11 October 2021 (meeting was held virtually via Zoom)



PRESENT:	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Dr Prasad, Sir Michael Daniell, Professor Curtin, Mrs Dunphy, Ms Dawson, Mr Paitai, Mr McDonald, Mr Wang, Ms Newsome and Ms Quinn		
IN ATTENDANCE:	Professors Linton, Stinear and Metson; Associate Professors Hoskins and Kool; Mr Whiteside, Mr Bluett, Ms Moss, Mr Neale, Ms Fitzpatrick, Mr Brandon, and Ms Verschaeren		
KARAKIA	The meeting was opened with a karakia by the Māori representative on Council, Mr Paitai.		
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 Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020. With regard to item 5.2.2 Domestic Student Fees 2022 and International student Fees 2023, Professor Curtin, Mr Wang, Ms Quinn and Mrs Dunphy disclosed that they were students and/or had family members who would or might be students in 2022. It was agreed that these declared conflicts would not preclude the members participating in the discussions and votes.	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Sir Michael Daniell): That the disclosures be noted and the action taken be endorsed.	
3. COUNCIL MEETINGS	3.1.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 26.07.2021	RESOLVED (Ms Newsome/Ms Quinn): that the Minutes (Part A), 26.07.2021 be taken as read and confirmed.	
	3.1.2 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 27.09.2021	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Wang): that the Minutes (Part A), 27.09.2021 be taken as read and confirmed .	
	3.2 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 26.07.2021 and 27.09.20 None	21 not elsewhere on the Agenda.	

4. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The report was taken as read.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, welcomed feedback on the current format of the report which now had been used a few times.

She commented that following the consultation on the first draft iteration of the High Value International Education paper, the Government had received 180 submissions. In addition, workshops had been organised where the University of Auckland had been well presented.

The University had received mental health funding for 2021, recognising the impact of the lengthy lockdown in Auckland on the mental health of students. In addition, the Government had added \$20m to its hardship fund.

With regard to the immigration reset no further detail was known. The Government was currently working on a consultation document that was addressing in-and post-study work rights for international students.

The Vice-Chancellor further commented that there was a possibility that a cohort of about 1000 international students would be accepted into New Zealand at the end of 2021 or the beginning of 2022. It was expected that a different border regime would be in place to allow for vaccinated student entry for this cohort.

The sector reference group which was reviewing the PBRF would be having its first meeting shortly

The Universities in New Zealand were working on establishing a vaccine policy which would include the way to apply the guidelines set by the TEC regarding the different alert levels.

The Vice-Chancellor concluded by thanking the University's staff and students for the way they had responded to the COVID-19 situation and had stepped up to address the University Strategy in very challenging circumstances in 2021. They had ensured that the University kept delivering a high-quality student experience and maintained as much as possible its research trajectory. She emphasised that this had been no small task and it would be important for everyone involved to have a well-deserved break with family and friends at the end of the year.

In a discussion that followed Council noted the following:

• In response to the student concern about lack of suitable electronic devices for students in courses using digital invigilation via Inspera Smarter Proctoring, the Vice-Chancellor responded that the University had worked to effectively distribute electronic devices to students within 24 hours when following requests.

RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr McDonald): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be **noted**.

This item was introduced by the Chief Financial Officer, Mr Bluett. He commented that it was important to note the context in which the University was currently operating. This included the current COVID 19 pandemic, the unusual positive financial situation and the longer view which still needed to align with the long-term financial planning. Students and staff have also experienced extraordinary pressures from the pandemic and the University has prioritised the provision of financial and wellbeing support through its operational response.

The University was facing the challenge of rising cost pressures which exceeded the increases permitted under the regulated components of the fees. Although the 1.7% annual maximum fee movement under the current TEC regulations was higher than the previous years, allowing the Universities to meet some of the additional cost pressures they were currently facing, it was not enough to cover the inflationary cost pressures.

The 4% increase proposed for international fees was in line with what was proposed the previous year.

The Vice-Chancellor commented that the process that was followed with the Student Consultative Group focused on the fees increase and the Student Services Fee, including where these services could be improved and/or additional allocation needed to be considered (see p.14 of this report). The consultation process around the Student Services Fee and the survey conducted around this highlighted the work undertaken by the University with regard to counselling services, pastoral care, support of mental health and health services. In the open and in-depth dialogue that took place with the students about the options to mitigate the shortfall, it was apparent that it was difficult for current students to accept the proposed increases, as these would benefit the quality of the student experience for future students.

The students, although aware of the necessity to grow the quality of the student experience in the future, were of the opinion that the increase in costs should not be carried by the current students.

International Student Fees 2023 be **received** and noted; and

(Sir Michael Daniell/Ms Quinn):

 That Council approve the attached Domestic Fees Schedule for 2022 (Mr Wang dissenting);

(Sir Michael Daniell /Mrs Dunphy):

ii) That Council approve the attached International Fees Schedule for 2023 (Mr Wang dissenting);

(Ms Newsome/Mrs Dunphy): That Council:

- iii) **Authorise** the Vice-Chancellor to assign any new programmes, including SAC funded micro-credentials, or programmes becoming newly available to international students in 2023, to an appropriate band to enable offers to be made during the recruitment cycle, and report these decisions back to Council;
- iv) Authorise the Vice-Chancellor to set fees for University programmes delivered offshore and non-SAC funded microcredentials and to report those to the Council meeting immediately following;
- v) **Note** that the Diversification and Recovery Scholarship fund and associated delegations approved at its meeting in October 2020 will continue to operate into 2023 to the extent warranted by recruitment indicators on the understanding that this should drive retention or new volume.

(Mr McDonald/Dr Prasad):

vi) That Council **approve** the Compulsory Student Services Fee at \$8.16 per point (GST inclusive) and the associated changes to the Fees Schedule A – All Students; (Mr Wang dissenting)

(Mr Paitai/Chancellor)

		vii) That Council approve the attached Other Fees Schedule for 2022 (Mr Wang dissenting)
	5.3 NAMING COMMITTEE 5.3.1 Naming of the Research Vessel as "Te Kaihōpara"	RESOLVED (Professor Curtin/Ms Quinn that Council note that the Naming Committee has approved the naming of the Research Vessel as "Te Kaihōpara"
	5.4 RŪNANGA 5.4.1 September Report	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor): that the Rūnanga September Report be received.
	5.5 STUDENT APPEALS COMMITTEE 5.5.1 Report, 23.07.2021	RESOLVED (Ms Newsome/Mrs Dunphy): that the Student Appeals Committee Report, 23.07.2021 be received.
6. SENATE MATTERS	Report of the Senate Review Reference Group, 01.09.2021 Part Ai 1-3: Policy and other matters requiring to be received by Council Part Aii 1-6: Policy and other matters requiring Council approval Part B, 1: Matters for noting by Council Part C, 1-2: Matters handled under Delegated Authority The Vice-Chancellor introduced this item and explained that Council in the Report of Senate had received a short summary of the Senate papers. She drew Council's attention to the Senate review process. This review aimed to revitalise the function of Senate within the University and engage the professoriate in thinking about its role in implementing the University strategy through Senate. Discussions already took place about Freedom of Expression and a policy and guidelines about this subject were currently being developed. The next point of focus was the topic of Academic Freedom and its link to the Code of Conduct and Freedom of Expression.	RESOLVED (Professor Curtin/Ms Newsome): that 1. Council note the Report of the Senate review reference group, 01.09.2021 2. The recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 20.09.2021 be adopted and Parts B and C be noted

The Terms of Reference for the Senate Review, led by Professor Matthews, had been approved. A small reference group had been created which would be considering how to engage with Senate in the future.

In a discussion that followed, Council expressed its disappointment with regard to the poor attendance at the Senate meetings which was also a reason to instigate the review.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education), Associate Professor Kool, highlighted the following items which were originally considered by Education Committee before progressing to Senate:

- 1. The Review of the Department of Commercial law
- 2. The Progress Reports about the Reviews of Pacific Studies and the School of Chemical Sciences
- 3. The 2022 Course Limitations. In the past, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) had the delegated authority to approve the Course Limitations on behalf of Council and these were submitted to Council for noting. With the creation of the roles of the Provost and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) this delegation would have to be revisited so they could again be submitted to Council for noting in the future.
- 4. 19 New Scholarship, Award and Prize regulations.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Metson advised Council that new policies had been introduced on University level research centres. The intent was to strengthen the large University level cross-faculty research centres. A process had been introduced starting with calling for expressions of interest in large-scale research centres. There were 45 expressions of interest received. These would now be considered, resulting in a relatively small number of research centres across the University. In this process, research platforms were also being considered. These would be built around instruments or people to suit the research needs of the University.

The Strategic Research Investment Committee would meet next week to consider some of the applications for Research Platforms.

7. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR

The Chancellor advised Council that since the meeting in July, she had had received the following two letters:

- A letter from the Minister of Education, asking for any suggestions regarding the replacement of Sir Michael Daniell as a member of Council, as his term would end February 2022.

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 - The Chancellor expressed concern about the required skillset for this position and advised Council that the people they would suggest would not necessarily be nominated by the Minister.
- A letter received from the "Stop Sexual Harassment on Campus" group who earlier this year had written to the Vice-Chancellor with their concerns around the way the University had dealt with the resignation of a staff member in the School of Music. This letter to the Vice-Chancellor had been responded to by the Director of Human Resources, Mr Phipps.

	In their current letter to the Chancellor, the "Stop Sexual Harassment on Campus" group voiced their opinion that their previous letter should not have been responded to by the Director of Human Resources and asked the Chancellor to consider their concerns also referencing the review into harassment and sexual harassment by AUT. The Chancellor had responded that it was appropriate for the Director of Human Resources to respond to their original letter. She also referred in her response to the new "Harassment, bullying, sexual assault and other violence" programme and asked the group to come back to her if they had further concerns.		
8. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING	None		
9. ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS	9.1	ELECTION OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON COUNCIL Memorandum, 30.09.2021 from the Returning Officer, Mrs Adrienne Cleland Council congratulate Mr Wang on his re-election. Mr Wang thanked the students who elected him for the privilege to represent them on Council. He also thanked the Council members and relevant staff for their support and guidance. He did express his concern about the very low engagement of students in the election of the student representative on Council and suggested that the University could consider giving certain incentives to voting students to increase participation.	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Sir Michael Daniell): that Mr Junyi (Johnny) Wang be appointed as the student representative on Council for a one-year term (1 November 2021 – 31 October 2022).
	9.2	ELECTION OF THE CHANCELLOR AND PRO CHANCELLOR Mr Whiteside took the Chair for the first part of this item.	
	9.2.1	ELECTION OF CHANCELLOR FOR 2022 Nominations were called for the position of Chancellor until 31.12.2022 day One nomination only was received, for Ms Cecilia Tarrant (Mrs Dunphy/Pro There being no other nominations, the Registrar declared Ms Tarrant re- 01.01.2022 and ending 31.12.2022 or such agreed earlier date. Carried by acclamation. ELECTION OF PRO-CHANCELLOR FOR 2022	ofessor Curtin)
		The Chancellor resumed the Chair for this part of the item.	

	Nominations were called for the position of Pro-Chancellor. One nomination only was received, for Ms Cathy Quinn (Chancellor/Sir Michael Daniell). There being no other nominations, the Chancellor declared Ms Quinn elected as Pro-Chancellor for a term starting on 01.01.2022 and ending 31.12.2022. Carried by acclamation.	
10. GENERAL BUSINESS 11. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	None (for the meeting of 08.12.2021) No leave of absence was 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 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), 26.07.2021 and 27.09.2021
Item No. 2.1	University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee
Item No. 2.2.1	Audit and Risk Committee Minutes (Part B), 17.09.2021
Item No. 2.3.1	Finance Committee, Minutes (part B), 21.09.2021
Item No. 2.3.2	Financial Performance and Forecast for 2021
Item No. 2.4	Honours Committee
Item no. 2.5	Naming Committee
Item No. 4.1	2021 key performance targets aligned to Taumata Teitei
Item No. 4.2	Te Rautaki Tūāpapa, the University of Auckland Estate Strategy 2021-2030

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 Professors Linton and Metson, Associate Professor Kool, Tim Bluett, Pamela Moss, Simon Neale, Stephen Whiteside, Todd Somerville, Bridget Fitzpatrick, 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 meeting closed at 6.15pm

The meeting went into Public Excluded session at 5.25pm

Approved as a true and correct record.

Cecilia Tarrant, Chancellor

Date