Health Sciences) was awarded the 2017 University of Canterbury Early and Emerging Career Researcher Award. The award recognises emerging UC researchers for the development of their research careers and the contribution they are making in raising the international research reputation of the University.
- Professor Phil Butler, Professor Phil Bones and Associate Professor Steven Paul Gieseg were all part of MARS Bioimaging Ltd which won Champion Producer/Manufacturer small enterprise, Champion Innovation and The Press Champion Canterbury Supreme awards at the 2017 Champion Canterbury awards.
- Associate Professor Geoff Rodgers was awarded the Cooper Award the Royal Society Te Apārangi Early Career Research Excellence Award for Technology, Applied Science and Engineering for design and building innovations to protect against earthquakes.
- Dr Marwan Katurji was awarded a five-year Rutherford Discovery Fellowship for research titled *The invisible realm of atmospheric coherent turbulent structures: Resolving their dynamics and interaction with Earth's surface.*
- Kevin Hannah received the 2017 Bevan Werry Memorial Speaker award for his contribution to mathematics in New Zealand.
- Dr Ursula Rack was awarded the New Zealand Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship. Dr Rack will travel to the USA and United Kingdom to investigate the preservation of their Antarctic histories and identify practices that may be utilised in New Zealand.
- Mechanical engineering students Arianna Ryan, David Cleary and Jamie Sommer won the international Warman Design and Build Competition in Sydney. The competition involved designing and building a machine that could perform a difficult specified task.
- Professor Katie Pickles was awarded a James Cook Research Fellowship by the Royal Society Te Apārangi on behalf of the New Zealand Government. She will use the fellowship to examine heroines in modern global history and women's changing role and status over the past 200 years.

New Zealand Postdoctoral Fellowships were awarded by the Royal Society Te Apārangi Rutherford Foundation Trust to:

- Dr Robin Lee, for research titled Earthquake-induced ground motion prediction: Realising the paradigm shift from empirical relations to physics-based simulation methods.
- Dr Daniel Preston, for research titled Building bigger and better cages: a novel approach to large and complex molecules. (Dr Daniel Preston will be starting at UC in the coming months.)
- Professor Tim Bell was awarded the 2018 SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education.

November

Eleven UC academics were awarded Marsden Fund research grants. The successful applicants were:

- Dr Anna Faye McLeod The impact of massive stars on the lifecycle of galaxies: tracing massive star formation feedback in the nearby Universe.
- Dr Daniel Price The solution to the Southern Ocean's sea ice mystery its thickness.
- Dr Elissa Cameron Does mother know best? Mothers, fathers and sexual conflict in sex allocation.
- Dr Mitja Remus-Emsermann Using synthetic communities to visualise bacterial plant leaf community development and pathogen invasion processes at the single-cell resolution.
- Professor Jason Tylianakis A bird in the bush with the data at hand: predicting ecological networks using traits and phylogenies.
- Associate Professor Peter Gostomski (co-Principal Investigator Ms Kim Baronian) Removing nitrate from contaminated water using methane. Which microbes are doing the work?
- Dr Chris McGann A hybrid 3D-1D framework for site-specific seismic response analysis.
- Dr Kevin Watson Towards an improved theory of language change: understanding the covariation of linguistic variables within and across speakers.
- Professor Charles Semple (co Principal Investigator Mike Steel) The Combinatorics of Reticulate Evolution.
- Dr Brendan Creutz Brauer groups, degrees and rational points on algebraic varieties.
- Professor Alison Downard Tailored environments for highly active and stable electrocatalysts.

New Zealand Institute of Chemistry awards to recognise outstanding chemists:

- Associate Professor Sally Gaw was awarded the Easterfield Medal.
- Graham Townsend was awarded the Denis Hogan Chemical Education Award.
- UC Council Teaching Medal awarded to Associate Professor Ekant Veer.
- UC Council Research Medal awarded to Distinguished Professor Geoff Chase.
- Professor Rick Millane was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.
- Associate Professor Sonja Macfarlane was awarded the Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti award, recognising researchers who have made a significant contribution to Māori education through high quality research over an extended period.
- UC won an Oracle Innovation Excellence Award for the Peoplesoft upgrade.

December

• The Rt Hon Sir John Key to be awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Commerce.