


Council Agenda Part A (Open Agenda)		 Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland	Page #
29.04.2026 Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland 4:00pm			
KARAKIA	The meeting will be opened with the following karakia:		
	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	
1. APOLOGIES	The Chancellor moves that the apologies, if any, be noted .		
2. WELCOME	The Chancellor welcomes Professor Frank Bloomfield, the acting Vice-Chancellor, as member of Council		
3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	3.1 Council Interest Register for 2026 – members are asked to advise Wendy (w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz), as soon as possible when changes are required. 3.2 In addition to the requirement for Council to complete an annual Interest Register 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.	The Chancellor moves Council Interest Register for 2025 be received and the additional disclosures, if any, be noted and the action taken be endorsed .	7
4. COUNCIL MEETINGS	4.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 16.03.2026; and 4.2 Special Council Meeting, Minutes (Part A), 20.02.2026	The Chancellor moves that the Minutes (Part A), 16.03.2024 and special meeting, 20.02.2026 be taken as read and confirmed .	11 20

	4.3	Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 16.03.2026 and special meeting 20.02.2026 not elsewhere on the Agenda	
5. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT			The Chancellor moves that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be noted . 22
6. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES	None		
7. SENATE MATTERS	7.1	REPORT OF SENATE MEETING 13.04.2026 Part A1 : Policy and other matters requiring to be considered/received by Council - None Part A2,1-4: Matters requiring Council approval Part B, 1: Item to note by Council Part C, 1-2: Matters handled under Delegated Authority	The Chancellor moves that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 13.04.2026 be adopted and Part B and C be noted . 34
8. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR	None		
9. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING	9.1	SEAL Since the Council meeting on 16.03.2026 the seal has been applied to the following document in accordance with the Council resolution of 18.02.1991: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed of Accession – Admission of Wide Bay Hospital Service to the existing Collaboration Agreement 24.1.25 – University of Auckland, Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service, Austin Health and Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service (the Parties to the Deed) • Deed of Rent Review – 6 Osterley Way, Manukau - Takahe Properties Ltd (the Landlord) and The University of Auckland (the Tenant) 	The Chancellor moves that the affixing of the seal to the listed document be noted .

<p>10. ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>11. GENERAL BUSINESS</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>12. LEAVE OF ABSENCE</p>	<p>(for the meeting of 10.06.2026)</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	Council Minutes Part B 16.03.2026
Item No. 1.2	Special Council Meeting Minutes Part B 20.02.2026
Item No. 2.1.1	Biological Safety Committee – membership
Item No. 2.2.1	Animal Ethics Committee – membership
Item No. 3	Correspondence referred by the Chancellor
Item No. 4.1	Student Enrolments - 2026 Early Outlook
Item No. 4.2	Memorandum regarding Esquires Bedell
Item No. 4.3	Appointment of a University of Auckland Trustee

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 Mark Gregory, Professors Young, and Holdaway, Tim Bluett, Helen Cattnach, Jeremy Greenbrook-Held, 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 2026


3.1

Name of Member	Interests	Updated																		
Gemma Skipper	employee of the University and having friends/family who work at UoA	19.02.2026																		
Julia Pahina	Fibre Fale Limited - CEO & Co-Founder	19.02.2026																		
Frank Bloomfield	UniServices	21.04.2026																		
Sunisha Dugar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International student at the University of Auckland • Employee at Auckland Council as swim instructor • Involved in student leadership across university contexts through clubs. Currently, Co-President of Amnesty International on campus and academic support co-ordinator for Auckland University Psychology Association. 	19.02.2026																		
Julia Tolmie	Employed by the University of Auckland Has family enrolled at the University of Auckland	20.02.2026																		
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	02.03.2026																		
Rob McDonald	Contact Energy - Chair, joined board 2015 Fleetpartners - Director, joined board 2023 Vero Insurance New Zealand - Chair, joined board 2025 Vero Liability - Chair, joined board 2025	04.03.2026																		
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): Dilworth Trust Board. Advisors to the Foundations: Cambridge Associates (<i>via</i> Dilworth Trust Board) Chair of Dilworth School for Boys	28.02.2026																		
Cecilia Tarrant	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Director/Officer/Shareholder</th> <th>Company/Organisation/Business Entity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>i</td> <td>Director/Shareholder</td> <td>Seeka Limited</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ii</td> <td>Director and interim Chair</td> <td>Payments NZ Limited</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iii</td> <td>Chancellor</td> <td>The University of Auckland Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iv</td> <td>Director/Shareholder</td> <td>Javan Cream Company Limited</td> </tr> <tr> <td>v</td> <td>Advisory Board</td> <td>The Seriously Good Chocolate Company Limited</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Director/Officer/Shareholder	Company/Organisation/Business Entity	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	02.03.2026
	Director/Officer/Shareholder	Company/Organisation/Business Entity																		
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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	
	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) Director and Shareholder, Sagitas Consulting Ltd Director and Shareholder, Vester Ltd BioEconomy Science Institute (as of 01.07.2025) Kiwifruit Breeding Centre (joint venture between Zespri and the Bioeconomy Science Institute) (Director from September 2025) Callaghan Innovation (from September 2025)			19.02.2026
Sam Ricketts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Head of Investment Banking & Co-Head of Investment Bank, NZ - Jarden • Director - Jarden Investments Limited • Director - Jarden Principal Investments Limited • Director - Jarden Structured Investment Limited • Director - Jarden Principal Investments Picasso GP Limited • Director - Jarden Nominees GP Limited • Director - Jarden Nominees Limited • Director - Jarden Partners Limited • Director - Jarden Securities Limited • Director - Jarden Management Limited • Director - Jarden Private Partners Limited • Director - Jarden Principal Investments Picasso PIE Limited • Director - Jarden Principal Investments Red Limited • Director - Jarden Custodial Services Limited • Director - Jarden Finance Limited • Director - Jarden PT Limited • Director - Jarden Scientific Trading Limited • Director - Jarden Scientific Trading Trustee Limited • Director - Jarden Limited • Director - Jarden Nominees No2 Limited • Director - Jarden Scrip Limited • Director - OMF Nominees Limited • Director - Jarden Wealth and Asset Management Holdings Limited • Director - Jarden Wealth and Asset Management Limited • Director - Oceania and Eastern Securities Limited • Director - Oceania and Eastern Finance Limited • Director - Oceania and Securities Limited • Director - Janmac Capital Limited • Director - Quartet Equities Limited • Director - Maisemore Enterprises Limited • Director - O & E Group Services Limited • Director - Oceania and Eastern Limited • Director - Oceania and Eastern Group Funds Limited • Director - Oceania and Eastern Holdings Limited • Director - Onepoto Trustee Limited • Director - Oceania North Limited • Director - Onepoto Investments Holdings Limited • Trustee of the Samuel Thomas Ricketts Trust • Trustee of the ST & MFDP Ricketts Family Trust • Trustee of the Ricketts Family Trust • Trustee of the Ipipiri Nature Conservancy Trust • Chair of the Sacred Heart College Development Foundation Trust • Shareholder - Jarden Group Limited 			03.02.2026
Tom Irvine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting Director - Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki (AAGToT) • Member - AAGToT Advisory Committee • Member - Hauraki Gulf Forum 			19.02.2026

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board member - MOTAT• Māori Advisory Board - Aktive Sport Auckland• Trustee - Taumata Toi a Iwi (Regional Arts Trust)• Board Member - Committee for Auckland	
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Excerpts from Council Minutes 2026		
Date of Council Meeting	Name of Member and Interest Disclosed	Action Taken
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Council Minutes Part A (Open Minutes) 16.03.2026 Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland 4:00pm		 Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland
PRESENT:	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Quinn, Professor Tolmie, Mr Mason, Mr McDonald, Ms Pahina, Ms Skipper, Mr Ricketts, Mr Irvine and Ms Dugar	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mr Gregory, Mr Bluett, Professor Young, Professor Bloomfield, Ms Catanach, Mr Michael, Mr Neale, and Ms Dharmawardana Mr Clarke and Mr Bentley for item 2.3.2 in Part B	
COUNCIL BRIEFINGS	The briefings took place prior to the meeting.	
KARAKIA	The meeting started with a karakia.	
1. APOLOGIES	Ms Kinser	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor): that the apologies, be noted .
2. WELCOME	The Chancellor welcomed Mr Tom Irvine, as the Māori representative to Council.	
3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	<p>3.1 Council Interest Register for 2026 – members are asked to advise Wendy (w.verschaeren@auckland.ac.nz), as soon as possible when changes are required.</p> <p>3.2 In addition to the requirement for Council to complete an annual Interest Register 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>All Council members declared their conflicts of interest regarding the Council fees item in Part B, agenda item 7. It was agreed that these declared conflicts would not preclude the members participating in the discussions and voting.</p> <p>No further disclosures were made.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Professor Tolmie): that the Council Interest Register for 2026 be received and the action taken regarding item 7 in Part B be endorsed.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>

4. HONOURS/AWARDS- NEW YEAR HONOURS	<p>The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor have sent congratulatory letters to those persons with links to the University.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Mason): that Council note all those honoured who have connections to the University and note that the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor have written to each of them offering their congratulations</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
5. COUNCIL MEETINGS	<p>5.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 10.12.2025</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Pahina): that the Minutes (Part A), 10.12.2025 be taken as read and confirmed.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
	<p>5.2 Special Council Meeting, Minutes (Part A), 20.02.2026</p> <p>The draft minutes of the Special Council meeting of 20.02.2026 were not available for this meeting and will be presented for adoption at the next meeting.</p>	
	<p>5.3 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 10.12.2025 and special meeting 20.02.2026 not elsewhere on the Agenda</p> <p>None.</p>	
6. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT	<p>The Report was taken as read.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, presented this item.</p> <p>She provided the following supplementary information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The University's strong enrolment outcomes for the year were highlighted, noting that these reflect sustained, strategic effort over a number of years. While enrolment growth is contributing positively to the University, continued focus is required to support the maintenance of academic quality and the student experience as scale increases. 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Ricketts): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be noted.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of active management of Size, Shape and Composition was emphasised, particularly in relation to discipline-level capacity, staffing, workload pressures, and the ability of services and facilities to support a larger student cohort. Deans and academic leaders are engaged in this work. • Early indications point to a positive outcome in the forthcoming QS World University Rankings by Subject, with results expected to reflect the University's established areas of global strength. • National reforms to intellectual property settings and the research system were noted as ongoing, with associated implications for institutional policy settings. Eligibility for the future Tertiary Research Excellence Fund (TREF) will require universities to apply the national intellectual property policy across all research activity, and developments are being monitored closely. • An update was provided on the external funding environment, including correspondence from the TEC relating to planning for 2027. This indicated future funding constraints, including implications for research funding, discipline prioritisation aligned to national priorities, and learner success, and reinforced the need for the University to continue making deliberate choices about its academic and research portfolio while balancing comprehensiveness. • Developments within Universities New Zealand were noted, including structural changes arising from a consultation process and their implications for sector-level coordination and support. The University continues to engage actively in national processes while reviewing its ongoing commitments. <p>Council also discussed the Finance ERP Modernisation project, noting the value of drawing on independent perspectives for quality assurance and advisory support, as well as lessons from previous large-scale programmes, particularly Hono, as planning progresses.</p>	
<p>7. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES</p>	<p>7.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>7.1.1 Minutes, (Part A), 26.02.2026</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Skipper): that the Finance Committee Minutes (Part A) 26.02.2026 be received.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>

	7.1.2 Terms of Reference	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Dugar): that the amended terms of reference be adopted.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
	<p>7.2 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE</p> <p>7.2.1 Minutes, (Part A), 03.03.2026</p> <p>7.2.2 Terms of Reference</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Irvine): that the Audit and Risk Committee Minutes (Part A) 03.03.2026 be received.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Quinn): that the amended terms of reference be adopted, replacing “ensuring” with “having”, such that the risk-management clause reads:</p> <p>The Committee is responsible for confirming the University Risk Appetite, monitoring the management of all material business risks and having appropriate procedures in place to mitigate or manage those risks.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
	<p>7.3 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE</p> <p>7.3.1 Minutes, (Part A), 05.03.2026</p> <p>7.3.2 Terms of Reference</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr McDonald): that the Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes (Part A) 05.03.2026 be received.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Vice-Chancellor): that the amended terms of reference be adopted.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>

	<p>7.4 STUDENT APPEALS COMMITTEE</p> <p>7.4.1 Report for 2025</p> <p>Council noted two minor amendments to the report: that the first reference to 13 cases should read 14 cases, and that the name "Julia Arnott-Neenee" should be updated to "Julia Pahina".</p> <p>Council expressed its appreciation to the Council members of the Student Appeals Committee, acknowledging their contribution.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Mason): that the 2025 Student Appeals Committee Report be received as edited.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
	<p>7.5 HONOURS COMMITTEE</p> <p>7.5.1 Memorandum, 04.03.2026 from the Chancellor</p> <p>7.5.2 Honorary Degrees and Awards Statute, Guidelines and Honours Committee Terms of Reference - update</p> <p>Council noted the updated honorary doctorate framework, which provides flexibility and enables more appropriately aligned honorary degrees, as well as the addition of an eligibility criterion for exceptionally distinguished service.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Professor Tolmie): that Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive the memorandum, 04.03.2026; ii. Approve the Honorary Degrees and Awards Statute and Guidelines; and iii. Adopt the Honours Committee amended Terms of Reference <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
<p>8. SENATE MATTERS</p>	<p>8.1 REPORT OF SENATE MEETING 23.02.2026</p> <p>Part A1, a-b: Policy and other matters requiring to be considered/received by Council</p> <p>Part A2,1-3: Matters requiring Council approval</p> <p>Part B, 1 : Item to note by Council</p> <p>Part C, 1-3 : Matters handled under Delegated Authority</p> <p>Council noted the update from Senate on proposed changes to the University's suite of health-related programmes and associated admissions settings, including the adoption of a consistent rank score of 200 across the BBiomedSc, BHSc, and specified BSc health majors, as outlined in the Senate materials. The overall intent is to provide clearer and more coherent pathways into the clinical programmes, recognising the curriculum redevelopment supporting these proposals. Rank scores, while informative, do not always strongly predict student performance across cohorts, and a more unified approach was presented as a pragmatic way to support consistency across the health pathways.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Quinn): that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 23.02.2026 be adopted and Part B and C be noted.</p> <p>Each of the matters in the motion was carried unanimously, apart from Part A2, item 3: Matters requiring Council approval, with Ms Skipper voting against.</p>

	<p>In the course of discussion, Council observed that the revised approach involves recalibrating rank scores across programmes—lifting requirements in some areas and easing them in others—to support a more balanced and coordinated entry profile. This work forms part of a two-year comprehensive review and reflects common international practice, with ongoing monitoring of enrolment patterns expected to guide future adjustments as needed.</p> <p>Council also noted broader comments on enrolment management and programme capacity, with reference to the ongoing Size, Shape and Composition discussion and the need for flexibility in how the University responds to growth across disciplines. Future adjustments may involve the use of various levers to help manage demand in a sustainable manner, alongside operational considerations such as staffing, timetabling, and the balance between on-campus and flexible delivery. While the discussion was generally supportive of the proposed direction, Council also noted views reflecting some concern about potential enrolment volatility and the degree to which the University can moderate demand within current entry-setting arrangements, noting that the proposal reflected a pragmatic balance of the various considerations involved.</p>	
<p>9. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>10. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING</p>	<p>10.1 SEAL</p> <p>Since the Council meeting on 10.12.2025 the seal has been applied to the following document in accordance with the Council resolution of 18.02.1991:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed of Novation - Transfer of contractual responsibility from Callaghan Innovation to MBIE – Sequal Lumber Ltd, University of Auckland, Mostafa Papeu, Callaghan Innovation and Secretary for Business Innovation and Employment and Chief Executive Te Tumu Whakarae mō Hikina Whakatutuki • Deed of Novation - Transfer of Contractual responsibility from Callaghan Innovation to MBIE – Catalyst Tec Ltd, University of Auckland, Sara Rashidi, Callaghan Innovation and the Secretary 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Dugar): that the affixing of the seal to the listed document be noted.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>

	<p>for Business Innovation and Employment and Chief Executive Te Tumu Whakarae mō Hīkina Whakatutuki</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed of Novation - Transfer of Contractual responsibility from Callaghan Innovation to MBIE – Whanauka Ltd, University of Auckland, Bryan Busby and the Secretary for Business Innovation and Employment and Chief Executive Te Tumu Whakarae mō Hīkina Whakatutuki • Deed of Assignment - 22 Stanley St, Parnell - Precinct Properties Wynyard Ltd (the Assignor) Stanley Limited Partnership (the Assignee) and The University of Auckland • Deed of Novation - Transfer of two Ministry contracts related to the Structured Maths Programme from UniServices to the University of Auckland - Auckland UniServices Ltd, University of Auckland and the Sovereign in right of the Government of New Zealand 	
11. ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS	<p>11.1 ELECTION OF THE PRO-CHANCELLOR FOR 2026</p> <p>Council recorded its appreciation to Ms Quinn for her valuable contribution during her tenure as Pro Chancellor, and congratulated Mr McDonald as he assumes the role.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Quinn): that the Council approve the appointment of Mr McDonald as Pro-Chancellor for the period 17.03.2026 to 31.12.2026, in place of the predecessor, Ms Quinn, in accordance with Schedule 11, clause 15 of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
12. GENERAL BUSINESS	None	
13. FAREWELL		<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr McDonald): that Council thank the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dawn Freshwater, for her contribution to the work of Council.</p> <p>The motion was CARRIED unanimously.</p>
14. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	<p>(for the meeting of 29.04.2026)</p> <p>No requests for leave were received. The Chancellor asked that if other members could not attend or not attend in person to let the Secretary of Council know and copy the Chancellor in.</p>	

	On a separate note, Council noted that, this being Professor Freshwater's final Council meeting, Professor Bloomfield will act as Vice-Chancellor and will present the Vice-Chancellor's report at the next meeting.
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PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Pahina): 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 10.12.2025
Item No. 1.2	Special Council Meeting Minutes Part B 20.02.2026
Item No. 2.1.1	Finance Committee – Minutes Part B 26.02.2026
Item No. 2.1.2	Treasury Policy Review
Item No. 2.1.3	Financial Performance 2025
Item No. 2.2.1	Audit and Risk Committee -Minutes Part B 03.03.2026
Item No. 2.2.2	2025 Draft Annual Report
Item No. 2.3.1	Capital Expenditure Committee – Minutes Part B 05.03.2026
Item No. 2.3.2	Business Case
Item No. 2.4.1	Honours Committee
Item No. 2.5.1	Auckland Health research Ethics Committee – membership
Item No. 2.6.1	Biological safety Committee – membership
Item No. 2.6.2	Biological safety Committee – Annual report
Item No. 2.7.1	Human Participants Ethics Committee – membership
Item No. 5.1	Council Committee membership for 2026
Item No. 7.1	Payment of Fees to Lay and Student Council Members.

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 Mark Gregory, Professors Young, and Bloomfield F, Tim Bluett, Helen Cattanaach, Julian Michael, Simon Neale, and Ruwani Dharmawardana 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 Council Minutes 16.03.2026

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.

4.1


The meeting closed at 5.55pm

The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 5.10pm

Approved as a true and correct record.

Cecilia Tarrant, Chancellor

Date

Council Minutes Part A (Open Minutes) Special Meeting 20.02.2026 Council Room – Level 2 ClockTower, Princes Street 22, Auckland 4:00pm		 Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland
PRESENT:	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Ms Pahina, Ms Kinser, Ms Dugar, Ms Skipper, Mr McDonald, and online via Zoom Professor Tolmie, Ms Quinn, Mr Ricketts, Mr Irvine, Mr Mason	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mr Phipps and Ms Litten	
KARAKIA	The meeting started with a karakia.	
1. APOLOGIES	Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor)	RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Quinn): that the apologies, be noted .
3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	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

RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Skipper): 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 General Business

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 Andrew Phipps and Clare Litten be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of, or need to brief Council on, 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 meeting closed at 5.20pm

The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 4.15pm

Approved as a true and correct record.

Cecilia Tarrant, Chancellor

Date

Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council | 29 April 2026

General

The University is in a period of leadership transition reflected in the authorship of this report.

External, Policy and Government Update

The Government and Auckland Council have announced a landmark Auckland City Deal, which includes support for the Newmarket Innovation Precinct as part of a broader strategy to boost economic growth and innovation in the city. The plan also commits to considering how best to support the University's role in medtech development, including MedTech-iQ, a national collaboration focused on developing new medical technologies. The deal explains that central government will consider the most appropriate way to provide this support through National Infrastructure Funding and Financing (NIFFCO).

The University moved swiftly in response to the energy/fuel crisis and has provided the Tertiary Education Commission with details of fuel consumption across all campuses and accommodation sites. The situation remains under constant review.

As the crisis unfolded, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon announced a cabinet reshuffle following announcements that Space Minister Hon Judith Collins and Universities and Science, Innovation and Technology Minister Hon Shane Reti would be standing down. The Universities portfolio has returned to Hon Penny Simmonds as part of a wider Tertiary Education portfolio. She also takes over Science, Innovation and Technology. Hon Chris Penk becomes Minister for Space.

The eight-member board of the new government science funding body, Research Funding New Zealand, has been announced and includes University of Auckland Distinguished Professor Sir Peter Hunter.

The University recorded strong gains in the 2026 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject, with three subjects ranked in the global top 30 and eight subjects ranked in the global top 50. Psychology recorded the University's biggest rise, jumping 23 places to rank 28th globally, up from 51st last year. Alongside Archaeology, it is now the University's highest ranked subject. Education also returned to the global top 30, rising from 34th to 29th and remains the University's most consistently high-performing subject, having been ranked in the global top 50 for 14 consecutive years. In another milestone, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence were ranked in the global top 100 for the first time, placing the University among the top 3–5 per cent of universities worldwide in this rapidly growing and highly competitive field.

In the 2026 Times Higher Education (THE) subject rankings, the University recorded solid results with Psychology and Education Studies again improving their position. Time Magazine's inaugural World's Top Universities 2026 ranked the University at 100.

Small Business and Manufacturing Minister Hon Chris Penk was hosted at the Newmarket Campus to announce new funding to enable a University initiative to help more small manufacturers across affordable digital technology and improve productivity. The Newmarket Innovation Precinct also hosted a Committee for Auckland function during which Mayor Wayne Brown set out his 2026 priorities.

Internal Update

The University farewelled Vice-Chancellor Professor Dawn Freshwater with a celebration of her six years leading the institution during a period that began with COVID-19 shutdowns. During the event, a newly commissioned portrait of Professor Freshwater by Elam School of Fine Arts graduate Roberta Thornley was unveiled.

He Makau Mauroa, the University's Te Reo Māori Strategy for 2026–2030, aims to enhance the use of te reo Māori across the institution and help shape the language's future.

Thirty-one staff contributions were recognised with the University of Auckland's Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Values and Te Ao Māori Principles, reflecting the breadth of work taking place across the University to support staff, students and the broader University community.

The University celebrated the centenary of the ClockTower which was opened on 12 March 2026.

Five Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland academics were among 21 new Ngā Ahurei Fellows elected to the Academy of the Royal Society Te Apārangi. They are: Professor Yvonne Underhill-Sem (Faculty of Arts and Education), Professor Aiguo Patrick Hu (Faculty of Engineering and Design), Professor Andy Philpott (Faculty of Engineering and Design), Professor Udaya Madawala (Faculty of Engineering and Design) and Professor Craig Elliffe (Faculty of Law).

1. Education and Student Experience

Overview

The University has again started the year strongly in terms of enrolments, driven by a record Auckland Year 13 cohort in 2025 and increased student retention in 2025. Overall, EFTS are currently around 9 per cent higher than at this time last year and are forecast to finish the year nearly 5 per cent ahead of targets. We are seeing strong increases in enrolments from both domestic and international students and across all areas of the University.

Our domestic enrolments are 8 per cent above where enrolments were at this point in 2025, and 4.2 per cent ahead of where we should be at this point to hit the 2026 budget. School leavers are 16 per cent above enrolments at this time last year. Overall, full-fee international EFTS are forecast to grow by around 12 per cent this year. International postgraduate enrolments and EFTS are 8 per cent above the same time last year. All faculties appear to be benefiting from the increased international postgraduate enrolments.

Māori student enrolments increased relative to 2025. Increased enrolment from Māori has been achieved in the foundation course (up 25 per cent) and school leaver (up 14 per cent) segments relative to 2025. Pacific student enrolments are also higher than in 2024, particularly School Leavers (up 23 per cent). Disabled learner enrolments are higher (up 5 per cent 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 (2 April)		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Total EFTS	39,184	32,960	35,580	39,558	41,611
Domestic Funded	31,302	27,366	29,195	31,734	33,051
International Full Fee	6,574	5,183	5,611	6,923	7,346
% Postgraduate EFTS	27.9%	27.6%	25.7%	27.6%	27.1%

Note: EFTS information does not include enrolments in the ELA and other sources

EFTS in priority groups

	2024 (2 April)	2025 (2 April)	% Change
Total Māori EFTS	2,218	2,447	10.3%
Māori School leavers	411	519	26.4%
Total Pacific EFTS	2,660	3,041	14.3%
Pacific School leavers	524	710	35.5%
Total Postgraduate	8,785	9,143	4.1%
Domestic	6,658	6,830	2.6%
International	2,077	2,249	8.3%

Progress against priorities

Priority 1: Accessible, equitable lifelong higher education opportunities

The annual Academic Quality Review, led by the DVC Education and the Academic Quality Office, includes an analysis of students' experiences of learning and teaching, as well as their overall University experience and completion rates from the previous year. It has been refocused to align with priorities of the Learner Success Plan. Reports have been prepared for each teaching faculty and follow-up meetings have commenced between the DVCE and Deans to discuss key topics and each faculties' strategic initiatives.

The University of Auckland has submitted several strategic proposals for the first CUAP round of 2026, including the introduction of a new Bachelor of Psychology and Bachelor of Biomedical Science. Key curriculum changes include a major restructure of the Bachelor of Health Sciences and the addition of new majors in the Bachelor of Science.

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

The Education Office has undertaken a review of responsibilities and workload to ensure we are better positioned to support student needs, deliver our work more efficiently and ensure we are right-sized to our current and future requirements. This reshaping aligns with that of G08 universities and Russell Group universities. There will be three Pro Vice-Chancellors in the Education Office: the existing PVC-Education, the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Learning and Teaching, who will replace the current Director of Learning and Teaching role, and a new PVC of Student Success and Experience, who will oversee student transition programmes. There will also be a Director of the Education Office.

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

The Director of Learning and Teaching has been invited to contribute to a Global institution-led Vivas and Interactive Oral Working Group with universities across the UK and Australia. As AI use becomes normalised, vivas and oral assessments are coming back into focus as we seek a learning-centred approach to authenticate learning that is scalable and sustainable. This group is charged with collaboratively shaping up a practical, learning-centred approach to vivas, grounded in institutional contexts and use cases.

Colleagues now have access to a dedicated 'AI in Education' site within TeachWell Digital. This will provide clarity on the UoA's position on AI, the two-lane approach to assessment, professional learning resources to support capability uplift in AI, access to current thought leadership and scholarship, and AI use cases in practice.

Priority 4: Graduates who make the world better tomorrow than it is today

Graduation ceremonies were held on 10 March at Tai Tokerau. This year, 28 students graduated, the majority from the School of Nursing.

2. Research and Innovation

Indicators	Last Year 2025	Current Year			
		To Date (Feb 2026)		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Research revenue (\$M)	251.5	44.8	37.5	258.7	258.7

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

Overview

The New Zealand Institute for Advanced Technology (NZIAT) bidding process for an AI Research Platform (7 years, with up to \$70M available) is completing its second phase, with the University of Auckland's Aotearoa Agentic Artificial Intelligence Platform (AAAIP) submitting its final proposal on 31st March 2026. A funding decision and public announcement are expected in May, with contracting completed in July 2026.

Further consultation and feedback on the design settings and value weightings for the Tertiary Research Excellence Fund (TREF) – e.g., research outputs and impact measures, degree completions and external research income – was submitted in mid-March. The University is in a strong position with respect to the proposed TREF criteria and some specific feedback was provided to ensure fair consideration is given to institutional scale, quality and type of research, along with the proposed impact metrics.

As part of the upcoming shift to the TREF model, and in response to a Cabinet paper in late-2025 outlining new research requirements based on the University Advisory Group (UAG) recommendations, the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) has requested an addendum to articulate research-related activities for 2027 in terms of the new TREF criteria: institutional strengths and specialisations in research, including fundamental research; research-led teaching and postgraduate provision; external research funding and how it supports research activities; research outcomes and impacts and how these are measured, and any potential barriers and obstacles to achieving institutional goals. The content of this addendum document, *Research activities template for Investment in 2027*, will primarily align with the forecasts already submitted via the *UoA Investment Plan 2026-2028*, which was accepted by TEC in July last year. The due date for this addendum document is July 2026, and it presents an opportunity to include a reference to the Signature Research Areas (SRAs) with respect to institutional strengths and how the University is supporting research activities in the current global environment.

Progress against priorities

Priorities 1, 2 and 4: World-class research inspired by our place in Aotearoa and the Pacific, A global powerhouse of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship AND Ambitious research confronting humanity's greatest challenges.

Signature Research Areas

Final proposals for the SRAs are now complete. These are being considered by the University Research Committee in mid-April, before the Strategic Research and Innovation Advisory Group (SRIAG) makes final recommendations in late April/early May for endorsement by the University Executive Committee (UEC). Work has commenced on the launch of the SRAs, including a unified narrative and brand and planning for an internal roadshow to build awareness and engagement across the University. Planning is also underway to confirm governance and investment approaches, as well as a coordinated programme of activity to activate SRAs and support research performance, partnerships and impact.

Partnership Prioritisation

The University is progressing a more coordinated and strategic approach to global research engagement by updating the research and innovation priorities within the institutional Internationalisation Framework. A key focus of this approach is using the SRAs to guide more targeted and intentional international research partnerships at the institutional level. This will support a shift from opportunistic engagement to a more focused model that prioritises depth, impact and alignment with the University's distinctive research strengths.

Initial testing of a partnership prioritisation framework is underway to ensure a consistent, transparent and strategic basis for decision-making. The next phase of work will focus on developing a Global Research Investment Plan that outlines the key mechanisms and levers to strengthen, sustain and grow high-value international partnerships. Together, these steps will position the University to enhance the quality, visibility and impact of its global research engagement in an increasingly competitive environment.

Priorities 5 and 6: Nurturing, recruiting and retaining outstanding research talent AND A research ecosystem characterised by collaboration, agility, simplicity, engagement and empowerment

The University is developing a more coherent and strategically aligned approach to researcher development and research leadership capability. This initiative is focused on strengthening the skills, competencies and behaviours required for researchers to deliver high-quality, impactful research across all career stages, in line with the ambitions of Taumata Teitei. This work will support the University's ability to attract, develop and retain research talent in an increasingly competitive global environment.

3. Partnerships and Engagement

Overview

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

The University hosted a delegation from Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) on 20 March. Discussions covered student mobility, international short courses and other potential collaborations.

As part of the University's transnational education initiatives, applications have been submitted to the China Ministry of Education for approval of one joint programme and two joint institutes:

- A proposed joint programme in Psychology with Southwest University, one of the University's long-standing partners. The new joint programme has a target enrolment of 150 students, most of whom are expected to articulate to the University.
- A proposal to relocate the existing collaboration with Northeast Forestry University from Harbin to Hainan and to broaden the institute's academic offerings to include pathways into selected Engineering and Design postgraduate programmes, with a target enrolment of 500 students (UG and PG). The move is expected to improve student transfer.
- A joint institute application with Sichuan University, a leading Chinese university, to offer undergraduate programmes in Engineering and Science – the first comprehensive transnational programme for the Faculty of Engineering and Design. The institute aims to enrol 300 undergraduate students, offering pathways into the University's postgraduate programmes.

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

In collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), the OPVC Pacific hosted a *talanoa* panel discussion with Tuvalu Prime Minister, Hon. Feleti Teo in March.

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

The University was a platinum sponsor for the ASB Polyfest, which celebrated its 51st year in March 2026.

Te Papa Ako o Tai Tonga South Auckland Campus spaces are operating at or near full capacity, with sustained demand across teaching, study and event areas. In June this year, Te Papa Ako o Tai Tonga is planning to host local secondary schools as part of efforts to elevate its profile and promote its programme offerings.

The University engaged with nearly 200 secondary schools in a five-week period across March, generating high lead volume (3,744) for this period. Principal engagement remains strong across Auckland and has recently increased in Wellington, with the University now also engaged with the majority of Cambridge and IB school leaders nationally through the CIE/IB Principals Forum.

The inaugural quiz-style 'Battle of the Deans' took place on 11 March, featuring the Dean of Engineering and the Dean of Law leading teams of alumni, staff and students. The event aims to encourage alumni to return to campus for a new recurring tradition.

The University's 2026 Distinguished Alumni Awardees were announced on 1 April:

- Raelene Castle, ONZM, BCom 1993 (Business): Group Chief Executive at Sport NZ and High Performance Sport NZ
- John Dudley BSc 1987, PhD 1992 (Science): Award-winning physicist specialising in optical physics, eminent science communicator
- Justice Ellen France, DNZM, LLB(Hons) 1982 (Law): Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand
- Reuben Paterson BFA 1997, GradDipTchg (Primary) 2000 (Arts and Education): Internationally renowned contemporary visual artist and 2025 Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi Laureate
- Moses Mackay, Young Alumnus of the Year, BMus 2011 (Arts and Education): Acclaimed composer, songwriter and classically trained singer

Priority 5: Diverse student body reflecting our communities.

Learner success outcomes are shifting for Māori and Pacific learners, with first-year pass rates increasing by two percentage points for Māori students and five percentage points for Pacific students over the past two years. The UE Success partnership, a structured collaboration between the University of Auckland and secondary schools to better prepare Māori and Pacific learners for a successful transition into university, expanded to 19 secondary school partners after four more schools formally joined on 5 March. The partnership focuses on readiness rather than solely access, to progress toward parity by 2030.

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

OPVC Pacific at Te Papa Ako o Tai Tonga, in collaboration with the Manukau Business Trust, has formally established a Tertiary Network for the South Auckland region.

The University participated in the Natural Infrastructure Executive Forum, led by Aotearoa Circle. The resulting Natural Infrastructure Plan was launched at Parliament in March.

The University's Planetary Solutions partnership with Newsroom has to date delivered 21 articles featuring University researchers, attracting 54,000 visitors and 73,000 pageviews, as well as stories picked up by TVNZ, RNZ and other media.

4. Enabling our People and Culture

Overview

The period is focused on inducting the Interim Vice-Chancellor Professor Frank Bloomfield into his role and progressing with the induction programme for in-coming Vice-Chancellor Professor Nic Smith.

Hono Phase 2

Key milestones for Hono Phase Two continue to progress to schedule:

- The performance module, which will include Tupu and ADPR, is on track to go live on 20 April.
- Advanced Compensation and Succession Planning will go live in June 2026.
- Testing is progressing to plan, with User Acceptance Testing completed in March.
- Training and support materials, including updated intranet content, are in development and will be released progressively in the coming months.
- Cross-functional teams (Change, OD, Advisory, Training) are working in short delivery cycles to maintain momentum.
- Detailed decisions on development planning, feedback processes, calibration, and system notifications are now being operationalised.

Progress against priorities:**Priority 1: Live our values and purpose****Priority 2: Develop a future-ready workforce**

Professional Staff have set their Tupu goals for the year.

A professional staff capability framework Ngā Taumata Tutukinga has been launched.

Priority 3: Build a high-performing, diverse, inclusive and equitable community

Consultation on a proposed new structure is underway for the Communications, Engagement, Marketing and Recruitment Function across the University (Faculties and Service Divisions) and closes 30 April 2026. Recruitment is underway for a Director of Communications.

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

A business case has just been approved for a 25 per cent staff discount on public transport. The University has been working with Auckland Transport (AT) on this FareShare initiative. This arrangement is already in place for students.

5. Our Enabling Environment**Overview**

Indicators	Last Year 2025	Current Year			
		To Date (Feb 2026)		End of Year	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Forecast
Total revenue (\$M)	1601.1	924.6	636.9	1626.7	1626.7
Revenue achieved as a % of budget	102%	100%	68.9%	100%	100%

Progress against priorities:

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

Proactive development and improvement of services and operations to meet the needs of our diverse communities:

In March we celebrated a year since the opening of He Āhuru Mōwai, the University's inaugural Māori Student Centre.

Prioritising improvement of student experiences through personalised services, student support and wellbeing frameworks and a welcoming, vibrant environment:

Activities during Orientation Week 2026 saw significant growth in engagement. While our total student numbers increased by 14 per cent, our engagement rates grew more, with 17 per cent more registrations and 21 per cent more participation. This translated to almost 2,000 more students actively participating in orientation events.

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

Delivery of the approved Property and Digital Capital Programme:

- B230: Law & Performing Arts: Construction works progressing well, with the early works package nearing completion.
- Carlaw Park Student Accommodation Stage 4: Two tower cranes have been installed on the site, with work to the foundations nearing completion and the structural steel being installed up to level three.
- Grafton B525 Research facility: The strategic business case development is proceeding with support from FMHS and RIO.
- Fale refurbishment and upgrade: Works are scheduled to commence on site in September 2026.
- S300 Student Centre and Library: The consent application has been submitted, and engagement is underway with key stakeholders.
- Centre for High Performance Engineering: Council approved the business case in March, and design work is progressing.
- Campus Wi-Fi: Performance has been improved following pre-semester upgrades.
- Inflationary Pressures: RAM and AI-related components continue to drive cost inflation and longer lead times for computers. The University responded proactively through a bulk procurement initiative, ensuring device standardisation and savings of c \$1m across the computer fleet for 2026.
- The Campus Card system was successfully migrated to a cloud-hosted platform in January 2026. This improves security and PCI compliance, expands digital payment options, and provides a scalable foundation for campus services.
- In April, the University will uplift its Student and Staff AI Assistants capability and enable AI Agents to deliver tasks more proactively but within defined governance and safeguards.

Estate Planning activities (Property and Digital):

- Planning activities continue for the refurbishment of Architecture, Urban Design & Planning spaces, the replacement of Kohanga Reo, and the

development of the Newmarket campus.

- The Tai Tokerau Campus Steering Group advised a preference to proceed with a new-build solution on a site. Options are being explored with Whangārei District Council.
- Work is progressing to accelerate the establishment of a Sector Cybersecurity Operations Centre.

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

- Net Zero Carbon status: Preliminary 2025 figures: 76k tCO₂e, ≈ 8 per cent higher than in 2024 and ≈ 7 per cent lower than 2019 baseline.
- The Sustainable Procurement Guidelines have been completed
- The 2030 horizon KPI catalogue draft is finalised.
- The Sustainable Finance Framework is a final draft.

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

The University continues to actively manage financial sustainability in the context of ongoing volatility and growth pressures.

Recent events, including the fuel crisis and consequential impacts, have reinforced the importance of resilience, scenario planning, and the ability to respond quickly to external shocks. These events have informed current thinking on risk mitigation, cost pressures, and the need for adaptable operating models.

At the same time, record enrolments are creating both opportunities and pressures across the system. The financial and operational implications of this growth are currently being assessed, including impacts on capacity, cost drivers, and longer-term sustainability. A more detailed update, informed by this analysis and any related business cases, will be provided to Council at subsequent meetings.

Professor Dawn Freshwater
Vice-Chancellor (Outgoing)

Professor Frank Bloomfield
Vice-Chancellor (Interim)

Appendix One: University Gifts and Pledges [February 2026]

The following major new gifts and pledges were received by ARD in February 2026, totalling \$NZ1,664,160:

- \$249,982 from Heart Foundation for the 'Optimising Atrial Fibrillation Treatment: Advancing Patient Stratification with Cardiac CT' study at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute
- \$245,000 from The Jubilee Trust to support the 'Moderate-to-late Preterm Babies Early Brain Development (MoPED)' study at the Liggins Institute
- \$241,312 from the Neurological Foundation of New Zealand for the 'Magnetic Resonance Imaging Signatures of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy: An Ex-Vivo Histological Validation' study at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$160,000 from Te Maimai Trust to support a marine science PhD on caulerpa control at Science
- \$129,606 from Cure Kids for the 'C*STEROID – Safely improving outcomes after planned caesarean section birth' study at the Liggins Institute
- \$110,000 from an anonymous donor to support a Research Fellow in the Early Learning Lab at Science
- \$96,902 from the EuroQol Research Foundation for the 'Psychometric testing of cognition, fatigue and breathing bolt-ons in a cohort with long COVID' study at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$80,000 from the Sir John Kirwan Foundation for the 'Mitey project' on mental health education for primary schools at Arts and Education
- \$50,000 from the Estate of John Alwyn Jones for research at the Centre for Brain Research
- \$50,000 from Tris Martin for the Pauline Payne Scholarship at Arts and Education
- \$48,000 from Winstone Wallboards Ltd to support the Fast Forward Lectures in Architecture at Engineering and Design
- \$46,403 from The UK Friends of The University of Auckland for the Sinfonia Southbank Fellowship
- \$40,000 from the Wright Family Foundation to support a Kupe Leadership Scholarship
- \$34,209 from The UK Friends of The University of Auckland for the Mokaraka Wāhine Māori in Business Scholarship at Business
- \$29,970 from Save Sight Society for choroidal sprout research at Medical and Health Sciences
- \$27,600 from an anonymous donor to establish the Vicki McCall Memorial Prize in Public Law at Law
- \$25,176 from the Estate of Phyllis Renee Schlinker for child health and child epilepsy research at Medical and Health Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

MATERIAL FOR COUNCIL FROM the MEETING OF SENATE 13.04.2026

PART A:**1. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE REQUIRING TO BE CONSIDERED/RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

None

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE REQUIRING COUNCIL CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL**ACADEMIC MATTERS AND REGULATIONS****1. REGULATION AMENDMENTS**

Senate, 13.04.2026 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the following Regulation Amendments:

- a) **Regulation Amendment 2026-901: – Regulation Amendment 2026-901: Academic and General Statutes and Regulations – Enrolment and Programme Regulations - 2026 Postgraduate application closing dates for admission**
To propose a non-standard application closing date for the Master of Teaching and Learning (Early Childhood) for S2,2026
- b) **Regulation Amendment 2026-902: Key University dates - 2027 Undergraduate application closing dates for admission**
This proposal updates application closing dates for four Undergraduate programmes across the Faculty of Arts and Education, BEd(Tchg), BECS, BSporthPE and BEd(TESOL).
- c) **Regulation Amendment 2026-903: Academic and General Statutes and Regulations – Enrolment and Programme Regulations**
To include the New Start programme explicitly in the regulations relating to discontinuation of students who haven't engaged.

2. Proposed 2030 Academic Dates

- a. Memorandum, 11.03.2026 from Academic Programmes regarding the proposed 2030 academic dates
- b. 2030 Semester Year
- c. 2030 Semester Teaching
- d. 2030 Quarter Year
- e. 2030 Quarter Teaching

Senate, 13.04.2026 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the 2030 Academic Dates

3. Programme Limitations

- i. 2027 Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Programme Limitations (Programmes with 1 July closing date)
- ii. 2028 Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Programme Limitations (undergraduate clinical programmes with 1 July closing date)

Senate, 13.04.2026 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the above Programme Limitations

4. NCEA rank scores required for entry in 2027– Bachelor of Psychology (BPsych)

Senate, 13.04.2026 RECOMMENDS that Council approve the NCEA rank scores required for entry in 2027– Bachelor of Psychology (BPsych)

PART B: ITEMS FROM SENATE FOR NOTING BY COUNCIL

1. Follow-up on the Freedom of Expression (FoE) Statement

Professor Hunter advised Senate that, after the establishment of a FoE statement, attention was now required on how the University would actively implement it. Fostering a robust intellectual environment required not only a formal statement, but also diversity of opinion and appropriate mechanisms to encourage open and respectful discussion of complex and contested issues.

Concerns were raised about the potential for discussion forums and/or invited speakers to cause harm to staff or students, particularly members of underrepresented groups, if discussions were not appropriately framed or managed. It was emphasised that not all members felt equally safe or confident to participate in debate and that Senate needed to be mindful of issues of power, vulnerability and inclusiveness. The importance of ensuring respectful conduct and protecting individuals from harm was acknowledged. Senate discussed the concept of civil discourse as a guiding framework, noting that productive dialogue required ongoing relationships built on listening, respect, and mutual development of understanding.

Senate agreed in principle to the establishment of a Working Group to consider how FoE and civil discourse should be supported in practice. It was proposed that the working group be given a defined mandate and timeframe to develop recommendations on structures, processes and activities, including guidance on managing controversial issues and invited speakers. The importance of appropriately balanced and representative membership was emphasised.

The process for establishing the working group, including membership and terms of reference, would be progressed outside the meeting in consultation with the Registrar; Senate members would be invited to express interest through an appropriate communication process.

PART C: MATTERS RECEIVED AND APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

1. CUAP AMENDMENTS

Senate, 13.04.2026 advises Council that the following Amendments be approved for submission to CUAP:

Business and Economics

2026-106	MBA	Renames the Master of Business Administration (MBA) as Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA), effective for the first intake in 2027.
2026-108	BCom	Introduces an HRM major within the BCom degree, introduces an HRM subject; introduces COMLAW 214, HRM 201, 301, 302, and INTBUS 338; and replaces INTBUS 337 with INTBUS 338 from 2028.

7.1

2. English Language Requirements for both undergraduate and postgraduate entry - Update of TOEFL iBT scores

- i. Memorandum, 04.03.2026 from Admissions regarding an update of TOEFL iBT scores to meet English language requirements for both undergraduate and postgraduate entry.
- ii. Draft TOEFL iBT 1-6 Scale – Academic scores to meet the standard undergraduate and postgraduate English language requirements.

Senate, 13.04.2026 advises Council that it approved the updated English Language requirements for both undergraduate and postgraduate entry

7.1