

#### VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT TO UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2019

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# **1. STRATEGIC OVERVIEW**

The 2019 academic year is drawing to a close with year-end examinations having concluded on 9 November and many academic staff busy with marking and assessments. Students will receive their final grades at the end of November and for many, that will mark the completion of their qualifications which will be conferred in December. 1980 students have applied to graduate, including all students graduating at a ceremony either in Christchurch or Rotorua, and all students graduating in absentia. For other students, the summer session is an opportunity to continue their studies. Summer school sessions commence in November and January for students wishing to take some additional coursework outside the typical degree window. Of course for many postgraduate students, work on research projects continues across the summer months; and undergraduates also get the opportunity to experience research with summer research scholarships.

The year-end also marks the wind down of the UC Futures programme as this will be the last routine report. Overall the programme has gone well. All buildings are complete, open and in use. International enrolments exceed pre-earthquake levels and we are on track to meet pre-earthquake domestic enrolment levels next year. The Staff Forum on 3 December will be an event at which we mark the end of the earthquake recovery phase as well as the closing of the year.

The New Year will be the first year of implementation of the new strategy, Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora, which has been launched publicly at two events: the UC Gala Dinner at the Arts Centre and a parliamentary event, co-hosted with alumna the Hon Dr Megan Woods, Minister of Energy and Resources, Greater Christchurch Regeneration, Housing, and Research, Science and Innovation. Both events went very well and in themselves represented the deeper and more regular level of engagement that is central to the strategy itself. It was pleasing to have our two student leaders taking active roles. Sam Brosnahan (President) and Tori McNoe (President elect and current Vice President) each showed their leadership talent at these events. UC's highly active and effective student body is a key element to UC's distinctive character and will play a key role in the strategy implementation.

Almost all Senior Management Team meetings in November have had a strategy implementation focus. The management is working on the prioritisation and timing of each action to support the strategy. Our strategy is ambitious but in our financially constrained environment, we will pace our implementation over multiple years.

While working on the timing of the major new initiatives, we are continuing with staff workshops to foster a deep understanding of the strategy, its implications and the importance of staff participation. On 20 November I hosted a workshop with about 100 UC managers and leaders to talk about the strategy. Catherine Moran presented the strategic direction for learning and teaching and Paul O'Flaherty facilitated discussions on the importance of individual and collective leadership.

In alignment with the strategic priority 'Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked', on 22 October we welcomed Liberty Oberlander, Deputy Head of Membership of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU). Liberty gave a presentation on the ACU's vision as outlined in "The Road to 2030", a new strategy that she said "reinforces our fundamental belief that global challenges can only be solved through international collaboration, and our collective commitment to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through higher education". UC has been an inactive member of the ACU for some years, but since the visit there has been engagement and the latest ACU's newsletter includes an introduction written by Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor College of Engineering, and Alex Hanlon, Executive Director, Learning Resources. The newsletter is <u>available online</u>. Further contributions to joint projects, fellowships and associations are planned.

The programme of engagement with local schools continues and I met with the principals of Villa Maria School and Rangiora High School, the latter where I was invited to facilitate the Teacher Only Day Workshops on the Educational Challenges of their Institution in the Secondary-Tertiary Transition. In addition to education institutions, I was invited to speak to the Canterbury Branch of Governance NZ at the end of October.

Four UC graduation ceremonies will close the academic year. A very special event was the inaugural graduation of the Children's University on 20 November in the Town Hall. 155 children graduated from the Children's University Canterbury Partnership this year, which is over 80% of the cohort.

# 2. STUDENT RECRUITMENT

### 2.1 Domestic Recruitment

The Liaison Office has completed its school course planning visits for the year, having planned courses for over 2,300 students studying in 2020. Appointments, phone calls and emails with individual students and their whānau continue.

The team is also working with the Intelligent Automation Team in designing a bot that will automate a number of manual processes within the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. The Pacific Liaison Officer and Pacific Development Team hosted approximately 70 local Pasifika students as part of the UCMe XL programme. Upcoming in December, Liaison is hosting local career advisors and international directors for an end-of-year stakeholder breakfast, and collaborating with colleges for the Year 10 Amazing Race and Riccarton High curriculum teachers visit. International Relationships Office (IRO) and Liaison staff are also continuing discussions with local schools about joint international marketing opportunities.

In early November, Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori, Liaison and Events hosted 163 taiohi Māori students from 16 Canterbury schools at Ekea! Tau 10 Pathways for Māori. This is the first step in the Ekea! programme that promotes tertiary education as a viable option for taiohi Māori. The number attending represented a 6.5% increase on last year.

### 2.2 International Recruitment

The October intake of the Business taught master's programmes is the final intake of significance for 2019. UC has enrolled 1,863 full-fee equivalent full-time students (EFTS) in 2019, up 10% over 2018. This marks the fifth consecutive year of double-digit growth. International students paying full fees now comprise over 12.5% of total EFTS enrolled at UC and in 2018 UC was over the median for total international enrolments across all eight universities.

All colleges have experienced growth in graduate full-fee EFTS in 2019, and all but Science have experienced growth in undergraduate full-fee EFTS as measured by teaching allocation.

Growth at the graduate level remained strong in 2019 in new to UC EFTS year-on-year. Masters of Applied Data Science, Masters of Strategic Communications, and the taught Master's programmes in Engineering and Business have all grown significantly. Growth at the undergraduate level in new to UC EFTS was negative in 2019. The main factor contributing to lower undergraduate growth has been a decline of over 50 EFTS from Malaysia, which is attributed to a change in the Malaysian Government's Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) funding policy. An additional decline of approximately 17 EFTS in Study Abroad, half of whom are in the Frontiers Abroad programme, has also negatively affected undergraduate numbers.

Very early indications for 2020 are promising. Growth in applications to enrol (ATEs) are up 17% overall from this time last year, and up 13% for new to UC students. Prepayments for study in 2020 are up approximately 160% over this time last year, though this is likely to overestimate increased activity due to changes in policy and behaviour. The focus in the IRO is now on conversion activities targeted at those students who hold full and conditional offers for 2020.

### 2.3 Marketing

29 students have been recruited and interviewed for the UCMe campaign and the 2020 media strategy planning is being finalised. As this year's campaign has performed strongly, the next one has no major changes except for the addition of an East Christchurch (lower decile) focus and a small up-weight in January (post NCEA results).

The Enrol Now campaign is complete, as is the Summer School campaign. Results have improved significantly with 8,048 clicks, up 112% year-on-year. College activity has mostly wrapped up with the completion of Law and Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) (39,527 clicks), as well as the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom), Business Taught Masters, and Master of Commerce (MCom). The Reshape Your Career Master of Business Administration (MBA) campaign is still in market and the launch was live-streamed. Results so far have been very positive.

The College of Arts Bachelor of Communication (BC), Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Masters, Fine Arts, Music and Social Work campaigns are all completed, as is the Health Positioning Story.

A new suite of videos has been completed, including videos on the Research Medals and UC Minds, and around 13 more are in production as part of planning for a busy summer of events. Covers photography is also ready for the 2021 recruitment publications.

New college landing webpages have been developed for both Engineering and Education, Health and Human Development, and are due to go live shortly. Improvements to the website – involving both the research section specifically and the coverage of UC research more generally – are also under way, in line with the focus on research in the UC Strategy.

After a successful social media Study Break campaign, which received well over 600 comments per post, the team now shifts focus to a December Graduation campaign as well as continuing working on a new Facebook Chatbot. Planning for 2020 publications is under way and work has begun on next year's "Intro to Colleges" publications.

### **3. STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

### 3.1 Student Success

Procurement of a software platform and modules to provide an online induction for new to UC students is under way. These modules will allow the University to convey key information about a range of topics, including but not limited to: (1) Being a member of the UC community; (2) Making connections; (3) Sexual assault, sexual harassment and consent; (4) Mental health and wellbeing; and (5) Alcohol and drugs. The modules will help the University to set out clear behavioural expectations, assist students to transition into the university environment, both academically and socially, promote wellbeing and safety, and reduce the likelihood of incidents (e.g., physical injuries, alcohol- and drug-related matters, sexual harassment). The timeline established has scheduled the rollout for the modules for the first quarter of 2020.

### 3.2 UC Careers

The collaboration between UC Careers and other New Zealand university career centres through the NZUniCareerHub consortium continues to provide a valuable and successful service in presenting students with a range of employment opportunities relevant to their qualifications, areas of study, and skills being developed. NZUniCareerHub (www.nzunicareerhub.ac.nz) for employers is a one-stop-shop for advertising opportunities exclusively to student cohorts of their choice.

By the end of the third quarter, over 9,000 opportunities (many with multiple positions) had been advertised. Of these advertisements, nearly 50% indicated an interest in students or graduates from any discipline. This trend reinforces anecdotal feedback from employers indicating that they are increasingly interested in diversifying skill sets within their business.

UC Careers is currently working with the College of Arts and College of Business and Law on integrating Career Development Learning into their programmes of study.

### 3.3 Student Care

Student Care recorded a total of 528 student engagements in October from 266 unique students. Of these, 337 engagements were with domestic students and 191 with international students. The most prominent issues dealt with over this time were mental health, special consideration and general tautoko. A feature of 2019 has been the significant increase in student engagements, many arising from the 15 March event. We are assessing options to enable the service to become more sustainable as the demands on staff are manifold.

	October 2018	October 2019	YTD Total (2018)	YTD Total (2019)
Student Engagements	415	528	2,873	4,890
Unique Count	178	266	1,619	2,845

Student Care has presented to the College of Engineering on cultural context and its impact on student behaviour. The presentation was well received and was run as an addition to the College's previous workshop on motivational interviewing.

Student Care is also working with the Academic Skills Centre to contribute to a module on international students for a new UC staff induction programme. The module is designed to help new UC staff understand the impact of culture on students' academic and communication behaviour, and to provide strategies on effective engagement with international students. Planning is under way for the 2020 International Welcome and Orientation with colleagues across colleges and SSAC.

As a participant in the Canterbury Suicide Prevention Forum, Student Care has contributed to the development of the strategic plan on suicide prevention for the region.

### 3.4 Akiaki Ākonga – Student Experience Team (SET)

Akiaki Ākonga (Student Experience Team) was pleased to support several student leaders who were recognised at the UC Sustainability Awards. Student leaders in the Ākonga Leadership Incubator were treated to a special gratitude event at the Arts Centre, which involved a Rekindle rope-making workshop. Many of these leaders will return to support first-year experience programmes in 2020. Go Canterbury held a "Not Just Noodles" workshop in which student leaders taught their cohort about eating well on a budget, particularly when flatting.

### 3.5 Equity and Disability Service

Equity and Disability Service (EDS) staff have worked closely with the Examination unit in supporting students requiring individual Special Examination Accommodations – which take various forms such as reader/writer support and extra time – in 1,108 examinations. Additionally, staff from the Alternative Format Service are actively supporting students receiving alternative formats for their individual examination requirements in 49 examinations.

In total, 715 students are registered with EDS. Many of these students have begun their re-registration process for next year. Re-registering will ensure that they receive the appropriate learning accommodations and support they need over 2020. Typically retention rates for DRS-supported students are above average.

The 2019 Diversity Fest ran in Term Four from 9 September to 11 October, coinciding with national awareness weeks such as Mental Health Awareness and Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori. It was co-created by UC, University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA) and student clubs. The theme of this year's event was "He waka eke noa – A canoe on which everyone may embark". The festival hosted over 30 unique events and activations, with an estimated 5,000 people from UC and the wider community taking part. Students and staff at UC have commented on the value of the initiative as it gave many diverse groups and people on campus a voice. It also encouraged people to learn more about each other's differences while celebrating what we all have in common.

EDS is looking to incorporate some elements of Diversity Fest in first-quarter activities in 2020, to help set expectations of community behaviour in an engaging way.

### 3.6 Wellness Services

#### 3.6.1 Rec & Sport

Rec Centre memberships have hit an all-time high for this period of the year, reaching 10,021 members – of which 9,519 (94%) are UC students. This total represents around 53% of the student population, making the UC Rec Centre one of the most popular services (by membership) across all tertiary campuses in New Zealand, based on benchmark data (from University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand).

Social sport competitions have now concluded for the year, with just over 1,800 students having competed in the 30 leagues throughout 2019. The Rec & Sport team believes they have achieved the target of increasing participation rates generally while also allocating fees to resource-intensive services. A survey of all participants shows high satisfaction levels throughout the leagues, with 92% of participants indicating they are likely to return to play in 2020. Respondents also reported that their wellbeing improved as a result of the engagement in the programme: 92% noted an improvement in their health as a result of their increased activity and 81% noted an improvement in their social connections and friendships.

The beginning of December will see a new floor poured into the existing sports hall. The new surface will provide a much safer space for sports, activities and teaching. Since the process takes three to four weeks in total, the amount of useable space will be reduced in December, requiring adjustments to programming but, as this coincides with one of the Rec Centre's quietest operating months, the Rec & Sport team expect little to no operational impact. The new floor is expected to be ready for reopening in January 2020.

#### 3.6.2 Health Centre

Demand for counselling appointments remains on track to be significantly above the previous year's figures. As noted last month, the Health Centre has adopted a new triage role and has been using flexible contractors (especially in March and April) so it has been largely able to manage an average wait time of approximately 7.9 days year to date. Across the last month in particular, with the start of the exam period, the Centre has noticed a fairly sharp decline in the demand for its services.

## 4. STAFFING, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### 4.1 People and Culture

The College of Science (School of Psychology Speech and Hearing) and the College of Business and Law (Department of Management) together with the Human Resources Service Unit recently jointly hosted a series of well-attended workshops and lectures with Professor Michael Leiter from Deakin University. The theme was civility and respect in the workplace. This series provided another lens through which participants could reflect on the University's organisational culture programme.

### 4.2 Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The annual Health, Safety and Wellbeing get-together was held recently. This networking and professional development workshop is also an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of the approximately 120 staff who formally hold Health, Safety and Wellbeing roles – for example, as members of Health, Safety and Wellbeing committees. Their willingness to assume leadership responsibilities is very much appreciated. This year's guest speaker was former head of the New Zealand Army, Major General Dave Gawn, who is now Chief Executive of the Pike River Recovery Agency. His talk prompted some useful reflections and discussions on identification and management of risk.

# 5. LEARNING AND TEACHING

While exams are finished and graduation looming for some, other students are continuing their study through the summer. Enrolments for summer school for 2019/2020 are on par with the previous year demonstrating that the growth in interest in summer school last year is being maintained. The ongoing interest in summer school is testament to student interest in more flexible learning options. To that the Micro-credentials Policy was approved by Academic Board on 8 November 2019. Micro-credentials represent an opportunity for UC to offer new flexible delivery options, opportunities for employers to upskill their staff and for students to quickly fill-in educational gaps from traditional or generalised degree programmes. Colleges have indicated interest in developing a range of micro-credentials, and industry and the community have expressed interest in partnering with UC on this. The Academic Quality Team is now focusing attention on developing policy and process around the recognition of prior learning and developing guidelines to assist UC academics create micro-credentials.

With the end of the main teaching year, it was satisfying to see that the Erskine Programme has had another successful year. Over the course of 2019, 80 Visiting Fellows visited UC including our first Distinguished Erskine Fellow, Professor Sir Colin Humphreys and 24 UC academics went overseas to enhance their teaching and learning. The Team is now busy progressing applications for 2020 visits which will include, early in the year, welcoming our 2000th Erskine Fellow.

Looking to 2020, academic support for staff and students is in preparation. For students, an early alert system will be in place so students and staff can identify disengagement sooner rather than later, and receive support for improving academic performance. For staff, a suite of 12 Academic Induction workshops for new academics are now developed and our Academic Development and E-learning teams will begin running these early 2020.

## 6. **RESEARCH**

The highly competitive and prestigious Marsden Fund awards have been announced recently for another year of blue-skies, investigator-initiated research. A measure of UC's success is that it has been awarded 12 grants – the highest number since 2010. Particularly gratifying this year is that three awarded grants went to the College of Arts (including to Professors Jennifer Hay and Jeanette King, who are doing a reciprocal principal–associate investigator double on two grants) and a Fast Start to Dr Tyron Love from the College of Business and Law. Six of the 12 awards are Fast Starts, which support emerging research academics, further emphasising that UC has recruited some exceptional talent in recent years. Science and Engineering continue to secure a number of very significant awards.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has announced six \$500,000 awards for Space "Catalyst" grants to work on new research programmes with strongly themed international collaboration. Dr Sarah Kessans (Biomolecular Interaction Centre) has been successful with a project entitled "Taking biochemistry to new heights: developing nanosatellites for protein crystallisation".

Nearing year-end, UC is on track to have been either contracted, or awarded (and yet to be contracted), over 60 million in external research income in 2019. This total will be the highest ever awarded to UC, surpassing 2018 – the next most successful year – by 20%.

The annual UC Innovation Jumpstart competition has concluded at a recent awards event. The competition gives UC academic staff a chance to transform their innovative ideas into reality and learn more about the commercialisation of ideas in the process. Having grown steadily since its inception in 2010, the competition this year had a 50% increase in the number of applications compared with 2018, attracting entries from all colleges and some cross-college entries. The Research & Innovation team has broadened the competition in recent years to encourage applications for ideas beyond highly commercial products to encompass those targeting social enterprise and community service offerings, including a new prize in 2019 to celebrate ideas with a social or environmental agenda. The five 2019 winners are:

WNT Venture prize: Dr Stefanie Gutschmidt, Engineering and Professor Greg O'Beirne, Science, Enhanced hearing technology inspired by human cochlea amplifier

Astrolab prize: Dr Yilei Zhang, Engineering, High-speed additive manufacturing technology

Jumpstart prize: Associate Professor Mark Staiger, Engineering, Monolithic biodegradable plate system for bone fracture fixation

Jumpstart prize: Dr Toby Macrae, Science, Developing a speech analysis app

Social/environmental prize: Dr Aisling O'Sullivan, Professor Tom Cochrane, Dr Frances Charters, Engineering, Nitrate treatment and waste shell valorisation from an innovative filter system.

Each of the winners will receive funding of \$20,000 to help with experimentation, proof-of-concept, technology or service development for their idea.

In recent weeks, UC has contributed to and/or submitted on three current Government submissions processes: the review of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) scheme; the draft MBIE Research, Science, and Innovation strategy; and proposed regulatory changes to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's technology export controls.

# 7. POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

Dean of Postgraduate Research Bryce Williamson and Associate Dean Ekant Veer, accompanied by Dr Chris Chen, attended Chinese Scholarship Council International Graduate Students' Fair events in Beijing, Xi'an, Chongqing and Shanghai during October. Cumulatively, about 5,000 students attended. Over 90 prospective students were interviewed for future potential enrolment at UC.

The second round of the Supervisor Training Workshops (three 3-hour sessions in two parallel streams) for 2019 commenced on 6 November. Sixteen members of the academic staff signed up for this training, which academic staff must complete before they are permitted to take on the role of a senior supervisor of doctoral students at UC.

At the last Summer GradFest event for the year, 31 seminars and workshops were presented to postgraduate students (and others) by numerous members of the academic and support staff. The week's events also included social events, the Canterbury Postgraduate Students' Association (PGSA) Poster Showcase and a UCSA-sponsored barbecue. The high level of student engagement and enthusiasm was demonstrated by the questions asked during sessions as well as by lively conversations among students and staff. Previous evaluations have shown students appreciate learning new skills, knowing where to go if they need support in the future and having the opportunity to network. The event is a collaborative partnership between the Postgraduate Research Office, Library, PGSA, SOAR advisors, Academic Skills Centre, UCSA, Equity and Disability Service, Student Care, Health Centre, and Careers.

### 8. BICULTURALISM

New Kaiārahi have started working with their designated colleges now. Almost all handover meetings with SMT members have been completed and remaining meetings will occur this month. Planning and responding to the new academic strategy priorities through co-design with college and service unit colleagues is a key focus for the team going forward.

Professional Development Workshops facilitated by Office of AVC Māori including, Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora, Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Te Reo for the Workplace remain very popular with general and academic staff and participant feedback is positive.

Kaiurungi (Māori Student Advisors) have been busy engaging with ākonga Māori (Māori students) for pastoral care and academic support related activities, including delivering supplementary study wānanga for ākonga studying Science, Engineering and Law. They have also led various outreach and recruitment events and are now planning Eke Tangaroa Celebration for Māori Graduates, scheduled for 19 December.

Kaiurungi have also started phone calling new to UC pre-enrolled ākonga Māori, extending whakawhanaungatanga, support and encouragement early in their UC journey. This activity is critically important in setting up first year ākonga for success.

# 9. FINANCES

October 2019	Actual Year to Date \$000	Budget Year to Date \$000	Budget Variance Year to Date \$000 Fav/(Unfav)	Budget Full Year \$000	Forecast Full Year \$000	Full Year Forecast to Budget Variance \$000 Fav/(Unfav)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	7,360	356	7,004	2,080	10,113	8,033
Capital Expenditure	80,836	105,446	24,610	123,637	106,415	17,222
Cash/ Short Term Investments/ Short Term Government Stock	300,331	253,434	46,897	173,363	203,600	30,237

We had been budgeting for an operating surplus as at the end of October 2019 of \$0.356 million, but have returned an operating surplus of \$7.360 million.

This is a favourable variance to the budget of \$7.004 million. This favourable variance mainly relates to \$7.779 million less operating expenses (largest savings are in consultancy expenses, contract teaching, contract research, asset purchases <\$2,500, partially offset with higher commissions and levies, insurance, and publications/electronic data purchased).

Other favourable variances relate to a \$2.850 million reduction in the retiring allowance provision, based on the 30 June actuarial valuation, compared to an expected increase in provision of \$1.500 million that was in the budget, resulting in a \$4.350 million favourable variance; \$2.308 million less depreciation; \$1.782 million more interest income; and \$0.750 million more net profit that was realised in May on the FENZ deal due to lower demolition costs than had been budgeted for.

This favourable variance has been partially offset with unfavourable variances coming from (\$1.883) million less (non-research) income from UCF/ Trusts, (\$4.390) million less tuition income including SAC, (\$1.629) million less PBRF income following recent reassessment of UC PBRF-related performance, and (\$1.196) million less research external income.

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

Capital expenditure is \$24.610 million below budget. \$20.086 million of the expenditure incurred to date is UC Futures related (RRSIC, Rehua, and CETF) against a year to date budget of \$32.463 million, much of which relates to programme delays and final account payment requests yet to be received for the larger building projects.

The October 2019 cash position of \$300.331 million is higher than budget by \$46.897 million due largely to higher than expected balances at 31 December 2018, and lower capital spend.

For further details please refer to the latest monthly financial report.
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	Headcount Applications to Enrol			I	EFTS	EFTS Full Year Enrolled				
				Actual	Enrolment					
	Applications (10/11/2019)		Enrolments (11/11/2019)		Actual Actual		Forecast ( as at Oct) Budge			
	2018	2019	2020	2018 2019		2017	2018	2019	2019	
Domestic 1st Year		3,904	4,760	3,653	3,761	3,262	3,662			
Returning		2,602	3,782	8,670	9,230	8,409	8,704			
Total	-	<u>6,506</u>	<u>8,542</u>	<u>12,323</u>	12,991	<u>11,671</u>	<u>12,366</u>	<u>13,038</u>	<u>12,972</u>	
International 1st Year		3,262	3,677	920	950	744	922			
Returning		134	281	783	918	674	781			
Total	Ξ	<u>3,396</u>	<u>3,958</u>	<u>1,703</u>	1,868	<u>1,418</u>	<u>1,704</u>	<u>1,865</u>	<u>2,019</u>	
						-	-	-		
Total	-	9,902	12,500	14,026	14,859	13,089	14,069	14,903	14,990	

Budget and Forecast is not calculated down to year at UC

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

Applications to Enrol data is now report on the same date across years i.e. 6 Jan vs 6 Jan

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

'International' refers to the students NZ citizen/residency status rather than their fee paying status. Most international students will pay International fees but not all. As PhD students generally pay domestic fees this table groups them with Domestic Students.

# **10. MAJOR PROJECTS & FACILITIES**

**Rutherford Regional Science and Innovation Centre 1 and 2 programme:** The project has reached the position where Fletchers claims it has addressed most outstanding defects on the Ernest Rutherford building. The Beatrice Tinsley building is now occupied by approximately 66% of College staff and PhD students; the outstanding defects have reached a manageable number and should be closed out before the end of year. Landscaping works, including the installation of 400 bike stands on the southern end of the building, are progressing satisfactorily.

**Canterbury Engineering the Future:** The close-out phase continues to be within budget and the remaining minor outstanding works are to be completed by late December.

**Rehua:** The project is complete and within budget. Practical Completion (PC) has not been awarded and is unlikely to be until matters concerning the provision of warrantees and compliance defects requiring remediation are resolved. UC and Hawkins are approaching mediation in February 2020 to close out the commercial aspects of the project.

**Haere-roa** (UCSA building): The building is occupied and operational under a Certificate for Public Use. The PC approval targeted date has slipped again to late November in spite of UC's escalation of concern to Leighs' Executive team in progressing project close out. There are no significant issues or key risks that are likely to frustrate the award of PC. In October 2019 Council approved a budget reset of up to \$1.1 million.

**Garden Hall (Homestead Lane):** The project is progressing on or ahead of programme and the current final projected cost remains within the project budget. Roof framing installation commenced in October. The prefabricated façade elements are now being installed on the eastern face of the building and concrete flat-slab floors are progressively being installed and poured. The contractor is making a considerable effort to plan for the delivery of noisy works activities during the extended end-of-year break.

**Logie and Locke:** The Logie building is now reoccupied and occupants have indicated high levels of satisfaction with it. The Locke building is expected to be reoccupied in June 2020. Asbestos has been removed from levels 2 and 5 in the Locke building and the size of the team has increased so that it can deliver two floors concurrently, mitigating any further delay in the main contractor's programme.

**School of Product Design growth:** The final phase of this project is now well under way. It will be completed before the end of December, ready for the School's use in 2020.

**Wheki building:** The programme remains as planned for IT Services and Human Resources to occupy the building on Dovedale campus by mid-December 2019.

**Rec Centre:** The Project Control Group has approved the preliminary design for this building after reviewing a number of cost-saving proposals in October. Work on the developed design has now commenced.

**Low-carbon Ilam boiler replacement project:** A business case has been prepared for Council consideration this month.

## 11. UC LIBRARY | TE PUNA MĀTAURAKA O WAITAHA

The Library has produced <u>an infographic of UC's open access benefit and reach</u>. This is available to all from the Open Access Subject Guide on the Library website. Open Access Week provided an opportunity for subject librarians to engage with college departments to discuss discipline-specific aspects of publishing in and using open access resources.

The Library's support for students studying for examinations has included extending Library opening hours, providing tea and coffee at each library, running the annual Facebook 'exampack' contest, offering 'golden

tickets' (encouraging appropriate shared use of spaces) on Instagram, and implementing a number of wellbeing 'take a break' initiatives.

GradFest was once again a successful partnership with over 200 students and staff in attendance. Consequently, postgraduate students provided positive feedback about the support that UC demonstrates to its postgraduate research students.

# 12. IT SERVICES | TE RATONGA TAUTOKO HANGARAU

Recently IT Services began moving from the Ilam campus back to its permanent location at the Dovedale campus. Moving servers and networks was the priority in the first week of the move, while most staff will be moving by the end of the month. Only projects on critical deadlines, such as Identity Access Management, will remain at Ilam until mid-December. To minimise the impact on the business, most meetings are expected to remain at the Ilam campus.

A recent cyber threat, known as Collection #1, has been well managed by IT Services with no evidence to date that any UC systems have been breached. Collection #1 is a credential release containing a list of email addresses and passwords that have been published on the dark web without permission. These are then sold and used to send spam and phishing emails and/or to try to access other accounts. The Collection #1 list contained 773 million credentials, including 44 UC emails, of which only 7 were newly compromised credentials and all have now been addressed. This incident is now considered closed.

As part of the Cloud/Digital Strategy, the Chief Information Officer and Learning Resources Executive Director will meet with each Senior Management Team member and their executive team this month, to gain their feedback and understand any potential implications. IT Services expects that it will then report back to the Senior Management Team in early December.

## **13. COMMUNICATIONS**

### 13.1 Media and Events

In October there were 1,027 mentions of UC across online, print and broadcast media. Some particular highlights were Radio New Zealand's interview with Dr Volker Nock following his Rutherford Discovery Fellowship award to accelerate research into saving native trees; Seven Sharp talking to Dr Grant Pearce about plant proteins as a meat replacement; and national outlets – including TVNZ 1News, Magic and Three – reporting on UC student inventors' new app, Vxt, which turns voicemails into texts. In addition to the positive coverage generated, over 90 media queries were handled.

# The following UC media releases/news stories appeared in broadcast, internet and print media in October:

- UC students' tech startup turns voicemails to text
  - Award winning "sensei" connects Japanese students globally
  - UC Connect public lecture: NASA Astronaut Dr Anna Fisher Women in STEM
  - UC finance students top New Zealand on their way to Korea
  - Professor Emerita Paula Jameson awarded 2019 Marsden Medal
  - UC researcher awarded \$800,000 fellowship to save kauri from attack
  - UC Connect public talk: Why on earth would you drill into a magma chamber?

- Beatrice Tinsley building opening a milestone for science at UC
- Hon Kit Toogood QC to lead University investigation

The Chancellor and I co-hosted the UC Gala Dinner | Te Hākari to launch our new Strategic Vision to business leaders and key players within Ōtautahi Christchurch. UC's ethos is to respond to a changing world, make a difference locally and globally and deliver excellence in all that we do. This event was a key part of our commitment to engage with stakeholders to achieve their economic, social, cultural, technology and innovation objectives. A total of 104 guests attended. In addition to the gratifying feedback we received about the quality of the event and UC's new direction, Associate Professor Amy Fletcher, the guest speaker for the evening, was subsequently invited to present to the Facebook team in Auckland on "Deepfakes: The uncertain future of truth".

On 5 November, Hon Dr Megan Woods and UC co-hosted UC Creating the Future at the Grand Hall, Parliament. The Chancellor and I presented UC's Strategic Vision to Wellington business leaders, members of Parliament and 80 external guests. An overarching driver of this strategy is an institutional commitment to engagement. This event gave the opportunity to engage purposefully with leaders, decision makers and influencers in Wellington, strengthening our relationships and forging new ones.

### 13.2 Engagements with Alumni and Donors

The UC Foundation income to the end of October was \$7.3 million from 833 donors, of which \$4.4 million was distributed to the University. This support is greatly appreciated. In particular, I would like to mention the Rose Centre for Stroke Recovery and Research, which has received \$810,000 in new pledges of support this year, including the Wakefield family's support for establishing the Jim and Sue Wakefield Fellowship. Meanwhile, the Philanthropic Bonds that mature this year have seen pledges of \$67,000 in donations, \$98,000 in interest adjustment and a bequest of \$10,000.

UC Foundation Trustees met with Scholarship recipients in October and supported the hosting of our major donors and key stakeholders at the Gala Dinner in the Great Hall.

The alumni reunion of Civil69 had 50 attendees who are actively fundraising to support the Department of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering. Now plans are under way for key anniversaries for Forestry (50 alumni attending), Economics (100) and Management 228 (10) in 2020. I was delighted to host the Alumni Speaker Series in Dunedin with Sandra Clare, the founder of Artemis and a current UC PhD student, which received positive media coverage.

# **14. COLLEGE SUMMARIES**

#### (PROVIDED BY PRO-VICE-CHANCELLORS)

#### College of Business and Law | Te Rāngai Umanga me Te Ture

Colleagues' increased efforts to secure external research funding are bearing fruit. Congratulations to UC Business School colleagues Dr Tyron Love and Professor Michael Hall, who have been awarded a \$300,000 Marsden Fast Start for their proposal "It Looks Grim! The future of Māori academics in New Zealand universities". Congratulations also to Professor John Hopkins (Law School), who has been awarded a grant of \$134,210.40 under the Urban Theme of the Resilience to Nature's Challenges National Science Challenge. This is for a three-year project (2020–2022) in which he will examine the legal framework around volcanic resilience in New Zealand with a particular focus on the Auckland region. The project is part-funded by the Determining Volcanic Risk in Auckland (DEVORA) Research Programme.

The College of Business and Law is also celebrating the achievements of two of its students. UC BSc (Economics and Financial Engineering) student Josh McSkimming has been awarded the 2019 Frank Holmes Scholarship. Josh is the third UC student to receive this award in the past four years. Generously sponsored by The Hugo Group, this scholarship is awarded annually to New Zealand's top third-year university student in econometrics. Josh plans to use this prize money to help fund his study next year, when he will undertake a Master of Commerce in Economics at UC. Meanwhile, UC Business student Tessa McKegg has been selected

to participate in the study course funded by Universities New Zealand, "Doing Business in Brazil", in December at the Universidade de São Paulo. This is an amazing opportunity for Tessa and aligns well with the College's internationalisation plans in this region.

#### College of Engineering | Te Rāngai Pūkaha

This month, the College of Engineering welcomed Heide Lukosch and Stefan Lukosch, the first two senior academics employed under the TEC's new Entrepreneurial Universities scheme. Both Stefan and Heide are based in the HITLab and will shortly be joined by Andrew Phelps, the third professor in the new contract. Heide and Stefan come from Delft University of Technology, and will contribute to innovation and research in the HITLab and the School of Product Design.

The College recently held an industry networking function to thank this year's Final Year Undergraduate Project sponsors and to meet prospective sponsors for future projects. The industry attendees awarded a prize for a People's Choice project, which went to students from Mechanical Engineering for their work on an operable prosthetic hand. The College will hold this event annually moving forward.

The Wood Industry Development and Education (WIDE) Trust, founded in 2018, has agreed to provide generous funding to the School of Forestry for scholarships, a long-term postdoctoral position and a salary for a new academic to teach a wood processing course.

Due to the College's considerable EFTS growth, its Office is trialling technology solutions to help in responding to students' many academic enquiries to the College's small student advisor team. From next year, the College will use custom-built apps, supported by the presence of postgraduate students who were formerly UC undergraduates, as the first step in responding to a student who comes to the College Office at the start of a semester. A pilot version will be in place in February, with more technology introduced into the system by next winter. The College hopes this approach will reduce the considerable pressure on the student advisor team while still helping the many students who have course queries.

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

At the College of Education, Health and Human Development's Research awards, Annabel Driscoll won the Māori/Pasifika Researcher of the Year Award for her work in the area of Māori population. The Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Platform Team won the Māori/Pasifika Research Team Award, which recognised its work in advancing research into Māori and Indigenous needs and aspirations.

The College also farewelled Distinguished Professor Niki Davis after her 11 years of service to UC. Among her many achievements, Niki received the prestigious Society for Information Technology in Teacher Education (SITE) Outstanding Global Educator award for service to teaching and research. In addition, she was the President of the Distance Education Association of New Zealand for three years and remained executive and editor of the Journal of Open, Flexible and Distance Learning until 2017.

The Kia Tōpū Community Food Security/Hidden Hunger cluster and the School of Teacher Education cosponsored a visit by Dr Antwi Akom, Professor at San Francisco State University (SFSU) and Director of the Social Innovation & Urban Opportunity Lab (a joint research lab of UC and SFSU). Dr Akom is a leader in community-based participatory action research, focusing on areas such as race and racism, eco-apartheid, social justice and community resilience. He spoke of food apartheid and how we can use participatory technologies to transform local food systems.

The Child Well-being Research Institute hosted a Pasifika community fono on the value of collaboration and collectivity. Speakers included Professors Gail Gillon and Tufulasi Taleni, and topics covered physical activity and the importance of literacy and learning.

Professor Michael Tarren-Sweeney, School of Health Sciences, served as an expert witness in the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, held in Auckland. He has advised government departments in Ireland, Scotland, England and Australia on how to improve the lives of children in state care.

#### College of Science | Te Rāngai Pūtaiao

College of Science staff achieved a number of successes in November.

Heather Purdie was awarded a National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award for Sustained Excellence in Tertiary Teaching. She was applauded for how she embeds sound and innovative pedagogical practice into her teaching.

The recent Marsden Fund round also saw success with the award of two standard grants (leads Paula Brooksby and Ren Dobson) and four Fast Starts (to Sarah Flanagan, Vanessa Morris, Tim Allison and Laura Revell). In addition, Science staff were co-investigators on other successful Marsden grants.

The New Zealand Association of Scientists has awarded the 2019 Marsden Medal to Professor Emerita Paula Jameson (School of Biological Sciences). The Marsden Medal is a lifetime award recognising Paula's outstanding service to the cause or profession of science.

Johnathan Davidson and Ben Kennedy were each shortlisted for a global QS Reimagine Education Award and are travelling to the United Kingdom for finals in December. Being shortlisted is a real testament to the excellence of their work.

Richard Hartshorn received the 2019 Denis Hogan Chemical Education award from the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry for his important contribution to chemical education in New Zealand.

### 15. VC Activities

Past Events	
29 October 2019	Opened GradFest 2019
	Attended UC Connect lecture
31 October 2019	Attended College of Business and Law morning tea and staff forum
	• Spoke at the Canterbury branch of Governance New Zealand event
	Speaker at UC Confucius Institute Event – 10th anniversary
1 November 2019	Met with Anne Shaw, Executive Director of Greater Christchurch Group
	Visited Gateway Antarctica
4 November 2019	Delivered a presentation at Teacher Only Day Workshop at Rangiora High
	<ul><li>School</li><li>Visited GeoHealth Lab</li></ul>
5 November 2019	• Co-hosted, with the Chancellor and Hon Dr Megan Woods at the function and dinner at Parliament
6 November 2019	Attended luncheon for Christchurch City Council's new CEO, Dawn Baxendale
7 November 2019	
	Attended Friends of UCSA end-of-year function
8 November 2019	Met with Prue Williams, General Manager Science System Investment and Performance MBIE on campus
11 November 2019	Met with Villa Maria College Principal, Deborah Brosnahan
14 November 2019	Attended New Zealand Women in Leadership National Steering Committee
	<ul> <li>Meeting</li> <li>Attended New Zealand Women in Leadership Regional Roadshow</li> </ul>
18 November 2019	Spoke at New Zealand Association for Research in Education event
19 November 2019	Spoke at Waterways Symposium at Lincoln University
20 November 2019	• Hosted Tangata Tū, Tangata Ora: Preparing to meet the challenge of delivering
	<ul><li>our strategy</li><li>Spoke at Children's University graduation ceremony</li></ul>
21 November 2019	Hosted Lord Mayor of Adelaide on campus
22 November 2019	Attended Lincoln University event
22110101001 2017	<ul> <li>Attended Encom Oniversity event</li> <li>Attended event at Tuahiwi Marae</li> </ul>
23 November 2019	Attended lunch hosted by Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat and Puan Sri Ngau Jean
25 November 2019	Attended multiparty joint postgraduate schools meeting
27 November 2019	Met with St Thomas of Canterbury College Principal, Steve Hart with Professor Moran
Future Events	
28 November 2019	<ul> <li>Attending Global Women Programme Showcase in Auckland with Professor Mazey</li> </ul>
3 December 2019	Attending Manawa Christmas Function

4 December 2019	Speaking at 2019 History Awards
5 December 2019	Attending Universities New Zealand meeting in Wellington
6 December 2019	Meeting with Mary Gordon, Executive Director of Nursing at Canterbury District Health Board
10 December 2019	Hosting Senior Management Team lunch with new professors
11 December 2019	<ul> <li>Meeting with Julian Elder, Scion Research</li> <li>Speaking at UC Rotorua graduation</li> </ul>
13 December 2019	Attending Business and Law end-of-year morning tea
18 December 2019	<ul> <li>Attending University of Canterbury graduation ceremonies</li> <li>Attending graduation function at Ilam Homestead</li> </ul>
19 December 2019	<ul> <li>Attending Eke Tangaroa   Celebration for Māori Graduates</li> <li>Attending International Graduation afternoon tea</li> <li>Attending UC Pasifika Graduation celebration</li> <li>Attending Graduation dinner</li> </ul>
20 December 2019	<ul> <li>Attending University of Canterbury graduation ceremonies</li> <li>Attending Graduation function at Ilam Homestead</li> </ul>