



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 21 March 2022
in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building and via Zoom Videoconference
from 10.00 am to 5.20 pm**

PRESENT:

Mr John Allen (Chancellor)
Professor Richard Arnold
Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich
Mr Jaistone Finau
Ms Tiana Jakicevich *via Zoom*
Mr Alan Judge
Dr Dianne McCarthy (Pro Chancellor)
Mr David McLean
Ms Cath Nesus
Hon Maryan Street *via Zoom from 3.30 pm*
Mr James Te Puni
Professor Jennifer Windsor (Acting Vice-Chancellor)
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES:

Hon Maryan Street *for lateness*

IN ATTENDANCE:

Professor Stephen Dobson, Dean Faculty of Education
Ms Katherine Edmond, Director, Communications
Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori
Mr Jonathan Flutey, Deputy Director, Centre for Academic Development
Ms Leanne Gibson, Chief Information Officer
Mr Andrew Jackson, Director, Strategic Projects
Mr Mike James, Project Manager, Property Services
Mr Simon Johnson, General Counsel
Professor Wendy Lerner, Provost
Dame Winnie Laban, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Pasifika
Professor Sarah Leggott, Acting PVC, HSSE
Mr Mark Loveard, Chief Operating Officer
Professor Stephen Marshall, Director, Centre for Academic Development
Mr Les Montgomery, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Phil O'Connell, Director Safety, Health and Wellbeing
Mr Tu Temara, Marae Operational Manager

**VUWSA EXECUTIVE
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ms Amelia Blamey, Treasurer-Secretary
Ms Katherine Blow, Engagement Vice President
Ms Alyssa Fa'afua, Clubs and Activities Officer
Ms Monica Lim, Welfare Vice President
Mr Ralph Zambrano, VUWSA President

TEC IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Jenn Bestwick, Chair, Tertiary Education Commission Board
Ms Gillian Dudgeon, Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery

Mr Paora Ammunson, Deputy Chief Executive, Learner Success Ōritetanga Directorate

22.28 WHAKATAU

Noted: that Mr Tu Temara led the Whakatau to formally welcome new Council member Mr David McLean; and Professor Jennifer Windsor attending her first meeting as Acting Vice-Chancellor following the retirement of Professor Grant Guilford on 4 March 2022.

22.29 WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

Noted:

- 1 that the Chancellor led the Karakia.
- 2 that the Chancellor thanked Mr Temara for the Whakatau and warmly welcomed Mr McLean and Professor Windsor to Council. He noted that Professor Windsor's welcome videos as she commenced in the Acting Vice-Chancellor role had been well received setting a positive tone for the University.
- 3 that Mr McLean recorded his pleasure in his appointment to Council and had fond memories of his time at Victoria as a student some decades ago.
- 4 that an apology for lateness was received from Hon Maryan Street.

Resolved: that the apology for lateness from Hon Maryan Street be sustained.

**Te Puni/Finau
Carried
220025**

22.30 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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

Noted:

- 1 that declarations of Disclosures of Interest had been received from Professor Windsor and Mr McLean and the register updated accordingly.
- 2 that there were no further disclosures relating to items on the agenda.

22.31 COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2022

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 14 February 2022.

Action:

Noted: that further to the approval of the People and Culture Committee Terms of Reference, the Chancellor will give more thought to the specifics of how this Committee will operate and report back at the next Council meeting.

Resolved: that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 14 February 2022 be approved.

**Bönisch-Brednich/Jakicevich
Carried
220026**

22.32

REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 14 March 2022 (document VUWC 22/19).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that a formal vote of thanks from the Council to all staff and students for their deeply impressive efforts and leadership in recent weeks was proposed. This acknowledged the enormous effort as the University has navigated the impact of protests at Parliament, the outbreak of COVID-19 in University halls of residence, and the impact of the spread of the Omicron variant in general.
- 3 that a focus for Council this year will be finding new ways to engage with its community with the intention of being more visible in its activity and increasingly conducting its business in the public session of the meeting.
- 4 that reflecting the Council's conversation at the Wharewaka hui on 1 February, the report outlines potential priorities for the Council in 2022 which include building a high-trust and collaborative culture within Council and across the University, communications and engagement with stakeholders; and attracting, retaining and growing the best academic staff and students.
- 5 that there was strong agreement and alignment from Council members that the report had captured the essence of the key areas Council wants to focus on, with its particular emphasis on trust and respect.
- 6 that the need to be financially sustainable was important if future projects are to be realised. The significant financial pressures including the high cost of living in Wellington are challenging.
- 7 that the need to practically address inequality and disadvantage is now a pressing problem and one for Council to address.
- 8 that the Dean of Education, Professor Stephen Dobson, highlighted the challenges of the digital environment and the crucial debate needed around this to ensure that students who are disadvantaged can participate fully.

Resolved:

- 1 **that a formal vote of thanks be recorded to all staff and students for their leadership and efforts over recent weeks in facing the challenges of protests at Parliament, the outbreak of COVID-19 in University Halls of residence and the impact of the spread of the Omicron variant on University operations.**

Allen/McCarthy
Carried
220027

2 that the Chancellor's report be noted.

McCarthy/Te Puni
Carried
220028

22.33

REPORT FROM THE ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR

Received: a report from the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jennifer Windsor, dated 14 March 2022 (document VUWC 22/20).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read and Professor Windsor acknowledged the warm welcome she had received in assuming the Acting Vice-Chancellor role. She noted that she was pleased to serve the University in this way and her intention is to ensure a strong bridge to the new Vice-Chancellor.

- 2 that the success of Professor Beverley Lawton, Director of Te Tātai Hauora o Hine—the National Centre for Women’s Health Research Aotearoa being awarded the 2021 Women of Influence Award in the Innovation, Science, and Health category was acknowledged. The Centre was also awarded a \$1 million Ministry of Health contract.
- 3 that the Wellington School of Business and Government was awarded \$850,000 over three years from a coalition of ministries led by Ministry of Justice, to go towards the Chair in Restorative Justice.
- 4 that Te Herenga Waka University Press (formerly Victoria University Press) was congratulated on having three books shortlisted for the 2022 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards.
- 5 that the efforts of University Campus retailers to do away with single use cups (as a pilot) was applauded.
- 6 that the ‘Take a seat’ campaign launch at the Wellington Club last week in support of the National Music Centre was a great success showcasing the strength of the partnership between the City, University and the NZSO. Performances by musicians from the NZSO and the NZSM were well received.

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

Jakicevich/ Bönisch-Brednich

Carried

220029

22.34

FINANCIAL REPORT TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Received: the Financial report to 28 February 2022 from the Chief Financial Officer, Mr Les Montgomery (document VUWC 22/03).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that the report was pre-census and adjustments will flow through once this information is complete. Several actions are in motion to develop more understanding of the drivers of the early census results.

Resolved: that the Financial report to 28 February 2022 be noted.

Finau/Judge

Carried

220030

22.35

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Received: the public minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- Te Aka Matua Committee, 28 February 2022
- Audit & Risk Committee, 7 March 2022
- Finance Committee, 7 March 2022

Noted: that the Chair of Te Aka Matua, Ms Cath Nesus, advised that concerns had been expressed regarding Māori students not been able to access food late February. Professor Guilford, just prior to his retirement, had stepped in and addressed this.

Resolved: that the public minutes of the Committee meetings and the oral report from the Chair of the Te Aka Matua Committee be noted.

McCarthy/Jakicevich

Carried

200031

22.36

MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Received: a Council paper from the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jennifer Winsor, dated 14 March 2022 providing a Media and Social media report (document VUWC 22/22).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that the importance of and the extent of engagement with the public through media was discussed.

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

Bönisch-Brednich/McLean
Carried
220032

22.37

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Received: a Council paper from the Secretary to Council, Ms Caroline Ward, dated 14 March 2022, listing Forthcoming Events (document VUWC 22/23).

Noted:

- 1 that the Council paper was taken as read.
- 2 that all events are under review due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the country adapting to life with the Omicron variant in the community and remaining at 'red' in under the traffic light Covid-protection framework.
- 3 that the next meeting of Council will take place on Monday, 2 May 2022 at 9.00am in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building, Kelburn Campus, Wellington and/or via Zoom.

Resolved: that the Council paper on Forthcoming Events and the date and details of the next Council meeting on Monday, 2 May 2022 be noted.

McCarthy/Arnold
Carried
220033

22.38

CONFERMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 21 March 2022 (document VUWC 22/24).

Resolved:

- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on the persons listed in document VUWC 22/24 and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 21 March 2022.
- 2 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates be recorded.

Jakicevich/Finau
Carried
220034

22.39

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER

Received: a Council paper dated 5 March 2022 from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, regarding the appointment of the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jennifer Windsor, to Council (document VUWC 22/25).

Resolved: that under section 5.1 of the Council Membership Statute, Professor Jennifer Windsor, being the Acting Vice-Chancellor of Victoria University of Wellington, be appointed to Council from 5 March 2022 until such time as a person holding the permanent position of Vice-Chancellor is appointed and commences in the role.

Allen/McCarthy

Carried

220035

22.40

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 14 March 2022, regarding Committee appointments (document VUWC 22/26).

Noted:

- 1 that the appointments are in addition to those made at the 6 December 2021 Council meeting and reflect the changing membership of Council with Mr McLean's appointment to the vacancy left by Mr Paviour-Smith and Professor Windsor assuming the Acting Vice-Chancellor role.
- 2 that Mr McLean will be appointed to the Finance Committee; and Professor Windsor will be appointed to the Finance, Te Aka Matua, Victoria Honours Committees and the Nominations Panel.
- 3 that the proposed appointment of Hon Maryan Street as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee recognises that it is no longer possible for Mr Allen, in his new capacity as Chancellor, to continue chairing this Committee.
- 4 that Council thanked Mr Allen for chairing the Audit & Risk Committee during the preceding four years and acknowledged Hon Maryan Street's willingness to take on the additional responsibility as Chair of this Committee.

Resolved:

- 1 that the recommendations regarding Council Committee Membership for Professor Jennifer Windsor and Mr David McLean as detailed in document VUWC 22/26 be approved;
- 2 that Hon Maryan Street be appointed as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Bönisch-Brednich/Judge

Carried

220036

22.41

ANNUAL REPORT - 2021

Received: a Council paper dated 14 March 2022 from the Chief Financial Officer, Mr Les Montgomery, regarding the 2021 Annual Report (document VUWC 22/27).

Noted:

- 1 that the Council paper was taken as read.
- 2 that the Audit & Risk Committee had considered the Annual Report and audit clearance in detail at its 7 March 2022 meeting.
- 3 that some key achievements were highlighted – the University is in the top 1% of the world in 20 subjects, the world's top 100 for 11 subjects and the top-ranked University in Aotearoa New Zealand for high quality research. These significant achievements along with many others including a financial surplus were applauded.
- 4 that a less encouraging statistic was the course completion rate for Pasifika being 10% down. This was highlighted by the A-VC Pasifika at the last Council meeting and her request that KPIs for senior leadership be looked at in this area will be honoured.

- 5 that the representation letters have been finalised and signed; from Management to Council; and Council to EY.
- 6 that Council congratulated the team on the beauty of the report's design and commended and thanked all involved.

Action

- 7 that it was suggested that management consider for the 2022 report including information that can provide more context on challenges the University faces including externalities such as housing, funding, etc.

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

- 1 approve the 2021 Annual Report;
- 2 approve the release of the signed Representation Letter to EY;
- 3 authorise the 2021 Annual Report for issue;
- 4 approve the online publication of the 2021 Annual Report as soon as practical.

Judge/McLean
Carried
220037

the meeting adjourned at 10.50 am
the meeting reconvened at 11.00 am

22.42

VUWSA PRESIDENT REPORT

Received: a report from Mr Ralph Zambrano, VUWSA President, dated 14 March 2022 providing his first report as VUWSA President (document VUWC 22/28).

Noted:

- 1 that the Chancellor warmly welcomed Mr Zambrano and members of the VUWSA Executive to the meeting. He acknowledged the recent advocacy work of VUWSA as two major issues occurred simultaneously with the protest at Parliament spilling over to result in the closure of the Pipitea Campus and the wave of COVID-19 Omicron variant that had ravaged the Halls of Residence at the start of the student year.
- 2 that the report was taken as read.
- 3 that VUWSA intends to work in partnership with the University in 2022 whilst at the same time holding the University to account beyond 'frameworks and tick boxes'. The power imbalance between students and the University was discussed. Mr Zambrano encouraged management to consider providing remuneration for key student representative groups on campus, in addition to other moves to support student engagement.
- 4 that Council welcomes and encourages the approach that VUWSA is taking and acknowledges that lived experience cannot be entirely captured in a report. See also Minute 22.44 of the VUWSA President's confidential session at this Council meeting.

Resolved: that the report from the VUWSA President be noted.

Finau/Jakicevich
Carried
220038

22.43

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Received: a recommendation that certain items be taken with the public excluded (document VUWC 22/29).

Resolved:

- 1 that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely agenda items 16-28.

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
16. VUWSA President confidential oral report	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
17. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2022	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
18. Safety, Health & Wellbeing report	s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(b)(ii)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
19. Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
20. Acting Vice-Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. Financial report to 28 February 2022	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Q4 Annual Management plan report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. Projects' stocktake	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. Learning Platform business case	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
25. Committee reports	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
26. Quarterly reports	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
27. Council only time	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
28. Conversation with TEC regarding Learning Outcomes	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	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 27, because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.**

**Allen/Judge
Carried
220039**

that Professor Stephen Dobson left the meeting at 11.35 am

that the Chancellor invited the members of the VUWSA Executive to remain for the VUWSA President's confidential report