



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday, 1 April 2021
from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building,
Kelburn Campus, Wellington**

PRESENT: Mr John Allen
Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich
Professor Grant Guilford (Vice-Chancellor)
Professor Kate Hunter
Ms Tiana Jakicevich
Dr Dianne McCarthy (Pro Chancellor)
Ms Rhianna Morar
Ms Cath Nesus
Mr Neil Paviour-Smith (Chancellor)
Mr James Te Puni
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES: Mr Alan Judge

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Katherine Edmond, Associate Director, Communications
Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori
Mr Simon Johnson, General Counsel
Professor Wendy Lerner, Provost
Professor Sarah Leggott, Dean, FHSS
Mr Mark Loveard, Chief Operating Officer
Mr Blair McRae, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement
Mr Les Montgomery, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Lincoln North, Senior Project Manager, Property Services
Mr Phil O'Connell, Director Safety, Risk and Assurance
Mr Michael Turnbull, VUWSA President
Professor Jennifer Windsor, Pro Vice-Chancellor, FHSS and Education

21.28 KARAKIA

Noted: that the Chancellor led the Karakia.

21.29 WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

Noted: 1 that the Chancellor welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented on the changed layout of the room bringing Council members closer together. He acknowledged those who might be watching the live stream of the

- public session and requested Council members use the microphones for this part of the Council meeting.
- 2 that Mr James Te Puni was warmly welcomed to his first formal meeting of the University Council.
 - 3 that an apology was received from Mr Alan Judge.

Resolved: that the apology from Mr Alan Judge be sustained.

Paviour-Smith/Hunter

Carried

210026

21.30

DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Received: declarations and disclosure of interests by members of Council.

Noted: 1 that the following additional declarations had been added to the Interests register for Mr James Te Puni since the release of the Council documentation:

- Trustee, Waikanae Christian Holiday Park
 - Director and Shareholder, Titahi Ltd
 - a note that Te Ahuru Mowai, Mr Te Puni's employer, is partnered with the University in a submission for the Māori and Public Housing Renewable Energy fund.
- 2 that there were no further declarations or disclosures of interest by members of Council.

21.31

COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD ON 15 FEBRUARY 2021

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 15 February 2021.

Resolved: that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 15 February 2021 be approved.

McCarthy/Bönisch-Brednich

Carried

210027

21.32

REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: an oral report from the Chancellor.

Noted: that since the last meeting of Council held on 15 February 2021 the Chancellor:

- met/spoke with the Vice-Chancellor on several occasions
- attended the Chancellors' group meeting via Zoom
- attended the Chancellors'/Vice-Chancellors' joint meeting via Zoom
- attended a tribute and farewell for Professor Harlene Hayne, Vice-Chancellor of Otago University via Zoom
- hosted a meeting with the Iranian Ambassador HE Mohammad Reza Mofatteh
- met with the General Counsel and the Secretary to Council
- met with Dr Kate Mirfin of Cerno
- met with Craig Stevens, Chair of the VUW Foundation
- attended the Te Aka Matua Committee meeting on 1 March 2021 via Zoom
- attended the Audit & Risk Committee meeting on 15 March 2021

- attended the Finance Committee meeting on 15 March 2021
- chaired the Council self-review reporting back meeting on 15 March 2021
- chaired the Human Resources Committee meetings on 15 March 2021 and 25 March 2021
- chaired the Nominations Panel meeting on 30 March 2021 via Zoom
- attended the VUW Foundation Board of Trustees meeting on 30 March 2021
- attended the farewell function for Pam Thorburn, Director, Student Academic Services.

- Noted:**
- 1 that common themes at the joint Chancellors' meeting included the large increase in domestic student numbers, managing financial pressures and restructuring challenges.
 - 2 that the University's Foundation was looking to appoint new Trustees with an emphasis on improving the diversity of the Board.
 - 3 that the meeting with the Iranian Ambassador had emphasised the opportunity to encourage more students to the University from Iran and potential partnering opportunities with Iranian universities.
 - 4 that a vote of thanks was recorded to Pam Thorburn, the University's recently retired Director of Student Academic Services. Pam's extraordinary contribution to the University over 21 years was made in a warm, caring and professional manner leading to strong relationships with students, stakeholders and staff.

- Resolved:**
- 1 that a vote of thanks be recorded to Pam Thorburn for her exceptional service to the University.

Hunter/Bönisch-Brednich
Carried
210028

- 2 that the Chancellor's report be noted.

Jakicevich/McCarthy
Carried
210029

21.33

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

- Received:** a report from the Vice-Chancellor dated 19 March 2021 (document VUWC 21/17).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
 - 2 that the new Director of Titoko Ms Vanessa Pye (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Rangi, Ngāti Hine) has now joined the University leading the new Centre for Student Success.
 - 3 that the Ngā Hoe a Kupe Pathfinder Scholarship using a dedicated sum of \$3m from the sale of the University's Karori campus to support students from low decile schools in the Wellington region had led to the first cohort of 12 recipients commencing their on-campus preparatory programme in February and studies shortly afterwards.

- Resolved:** that the report from the Vice-Chancellor be noted.

Allen/Te Puni
Carried
210030

21.34 FINANCIAL REPORT TO 28 FEBRUARY 2021

Received: the Financial report to 28 February 2021 (document VUWC 21/18).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that there were no further comments or questions at this early point in the financial year.

Resolved: that the Financial report to 28 February 2021 be noted.

McCarthy/Morar
Carried
210031

21.35 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Received: reports from Committee Chairs and minutes as follows:

- Te Aka Matua Committee, 1 March 2021
- Audit & Risk Committee, 15 March 2021
- Finance Committee, 15 March 2021
- Academic Board report, 16 March 2021

Noted:

Te Aka Matua Committee

- 1 that following recent issues at Waikato University a collective approach across the country's eight universities was underway to address racism and consider Treaty conversations.
- 2 that the DVC Māori will work with the Committee to develop a self-assessment in line with the eight principles in this University's Treaty statute. The Committee will consider a draft self-review document at its May meeting for further consideration by Council in June.
- 3 that the growth in enrolments of Māori students was commended by Council with success in this area being attributed to a combination of work being undertaken under the University's Treaty of Waitangi Statute, University partnerships with iwi, the work of Āwhina Māori student support and ensuring that programme content was relevant to Māori students.

Academic Board report

- 4 that suggested improvements in the aegrotat process were discussed highlighting the success of Associate Dean extensions and other methods of replacement assessment.
- 5 that minor amendments to the Academic Board statute were endorsed (see minute 21.40).
- 6 that there had been a productive discussion on the review of the Whiria report completed by Professors Keller and Arnold.

Resolved: that the Academic Board report and Committee minutes be noted.

Te Puni/Jakicevich
Carried
210032

21.36 MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Received: a Council paper from the Vice-Chancellor dated 19 March 2021 providing a Media and Social Media report (document VUWC 21/20).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.

- 2 that there were no additional comments or questions.

Resolved: that the Media and Social Media report be noted.

Nesus/Allen
Carried
210033

21.37 FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Received: a Council paper from the Secretary to Council dated 15 March 2021 listing Forthcoming Events (document VUWC 21/21).

- Noted:**
- 1 that all members of Council and especially new members were reminded that they are welcome to attend the upcoming May graduation ceremonies, parades and celebrations.
 - 2 that the commemorative event to mark 25 years since the Law School moved to the Old Government Buildings was highlighted as an opportunity to celebrate the numerous successes of the Law School, Faculty, staff and students.
 - 3 that the next meeting of Council will take place on Monday, 10 May 2021 at 9.00 am in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building, Kelburn Campus, Wellington.

Resolved: that the Council paper on Forthcoming Events and the date and details for the next Council meeting on Monday, 10 May 2021 be noted.

Paviour-Smith/Allen
Carried
210034

21.38 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Received: a Council paper from the Chief Financial Officer dated 25 March 2021 regarding the 2020 Annual Report (document VUWC 21/22).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the Audit & Risk Committee considered the Annual Report in detail at its meeting held on Monday, 15 March 2021. At this meeting the key accounting judgements were overviewed and EY presented a summary of their audit findings. No material concerns were identified or raised by EY.
 - 2 that some minor amendments had been made to the Chancellor's introduction since the release of the documentation.
 - 3 that there were no further questions or comments and the thorough work of the Chief Financial Officer and his team was acknowledged.

Resolved: that on the recommendation of the Audit & Risk Committee, Council:

- 1 approve the 2020 Annual report;
- 2 approve and sign the Representation Letter to EY;
- 3 authorise the 2020 Annual report for issue;
- 4 approve the online publication of the 2020 Annual report as soon as practical.

Allen/Hunter
Carried
210035

21.39 GRADUATES IN ABSENTIA

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 1 April 2021 (document VUWC 21/23).

Resolved:

- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on the persons listed in document VUWC 21/23 and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 1 April 2021.
- 2 that Council invites all those entered on the Roll of Graduates on 1 April 2021 to attend a graduation ceremony this year.
- 3 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates in Absentia be recorded.

Morar/Jakicevich
Carried
210036

21.40 CHANGES TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD STATUTE

Received: a Council paper from the Provost dated 17 March 2021 regarding proposed changes to the Academic Board statute (document VUWC 21/24).

Noted: that the main change was an amendment to allow an International student representative from V-ISA to sit on the Academic Board.

Resolved: that on the recommendation of the Academic Board:

the proposed amendments to the Academic Board Statute be approved.

Hunter/Guilford
Carried
210037

21.41 RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Received: a recommendation that certain items be taken with the public excluded (document VUWC 21/25).

Resolved:

- 1 that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely agenda items 14-29.
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	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter The public conduct of each item below would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under the sections of the OIA identified below.	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
14. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 February 2021	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
15. Safety, Health & Wellbeing report	s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(b)(ii)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
16. Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
17. Vice-Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
18. Financial report to 15 February 2021	s 9(2)(b)(ii), s 9(2)(i) and s 9(2)(k)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
19. Financial Context report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	
20. Covid-19 Deficit Reduction Programme and Future Sustainability	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. Social Media strategy	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Speaker: Dean, FHSS	s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(b)(ii)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. Rescinding of Qualification conferred	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. 2022 and 2023 International (Full fee) tuition fees	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
25. Cumberland House Lease	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
26. VUWSA President report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
27. Quarterly reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation • National Music Centre • Digital roadmap 	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
28. Reports from Committee Chairs	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, S48(1)(a)(ii)
29. Council Only time	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are set out above.

- 2 that such members of the senior leadership as the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor request be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, with the exception of agenda item 29, because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.

Paviour-Smith/Allen
Carried
210038