

Council Minutes Part A
(Open Minutes)
8 June 2020
Zoom meeting



PRESENT:	Mr St John (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Professor Curtin, Dr Prasad, Mr Daniell, Ms Newsome, Mr Paitai, Ms Quinn, Mrs Dunphy, and Mr Wang, Ms Tarrant and Ms Dawson.	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Professors Morrow and Metson; Mrs Cleland, Ms McNaughton, Mr Gudsell, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mr Neale, Ms Miller, Mr Browne and Mrs Verschaeren	
1. APOLOGIES	None	
2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	<p>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 s175 of the Education Act 1989.</p> <p>With regards to item B 2.5.2, Professor Curtin declared that she had an office in the School of Social Sciences.</p> <p>It was agreed that this declared conflict would not preclude Professor Curtin participating in the discussion and voting.</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Daniell): That the disclosures be noted, and the action taken be endorsed.
3. HONOURS/AWARDS	<p>The Queen's Birthday Honours</p> <p>The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor will send congratulatory letters to those persons with links to the University.</p>	
4. CONFERMENT OF DEGREES	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor conferred the degrees as per the schedule provided to the meeting.	
5. AWARD OF DIPLOMAS	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor awarded the diplomas as per the schedule provided to the meeting.	
6. COUNCIL MEETINGS	6.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 29.04.2020	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Tarrant): that the Minutes (Part A) of the Council Zoom meeting held on 29.04.2020 be

	<p>Council asked to change the last sentence of item 7 on p. 3; to read: "...with regards to the choice of focus..."</p>	<p>taken as read and confirmed, subject to the requested correction.</p>
	<p>6.2 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 29.04.2020 not elsewhere on the Agenda.</p> <p>With regards to item 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response from the University to the media about the accommodation issue had been circulated to Council. • Information about the te Reo Māori app "Te Kūaha" ("The Doorway") could be accessed via this link. • A summary of the University's application for the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings would be made available to Council in due course. 	<p>No matters arising</p>
<p>7. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT</p>	<p>The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, presented this item. The Report was taken as read and the following was highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety had been an important focus for the University during the Covid-19 period. It was, however, interesting to note that, because most people had been off campus in this period, the number of notifiable events in the months of March and April had remained very low. • With regards to point 2.3, she commented that the new platform Office365 including Microsoft - Teams had been in place at the University from before the lockdown but, after accelerating its deployment during the lockdown, it was now almost fully embedded and was enhanced the University's cyber security. • The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged the work undertaken by staff from Connect and ConnectEd during COVID-19 in supporting students through the Digital Learning and Skills Academy. • With regards to point 2.7, she advised Council that the all-staff forums would be continued. On 08.06.2020 there was an all-staff forum aiming to explain to staff the implications and financial situation around leave and answer questions about employment and security of employment. There would also be an all-staff forum on 11.06.2020 regarding strategy. • Retention and recruitment of students was very important, and, this had been affected by the decline in the available market. Although it was expected that the majority of international students would not be able to return to New Zealand before 2021, some progress had been made in this regard. The University was collaborating with the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment towards the possibility of allowing a small cohort of postgraduate students to return to New Zealand before the end of 2020. 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Daniell): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be noted.</p>

- As the autumn Graduations could not take place because of COVID-19, the University was investigating how Graduation could be managed differently in the future. A proposal in this regard would be forthcoming shortly.
- With regards to point 4. "High Quality Research That Benefits Society", the Vice-Chancellor congratulated University staff on their work in response to COVID-19 in the nation.
- The University had received a number of gifts, as mentioned under point 5. "A Sustainable, Autonomous University." After the report was written, the Law School at the University had received a bequest of \$5,000,000 from its late Emeritus Professor Brian Coote who passed away on 15 July 2019. This was the largest gift the University had received from a staff member to date.
- As the University would be moving into level 1, no further check-ins would be required. However, it was important to note that the check-ins through the Check-IN app had been successful.
- With regards to point 7. "Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti O Waitangi Partnerships for mutual Benefit", the Vice-Chancellor commented that it was important to celebrate the launch of "Te Kuaha", an app designed to learn Te Reo Māori and basic Tikanga, and of "Kuputaka", a glossary for Māori terms and phrases specific for the University.
- She also thanked the Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori, Professor Kiro, the Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific, Associate Professor Salesa and the Pro Vice-Chancellor Equity, Ms McNaughton who had undertaken a substantive amount of work in the background supporting the University equity students during the lockdown.
- She also commented that there was a select committee inquiry taking place regarding student accommodation and the University would be making a submission through Universities New Zealand in July 2020. There had been concerns regarding the way that student accommodation was managed differently by the Universities and the perception that students have lesser rights than other tenants under rental agreements.
- A Strategic Planning Day took place on 04.06.2020 and a contacts paper in this regard would be circulated to all staff on 12.06.2020.
- The University perspective on the "Black Lives Matter" movement was currently being discussed within the context of freedom of expression and academic freedom.

In the discussion that followed, Council asked:

- With regards to student retention in item 3.10, if data specifically about Māori, Pacific and equity students could be included.
- With regards to alumni and friends of the University, to note the Haka undertaken by the Faculty of Engineering in acknowledgment of the passing of Bruce McLaren 50 years ago.
- To retain the significant lessons learnt under COVID-19, like accelerating digital applications and saving of printing costs, for the future.

8. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES	<p>8.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE</p> <p>8.1.1 Minutes (Part A), 25.05.2020</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Dawson): that the Audit and Risk Committee Minutes (Part A), 25.05.2020 be received.</p>
	<p>8.2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE</p> <p>8.2.1 Minutes (Part A), 22.05.2020</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Daniell): that the Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes (Part A), 22.05.2020 be received.</p>
	<p>8.3 FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>8.3.1 Minutes, (Part A), 22.05.2020</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Daniell): that the Finance Committee Minutes (Part A), 22.05.2020 be received.</p>
	<p>8.4 EQUITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE</p> <p>8.4.1 Mid-Year Report</p> <p>This item was presented by the Pro Vice-Chancellor Equity, Ms McNaughton. She highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The COVID-19 crisis demonstrated the strength of the University’s equity infrastructure and its commitment to its equity aspirations. Also, the University’s genuine commitment to equity goals was viewed favourably by prospective students and their parents. • It was critical from an equity perspective to learn from the COVID-19 situation and retain what worked well while also improving on this. <p>In a discussion that followed, Council noted that that there had been an increased demand on the services of the Equity Office from students with disabilities. The increased disclosing of disabilities also demonstrated the trust students now had in the University. There were, however, less disclosures by staff with disabilities and the Equity Office would undertake further work on this. The current COVID-19 situation provided the University with an opportunity to be equally inclusive for staff and students with disabilities.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Tarrant): that the Equity Leadership Committee Mid-Year Report be received.</p>
9. SENATE MATTERS	<p>9.1 REPORT OF SENATE, e-meeting ARIL 2020</p> <p>Part Ai, 1 - 4: Reviews to be received by Council Part Aii, 5 – 6: Policy and other matters requiring Council approval Part B, 1: Matters for noting by Council</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mrs Dunphy): that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, April 2020 e-meeting be adopted, subject to the</p>

Part C, 1-2: Matters handled under Delegated Authority

This item was presented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (DVC(A)), Professor Morrow. He drew Council's attention to the Reviews requiring to be considered and received by Council:

1. **The Review of Anthropology, Development Studies and Social Science for Public Health:**

These were three related but distinct programmes.

The Review recommended the formalisation of the pathways within the **Anthropology** discipline. Anthropology is made up of Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Ethnomusicology and Social Anthropology. The formalised pathways would not only be beneficial for student advisement, but they would also be used to formally structure the movement of the students through the major.

The Anthropology discipline was also encouraged to integrate Māori and Pacific perspectives into the major and engage with the Māori and Pacific Studies programmes.

Development Studies, is a postgraduate programme, but was encouraged to increase its contribution to undergraduate teaching and extend its collaboration with Global Studies which could serve as a pathway.

Although the Review thought there was scope for reviving the programme of **Social Science for Public Health**, it was decided by the Faculty that, for staffing reasons, this programme could no longer be offered. In response to the comment made at Senate, that in the current COVID-19 situation the programme of Social Science for Public Health could be very useful, it was important to note that although the programme was disestablished, its courses would still be available.

2. **Review of the Department of Statistics:**

The Department had a large number of first year students as they were often required to take Statistics to enrol in Business and Science programmes. The Review recommended that the Department considers establishing pathways through the advanced stages of the undergraduate programme that would support enrolment into its graduate programmes.

3. **Review of the School of Critical Studies in Education:**

The DVC(A) commented that this School, which was part of the Faculty of Education and Social Work, would definitely benefit from moving into the city campus.

In response to a question from a member of Council, the DVC(A) commented that, as part of the Review itself, the School had raised questions about its own identity and therefore the Review had recommended that it was important for the School to find a distinctive sense of purpose. The School is keen to embrace this challenge and to strengthen its links with other areas of critical studies across the University.

4. **Review of the Institute of Marine Science: year-on Progress Report:** Senate recommended that this report be treated as a full response to the questions raised in its review.

The DVC(A) drew Council's attention to the **Short Courses Policy**: this policy aimed to ensure that these courses aligned with the CUAP requirements which now extended to all forms of

requested correction and Parts B and C be **noted**

	teaching and not only to formal qualifications. In addition, it provided a quality framework for short courses at the University which, over the years, had grown somewhat organically.	
10. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR	No items received.	
11. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING	No items received.	
10 GENERAL BUSINESS	None	
11. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	(for the meeting of 27.07.2020) None requested	

PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

RESOLVED (Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor): that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public was 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 considered:

Item No. 1.1	Council Zoom Meeting Minutes (Part B), 29.04.2020
Item No. 2.1	University of Auckland Animal Ethics Committee Annual report 2019
Item No. 2.2	University of Auckland Biological Safety Committee Membership Report and revised terms of reference
Item No. 2.3	University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee Membership Report
Item No. 2.4	Audit and Risk Committee, Minutes (Part B), 25.05.2020 and briefing regarding the University Risk Appetite
Item No. 2.5	Capital Expenditure Committee, Minutes (Part B), 22.05.2020 and Business Case
Item No. 2.6	Finance Committee, Minutes (Part B), 22.05.2020 and Financial Performance and Forecast for 2020

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 Jim Metson and John Morrow, Peter Gudsell, Bridget Fitzpatrick, Simon Neale, Rachelle Miller, Matt Browne 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, was 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 5.55p.m.

The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 5.00 pm

Approved as a true and correct record.

Scott St John, Chancellor

Date