


<b>Council Agenda Part A (Open Agenda)</b>  <b>27.08.2025</b> <b>Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland</b> <b>4:00pm</b>		 <b>Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland</b>	Page #
<b>COUNCIL BRIEFINGS</b>	These will take place prior to the meeting		
<b>KARAKIA</b>	The meeting will be opened with the following karakia at the beginning of the briefings:		
	Te Reo: Tukua te wairua kia rere ki ngā taumata Hei ārahi i ā tātou mahi Me tā tātou whai i ngā tikanga ā rātou mā Kia mau, kia ita Kia kore ai e ngaro Kia pupuri Kia whakamaua Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!	English Translation: Allow one's spirit to exercise its potential To guide us in our work As well as in our pursuit of our ancestral traditions Take hold and preserve it Ensure it is never lost Hold fast Secure it Draw together - Affirm	
<b>1. APOLOGIES</b>	None	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the apologies, if any, be <b>noted</b> .	
<b>2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS</b>	2.1 Council Interest Register for 2025 – members are asked to advise Wendy ( <a href="mailto:w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz">w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz</a> ), as soon as possible when changes are required.  2.2 In addition to the requirement for Council to complete an annual Interest Register the attention of Members is drawn to the <a href="#">Conflicts of Interest Policy</a> and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> Council Interest Register for 2025 be <b>received</b> and the additional disclosures, if any, be noted and the action taken be <b>endorsed</b> .	<b>9</b>
<b>3. COUNCIL MEETINGS</b>	3.1 <b>Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 11.06.2025</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the Minutes (Part A), 28.04.2025 be taken as <b>read</b> and <b>confirmed</b> .	<b>12</b>

	<b>3.2 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 11.06.2025 not elsewhere on the Agenda</b>		
<b>4. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT</b>		<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be <b>noted</b> .	<b>19</b>
<b>5. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>	<b>5.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> <b>5.1.1 Minutes, (Part A), 11.08.2025</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the Finance Committee Minutes (Part A) 11.08.2025 be <b>received</b> .	<b>31</b>
	<b>5.2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE</b> <b>5.2.1 Minutes, (Part A), 14.08.2025</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes (Part A) 14.08.2025 be <b>received</b> .	<b>34</b>
	<b>5.3 NAMING COMMITTEE</b> <b>5.3.1 Minutes, (Part A), 11.08.2025</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the Naming Committee Minutes, (Part A), 11.08.2025 be <b>received</b> .	<b>36</b>
	<b>5.4 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REVIEW AND EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION COMMITTEE (VCRERC)</b> <b>5.4.1 Minutes 1 (Part A), 14.08.2025 – Skills Positions</b> <b>5.4.2 Minutes 2 (Part A), 14.08.2025 – Alumni Position</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the VCRERC Minutes 1 (Part A) 14.08.2025 be <b>received</b> .  <b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the VCRERC Minutes 2 (Part A) 14.08.2025 be <b>received</b> .	<b>37</b>  <b>38</b>

<b>6 SENATE MATTERS</b>	<b>6.1 REPORT OF SENATE MEETING 28.07.2025</b>  Part A1, a-b: Policy and other matters requiring to be considered/received by Council Part A2,1-4: Matters requiring Council approval Part B,1-2: Items to note by Council Part C, 1-3: Matters handled under Delegated Authority	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 28.07.2025 be <b>adopted</b> and Parts B and C be <b>noted</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>7 CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR</b>	None		
<b>8 OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING</b>	<b>8.1 SEAL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deed of Renewal of Lease - Ngapouri Station, 2739 State Highway 5 Reporoa, Graeme David Hathaway, Yvonne Therese Hathaway, and Steven James Bignell as Trustees of the Hathaway and Dekker Family Trust (Landlord) and the University of Auckland (Tenant)</li> <li>• Confidentiality Deed - Ministry of Primary Industries and the University of Auckland</li> <li>• Deed of Renewal and Rent Review - Tamaki Innovation Campus, 261 Morrin Road, St. Johns, Shundi Tamaki Village Ltd (Lessor) and the University of Auckland (Lessee).</li> <li>• Deed of Renewal and Variation Lease – Level 3, 50 Devon St New Plymouth (UniServices – IMAC), Taradise Holdings 2004 Ltd (Landlord) and the University of Auckland (Tenant)</li> </ul>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that the affixing of the seal to the listed document be <b>noted</b> .	
	<b>8.2 DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AND SCHOLARLY SERVICES</b>  <b>8.2.1 Memorandum, 01.08.2025 from the Vice-Chancellor regarding the Director of Student and Scholarly Services: authority to discharge functions of the Director of Student and Academic Services role</b>	<b>The Chancellor moves</b> that with effect from 28 August 2025 <b>Council:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Resolve</b> that all powers and duties vested in the Director of Student and Academic Services as of 27 August 2025 in statutes and regulations made by Council, and in policies, procedures, and standards approved by Council, will be vested in the Director of Student and Scholarly Services; and</li> <li>• <b>Delegate</b> to the Vice-Chancellor the power to approve the amendment of all</li> </ul>	<b>43</b>

		such statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards to give effect to this resolution.	
	<p>8.3 <b>DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR EDUCATION</b></p> <p>8.3.1 <b>Memorandum, 01.08.2025 from the Vice-Chancellor regarding the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education: authority to discharge functions of the Provost role</b></p>	<p><b>The Chancellor moves</b> that with effect from 28 August 2025 <b>Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Resolve</b> that all powers and duties vested in the Provost as of 27 August 2025 in statutes and regulations made by Council, and in policies, procedures, and standards approved by Council, will be vested in the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education (DVCE); and</li> <li>• <b>Delegate</b> to the Vice-Chancellor the power to approve the amendment of all such statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards to give effect to this resolution.</li> </ul>	<b>44</b>
	<p>8.4 <b>RESCINDMENT</b></p> <p>8.4.1 Memorandum 11.08.2025 FROM Kendall Smith-Heke regarding the rescindment of a diploma and re-award with merit</p>	<p><b>The Chancellor moves</b> that <b>Council rescind</b> the Postgraduate Diploma in Science, as per the memorandum and <b>re-award it with Merit.</b></p>	<b>45</b>
	<p>8.5 <b>FACULTY OF ARTS &amp; EDUCATION SCHOOL STRUCTURE CHANGE</b></p> <p>8.5.1 <b>Memorandum, 22.07.02025 from the Dean, Professor Gregory regarding the Arts and Education New School Structure</b></p>	<p><b>The Chancellor moves</b> that <b>Council note</b> the Arts and Education New School Structure, as per the memorandum.</p>	<b>46</b>
	<p>8.6 <b>FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION</b></p> <p>8.6.1 <b>Memorandum, 11.08.2025 from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor &amp; Registrar, Mrs Cleland including the draft Freedom of Expression Statement</b></p>	<p><b>The Chancellor moves</b> that <b>Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Note</b> the progress report relating to the planned introduction of the Education and Training Amendment Bill, which if enacted will require the University Council to (i) adopt a statement on freedom of expression, as set out under</li> </ul>	<b>48</b>

		<p>the proposed Section 281A, (ii) to survey staff and students with respect to freedom of expression and academic freedom and (iii) to establish a complaints mechanism; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approve</b> the draft Freedom of Expression Statement as the basis for consultation with the wider University community and for seeking formal advice from Senate.</li> </ul>	
<b>9 ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS</b>	none		
<b>10 GENERAL BUSINESS</b>			
<b>11 LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	(for the meeting of 15.10.2025)		

## PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

**The Chancellor moves** that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1	Council Minutes Part B 11.06.2025
Item No. 2.1.1	Finance Committee – Minutes Part B 11.08.2025
Item No. 2.1.2	Financial Performance 2025 to 2027
Item No. 2.2.1	Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes Part B 14.08.2025 and 10.03.2025
Item No. 2.2.1	Naming Committee Committee Minutes Part B 11.08.2025.2025
Item No. 2.4.1	Vice-Chancellor’s Review and Executive Remuneration Committee Minutes 1 14.08.2025
Item No. 2.4.2	Vice-Chancellor’s Review and Executive Remuneration Committee Minutes 1 14.08.2025
Item No. 2.5.1	Honours Committee – Professores Emeriti
Item No. 3.	Letters to Council
Item No. 4.1	Interim report Waipapa Taumata Rau courses

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:

The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

AND THAT Adrienne Cleland, Professors Young, and Bloomfield F, Andrew Phipps, Tim Bluett, Helen Cattanach, Anthony Brandon, and Wendy Verschaeren be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of, or need to be briefed about, the matters to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they relate to aspects of the administration of The University of Auckland for which those persons are responsible.

## The University of Auckland


### Interests Register for Members of UoA Council 2025

Name of Member	Interests	Updated
Gemma Skipper	employee of the University and having friends/family who work at UoA	29.01.2025
Julia Arnott-Neenee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fibre Fale Limited - CEO &amp; Co-Founder</li> <li>Grant Evaluation Panel Member (Contract) - Ārohia Innovation Trailblazer Grant Callaghan Innovation</li> </ul>	29.01.2025
Dawn Freshwater	Chair Research Committee UNZ (2021) Member UNZ Board Director APRU (2021), Vice-Chair since 2022 Board Director World Universities Network (2021) Deputy Chair Research Australia Board	03.02.2025
John Paitai	Trustee - Te Tai Tokerau Maori Trust Board (2013 - Trustee - Roma Marae - Ahipara (2011 - Trustee - 2 Te Ahu Street, PAP Pastorate Residential Property (2019 - Trustee - Centre for Brain Research Auckland University (2022 - Trustee - Hui Amorangi Tai Tokerau 2023 - Chair - Roma Marae Trustees (2000 - Chair - Roma Marae Committee- Ahipara (2011- Chair - Roma Marae Kaumatua Flats Chair - Ahipara A7 Trust (1999 - Chair - Nga Urupa o Ahipara 5,7,48 (2011 - Chair - St Clement's Maori Anglican Church Restoration Committee (2007 - ) Chair - Parengarenga, Ahipara, Peria, Anglican Maori Pastorate, Aotearoa (2019 - Member - Kaumatua / Maori Representative on University of Auckland Council (2020 - Member - Far North Justice of Peace Association Member ( 2022 - Member - Tane Tautoko Aotearoa (2024 - Member - Marae Takiwa o Ahipara (2019 - Member - Ahipara Aroha ( 2019 - Kaumatua - Kaikarakia - St Clement's Anglican Maori Church - Ahipara ( 2000 - Kaumatua - Te Runanga o Te Rarawa (2019 - Kaumatua - Te Tai Tokerau Maori Womens' Welfare League ( 2014 - Kaumatua - Te Ohaki Kohanga Reo, Ahipara School and Kaitaia College (2000 - Kaumatua - Nga Iwi o Te Tai Tokerau & Northland Police Cultural Advisor (2019 - Kaumatua - Far North Safer Communities Trust (2021)	17.02.2025
Fia FaAfuhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding Officer &amp; Member – Pacific Island Law Students Association Incorporated</li> <li>Member – Auckland University Students Association Incorporated</li> <li>(NEW Interest) Member – Auckland University Law Students Association Incorporated</li> </ul>	29.01.2025
Julia Tolmie	Employed by the University of Auckland	29.01.2025

Cathy Quinn	i) is on the board of Fletcher Building ii) is a trustee of the Kintyre Trust with a corporate trustee Pin Twenty Limited iii) is a consultant to MERW iv) chair of Fertility Associates v) is a director of Fonterra			26.05.2025
Rob McDonald	Chair Contact Energy Limited 2015- present FleetPartners Group Joined boards of the Suncorp NZ group of companies. Effective 01.03.25			16.02.2025 and 26.02.2025
Jonathan Mason	Companies (Director or Major Shareholder): Zespri. NZ US Council (Chair) Chair of the Auckland Branch of the Institute of Directors and Trustee for Beloit College in Wisconsin, USA. Charitable Trusts / Public Bodies / Incorporated Societies (governance role unless otherwise noted): World Wildlife Fund for Nature (NZ), Dilworth Trust Board. Advisors to the Foundations: Cambridge Associates (via Dilworth Trust Board) Beneficiaries of the Foundations: UoA Faculty of Business & Economics (Honorary Adjunct Professor of Management).			29.01.2025
Cecilia Tarrant		<b>Director/Officer/Shareholder</b>	<b>Company/Organisation/Business Entity</b>	29.01.2025 12.06.2025
	i	Director/Shareholder	Seeka Limited	
	ii	Director and interim Chair	Payments NZ Limited	
	iii	Chancellor	The University of Auckland Council	
	iv	Director/Shareholder	Javan Cream Company Limited	
	v	Advisory Board	The Seriously Good Chocolate Company Limited	
	vi	Trustee	Tere Waitomo Community Trust	
	vii	Advisory Board	Southern Pioneers Food Hub	
	viii	Executive in residence	At UABS	
ix	Member	Diocesan Administration Council for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland and of the Investment Committee		
Candace Kinser	President of Cancer Society Auckland Northland (donor to UofA) Chair of Helius Therapeutics (steps down on 30.06.2025) <del>Committee Member for Return on Science, Auckland UniServices</del> Director and Shareholder, Sagitas Consulting Ltd Director and Shareholder, Vester Ltd Director for Plant and Food Research (steps down on 30.06.2025) BioEconomy Science Institute (as of 01.07.2025)			29.01.2025 11.06.2025



<b>Excerpts from Council Minutes 2025</b>		
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	<b>Name of Member and Interest Disclosed</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
<b>17.03.2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With regard to item 2.3.4 in Part B, Ms Skipper advised Council that her brother worked for the construction company proposed in that item.</li> <li>• With regard to item 2.3 in Part B Mr Fia declared a conflict with the Melanesian Mission Trust Board</li> </ul>	It was agreed that these declared conflicts would not preclude the members participating in the discussions and voting.
<b>28.04.2025</b>	No disclosures were made	
<b>11.06.2025</b>	The Chair and Mr McDonald declared an interest in item 5.1 in Part B, as they both would be sending in Expressions of Interest.	They would not take any part in the process related to the relevant position for which they intend to lodge an Expression of Interest and would not be part of any meeting where their candidacy would be discussed.

<b>Council Minutes Part A (Open Minutes)</b> <b>11.06.2025</b> <b>Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland</b> <b>4:00pm</b>		 <b>Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland</b>
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Professor Tolmie, Ms Kinser, Mr Mason, Mr Paitai, Mr Fia, Ms Skipper, Ms Quinn, and Mr McDonald	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mrs Cleland, Professors Holdaway, Stinear and Bloomfield F, Dr Lithander, Ms Moss, Mr Bluett, Ms Cattanach, and Ms Verschaeren	
<b>COUNCIL BRIEFINGS</b>	The briefings took place prior to the meeting	
<b>KARAKIA</b>	The briefings were preceded by a Pōwhiri on Ngā Taurā marae	
<b>1. APOLOGIES</b>	Ms Arnott-Neenee	
<b>2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS</b>	<p>2.1 Council Interest Register for 2025 – members were asked to advise the University Committee Executive (<a href="mailto:w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz">w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz</a>), whenever changes were required.</p> <p>From now on the updated Council Interest Register would be added to the agenda for every Council meeting.</p> <p>2.2 In addition to the requirement for Council to complete an annual Interest Register, the attention of Members was drawn to the <a href="#">Conflicts of Interest Policy</a> and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>The Chair and Mr McDonald declared an interest in item 5.1 in Part B, as they both would be sending in Expressions of Interest.</p> <p>They would not take any part in the process related to the relevant position for which they intend to lodge an Expression of Interest and would not be part of any meeting where their candidacy would be discussed.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Mr Paitai): that the Council Interest Register for 2025 be <b>received</b> and the action taken regarding item 5.1 in Part B be <b>endorsed</b>.</p>

<b>3. CONFERMENT OF DEGREES</b>	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor <b>conferred</b> the degrees as per the attached list.	
<b>4. AWARD OF DIPLOMAS</b>	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor <b>awarded</b> the diplomas as per the attached list.	
<b>5. HONOURS/AWARDS</b>	The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor had sent congratulatory letters to those persons with links to the University.	
<b>6. COUNCIL MEETINGS</b>	<b>6.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 28.04.2025</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Mr Fia): that the Minutes (Part A), 28.04.2025 be taken as <b>read</b> and <b>confirmed</b> .
	<b>6.2 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 28.04.2025 not elsewhere on the agenda</b>	
<b>7. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT</b>	<p>The Report was taken as read.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, presented this item.</p> <p>She supplemented the Report with the following additional information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public submission period for the proposed Education and Training Act Amendment Bill, with regard to Freedom of Expression (FoE), closed 12 June 2025. A submission had been lodged by Universities New Zealand which had been developed collaboratively and addressed a number of issues related to the proposed legislation. The University also made a separate submission.</li> <li>• In the United States, several universities were making changes in response to government decisions about immigration settings and international students. Efforts were being made to support international students who wish to relocate or engage with the University of Auckland. Additionally, to address challenges in research funding, collaboration with US colleagues was ongoing.</li> <li>• It was important to remain vigilant about personal safety, especially given the recent increase in incidents in the city. It was noted that the alert app was available to all staff and students, and University security services could be contacted in case of concern on campus. The University was also continuing to collaborate with Auckland City Council and other citywide committees on the city safety project.</li> </ul>	
	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Ms Quinn): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be <b>noted</b> .	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The University recently featured in a new ranking focused on employment and digital online learning, achieving a 76th position.</li> <li>It was very pleasing to note that one of the professors had been awarded the Commonwealth Poet Laureate, which would be an exciting opportunity for the institution over the next couple of years.</li> </ul> <p>A question was raised regarding professional staffing levels. It was clarified that the University was continuing to progressively reduce professional staff numbers to meet its financial sustainability objectives. This was being achieved through vacancy management and other measures.</p> <p>Council noted that the review of the Waipapa Taumata Rau courses was scheduled for July. It was intended that the review panel would include external members.</p>	
<b>8. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>	<p>8.1 <b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>8.1.1 <b>Minutes, (Part A), 19.05.2025</b></p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Mr McDonald): that the Finance Committee Minutes (Part A) 19.05.2025 be <b>received</b> .
	<p>8.2 <b>AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>8.2.1 <b>Minutes, (Part A), 30.04.2025</b></p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Mr Mason): that the Audit and Risk Committee Minutes (Part A) 30.04.2025 be <b>received</b> .
	<p>8.3 <b>UNIVERSITY EQUITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (UELCL)</b></p> <p>8.3.1 <b>June 2025 Report</b></p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Ms Kinser): that the Equity Leadership Report – June 2025 be <b>received</b> .
	<p>8.4 <b>RŪNANGA</b></p> <p>8.4.1 <b>June 2025 Report including a change to its Terms of Reference and membership</b></p> <p>Taking into account Rūnanga's advisory role to Council, it would be preferable not to change the wording of the fourth bullet point of the Terms of Reference and keep this as: "to advise management on operational matters relevant to the delivery on strategic objectives for Māori".</p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Ms Skipper): that the Rūnanga Report – June 2025 be <b>received and</b> Council <b>approve</b> the amended Rūnanga Terms of Reference and membership, subject to the identified change.
<b>9. SENATE MATTERS</b>	<p>9.1 <b>REPORT OF SENATE MEETING 26.05.2025</b></p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor): that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 28.04.2025 be <b>adopted</b> and Parts B and

	Part A1: Policy and other matters requiring to be considered/received by Council Part A2: Matters requiring Council approval Part B,1: Items to note by Council Part C, 1-4: Matters handled under Delegated Authority	C be <b>noted</b> . (noting that the Investment Plan 2026-2028 and the Learner Success Plan mentioned in Part A would be considered in item 11.02).
<b>10. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR</b>	None	
<b>11. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING</b>	<p>11.1 <b>COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>11.1.1 Memorandum, 05.06.2025 from the Registrar</p> <p>11.1.2 Draft Council Appointments Procedures (with track changes)</p> <p>11.1.3 Draft Council Appointments Procedures (clear copy)</p> <p>It was noted that that the proposed change intended to simplify and update the process for Council appointments and aimed to enable use of more current means of communication which were likely to continue to change with available technologies.</p> <p>Council members discussed the role of the Vice-Chancellor's Review and Executive Remuneration Committee (VCRERC) in the appointments process.</p> <p>There was a concern that consideration by VCRERC would exclude some Council members from preliminary discussions. However, Council noted that VCRERC was not the decision maker in the process with its role limited to making recommendations with the final decisions made by Council.</p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Ms Quinn): that Council <b>receive</b> the memorandum, 05.06.2025 and <b>approve</b> the Council Appointments Procedures
	<p>11.2 <b>WAIPAPA TAUMATA RAU/THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND INVESTMENT PLAN 2026-2028, LEARNER SUCCESS PLAN 2026-2028 AND DISABILITY ACTION PLAN 2026-2028</b></p> <p>11.2.1 <b>Memorandum, 03.06.2025 from Ms Pamela Moss, Director of Planning</b></p> <p>11.2.2 <b>Investment Plan 2026-2028</b></p>	<b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Professor Tolmie): that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approve</b> the draft Investment Plan 2026 to 2028, Learner Success Plan and Disability Action Plan for submission to the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC);</li> <li>• <b>Note</b> that TEC had now issued a Supplementary Plan Guidance that responds</li> </ul>

	<p>11.2.3 <b>Learner Success Plan 2026-2028</b></p> <p>11.2.4 <b>Disability Action Plan 2026-2028</b></p> <p>Council noted the Senate endorsement of the Investment Plan and further discussed the optimal size, shape, and composition of the University, considering the potential growth in student numbers and the impact on infrastructure and resources. The University aimed to grow the proportion of postgraduate students whilst maintaining similar levels of undergraduate access. The impact of growth on campus resources was acknowledged as was the different resource profile of the increasing proportion of online learners.</p> <p>It was noted that the TEC provided the Supplementary Plan Guidance earlier this week, but as noted in the documentation, this was not yet reflected in the Investment Plan. A review of the Supplementary Guidance indicated that any resultant change to the Investment Plan would be minor.</p> <p>The Learner Success Plan was focusing on University aspirations related to Māori and Pacific student participation and success. Council acknowledged the importance of this plan in promoting equity and inclusion.</p>	<p>to priorities signalled in the 23 May 2025, Government Budget, that were not available when the original Plan Guidance was issued; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Delegate</b> to the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Operations) approval to make any minor typographical and presentational changes and other adjustments necessary to respond to the Supplementary Plan Guidance.</li> </ul>
	<p>11.3 <b>TAUMATA TEITEI</b></p> <p>11.3.1 Memorandum, 03.06.2025 from the Director of Planning</p> <p>11.3.2 Taumata Teitei – Vision 2030 and Strategic Plan 2028</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Mr Fia): that <b>Council approve</b> Taumata Teitei Vision 2030, Strategic Plan 2028.</p>
	<p>11.4 <b>DELEGATIONS UPDATE</b></p> <p>11.4.1 Memorandum 05.06.2025 from the Vice-Chancellor regarding the establishment of the Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research role and authority for the holder of that position to discharge the functions of the Deputy Dean of Graduate Studies role.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> (Chancellor/Ms Quinn): that <b>Council approve</b> the subdelegation by the Board of Graduate Studies (Board) to the Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research of all powers delegated by Council to the Board and subdelegated by the Board to the Deputy Dean of Graduate Studies as at 30 June 2025.</p>
<b>12 ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS</b>	none	

<b>13 GENERAL BUSINESS</b>	None
<b>14 LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	<p>(for the meeting of 27.08.2025)</p> <p>Nobody requested leave. The Chancellor asked that if members could not attend or would be attending virtually, to let the Secretary of the Council know and copy the Chancellor in.</p>

**PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS**

**RESOLVED** (Chancellor/Mr Paitai): that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution were as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1	Council Minutes Part B 28.04.2025
Item No. 2.1.1	Finance Committee – Minutes Part B 19.05.2025
Item No. 2.2.1	Audit and Risk Committee Minutes Part B 30.04.2025
Item No. 2.1.2	Financial Performance 2025 to 2027
Item No. 2.2.1	Audit and Risk Committee Minutes Part B 30.04.2025
Item No. 5.00	Elections - appointments

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:

The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

AND THAT Adrienne Cleland, Professors Simon Holdaway and Frank Bloomfield, Andrew Phipps, Tim Bluett, Pamela Moss, Helen Cattnach, Anthony Brandon, and Wendy Verschaeren be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public had been excluded, because of their knowledge of, or need to be briefed about, the matters to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they relate to aspects of the administration of The University of Auckland for which those persons were responsible.

**The meeting closed at 5.10pm**

**The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 6.00pm**

**Approved as a true and correct record.**

**Cecilia Tarrant, Chancellor**

**Date**



## Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council | 27 August 2025

### General

#### External, Policy and Government Update

The University retained its 65th ranking in the QS World University Rankings 2026, and is currently reviewing a report focused on the 4<sup>th</sup> generation university rankings approach, which includes new and novel ways of capturing the contribution of Universities to the broader community.

In a major policy shift, the Prime Minister has announced Cabinet's decision to proceed with a third medical school at the University of Waikato. The third medical school has been costed at \$235 million, with \$150 million to come from yet-to-be-signed-up philanthropists. The operating costs are estimated to be \$361.6 million for the 2026-2042 period, with overall costs for the period projected to total \$9.1 billion. The business case for the medical school indicates a rapid programme of implementation with clinical places confirmed by the end of 2025.

It has also been indicated that more than half the \$212 million cost of a previously announced NZ Advanced Technology Institute (NZATI) will come from 'reprioritised funds.' The Government's reprioritisation to the funding of the ATI will likely have a significant impact on funds that support fundamental research across the University. The location of the ATI is yet to be announced, although the Mayor and Auckland Business Chamber have publicly called for it to be relocated at the University's Newmarket precinct.

Announcements on the Government's Tertiary Education Strategy and the release of the Universities Advisory Group report are expected soon.

The National eScience Infrastructure (NeSI) unit completed its transition from the University of Auckland to the Research Education Advanced Network New Zealand (REANNZ) on 1 July 2025, with skills and capabilities now consolidated within a Crown-owned entity for the provision of eResearch services nationally. REANNZ will shortly commence work to define its strategy for the provision of national research services from 2026 onwards.

The University supported the China Business Summit with Vice-Chancellor Professor Dawn Freshwater joining a panel on service exports to China, and Professor Michael Whitbrock presenting on AI.

#### Internal Update

The University hosted a Swiss delegation led by Secretary of State for Education, Research and Innovation and Assistant State Secretary for Economic Affairs. The delegation included business and university leaders. The visit to the University included Goldie Estate, the Faculties of Engineering and Science, including Te Pūnaha Ātea and Newmarket Innovation Precinct.

Hiwa opened up for external user bookings this semester. The French National rugby team used Hiwa to prepare for its All Blacks tests.

## 1. Education and Student Experience

### Overview

Student enrolments (EFTS) following Semester 2 enrolment remain around 7% higher than at this time last year and are forecast to finish the year 5% ahead of targets. We are seeing strong increases in enrolments from both Domestic and International students and across most faculties and the LSRI's. A second round of forecast discussions with faculties and LSRI's have resulted in very minor changes in the forecast EFTS numbers. All faculties are forecast to meet their overall EFTS budget targets.

Our Domestic enrolments are 4% above year-to-date 2024 levels and are forecast to be 4% above our 2025 target. Overall full-fee International EFTS are forecast to grow by around 15% this year, and 565 EFTS above target. International postgraduate enrolments are 32% (664 EFTS) above the same time last year and expected to be around 16% above our budget target. All faculties are benefiting from the increased International postgraduate enrolments.

Māori and Pacific student enrolments have continued to increase relative to 2024, although Pacific enrolment numbers have slowed since June. Increased enrolment from Māori has been achieved in the postgraduate segments (up 4%) and in the School Leaver segment (up 9%), relative to this time in 2024. Pacific student enrolments are also higher than in 2024, particularly School Leavers (up 17%).

Disabled learner enrolments are higher (up 12% overall) relative to the start of 2024 across all segments, undergraduate and postgraduate, as well as domestic and international.

Indicators	Last Year	Current Year			
		To Date (31 July)		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Total EFTS	36,603	36,508	38,714	37,025	38,847
Domestic Funded	30,008	30,055	31,199	30,192	31,354
International Full Fee	5,699	5,881	6,446	5,977	6,534
% Postgraduate EFTS	25.6%	27.8%	27.5%	27.8%	28.0%

**Note:** EFTS information does not include enrolments in the ELA and other sources. Forecast figures here have been updated as at 11 August, which is why they differ from the figures presented in the Size Shape and Composition paper.

*EFTS in priority groups*

	<b>2024</b> (31 July)	<b>2025</b> (31 July)	<b>% Change</b>
Total Māori EFTS	2,411	2,505	3.9%
Māori School leavers	446	485	8.6%
Total Pacific EFTS	2,975	3,152	5.9%
Pacific School leavers	555	649	17.0%
Total Postgraduate	9,596	10,641	10.9%
Domestic	7,416	7,792	5.1%
International	2,095	2,758	31.7%

**Note:** International Postgraduate includes international PhD students who pay domestic fees.

## Progress against priorities

### Priority 2: Student-centric learning, co-curricular and extra-curricular cultures

The Semester 1 2025 SET response rate was 31.6% (34,795 responses recorded), which was the highest result for the main semesters since Semester 1 2019 (response rate 35.8%, 36,819 responses recorded). Of the six different faculties, the Faculty of Engineering and Design had the highest response rate (37.7%), and the Faculty of Law had the lowest response rate (24.6%).

One major contribution to the high response rate in Semester 1 was the contribution from the five Waipapa Taumata Rau courses that had a total of 2,498 responses with a response rate of 45.7%, lifting the overall response rate for SET evaluations as a whole.

### Priority 3: Education that is research-informed, transdisciplinary, relevant and with impact for the world

Thirty academic colleagues completed the recently launched programme 'Teaching Well: Foundation of Learning and Teaching', led by Dr Gayle Morris. The programme is a requirement for academics new to the University, with limited teaching experience. Overall, the programme was well received, with 100% finding it 'Very Useful', in response to the question 'Overall, how useful were the workshops to your teaching?'

### Priorities 1-4: Curriculum Changes

The Curriculum Framework Transformation (CFT) programme of work has now closed after implementing a series of curriculum changes and supporting activities intended to address evolving educational demands and enhance student experience. Remaining areas of work related to the Curriculum Framework will now transition to the Education Office for further development.

## 2. Research and Innovation

Indicators	Last Year	Current Year			
		To Date 1 June		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Research revenue (\$M)	281.0	144.0	126.1	284.8	278.3

**Note:** The revenue includes University of Auckland revenue only

### Overview

The 18 July announcement of the New Zealand Institute for Advanced Technology (NZAIT), to be based in Auckland, aligned with a visit to the University by Minister Shane Reti during which he attended presentations on the two successful bids to the Catalyst Singapore investment rounds. The two projects – Future Foods and Leveraging AI for Healthy Ageing – highlighted the importance of national collaborations and taking a transdisciplinary approach to research. The University of Auckland and Dodd-Walls Centre for Photonic and Quantum Technologies showcased forward-thinking, advanced research capabilities and success in the globally competitive funding environment. Quantum technologies have been identified as an area of interest for the NZAIT.

The announcement of the NZAIT came with a commitment of \$212 million, but also with the message that this is not new money. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) confirmed to the media that majority of the funding would come from reallocated research funding.

The University is operating in an increasingly constrained domestic research funding environment, marked by an overall loss of \$45 million in science funding to date, necessitating a strategic and proactive approach to building research capability and capacity. In response to the current funding environment, and to sharpen our strategic focus, we have begun the process to develop University-wide Signature Research Areas

(SRAs), which will provide a clear narrative for our areas of current and emerging research excellence and leadership, that also have social, environmental, economic and health impact. The Signature Research Areas will provide the underpinning for strategic investment of internal funds and development of national and international partnerships. This will be launched at the end of quarter one 2026.

### **Progress against priorities**

#### **Priority 1: World-class research inspired by our place in Aotearoa and the Pacific**

The Redefining Research Excellence (RRE) project is making progress. This project aims to address the University's fragmented and inconsistent approach to understanding research excellence. Current reporting mechanisms emphasise quantity over quality and fail to capture the full spectrum of research contributions. The project will deliver a Research Excellence Framework and supporting dashboard to provide a systematic, holistic, and internationally aligned understanding of research excellence across all organisational levels, enabling better strategic planning, performance evaluation, and resource allocation.

#### **Priority 4: Ambitious research confronting humanity's greatest challenges.**

The Elsevier 4<sup>th</sup> Generation University (4GU) Report has been finalised, supporting the strategic vision of Taumata Teitei and outlining the University's strengths using Elsevier data analytics to assess our performance as a 4<sup>th</sup> Generation University. The 4GU model integrates transdisciplinary research and innovation into strong partnerships with industry, government and surrounding communities. A 4<sup>th</sup> Generation University emphasises societal impact, ethical research responsibilities and knowledge co-creation to position itself as a driver of regional innovation, economic growth and societal wellbeing.

#### **Priority 5: Nurturing, recruiting and retaining outstanding research talent.**

Following the March 2025 UEC meeting and approval to progress an improved Graduate Research Support Model, a Graduate Research Support Model (GSRM) Governance Group and Project Team were established, and project planning and activity is underway.

#### **Priority 6: A research ecosystem characterised by collaboration, agility, simplicity, engagement, and empowerment**

The Research AI Plan, developed by the eResearch Governance Group (eRGG), has been endorsed by the UEC. The first tranche of GPU infrastructure investment is underway to underpin the capability to support the achievement of the plan.

Work is progressing to establish Research and Innovation (R&I) Environments for Research Management and Administration (RMA) Copilot Agents to be published into. Work is also progressing with Fusion5 to establish a Copilot Studio Academy whereby a cohort of professional staff will be trained to become Agent 'Makers' in Copilot Studio.

### 3. Partnerships and Engagement

#### Overview

While the global and domestic recruitment environment intensifies, the University's domestic and international student recruitment performance is set to surpass 2024 levels. Underpinning this is a refreshed approach to international recruitment, the continued roll-out of the 'One UoA' brand, and growth in the digital and social media space.

#### **Priority 2: An ambitious and relevant partner that is globally networked.**

The Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori and the International Office hosted the ISEP Western Indigenous relationship exchange (WIRE). The visit aimed to explore and strengthen relationships between local indigenous communities and ISEP member institutions to increase indigenous students' participation in learning abroad.

Four students from Stanford University have arrived at the University for a 10-week programme, which involves a paid internship alongside academic sessions on the University of Auckland campus focused primarily on sustainability. This programme is a collaborative effort between Stanford University, Ngā Ara Whetū, Malcolm Pacific, BNZ, the participating internship hosts Auckland FC, Vector, and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and the University of Auckland.

Three applications to the Prime Minister's Scholarship (Group) Programme have been successful, with 13 University of Auckland students will be supported to take part in the following experiences to OP Jindal Global University in India, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and the NZ Centre at IIT Delhi 2025/26.

#### **Priority 3: Deep engagement with diverse Aotearoa and Asia-Pacific communities.**

The University's international recruitment is strategically transitioning to a regional recruitment model, supporting the development of targeted market plans aimed at driving growth and diversification across countries, faculties, and study levels. This new model seeks to mitigate the risk of overreliance on specific markets (notably China), by strengthening market insight and capability in key global regions. Delivery takes a collaborative approach, involving Regional Managers, faculty support and an expanded Transnational Education team.

#### **Priority 4: Enduring relationships with prospective students, students, alumni and donors**

The Schools and Community Engagement Team has engaged with over 6,000 future students and whānau so far this year, surpassing the 2024 total.

The University's first-ever Giving Day took place on 11 June, in support of the Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre. The digital campaign raised \$64,766, including matched funding from long-time Marine Science donor Dr Beate Schuler.

The 'One UoA' brand is being rolled out across the public website and intranet. The initial focus is on high-traffic and student recruitment-related areas, with the remainder due to be rebranded in phases over the coming months.

On 1 August, the University will start a new partnership with advertising agency Droga 5, which will be tasked with creatively differentiating the University in local and global markets.

#### **Priority 5: Diverse student body reflecting our communities.**

The University signed three new schools to our innovative high schools partnership, which aims to close the parity gap for Māori and Pacific student success, welcoming Baradene College of the Sacred Heart, James Cook High School and Kelston Girls College.

#### **Priority 6: Recognised and valued by our communities for the contributions we make towards a more sustainable future for all.**

The University of Auckland was a featured summit co-host at the 2025 Global Sustainable Development Congress, which was held in Istanbul, Türkiye, on 16-19 June, attracting over 3,500 delegates from more than 110 countries. Vice-Chancellor Professor Dawn Freshwater was a keynote speaker, with Professor Niki Harré (Head of the School of Psychology) and Andrew Patterson (Deputy Dean of the Business School) joining summit panels.

## **4. Enabling our People and Culture**

### **Overview**

The Values Led Culture programme's four workstreams are driving leadership growth and cultural integration. At the same time, the Kōrero Mai survey (4–18 August) and action planning through to April 2026 will surface and address staff priorities. Concurrently, the Future Academic Workforce and Ngā Taumata Tutukinga frameworks are establishing clear career pathways and capability expectations across academic and professional roles.

### **Progress against priorities:**

#### **Priority 1: Live our values and purpose**

The Values Led Culture programme is aligned with Taumata Teitei and its strategic priorities, focusing on advancing leadership and cultural integration within the University. Of particular focus is the Pūhoro Senior Leaders Programme, which is nearing completion.

### ***Employee Engagement and Listening***

Kōrero Mai is the University's refreshed staff engagement survey, designed to gather meaningful insights from staff about their work experience, with a focus on what's going well, what could improve, and how we can collectively enhance Waipapa Taumata Rau. The 2025 survey results will be shared from early September.

### **Priority 2: Develop a future-ready workforce**

Recent initiatives to ensure Waipapa Taumata Rau is equipped for the evolving academic and professional landscape include; a project to define structured academic roles and career pathways that equip staff for the evolving demands of teaching, research, and engagement, a project which aims to identify the 15 capabilities critical to success for professional staff, providing resources to develop the necessary skills for a fit-for-future workforce, and a Researcher Capability Framework and Development Approach with options and models due this month.

### **Priority 4: Activate manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and kaitiakitanga across our People and Culture practices**

The Vice Chancellor's Values and Te Ao Māori awards took place in February 2025. Since then, a review has taken place and enhancements have been proposed to continue to stress the importance of the Te Ao Māori principles across the organisation.

## **5. Our Enabling Environment**

### **Overview**

Indicators	Last Year	Current Year			
		To Date 1 June		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Total revenue (\$M)**	1,539.7	1,006.8	1,210.4	1,578.5	1,619.9
Revenue achieved as a % of budget	100.9%	100.0%	120.2%	100.0%	102.7%

\*\* Excludes CIP loan and external sponsorship.



**Progress against priorities:**

*Note that this section now reflects revised strategic objectives for the Enabling Environment portfolio, as discussed with and approved by Council during the Strategic Refresh process in 2024.*

**Strategic Priority 1: Create Mana-enhancing experiences for our communities through effective, efficient, and valued operations and services**

In response to growing student numbers, particularly from the Tertiary Foundation Certificate (TFC) cohort, a review of student support services across Tai Tonga, South Auckland campus is focusing on current provision and identifying gaps. Engagement has commenced with the newly formed Manukau Tertiary Hub—a collective of local institutions aimed at boosting student activity and collaboration in the Manukau CBD.

Semester Two Clubs Expo had strong engagement, with around 140 clubs involved and approximately 5,000 students attending.

The STAR (Student Transition and Retention) Outreach Campaign has shown early signs of influence on retention rates for students who are showing signs of risk in their first semester or year of study.

The University's new AI digital assistant is helping students get access to faster and more meaningful self-service responses, and staff in the Student Experience Centre now have smarter tools that have reduced manual work and make it easier to track and manage requests. These upgrades also help us keep an eye on service quality and spot trends early.

Following the decision of Ubiq Bookstore to enter voluntary receivership, the University has underwritten course book materials for this semester to ensure continuation of supply for students. We are actively working with the liquidator to secure a new provider.

Three cross-University Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are working to address priority improvement initiatives for Academic Heads, being

- Improving access to data for School/Department oversight, reporting and decision-making needs.
- Reducing the workload associated with the number of approvals required of Academic Heads.
- Developing tailored online resources supporting the annual cycle of key administrative tasks and duties.

Workshops have been held with key service partners and Academic Head representatives to fully map the data and information required by Academic Heads for priority data-driven processes. Data gap analyses are also underway. Exploration of an AI Assistant specifically to meet the reporting needs of Academic Heads is progressing. This AI tool offers enormous potential to respond to a wide range of queries

In line with the Digital Strategy, the University has been progressing the modernisation of core infrastructure services, including networking. Through the infrastructure refresh programme, the University has been following a design and plan created by Cisco (a global network vendor) to transition from older generation network infrastructure to the next generation infrastructure. Through this journey, the observed service

performance has not met expectations, and work continues with Cisco to ensure greater resilience and performance of WIFI as a critical service line at the University.

**Priority 2: Deliver a distinctive, capable, and flexible people-centred environment that celebrates our place in Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific**

The priorities of Te Rautaki Tūāpapa | Estate Strategy 2021-2030 continue to be progressed.

Delivery of the approved Property Capital Programme:

- Old Choral Hall: The building is due to reach practical completion late 2025 with final fit-out and occupation to follow.
- B230: Law & Performing Arts is now in the Detailed Design phase. The main contract tender was awarded to Naylor Love. Resource Consent has been granted.
- Carlaw Park Stage 4 agreements have been executed, and demolition works have commenced on site. Detailed design is progressing.

Estate Planning activities (Property and Digital):

- Initial staff engagement and technical investigations are complete for the refurbishment of the former Architecture library within B423 (Architecture, Urban Design and Planning). This will provide capacity for an additional cohort.
- A Business Case for a new build research facility on the Grafton campus is being prepared to allow the design phases to commence, and will be submitted to the Capital Expenditure Committee in August.
- Master planning for the City and Newmarket Campuses has progressed well with key projects identified to replace aged infrastructure and decarbonise the campuses, support student experience, research, and innovation.
- Quarterly planning has been completed across all of the Digital teams. This is the 90-day cadence that aligns day-to-day work with evolving business priorities.

**Priority 3: Actively continue and measure progress towards overall sustainability and net-zero carbon status**

The University of Auckland has successfully completed its fifth year of Toitū carbon reduction certification. While some 2025 interim targets—such as those for waste and work-related air travel—have been met or surpassed, energy-related emissions remain above target when measured using the location-based method. However, when accounting for CarbonZero electricity, the University is on track.

The staff commuting survey completed earlier this year was successful, with 1615 responses and almost 40% of respondents providing additional comments (638). Results are expected in the coming weeks.

**Priority 4: Enable long-term operational sustainability and resilience for the University through careful stewardship and planning and by enabling revenue growth**

The University has regularly communicated progress made towards the targets and objectives required to deliver a sustainable embedded operating position into 2026 and beyond. The objectives are focused across three workstreams: revenue and contribution, professional staffing, and other operating costs and efficiencies. Good progress has been made against the first two workstreams with clear ownership and commitment from senior leaders across the University. In the operating cost categories, we are observing that efficiency improvements identified are being offset by expansion of the cost base due to particularly unavoidable asset-related costs.

Since the original targets were established over a year ago, there has been a considerable shift in the Government and research funding environment. Tuition subsidies will not be sufficient to support the anticipated growth in demand for domestic student enrolments across the sector and will be prioritised toward STEM from 2026 and the increase in medical student numbers from 2028. As indicated, the public research funding pools have also been cut.

As the University develops its planning outlook and prepares for the 2026 budget period, we will need to reassess the adequacy of the current targets to address sustainability, preserve core research capabilities and retain our comprehensive nature.

Professor Dawn Freshwater  
Vice-Chancellor

### Appendix One: University Gifts and Pledges [May – June 2025]

The following major new gifts and pledges were received by ARD in May and June 2025, totalling \$4,634,444:

- \$1,002,144 from Cancer Society Auckland Northland for two melanoma research projects at the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre
- \$890,166 from the Hudson-Nilon Medical Research Foundation Ltd for the 'Mixed chimeric organoids' project at the Centre for Brain Research, for the 'Huntington's disease CAG repeat interruption project' and for PhD research in Huntington's disease, all at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$508,136 from the Fehi Charitable Trust for an eye health research project at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$372,771 from The Marie Clay Literacy Trust for a research position in foundational literacy at Arts and Education
- \$280,000 from Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand for the Leukaemia & Blood Cancer Research Unit and for the Auckland Regional Biobank, both at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$219,000 from The Allan and Joyce Ballantyne Medical and Surgical Education and Research Trust Board for advancing endometriosis research at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$200,000 from the Friedlander Foundation for a Research Fellow and Research Assistant for movement disorders research at ABI
- \$150,000 from The Dines Family Charitable Trust for the Maori & Pacific Pathways programme at Engineering
- \$150,000 from Lyndy Sainsbury for the Fine Arts Supply Bank and for Parkinson's disease research at the Liggins Institute
- \$130,000 from the Deane Endowment Trust for Parkinson's disease research at the Centre for Brain Research
- \$100,000 from Auckland Council for kauri dieback research at Science
- \$64,000 from The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust for the Kate Edger Charitable Trust Masters Award and PhD Scholarship
- \$60,561 from Friends of The University of Auckland for the Business School Case Programme and Science High Achievers Scholarships
- \$50,000 from David Davies-Payne for ME/Long Covid research at the Liggins Institute
- \$50,000 from Liong Kim Chew for the Chew Liong Kim & Tan Chee Chin Scholarship
- \$50,000 from the Estate of Alison Quentin-Baxter for support at the Auckland Law School
- \$40,000 from the Michael and Suzanne Borrin Foundation for 'The Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court Conference 2025: Building Capacity Transforming Lives Strengthening Communities' at Law
- \$38,813 from the Nicholas Tarling Charitable Trust for South-East Asia research projects aligned with the NZ Asia Institute
- \$34,234 from the International Whaling Commission for the 'Genomic and ecological connectivity of false killer whales around the Southern Hemisphere and Pacific' study at Science
- \$32,395 from Fraser Thomas Ltd for the Fraser Thomas Scholarship at Engineering
- \$30,224 from Multiple Sclerosis Society of New Zealand Inc for the 'Using the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) to identify epidemiological changes in MS' study at Arts and Education
- \$27,500 from the Waterloo Trust to support Otorhinolaryngology at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$27,500 from Kim ENT Limited to support Otorhinolaryngology at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$27,000 from The Chartwell Charitable Trust for three exhibitions at the Gus Fisher Gallery
- \$25,000 from T Tech Ltd for Long Covid research at the Liggins Institute
- \$25,000 from The Sir William and Lady Manchester Charitable Trust for the University orchestra and choir
- \$25,000 from the MSA Charitable Trust for the Matthew S. Abel Prize for Best Business School Doctoral Thesis
- \$25,000 from the Lou and Iris Fisher Charitable Trust to develop a Planktoscope to observe microscopic marine life in the Hauraki Gulf

CHAIR APPROVED BUT NOT CONFIRMED BY THE COMMITTEE

Finance Committee MINUTES | PART A  
 11 August 2025  
 HYBRID | Council Meeting Room and via Zoom  
 8:00 am to 10:00 am



5.1

<b>Present:</b> Rob McDonald (Chair), Cecilia Tarrant, Cathy Quinn, Professor Dawn Freshwater, John Paitai, J. Arnott-Neenee, Gemma Skipper, Professor Julia Tolmie, and FaAfuha Fia <b>In Attendance:</b> Adrienne Cleland, Tim Bluett, Helen Cattanach, Patricia Yap, Jeremy Greenbrook-Held, Professor Frank Bloomfield, Alexandra Thomas, and Ruwani Dharmawardana		
<b>1. Apologies</b>	No apologies were received.	
<b>2. Disclosures of Interest</b>	The attention of Members was drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020. No further disclosures were made.	
<b>3. Minutes of Finance Committee of 19.05.2025</b>	<b>Item No 3.1: Minutes, Part A 19.05.2025</b> <b>Item No 3.2:</b> Matters Arising from the Minutes, Part A, not elsewhere on the agenda. No matters were discussed that needed further attention, as part of the follow-up from the previous meeting.	<b>RESOLVED (Chair   Cecilia Tarrant)</b> that the Minutes, Part A, of the Finance Committee held on 19.05.2025 be taken as read and confirmed.
<b>4. Other Matters for Decision or Noting</b>		

CHAIR APPROVED BUT NOT CONFIRMED BY THE COMMITTEE

	<table><tr><th>University and UniServices</th><th>2023 Actual</th><th>2024 Actual</th><th>Forecast</th><th>2025 Budget</th><th>var</th></tr><tr><td>EFTS</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Domestic</td><td>29,072</td><td>30,008</td><td>31,394</td><td>30,192</td><td>1,203</td></tr><tr><td>International</td><td>5,607</td><td>5,699</td><td>6,482</td><td>5,977</td><td>505</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>658</td><td>896</td><td>866</td><td>856</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>35,337</td><td>36,603</td><td>38,743</td><td>37,025</td><td>1,718</td></tr><tr><td>Income &amp; Expenditure (\$m)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>TEC funding</td><td>375</td><td>424</td><td>440</td><td>431</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Fees</td><td>412</td><td>432</td><td>505</td><td>471</td><td>34</td></tr><tr><td>PBRF/Other</td><td>123</td><td>132</td><td>137</td><td>129</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>910</td><td>989</td><td>1,082</td><td>1,031</td><td>51</td></tr><tr><td>People Costs</td><td>337</td><td>357</td><td>382</td><td>376</td><td>(5)</td></tr><tr><td>Opex &amp; Depreciation</td><td>70</td><td>80</td><td>84</td><td>83</td><td>(1)</td></tr><tr><td>T&amp;R Contribution</td><td>503</td><td>552</td><td>616</td><td>571</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Research Revenue</td><td>351</td><td>344</td><td>333</td><td>344</td><td>(10)</td></tr><tr><td>Research Expenditure</td><td>320</td><td>323</td><td>313</td><td>320</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>Research Contribution</td><td>32</td><td>21</td><td>20</td><td>24</td><td>(3)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Other revenue</td><td>197</td><td>207</td><td>205</td><td>195</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>People Costs &amp; Opex</td><td>523</td><td>559</td><td>588</td><td>570</td><td>(18)</td></tr><tr><td>Depreciation</td><td>178</td><td>186</td><td>236</td><td>201</td><td>(34)</td></tr><tr><td>Other contribution</td><td>(504)</td><td>(537)</td><td>(619)</td><td>(576)</td><td>(42)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Operating Surplus</td><td>31</td><td>36</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>(1)</td></tr><tr><td>University</td><td>12</td><td>25</td><td>20</td><td>18</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>UniServices</td><td>19</td><td>11</td><td>(2)</td><td>1</td><td>(2)</td></tr><tr><td>Fair value adjustments</td><td>81</td><td>(17)</td><td>(18)</td><td>(18)</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Net Surplus</td><td>111</td><td>19</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>(1)</td></tr></table>	University and UniServices	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	Forecast	2025 Budget	var	EFTS						Domestic	29,072	30,008	31,394	30,192	1,203	International	5,607	5,699	6,482	5,977	505	Other	658	896	866	856	10		35,337	36,603	38,743	37,025	1,718	Income & Expenditure (\$m)						TEC funding	375	424	440	431	9	Fees	412	432	505	471	34	PBRF/Other	123	132	137	129	8		910	989	1,082	1,031	51	People Costs	337	357	382	376	(5)	Opex & Depreciation	70	80	84	83	(1)	T&R Contribution	503	552	616	571	45							Research Revenue	351	344	333	344	(10)	Research Expenditure	320	323	313	320	7	Research Contribution	32	21	20	24	(3)							Other revenue	197	207	205	195	10	People Costs & Opex	523	559	588	570	(18)	Depreciation	178	186	236	201	(34)	Other contribution	(504)	(537)	(619)	(576)	(42)							Operating Surplus	31	36	18	19	(1)	University	12	25	20	18	1	UniServices	19	11	(2)	1	(2)	Fair value adjustments	81	(17)	(18)	(18)	0	Net Surplus	111	19	0	1	(1)	<p>A refresh of the April forecast has been undertaken, reflecting actual enrolments and results as at 31 May. Forecasts and comparatives in the table to the right show the consolidation of the University and UniServices excluding the Foundation.</p> <p>The forecast operating surplus of \$18m is close to the budget which reflects revenue from higher student enrolments exceeding budget being partially offset by increased depreciation arising from the 2024 revaluation of land and buildings for statutory reporting.</p> <p>The 2025 enrolment numbers are 1,704 EFTS (equivalent full-time students) higher than budget, and in total are 5.8% above last year.</p> <p>TEC funding is constrained and does not meet the additional growth. However, domestic and international student fee components deliver improved contribution. Research contribution remains lower than recent years as projects conclude and funding across the Science System is uncertain.</p> <p>Other costs are forecast above budget, reflecting the operational activity to support growth and delivery of key strategic projects.</p> <p>Net operating cashflow remains steady and above budget.</p> <p>TEC risk ratios overall remain at lower risk levels.</p>
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5. Leave of Absence	The Chair noted that no apologies had been received for the 26 September 2025 meeting and advised members to inform the Committee Secretary in advance if they are unable to attend.																																																																																																																																																																															
6. Public Exclusions	<p>The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:</p> <p>General subject of each matter to be considered:</p> <p><b>Item No 7.1: Finance Committee Meeting 19 May 2025, Minutes Part B</b></p> <p><b>Item No 7.2: Matters Arising from the Minutes, Part B, not</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED (Chair   FaAfuhiia Fia)</b> that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting AND THAT Ms Cleland, Mr Bluett, Ms Cattanach, Ms Yap, Mr Greenbrook-Held, Professor Bloomfield, Ms Thomas, and Ms Dharmawardana be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public be excluded, because of their knowledge of the matters to be discussed.</p> <p>This knowledge, which will be of assistance</p>																																																																																																																																																																														

## 5.1

## 5.1

Capital Expenditure Committee MINUTES | PART A  
14 August 2025  
HYBRID | Council Meeting Room and via Zoom  
08:00 am to 10:00am




5.2

<b>Present:</b> Cecilia Tarrant (Chair), Cathy Quinn, Rob McDonald, Jonathan Mason, and Professor Dawn Freshwater <b>In Attendance:</b> Adrienne Cleland, Tim Bluett, Simon Neale, Andrew Phipps, Cameron Thomas and Ruwani Dharmawardana		
<b>1. Apologies</b>	No apologies were received.	
<b>2. Disclosures of Interest</b>	The attention of Members was drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020. No further disclosures were made.	
<b>3. Minutes of Capital Expenditure Committee of 25.02.2025</b>	<b>Item No 3.1: Minutes, Part A 25.02.2025</b> <b>Item No 3.2:</b> Matters Arising from the Minutes, Part A, not elsewhere on the agenda. No matters were discussed that needed further attention, as part of the follow-up from the previous meeting.	<b>RESOLVED (Chair   Rob McDonald)</b> that the Minutes, Part A, of the Capital Expenditure Committee held on 25.02.2025 be taken as read and confirmed.
<b>4. Other Matters for Decision or Noting</b>	None	
<b>5. Leave of Absence</b>	No leave of absence was requested for the meeting scheduled 04.11.2025.	
<b>6. Public Exclusions</b>	The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows: General subject of each matter to be considered: <b>Item No 7.1: Capital Expenditure Committee 25 February 2025, Minutes Part B and Electronic Capital Expenditure Committee 10 March 2025, Minutes Part B</b> <b>Item No 7.2: Capital Expenditure Meeting 25 February 2025 and Electronic Capital Expenditure Committee 10 March 2025 Matters Arising from Minutes, Part B</b>	<b>RESOLVED (Chair   Jonathan Mason)</b> that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting AND THAT Mrs Cleland, Mr Bluett, Mr Neale, Mr Phipps, Mr Thomas and Ms Dharmawardana be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public be excluded, because of their knowledge of the matters to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they relate to aspects



	<p><b>Item No 8.0: B525 Research Facility Development Business Case</b></p> <p><b>Item No 9.0: Hono   Human Connections Programme Update</b></p> <p><b>Item No 10.0: LTFP Capital Programme Update</b></p> <p><b>Item No 11.0: Use of Vice-Chancellor Delegated Authority</b></p> <p>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter: The protection of the interests mentioned below.</p> <p>Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution: Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations; and</li> <li>ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and</li> <li>iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.</li> </ul>	<p>of the administration of the University of Auckland for which those persons are responsible.</p>
<p><b>The meeting moved into a Public Excluded session at 08.05am.</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 09.10 am.</b></p> <p><b>Approved as a true and correct record.</b></p> <p><b>Cecilia Tarrant, Chair</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>		

<b>Naming Committee Minutes Part A</b>  <b>11.08.2025</b> <b>Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland</b> <b>10.00am- 10.45am</b>		 <b>Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland</b>	Page #
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Quinn, Ms Kinser, Mr Paitai and Mr Bentley		
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Professor Tiatia-Siau and Ms Roberts for item 1.1 in Part B; and Ms Verschaeren		
<b>1. APOLOGIES</b>	Professor Young for item 1.2 in Part B	<b>RESOLVED</b> that the apologies be <b>noted</b> .	
<b>2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS</b>	The attention of Members is drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.  No disclosures were made.		

**PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS**

**The Chancellor moves** that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1 Naming of the Pacific Collection in the Library

Item No. 2.1 Naming of the Biology Building

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:


The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

AND THAT Wendy Verschaeren, Professor Tiatia-Siau and Ms Roberts be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of, or need to be briefed about, the matters to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they relate to aspects of the administration of The University of Auckland for which those persons are responsible.

<b>Vice-Chancellor's Review and Executive Remuneration Committee (VCRERC) - Minutes 1 Part A</b>  <b>14.08.2025</b> <b>Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland</b>		 <b>Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland</b>	Page #
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Ms Tarrant (Chancellor - Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Quinn, Mr Mason		
<b>1. APOLOGIES</b>	None		
<b>2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS</b>	<p>The attention of Members is drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>Disclosures of Interest by Members – Mr McDonald has an interest in the matters to be discussed so is not present at the meeting.</p>		

#### PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

**The Chancellor moves** that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1 **Expressions of interest for two persons, being able to provide skills specified by Council, for appointment to Council**


Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:

The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

<b>Vice-Chancellor's Review and Executive Remuneration Committee (VCRERC) - Minutes 2 Part A</b>  <b>14.08.2025</b> <b>Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland</b> <b>and via Teams on 22.08.2028</b>		 <b>Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland</b>	Page #
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Ms Quinn (Pro Chancellor - Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Mr McDonald, Mr Mason		
<b>1. APOLOGIES</b>	None		
<b>2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS</b>	<p>The attention of Members is drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>Disclosures of Interest by Members – Ms Tarrant had an interest in the matters to be discussed so was not present at the meeting.</p>		

5.4

## PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

**The Pro Chancellor moves** that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1 **Expressions of interest for one person, being an alumnus of the University of Auckland, for appointment to Council**

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:

The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

# 6.1

6.1

## THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

### MATERIAL FOR COUNCIL FROM the MEETING OF SENATE 28.07.2025

#### PART A:

#### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE REQUIRING TO BE CONSIDERED/RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

- a) **Review of the Master of Engineering**  
Senate 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS to Council that it receive the Review of the Master of Engineering
- b) **Review of the Department of Economics – Year-on Progress Report**  
Senate 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS to Council that it receive the Review of the Department of Economics Year-on Progress Report as final response to the 2023 review.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE REQUIRING COUNCIL CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL**

##### **ACADEMIC MATTERS AND REGULATIONS**

##### **1. REGULATION AMENDMENTS**

**Senate, 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the following Regulation Amendments:**

- a) **Regulation Amendment 2025-906: Closing Dates for Admission**  
To align the non-standard application and add a non-standard application closing date for the Master of Nursing Science
- b) **Regulation Amendment 2025-908: Enrolment and Programme Regulations**  
To amend the clause relating to the refund of fees for international students who fail to secure a visa.

##### **2. Memorandum and Draft Scholarships and Prizes Statute**

**Senate, 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the Draft Scholarships and Prizes Statute**

##### **3. 2026 Programme Limitations**

**Senate, 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the 2026 Programme Limitations**

##### **4. School Leaver Requirements and UTAS Criteria for 2027**

**Senate, 28.07.2025 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the School Leaver Requirements and UTAS Criteria for 2027**

**PART B: ITEMS FROM SENATE FOR NOTING BY COUNCIL**

1. With regard to the **Review of the Waipapa Taumata Rau (WTR) courses**, Senate noted that that the Report concerning the panel's evaluation of WTR courses had been submitted to the Vice-Chancellor on 18 July.

Given the comprehensive nature of the panel's Report, the Vice-Chancellor had requested that time be allocated to consider its findings including the possibility of seeking clarifications from panel members where necessary. Senate was informed that the report would be made available to Council at its meeting on 27 August after which Council would seek advice from Senate.

2. **Meeting schedule summary for 2026 of Council, Senate and Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committees**

**PART C: MATTERS RECEIVED AND APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

1. **English Language Requirements**

Senate, 28.07.2025 advises Council that it approve the English Language Requirements

2. **CUAP AMENDMENTS**

Senate, 28.07.2025 advises Council that the following CUAP Amendments and deletions be approved for submission to CUAP:

**Arts and Education**

2025/012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To resize the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) from a 480-point integrated programme to a 120-point standalone honours degree</li> <li>2. To introduce FINEARTS 708</li> </ol>
2025/020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To introduce a 180-point Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MTESOL) alongside an existing 120-point MTESOL.</li> <li>2. To introduce EDCURRIC 734 and LANGTCHG 702.</li> <li>3. To amend the Postgraduate Certificate in Education to add additional courses to align with the MTESOL.</li> </ol>
2025/031	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To delete the Bachelor of Music's Music Studies specialisation.</li> <li>2. To introduce two new specialisations - Music Education and Musicology.</li> <li>3. To change titles of specialisations</li> <li>4. introduce new courses</li> <li>5. To delete existing courses</li> <li>6. To make consequential changes</li> </ol>
2025/009	Deletion of the programme: Bachelor of Human Services- BHumServ

<b>2025/019</b>	<b>Deletion of the subject: Health and Society</b>
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**Business and Economics**

<b>2025/115</b>	<b>To amend the Admission Regulations to allow students to reassign courses from the Master of Commerce and exit with the Postgraduate Certificate in Commerce.</b>
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**Engineering and Design**

<b>2025/410</b>	<b>To amend the Admission, Duration and Total Points Value and Schedules of the Master of Architecture (March) to add a 180-point pathway as an alternative to the current 120-point pathway, and to introduce the Postgraduate Certificate in Architecture (PGCertArch).</b>
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**Law**

<b>2025/501</b>	<b>To re-size the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) programme from 540 points to 480 points, introduce courses and make consequential changes</b>
<b>2025/503</b>	<b>To amend the admission regulations for several Postgraduate Certificates and Masters degrees in the Faculty of Law.</b>

**Medical and Health Sciences**

<b>2025/611</b>	<b>To introduce a new named Master of Nutrition and Dietetics.</b>
<b>2025/612</b>	<b>To amend the Duration and Total Points Value clause from 240 to a 180-point requirement for the MHSc.</b>
<b>2025/613</b>	<b>To amend the structure of the Master of Health Leadership (MHLthLd), introduce subject code HLTHLEAD, introduce courses and delete existing courses</b>

**Science**

<b>2025/701</b>	<b>To introduce a Postgraduate Certificate in Science</b>
<b>2025/719</b>	<b>To amend the regulations for the Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology.</b>
<b>2025/712</b>	<b>Deletion of the Ecology Major in the Bachelor of Science</b>
<b>2025/713</b>	<b>Deletion of the Biotechnology Major in the Bachelor of Science</b>
<b>2025/714</b>	<b>Deletion of the the Bioinformatics Specialisations in the Bachelor of Science (Honours) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Science</b>

**Interfaculty**

<b>2025/801</b>	<b>To introduce EARTHSCI 793 Dissertation in Engineering Geology and amend the programme regulations and schedule for the Master of Engineering Geology.</b>
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**3. Senate, 28.07.2025 advises Council that it approved one new set of scholarship regulations**

1. Kelliher Economics Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship

6.1





**Internal Memorandum**

Date: 01.08.2025

To: Council

From: Vice-Chancellor

Subject: Director of Student and Scholarly Services: authority to discharge functions of the Director of Student and Academic Services role

8.2

With effect from 28 August 2025, the position of Director of Student and Academic Services is dis-established.

The Vice-Chancellor recommends that Council resolves that with effect from 28 August 2025:

All powers and duties vested in the Director of Student and Academic Services as of 27 August 2025 in statutes and regulations made by Council, and in policies, procedures, and standards approved by Council, will be vested in the Director of Student and Scholarly Services. Council delegates to the Vice-Chancellor the power to approve the amendment of all such statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards to give effect to this resolution.



### Internal Memorandum

Date: 01.08.2025  
To: Council  
From: Vice-Chancellor  
Subject: Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education: authority to discharge functions of the Provost role

8.3

With effect from 28 August 2025, the position of Provost is dis-established.

The Vice-Chancellor recommends that Council resolves that with effect from 28 August 2025:

All powers and duties vested in the Provost as of 27 August 2025 in statutes and regulations made by Council, and in policies, procedures, and standards approved by Council, will be vested in the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education (DVCE). Council delegates to the Vice-Chancellor the power to approve the amendment of all such statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards to give effect to this resolution.



## Internal Memorandum

Date: 13 August 2025  
 To: Wendy Verschaeren, [w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz)  
 From: Kendall Smith-Heke, [kendall.smith-heke@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:kendall.smith-heke@auckland.ac.nz)  
 CC: Margaret Crannigan Allen, [margaret.allen@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:margaret.allen@auckland.ac.nz)  
 Subject: Rescindment of Degree

**Rescindment of diploma and re-award with Merit**

The following student was awarded their diploma with no milestone due to a grade change being submitted after the student was made eligible to graduate and the milestone calculation undertaken.

This is to request that the earlier qualification be rescinded and re-awarded with the Merit milestone as noted below.

To be rescinded:

Name	Qualification	Specialisation	New milestone
Devon Kathryn Woods-Davidson	Postgraduate Diploma in Science	Biological Sciences	No milestone

To be awarded:

Name	Qualification	Specialisation	New milestone
Devon Kathryn Woods-Davidson	Postgraduate Diploma in Science	Biological Sciences	Merit

Nga mihi

The Graduation Office

Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland



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## Memorandum

To:	Professor Dawn Freshwater, Vice-Chancellor
From:	Professor Nuala Gregory, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Education
Date:	22 July 2025
Subject:	Arts and Education New School Structure

Kia ora Dawn

Following on from the Faculty of Arts and Education endorsement of the proposed new school structure (22 May and 21 July), please see below for noting at Council.

Summary of the work completed to date:

### Introduction

The Faculty of Arts and Education was established on 1 January 2025 by merging academic units from the former Faculties of Arts, Creative Arts and Industries (excluding Architecture and Design), and Education and Social Work.

At its inception, the faculty comprised eleven schools and one independent programme that functioned as a school. The overall structure was deemed unsustainable for the long term.

Following a consultative process, a new structure has been developed to streamline governance, enhance strategic focus, and better support teaching and research. The number of units will be reduced from twelve to five, effective 1 January 2026.

### New School Structure

New School	Disciplines/Units	Approx. EFTS
School of Education and Social Practice	Applied Language Studies, Te Puna Wānanga, Counselling and Social Work, Critical Studies in Education, Curriculum & Pedagogy, Learning and Development	2,220
School of Creative Arts	Dance Studies, Elam Fine Arts, Music	850
School of Humanities	European and Asian Languages, Art History, Classical Studies, Creative Writing, English & Drama, History, Media and Screen, Museums and Heritage, Philosophy, Theology and Religion	2,150

School of Social Sciences	Communication, Global Studies, Linguistics, Anthropology, Criminology, Gender Studies, Politics, Public Policy, Sociology	1,880
Te Wānanga o Waipapa	Māori and Pacific Studies (unchanged)	420

Note: The School of Cultures, Languages and Linguistics will be disbanded, with its disciplines redistributed.

### Consultation Process

- Launched at the first Faculty Meeting (28 February 2025).
- Led by a Steering Group chaired by Deputy Dean Kathy Smits and supported by Academic Transition Lead Prof. Mark Barrow.
- Four structure models reviewed by a Consultative Team of 26 academic reps (19 March). Feedback led to revisions and narrowing to two final options.
- Faculty-wide feedback (63 submissions) collected by 30 April, including student association input.
- Final model confirmed at Faculty Meeting (22 May, and minutes ratified 21 July).

### Next Steps

An implementation team will oversee the transition, including:

1. Appointing Heads of School.
2. Defining leadership structures within schools.
3. Assigning professional staff.
4. Updating the website and intranet.
5. Updating university systems to reflect new school assignments for courses and staff.

Professor Nuala Gregory



## Internal Memorandum

Date: 11 August 2025  
 To: Council  
 From: Adrienne Cleland, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Operations & Registrar  
 CC:  
 Subject: Draft Freedom of Expression Statement

### Recommendation That Council

- **NOTE** the progress report relating to the planned introduction of the [Education and Training Amendment Bill](#), which if enacted will require the University Council to (i) adopt a statement on freedom of expression, as set out under the proposed Section 281A, (ii) to survey staff and students with respect to freedom of expression and academic freedom and (iii) to establish a complaints mechanism.
- **APPROVE** the draft Freedom of Expression Statement as the basis for consultation with the wider University community and for seeking formal advice from Senate.

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**Background** To meet the requirements of the [Education & Training Amendment Bill No 2](#) (ETAB), members of the VC's Freedom of Expression Advisory Group drafted a freedom of expression statement which was reviewed by UEC and further revised. Language in the statement is closely aligned to language used in the proposed legislation, including the requirement that "universities should not take positions on matters that do not directly concern their role or functions."

### Draft Freedom of Expression Statement

Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland fulfils its role as critic and conscience of society through the preservation and enhancement of freedom of expression and academic freedom. Our university is a place where diverse cultures, identities, ethnicities and value systems contribute to research and teaching, and related activities. Respect for everyone's ability to express diverse views and a commitment to civil discourse is critical to our function. To fulfil these commitments, the University actively fosters and supports lawful and constructive debate by its staff and students on any issue, including with the participation of external speakers invited by a staff member, a recognised student association or club. The University may reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the University.

The University may make provisions and statements on matters directly related to university roles, functions and duties, including the wellbeing and safety of staff and students, financial and resource management, sustainability, and equity. It may also comment on its obligations related to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as laid out in the Education and Training Act 2020. It will not take positions on matters that do not directly relate to university roles, functions or duties.

**Draft Statement Consultation** The Advisory Group proposes to consult on this draft with academic and professional staff at faculty meetings, with all staff via an online feedback mechanism and with students via the Student Consultative Group, in advance of the 17 November Senate meeting. The Advisory Group will report back to Council in December with advice from faculties and Senate and a report on feedback from the broader community.

**Survey and Complaints Mechanism Progress** UNZ has formed a Working Group to plan a coordinated response to the [ETAB](#). The proposed bill will require universities to establish staff and student surveys as well as complaints procedures relating to academic freedom and freedom of expression and to report annually on the survey outcomes and the number and nature of complaints. The Working Group has developed a draft questionnaire that will be considered by Vice Chancellors later in August. The current draft to be considered provides definitions of freedom of expression and academic freedom, and includes four proposed questions:

1. In the last 12 months, I have felt free to exercise my academic freedom.
2. In the last 12 months, I have felt free to exercise my freedom of expression.
3. I am aware of how to raise a complaint regarding freedom of expression.
4. I am aware of how to raise a complaint regarding academic freedom.

Negative responses to questions 1 and 2 prompt a drop-down menu of reasons the survey participant may have felt limited, along with a free text box to add more information. The working group also agreed that biennial surveying would be the preferred cadence.

The UNZ working group has also recommended a reporting mechanism for publishing survey results and the nature and number of complaints received relating to academic freedom and freedom of expression. This includes a template of language and data presentation for universities to use in annual reports. Protocols for reporting include reporting on 'instances' rather than the total number of complaints, and to only count matters accepted by the university as a complaint for formal investigation.

## Appendix A

To comply with the new [Education and Training Amendment Bill](#), the University Council must adopt a statement on freedom of expression as set out under Section 281A:

### **281A Requirement for university council to adopt statement on freedom of expression**

- (1) The council of a university must develop and adopt a statement that sets out the university's approach to freedom of expression.
- (2) The statement must be consistent with the following:

- (a) universities should recognise that freedom of expression is critical to maintaining academic freedom:
  - (b) universities should actively foster an environment where ideas can be challenged, controversial issues can be discussed, and diverse opinions can be expressed, in a respectful manner consistent with any statute made by the university:
  - (c) universities' policies and procedures relating to freedom of expression should be clear, consistently applied, and focused on fostering genuine debate rather than restricting it:
  - (d) universities should not take positions on matters that do not directly concern their role or functions:
  - (e) universities should not limit the freedom of expression of staff or students, except where the exercise of free expression is likely to be unlawful or to disrupt the ordinary activities of the university:
  - (f) universities should seek to uphold their role as critic and conscience of society by providing a platform for invited speakers of diverse viewpoints:
  - (g) universities should not deny the use of university premises by an invited speaker because of that speaker's ideas or opinions.
- (3) In subsection (2)(g), invited speaker means a speaker invited by staff or any student association or student club of the university.

In summary, this proposed amendment would:

- Mandate all universities adopt a statement on freedom of expression and maintain institutional neutrality
- Encourage universities to actively foster respectful debate of diverse viewpoints
- Note that there is also a requirement under Section 281B to establish a complaints procedure relating to academic freedom and freedom of expression and to report on the nature and number of complaints in annual reports

### Example statements from other institutions

#### Chicago Principles

([FOECommitteeReport.pdf \(uchicago.edu\)](#))

Key statements in the Chicago document are:

*.. the ideas of different members of the University community will often and quite naturally conflict. But it is not the proper role of the University to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive. Although the University greatly values civility, and although all members of the University community share in the responsibility for maintaining a climate of mutual respect, concerns about civility and mutual respect can never be used as a justification for closing off discussion of ideas, however offensive or disagreeable those ideas may be to some members of our community.*

*The freedom to debate and discuss the merits of competing ideas does not, of course, mean that individuals may say whatever they wish, wherever they wish. The University may restrict expression that violates the law, that falsely defames a specific individual, that constitutes a genuine threat or harassment, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly incompatible with the functioning of the University. In addition, the University may reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the*



ordinary activities of the University. But these are narrow exceptions to the general principle of freedom of expression, and it is vitally important that these exceptions never be used in a manner that is inconsistent with the University's commitment to a completely free and open discussion of ideas.

### **University of Western Australia**

([UWA Policy Library : The University of Western Australia](#))

The report of the UWA Freedom of Expression Working Group contains 18 recommendations together with the following '**UWA Statement on Freedom of Expression**':

*The exchange of ideas is fundamental to academic scholarship. Consequently, any institution that aspires to progress scholarship must avoid placing inappropriate constraints on the freedom to express them. The University of Western Australia's steadfast commitment to advancing knowledge and understanding is underpinned by an openness to considering ideas that challenge existing belief structures. We nurture an environment that is conducive not only to the free expression of such ideas, but also to their critical evaluation. Of course, freedom of expression is not absolute. It is limited by legal restrictions that prohibit certain forms of expression, such as defamation. Moreover, the dehumanisation or vilification of marginalised groups has no legitimate place in society or within our institution. The need to responsibly discharge core University business also may at times impose practical limitations on opportunities for expression, for example by limiting access to venues. Beyond these constraints freedom of expression is unfettered within our University, and so a multitude of ideas will be encountered here. This freedom to express ideas is constrained neither by their perceived capacity to elicit discomfort, nor by presuppositions concerning their veracity. Allowing the expression of ideas does not imply their endorsement by the University. Nor does the fact that diverse ideas can be expressed here with equivalent freedom mean that these ideas all have equivalent merit, or are deserving of equal esteem. Some will lead to the revelation of new truths, and progress knowledge in important ways that contribute to the betterment of society, while others may be ill-considered fallacies with no substantive basis in fact. Assuring the freedom to express ideas allows our University to expose them to rigorous appraisal, and the continuous disputation of ideas is to be expected and encouraged. The search for wisdom must be fearless, and hold to account ideas that compromise reason, contradict knowledge and undermine truth. By foregoing the comfort of denying such ideas expression within our institution, we accept our responsibility to play a meaningful role in preventing them from taking root unchallenged within the wider community. Affording scrutiny to freely expressed ideas, to distinguish those that have substance and value from those that do not, enables The University of Western Australia to deliver the benefits of our intellectual scholarship to the society we serve, by empowering public discussion that is rational, well-informed, and enlightened.*

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### **University of Melbourne**

([Freedom of Speech Policy \(MPF1342\) : Policy : The University of Melbourne](#))

#### **Policy**

4.1 The University supports the exercise of lawful freedom of speech. The University recognises that the advancement of knowledge and learning requires:

- (a) university autonomy, academic freedom and freedom of speech to be core values of the University;
- (b) an environment in which debate and criticism are a fundamental part of university life; and
- (c) a commitment to orthodoxies being challenged and ideas subject to debate and criticism.

- 4.2 *As set out separately in the Academic Freedom of Expression Policy, the University preserves, defends and promotes academic freedom in the conduct of its affairs, so that all scholars of the University are free to engage in critical enquiry, scholarly endeavour and public discourse without fear or favour.*
- 4.3 *The University recognises the right to protest as a manifestation of freedom of speech.*
- 4.4 *The University expects that in public events and public discourse conducted by or associated with the University, participants will respect the need for reasoned argument, discourse and debate.*
- 4.5 *The University does not support the exercise of freedom of speech when the exercise undermines the capacity of individuals to participate fully in the University, or jeopardises the physical safety of individuals, or unreasonably disrupts activities or operations of the University.*
- 4.6 *When outside individuals or bodies seek to hire University facilities for events, the University will give consideration to the public interest and the objective of promoting critical and free enquiry, informed intellectual discourse and public debate.*

8.6

### **University of Oxford**

[\(Statement on the importance of the freedom of speech.pdf \(ox.ac.uk\)\)](#)

*Free speech is the lifeblood of a university. It enables the pursuit of knowledge. It helps us approach truth. It allows students, teachers and researchers to become better acquainted with the variety of beliefs, theories and opinions in the world. Recognising the vital importance of free expression for the life of the mind, a university may make rules concerning the conduct of debate but should never prevent speech that is lawful. Inevitably, this will mean that members of the University are confronted with views that some find unsettling, extreme or offensive. The University must therefore foster freedom of expression within a framework of robust civility. Not all theories deserve equal respect. A university values expertise and intellectual achievement as well as openness. But, within the bounds set by law, all voices or views which any member of our community considers relevant should be given the chance of a hearing. Wherever possible, they should also be exposed to evidence, questioning and argument. As an integral part of this commitment to freedom of expression, we will take steps to ensure that all such exchanges happen peacefully. With appropriate regulation of the time, place and manner of events, neither speakers nor listeners should have any reasonable grounds to feel intimidated or censored.*

*It is this understanding of the central importance and specific roles of free speech in a university that underlies the detailed procedures of the University of Oxford.*

### **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

[\(MIT statement on FoE and AF\)](#)

*Free expression is a necessary, though not sufficient, condition of a diverse and inclusive community. We cannot have a truly free community of expression if some perspectives can be heard and others cannot. Diversity of thought is an essential ingredient of academic excellence.*

*Free expression promotes creativity by affirming the ability to exchange ideas without constraints. It not only facilitates individual autonomy and self-fulfilment, it provides for participation in collective decision-making and is essential to the search for truth and justice. Free expression is enhanced by the doctrine of academic freedom, which protects both intramural and extramural expression without institutional censorship or discipline.*

*Academic freedom promotes scholarly rigor and the testing of ideas by protecting research, publication, and teaching from interference.*

*MIT does not protect direct threats, harassment, plagiarism, or other speech that falls outside the boundaries of the First Amendment. Moreover, the time, place, and manner of protected expression, including organized protests, may be restrained so as not to disrupt the essential activities of the Institute.*

*At the intersection of the ideal of free expression and MIT community values lies the expectation of an affirming, respectful learning and working environment. We cannot prohibit speech that some experience as offensive or injurious. At the same time, MIT deeply values civility, mutual respect, and uninhibited, wide-open debate. Controversies over free expression are opportunities for learning rather than occasions for disciplinary action. This applies broadly. For example, when MIT leaders speak on matters of public interest, whether in their own voice or in the name of MIT, this should always be understood as being open to debate by the broader MIT community.*

*A commitment to free expression includes hearing and hosting speakers, including those whose views or opinions may not be shared by many members of the MIT community and may be harmful to some. This commitment includes the freedom to criticize and peacefully protest speakers to whom one may object, but it does not extend to suppressing or restricting such speakers from expressing their views. Debate and deliberation of controversial ideas are hallmarks of the Institute's educational and research missions and are essential to the pursuit of truth, knowledge, equity, and justice.*

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## **University of Otago**

### **[\(University of Otago Statement on Free Speech\)](#)**

*Free speech is the lifeblood of a university. It enables the exploration of ideas, the challenging of assumptions, and the uncovering of truth through open exchange. It allows students, teachers and researchers to know better the variety of beliefs, theories and opinions in the world. Only through a preparedness to challenge, question, and criticise ideas can progress in understanding take place. Consistent with its motto Sapere Aude, 'dare to be wise' and the ikoa Māori Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka, the University of Otago is committed to the fearless pursuit of knowledge driven by māhira (curiosity) and bounded by pono (integrity). That commitment requires a wide range of views to be freely presented, discussed and debated.*

*The University affirms that it will not restrict debate or deliberation simply because the ideas put forth are thought by some to be offensive, unwise, immoral, or wrong-headed. It is for the members of the University community – its students and staff – to make those judgments for themselves.*

*The University is not a place for safety from ideas – it is a place to engage in critical thought and debate in the pursuit of knowledge and understanding. Our students will not be prepared for a complex and challenging world unless they have experience negotiating conflict and disagreement.*

*The University therefore guarantees all members of its community, including invited visitors, the right to advance ideas in the spirit of free and open enquiry. Furthermore, in its role as critic and conscience of society, the University provides a space in which contrary and unpopular positions can be advanced free from political interference or suppression.*

*This commitment to free speech does not mean that any utterance is appropriate in a university setting. The University may properly restrict expression which violates the law. Moreover, the University accepts no duty to provide a space for those who are not members of its community to advance their ideas or theories in ways which fundamentally undermine the University's character as an institute of higher learning. The University may also reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the University.*

*The University's support for free speech carries with it corollary responsibilities. Although students, staff, and visitors are free to criticise, contest, and condemn the views expressed on campus, they should not obstruct, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with the freedom of others to express those views.*

*The University challenges members of its community and invited visitors to be tolerant of the diversity of identities and beliefs of others. We encourage debate in good faith guided by the principles of manaakitaka (care and respect for others).*

*This statement was ratified on 9 July 2024, to reiterate the University's solemn and long-standing responsibility not only to promote lively and fearless freedom of debate and deliberation, but also to protect that freedom when others attempt to restrict it. Portions of the statement were adapted from the University of Chicago's Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression (January 2015) and the Model Code advanced as part of the Independent Review into Freedom of Speech in Australian Higher Education Providers (April 2019), the University of Oxford's Statement on Free Speech (August 2016), and the University of Cambridge's Statement on Free Speech (December 2020).*