



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Friday, 12 June 2020
from 9.00 am to 4.20 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)
Ms Cath Nesus *via Zoom videoconference*
Dr Farib Sos
Dame Therese Walsh (Pro-Chancellor)
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES Nil

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Katherine Edmond, Associate Director Communications
Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori
Mr Andrew Jackson, Director, Strategic Projects
Mr Simon Johnson, General Counsel
Professor Wendy Lerner, Provost
Mr Mark Loveard, Chief Operating Officer
Mr Blair McRae, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement
Mr Les Montgomery, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Phil O'Connell, Director, Safety, Risk Assurance
Ms Pam Thorburn, Director, Student Academic Services
Ms Madeleine Setchell, Director, Communications, Marketing and Engagement
Ms Elizabeth Olsen, PGSA President
Mr Geo Robrigado, VUWSA President

20.87 KARAKIA

Noted: that the Chancellor led a Karakia.

20.88 WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

- Noted:**
- 1 that the Chancellor welcomed everyone to the Council Chamber and acknowledged the special feeling of meeting in person again following the weeks in Alert Level 4 and Alert Level 3 lockdown.
 - 2 that Dr Dianne McCarthy was warmly welcomed to her first in-person meeting following her inaugural attendance at Council's first fully virtual meeting on 4 May.
 - 3 that the Chancellor, on behalf of Council, sincerely thanked all staff for their extraordinary efforts during the pandemic crisis. He also acknowledged the efforts of students and alumni during this time.
 - 4 that the following late start, absence and departures from the meeting were noted:
 - Ms Cath Nesus to join the meeting at 10 am via video
 - Professor Hunter from 10-11 am in order to teach (due to re-scheduling of tutorials as a result of the shift to on-line teaching re-scheduling)
 - Mr Allen from 10.15 am to 1.30 pm
 - Dr McCarthy at 3.00 pm in order to catch a flight home (noting that flights have not yet returned to normal allowing a later return).

Resolved: that the apologies for lateness, absence and early departure were noted.
Paviour-Smith/Walsh
Carried
200077

20.89 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

- Noted:**
- 1 that the following declarations and disclosures of interests 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 were made:
Dr Dianne McCarthy:
 - resigned as Chair of the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research and assumed the role of Deputy Chair
 - resigned as Chair of the Ageing Well National Science Challenge but remaining as a member of the panel
 - Director, Bragato Research Institute
 - Trustee, Royal Society of NZ Endowment Fund Trust
 - 2 that Mr Paviour-Smith advised that he had been invited by the Wellington Mayor to join an advisory group focussed on post-pandemic recovery.
 - 3 that Professor Hunter declared an interest in relation to the item on Guaranteed Entry Scores as a child of hers could be a 2021 student.
 - 4 that the Disclosures of Interests Register was available at all times on the Resource Centre of Board books and circulated with material for all Council meetings.
 - 5 that the Chancellor reminded Council members to advise the Secretary to Council of any disclosures between meetings.

20.90 COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD ON 4 MAY 2020

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 4 May 2020.

Resolved: that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 4 May 2020 be approved.

Sos/McCarthy
Carried
200078

20.91 REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: an oral report from the Chancellor.

- Noted:**
- 1 that since the last meeting of Council held on 4 May 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown restrictions had had a significant impact on the normal number of events including the cancellation of the May graduation ceremonies due to large in-person events not being allowed.
 - 2 that dates for a graduation celebration would be confirmed shortly to provide graduands with a chance to celebrate their achievements with family and friends.
 - 3 that since the last meeting of Council the Chancellor:
 - chaired the Te Aka Matua Committee meeting on 18 May 2020
 - attended an Audit & Risk Committee meeting on 26 May 2020
 - attended a Finance Committee meeting on 26 May 2020
 - hosted with the Vice-Chancellor an Alumni Forum held via Zoom videoconference
 - met with Kirk Hope, CEO of Business New Zealand and John Milford, CEO of Wellington Chamber of Commerce
 - met with the Vice-Chancellor on a regular basis
 - met with the Secretary to Council
 - attended the Foundation Board of Trustees meeting held via Zoom videoconference.
 - 4 that the meeting with Business NZ and the Wellington Chamber of Commerce was aimed at promoting Wellington as a sought-after destination for students in a post-Covid-19 world.

Resolved: that the Chancellor's report be noted.

Hunter/Judge
Carried
200079

20.92 REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Received: a report from the Vice-Chancellor dated 5 June 2020 (document VUWC 20/63).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
 - 2 that the ongoing success of the Wellington Faculty of Health was highlighted.
 - 3 that the outstanding contribution of academic staff to analysis, discussion, and research related to Covid-19 was acknowledged. Examples include staff in the School of Design Innovation working with the Auckland Bioengineering Institute to manufacture and donate personal protective equipment, and expert commentary in areas spanning the social, psychological, and physical impacts of the pandemic.
 - 4 that the way in which staff have reinvented their engagement with students, employers, and other stakeholders by using technology to continue connecting with them during alert levels 4 and 3 was also commended.

5 that the success of Victoria University Press authors Shayne Carter (Best Book and Best First Book of Non-Fiction) and Jane Arthur (Best First Book of Poetry) in the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards was highlighted.

Action:

6 that the 2019 Sustainability report published by the Sustainability Office be uploaded to Boardbooks.

Resolved: that the Vice-Chancellor's report be noted.

Hunter/Morar
Carried
200080

20.93 COVID-19 REPORT

Received: a report from the Vice-Chancellor dated 5 June 2020 on the impact of Covid-19 2020 (document VUWC 20/64).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that Council members received an in-depth briefing on the impact of Covid-19 on the University.
- 3 that particular acknowledgement was made by the Vice-Chancellor of the work done by staff dealing with applications for hardship support which was a particularly emotionally challenging and difficult process.
- 4 that Council extended its thanks to staff throughout the University for all their work to manage and mitigate the effects of the pandemic over the past three months noting that work continues to adapt to the anticipated requirements of the future.

Resolved: that the Vice-Chancellor's report on Covid-19 be noted.

Bönisch-Brednich/McCarthy
Carried
200081

20.94 FINANCIAL REPORT TO 30 APRIL 2020

Received: the Financial report to 30 April 2020 (document VUWC 20/65).

Noted: that the report was taken as read and there were no questions.

Resolved: that the Financial Report to 30 April 2020 be noted.

Paviour-Smith/McCarthy
Carried
200082

20.95 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Received: Minutes of the following meetings:

- Report of the Academic Board, meeting held on 21 April 2020 (document VUWC 20/66)
- Te Aka Matua Committee, 18 May 2020
- Audit & Risk Committee, 26 May 2020
- Finance Committee, 26 May 2020

Noted: that the Chancellor had chaired the Te Aka Matua meeting on 18 May 2020 and Ms Nesus had agreed to assume the Chair from the next meeting.

Resolved: that the reports from Committee Chairs be noted.

Lawrence/Judge
Carried
200083

20.96 MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Received: a Council paper from the Vice-Chancellor dated 2 June 2020 providing a Media and Social Media report (document VUWC 20/67).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that the decision by management not to apply a blanket increase in grades was discussed and Council was informed of the extensive range of measures that have been put in place to mitigate the impact of Covid-19.
- 3 that the University had considered making a statement on the Black Lives Matter rallies in response to requests and would be making a statement reinforcing the University's values. Council asked that great sensitivity be exercised in how this was framed.
- 4 that regarding the matter of Hall Fees during Lockdown attracting a lot of media attention, an issues escalation process was being agreed with VUWSA to help ensure as much as possible that the concerns of student groups are brought to the attention of the University directly in the first instance rather than before they appear via media channels.

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

Walsh/Hunter
Carried
200084

20.97 PROPOSED COUNCIL DATES FOR 2021

Received: a Council Paper dated 5 June 2020 from the Chancellor regarding proposed Council dates for 2021 (document VUWC 20/68).

Noted:

- 1 that Council and Committee dates for 2021 had been circulated by email and Council members asked to confirm their suitability or otherwise with the Secretary to Council.
- 2 that all dates as proposed in document VUWC 20/68 had proved suitable with one exception, 29 March 2021. The Secretary to Council was asked to investigate if there was an alternate date that works for the majority of Council members.
- 3 that once the March meeting is confirmed the complete schedule of dates will be sent by email, calendar invitations will be sent and the website updated.

20.98 GRADUATES IN ABSENTIA

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 12 June 2020 (document VUWC 20/69).

Resolved:

- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on those persons listed in document VUWC 20/69 and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 12 June 2020.

- 2 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates in Absentia was recorded.

Lawrence/Morar
Carried
200085

20.99

GUARANTEED ENTRY SCORE (GES) FOR 2021

Received: a Council Paper from the Provost dated 5 June 2020 regarding the Guaranteed Entry Score (GES) for 2021 (document VUWC 20/70).

Noted: that removing the Guaranteed Entry Score for 2021 means that any student who successfully completes New Zealand University Entrance (UE) will be guaranteed entry to undergraduate study if they apply.

- Resolved:**
- 1 that the Guaranteed Entry Score be removed for 2021.
 - 2 that clear messaging will be developed for schools, careers' advisers and future students around the reasons for this.

Bönisch-Brednich /Lawrence
Carried
200086

20.100

REAPPOINTMENT OF FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Received: a Council Paper from the Chancellor dated 5 June 2020 regarding the reappointment of Foundation Trustees (document VUWC 20/71).

Noted: that the Chancellor acknowledged that there was more work to be done to increase the diversity of the Foundation Trust Board following resignations of two female members and invited Council members to put forward suggestions of suitable candidates.

- Resolved:**
- 1 that Mr Brent Manning be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed for a term of office of three years from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023.
 - 2 that Dame Kerry Prendergast be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed for a term of office of three years from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023.
 - 3 that Sir Maarten Wevers be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed for a term of office of three years from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023.

Walsh/Lawrence
Carried
200087

18. Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
19. Vice-Chancellor's report	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
20. Financial report to 30.4.20	s 9(2)(b)(ii), s 9(2)(i) and s 9(2)(k)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. Covid-19 report	s 9(2)(b)(ii), s 9(2)(i), s 9(2)(j), and s 9(2)(k)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Strategic Plan roadmap review	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. 2020 amended forecast (due to C/19 impact)	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. Capex review	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
25. Reports from Committee Chairs	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
26. Quarterly reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital roadmap • Foundation 	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
27. Legislative Compliance report	S 9(2)(h)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
28. Safety, Health & Wellbeing report	s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(b)(ii)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
29. Report from the VUWSA President	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
30. 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 30, because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.

Paviour-Smith/Sos
Carried
200089