

Council Minutes Part A
(Open Minutes)
29 April 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, Ms Moss, Mr Gudsell, Ms Fitzpatrick, Mr Elliott and Mrs Verschaeren	
1. APOLOGIES	None	
2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	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.	No further disclosures were made.
3. CONFERMENT OF DEGREES	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor conferred the degrees as per the schedule provided to the meeting.	
4. AWARD OF DIPLOMAS	With the authority of Council, the Chancellor awarded the diplomas as per the schedule provided to the meeting.	
5. COUNCIL MEETINGS	5.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 16.03.2020	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Quinn): that the Minutes (Part A) of the Council meeting held on 16.03.2020 be taken as read and confirmed .
	5.2 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 16.03.2020 not elsewhere on the Agenda.	No matters arising

<p>6. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT</p>	<p>The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, presented this item. She highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outstanding achievement of the University to retain the first place in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings. It was a significant achievement for the University to retain this position, particularly because of the increased number of Universities who had also made a submission. The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged and congratulated staff involved with this achievement. • Throughout the Report, the work and strategy of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Pacific), Associate Professor Salesa has now been extensively included into the University's KPIs. • With regards to point 2.9, the Vice-Chancellor commented that it was important to continue engagement with staff around COVID-19 and the preparation for a new strategy. Two well-attended all-staff forums already took place and a third one was scheduled for 30 April. The latter would include an update about the work of the Incident Management Team (IMT), the student engagement and research activities. The all-staff forums would continue to be held virtually until the time when these could take place face to face. Responses to questions asked through these forums that could not be answered directly, were being collated to be included on a dedicated webpage. • The University also held a Postgraduate Forum, hosted by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Metson, and the Dean of Graduate Studies, Associate Professor Daley, which was well attended. It allowed the researchers and postgraduate students to think about the possibilities to continue with business continuity in this period of COVID-19 Level 3 and potentially level 2. • With regards to point 7.6, the Vice-Chancellor congratulated the team involved with the launch of the Te Reo Language Plan on 7 April 2020; she also commented that the app related to this Plan would be launched in the near future. • With regards to point 9.4, Accommodation, the Vice-Chancellor commented that there had been incorrect media reports about how the University had continued to charge fees for accommodation vacated by students. In addition, there had been questions from members of the public and parliament on this issue, especially, as the Universities in New Zealand had addressed this in a different way. The University of Auckland had consequently made a clear and detailed response answering all questions raised by media and the Government. • Considering the work currently taking place with regards to planning for the workforce in the future and recognising that staff were concerned about employment security, the Vice-Chancellor explained that during the lockdown no decisions had been made. The University was developing a new strategy about this and it was important that this new strategy would lead the decisions made about the workforce. The University had however received some information from the State Services Commission related to restrictions around pay freezes and a communication about this would be made tomorrow during the all-staff forum. 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mrs Dunphy): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be noted.</p>
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	<p>In response to questions of Council, the Vice-Chancellor said that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the process of developing a new strategy for the University, it was important to engage extensively with staff and students, in a variety of interactive ways (through existing committee structures and informal meetings), thus insuring that all staff and students understand that this strategy was owned and shared by everyone. • The response from the University to the media about the accommodation issue would be circulated to Council. • A summary of the University's application for the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings would be made available for Council. • The Te Reo language Plan and the app which would be launched shortly would be made available to Council and the public. 	
<p>7. SENATE MATTERS</p>	<p>7.1 REPORT OF SENATE, e-meeting ARIL 2020</p> <p>Part A 1: Policy and other matters requiring Council approval Part B, 1: Matters for noting by Council Part C, 1-2: Matters handled under Delegated Authority</p> <p>This item was presented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (DVC(A)), Professor Morrow. He commented that Council's approval was sought for four new academic programmes, developed by the Faculty of Business and Economics. One of these involved changes to the Bachelor of Commerce which included a multidisciplinary core of courses in the first year of the programme and a capstone course in the last year. These changes reflected the outcome of the programme reviews that took place and work undertaken by the Faculty.</p> <p>In response to a question of Council, the DVC(A) explained that the capstone course was a compulsory course in the programme, typically undertaken in the last semester of study; it gave the students the opportunity to reflect on the range of components they studied in the course of the programme. Students had considerable flexibility with regards to the choice of focus in the capstone course.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mrs Dunphy): that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, April 2020 e-meeting be adopted and Parts B and C be noted</p>
<p>8. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR</p>	<p>No items received.</p>	

9. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING	No items received.
10 GENERAL BUSINESS	None
11. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	(for the meeting of 08.06.2020) 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 Meeting Minutes (Part B), 16.03.2020
Item No. 2.1	University of Auckland Animal Ethics Committee Membership Report
Item No. 2.2	University of Auckland Biological Safety Committee Membership Report
Item No. 2.3	University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee Membership Report
Item No. 2.4	Guiding Principles for Conducting Research with Human Participants
Item No. 4.1	EFTS Forecast 2020-2021
Item No. 4.2	Amended Shareholder Expectations for UniServices Limited

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.
- iv)

AND THAT Adrienne Cleland, Professors Metson and Morrow, Peter Gudsell, Ms Fitzpatrick, Mr Elliott 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 5.35 p.m.

The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 4.30 pm

Approved as a true and correct record.

Scott St John, Chancellor

Date