



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 5 October 2020
from 9.00 am to 6.10 pm in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building
Kelburn Campus**

PRESENT:

Mr John Allen
Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich
Professor Grant Guilford (Vice-Chancellor)
Professor Kate Hunter
Mr Alan Judge
Mr Hugo Lawrence
Dr Dianne McCarthy
Ms Rhianna Morar
Mr Neil Paviour-Smith (Chancellor)
Dr Farib Sos
Dame Therese Walsh (Pro-Chancellor) *from 9.15 am*
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES

Ms Cath Nesus
Dame Therese Walsh *for lateness*

IN ATTENDANCE:

Professor Richard Arnold, Professor of Statistics and Data Science
Mr Peter Borich, Associate Director, Digital Portfolio Implementation
Professor Stuart Brock, Vice-Provost (Academic)
Ms Annemarie de Castro, Director, Human Resources
Ms Katherine Edmond, Associate Director Communications
Ms Janet Fletcher, University Librarian/University Lead, Student Success Programme
Mr Stu Haselden, Director, Digital Solutions
Professor Wendy Lerner, Provost
Mr Blair McRae, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement
Mr Mark Loveard, Chief Operating Officer
Professor Ehsan Mesbahi, Pro Vice-Chancellor, SEADI
Mr Les Montgomery, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Lincoln North, Senior Project Manager
Mr Phil O'Connell, Director, Safety, Risk Assurance
Ms Madeleine Setchell, Director, Communications, Marketing and Engagement
Mr David Stevenson, Director, Property Services
Ms Rhonda Thomsom, Pou Hapai - Senior Adviser
Professor Jennifer Windsor, PVC & Dean, FHSS

20.183

KARAKIA

Noted:

that the Chancellor led the Karakia.

20.184 WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

- Noted:**
- 1 that the Chancellor welcomed everyone to the Council Chamber and particularly acknowledged Professor Ehsan Mesbahi who was attending his first in-person Council meeting.
 - 2 that an apology was received from Ms Cath Nesus and an apology for lateness from Dame Therese Walsh.

Resolved: that the apologies from Ms Nesus and Dame Therese for lateness be sustained.

Paviour-Smith/McCarthy
Carried
200160

20.185 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Noted: that there were no further declarations and disclosures of interest by members of Council, by way of a general notice under the Education Act 1989 Section 175 and the Local Authorities (Members Interests) Act 1968.

20.186 COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD ON 31 AUGUST 2020

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 31 August 2020.

Resolved: that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 31 August 2020 be approved.

Allen/Sos
Carried
200161

20.187 REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: an oral report from the Chancellor.

- Noted:**
- 1 that since the last meeting of Council held on 31 August 2020 the Chancellor:
 - met with the Vice-Chancellor on several occasions
 - chaired the HR Committee on 2 September 2020
 - met with Tim Fowler, CEO of the Tertiary Education Commission
 - chaired the Nominations Panel meeting on 21 September 2020
 - met with Professor Gordon Anderson, Professor Richard Arnold, Professor Arthur Grimes and Professor Sally Jane Norman, with John Allen
 - attended and addressed the Legacy Club in the Council Chamber
 - attended the Finance Committee meeting on 28 September 2020
 - 2 that the Chancellor provided further information on his meeting with the group of Professors and acknowledged Professor Arnold who was attending the public session of Council. The meeting had provided a good opportunity to air concerns regarding the Whiria project, hear varying perspectives and emphasise the desire to move forward in a positive manner at what is a difficult time for the University.

Resolved: that the Chancellor's report be noted.

Sos/Hunter
Carried

200162

20.188

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Received: a report from the Vice-Chancellor dated 29 September 2020 (document VUWC 20/150).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that Council congratulated University staff on recent research funding successes including close to \$18.9 million of funding through the MBIE Endeavour Fund, \$15 million from the Strategic Science Investment Fund Advanced Energy Technology Platform to support work at the Robinson Research Institute, \$2.95 million for Te Kawa a Māui led research from the Biological Heritage National Science Challenge and \$230,000 from the Borrin Foundation for a ground-breaking study on improving Pasifika legal education in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3 that it was acknowledged that the Times Higher Education ranking results were not positive and that a key issue in this is the University's challenge in achieving a global reputation in keeping with the high quality of its research and teaching.
- 4 that the Wellington School of Business and Government's live-streamed panel event on *Leading through Crisis* featuring Pro-Chancellor Dame Therese Walsh and Dr Ashley Bloomfield among others was commended. The link can be made available on request.
- 5 that the appointment of a Chief Executive, Mr Peter Edwards, to the University's new non-degree teaching entity was acknowledged.
Action:
- 6 that Mr Edwards, Wellington Uni-Professional Chief Executive, be invited to speak at the next Council meeting.

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

Allen/McCarthy
Carried
200163

at 9.15 am Dame Therese Walsh joined the meeting

20.189

FINANCIAL REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2020

Received: the Financial report to 31 August 2020 (document VUWC 20/132).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that student accommodation and where it sits on the University's balance sheet was explained as being part of the broader University but accounted for at 'arm's length'.
- 3 that it was confirmed that a detailed discussion on forecasts would take place in the confidential session of the meeting.

Resolved: that the Financial Report to 31 August 2020 be noted.

Sos/Judge
Carried
200164

20.190

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Received: a Council paper from the Provost dated 29 September 2020 regarding Student Engagement (document VUWC 20/133).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read
- 2 that further to this item being considered at the July Council meeting work had taken place to formalise key principles around communication and engagement in partnership with the Student Assembly.
- 3 that a standalone document that articulates some agreed principles is being developed and will be informed by a set of principles (Creating a National Framework for Student Partnership) developed by the Australian Government. There had been a focus on ensuring that all students are brought in, including those who do not necessarily engage with VUWSA or other student bodies.

Action:

- 4 that the final set of principles return to the 20 November Council meeting.

Resolved: that the Council paper on Student Engagement be noted.

Sos/Judge
Carried
200165

20.191 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Received: Minutes of the following meetings:

- Report of the Academic Board, meeting held on 24 August 2020 (document VUWC 20/134)
- Finance Committee, 28 September 2020.

Resolved: that the reports from Committee Chairs be noted.

Morar/Hunter
Carried
200166

20.192 MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Received: a Council paper from the Vice-Chancellor dated 29 September 2020 providing a Media and Social Media report (document VUWC 20/135).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that there was discussion on public perceptions of the University and the local media's lack of reporting significant achievements (for example the research funding detailed under Minute 20.188(2)).
- 3 that this creates a potential risk to student recruitment, engagement with alumni and partners, and staff morale. Council noted the balancing effect of the regular high-value contribution being made to discussion and debate in the broader media by University academics.

Action:

- 4 that further consideration of how these issues might be addressed, including the deployment of a reputational tracker, be reported back on at the next meeting.
- 5 that the Vice-Chancellor advised that at the Universities NZ level Vice-Chancellors will be joining with all DVC Māori (or equivalent roles) across the country to discuss the recently released report on public claims of racism at the University of Waikato. The intention is to discuss this in a positive and constructive manner in order to explore areas together.

- 6 that the Te Aka Matua Committee will also discuss the report at its meeting on 2 November.

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

Paviour-Smith/Sos
Carried
200167

20.193 FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Received: a Council paper from the Secretary to Council dated 29 September 2020 listing Forthcoming Events (document VUWC 20/136).

Noted:

- 1 that it was confirmed there will be seven graduation ceremonies at the Michael Fowler Centre and two on the Marae in the week of 8 December.
- 2 that this will include students who graduated in absentia at the May Council meeting (due to the alert level restrictions at that time) and who also missed out on the planned September celebration.

Resolved: that the Council paper on Forthcoming Events and the date and details for the next Council meeting on Friday, 20 November 2020 be noted.

Paviour-Smith/Lawrence
Carried
200168

20.194 GRADUATES IN ABSENTIA

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 5 October 2020 (document VUWC 20/137).

Resolved:

- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on those persons listed in document VUWC 20/137 and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 5 October 2020.
- 2 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates in Absentia was recorded.

Lawrence/Morar
Carried
200169

20.195 RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Received: a recommendation that certain items be taken with the public excluded (document VUWC 20/138).

Resolved:

- 1 that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely agenda items 13-29.
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
13. Minutes of previous meeting held on 31 August 2020	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
14. Safety, Health & Wellbeing report	s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(b)(ii)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
15. SLT Speaker, PVC SEADI	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 31 August 2020	s 9(2)(b)(ii), s 9(2)(i) and s 9(2)(k)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
19. Covid-19 Deficit Reduction Programme	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
20. 2021 Financial Targets/Budget update	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. 2021 Draft Annual Management Plan	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Campus Master Plan	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. Student Services Programme (SSP) Business Case	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. Increase in International Fee Discounts	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
25. Living Pā progress report	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
26. Quarterly report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Roadmap 	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
27. Reports from Committee Chairs	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, S48(1)(a)(ii)
28. Update on Academic Planning	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(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 s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i), because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.

Paviour-Smith/Walsh

Carried

200170