



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 30 October 2023
in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building
from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm**

PRESENT: Mr John Allen (Chancellor)
Professor Richard Arnold
Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich
Mr Jaistone Finau
Ms Pania Gray
Mr David McLean *via Zoom*
Ms Kelly Mitchell
Professor Nic Smith (Vice-Chancellor)
Hon Maryan Street (Pro-Chancellor)
Mr James Te Puni
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES: Mr Alan Judge
Ms Cath Nesus

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Jackie Anderson, Acting General Counsel
Dr Logan Bannister, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students
Mr Will Barber, Associate Director, Commercial and Finance
Professor Stuart Brock, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic
Mr Mark Daldorf, Director, People & Capability
Ms Katherine Edmond, Director, Communications
Professor Rawinia Higgins Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori and Engagement
Professor Bryony James, Provost
Mr Clinton Jenkins, Associate Director, Planning and Performance Management
Mr Simon Johnson, Acting Director, Campus Operations
Professor Markus Melloh, Dean of Faculty of Health
Mr Reece Moors, Director, Vice-Chancellor's Office
Ms Tina Wakefield, Chief Operating Officer

SPEAKERS: Mr Graham Le Gros, Director/Chief Executive, Malaghan Institute
Mr Gary Evans, Director, Ferrier Institute

23.161

WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

Noted:

- 1 that Hon Maryan Street led the Karakia.
- 2 that the Chancellor warmly welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3 that Mr Allen acknowledged the new members of the Senior Leadership Team attending their first Council meeting, Ms Tina Wakefield, Professor Bryony James, and Dr Logan Bannister. A Mihi Whakatau will be held on

Wednesday to formally welcome these staff and Council members were encouraged to attend.

- 4 that the Director, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Mr Reece Moors was also acknowledged as he attended his first Council meeting since commencing at the University. Mr Moors will also be welcomed at the Mihi Whakatau.
- 5 that apologies had been received from Mr Alan Judge and Ms Cath Nesus.

Resolved: that apologies from Mr Alan Judge and Ms Cath Nesus be sustained.

Te Puni/Mitchell

**Carried
230139**

23.162 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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

Noted: that there were no further disclosures of interest since the release of the meeting documentation.

- Noted:**
- 1 that Council members were reminded to advise the Secretary to Council of any changes to their disclosure of interests listing between meetings.
 - 2 that for item-specific disclosures, the Chancellor asked that Council members alert him at the time.

23.163 COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 September 2023.

Resolved: that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 September 2023 be approved.

**Street/Nesus
Carried
230140**

23.164 REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 24 October 2023 (document VUWC 23/115).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
 - 2 that the implementation of decisions made in the financial sustainability change process are now underway and the Chancellor acknowledged the pressure on many in the University's community. He particularly highlighted the role of and work done by the two staff representatives on Council and thanked them for their dedication and care of the University's staff throughout a very difficult time.
 - 3 that the highly valued and, in many instances, long-serving staff who are leaving Te Herenga Waka were recognised and thanked for their contribution.
 - 4 that the University's restructured senior leadership group was recently gifted a Māori name by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori - Te Hiwa.
 - 5 that at the recent Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony, it was apparent that the four recipients had found something in their time at Victoria

University of Wellington to underpin their drive, innovation and courage to succeed. The success of this event and the efforts of the team putting it together were applauded.

Resolved: that the Chancellor's report be noted.

Arnold/Finau
Carried
230141

23.165

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Received: a report from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nic Smith, dated 24 October 2023 (document VUWC 23/116).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that enrolment figures for 2024 look encouraging although it is early days in the process. Intense efforts across the University to convert enrolments to admission continue. Applications for accommodation are also looking positive.
- 3 that a meeting was held with principals from key Wellington secondary schools in order to further develop relationships and gain insights into what they need from Te Herenga Waka.
- 4 that a number of professional development opportunities for secondary school teachers have been offered, in addition to making sure they are aware of all the initiatives available for their students to engage with the University.
- 5 that the recruitment of a new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) is progressing well and an appointment is expected before the end of the year.
- 6 that a programme of work is underway to refresh the University's strategy and determine priorities for the future. At upcoming staff forums (on 8 and 9 November) Te Hiwa members will discuss how priorities will be realised in their areas of responsibility.
- 7 that the list of successes and achievements in the report were acknowledged. In addition, the NZSM had held a successful week-long series of musical events attended by over 3,000 people. The week culminated in a magnificent joint concert in the Hub with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and the New Zealand School of Music orchestra.
- 8 that Council members commended the Vice-Chancellor for his leadership throughout the financial sustainability programme of work which had been carried out on a rapid time scale. The focus now is to generate collective momentum as the University looks to the future.

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

McLean/Arnold
Carried
230142

23.166

FINANCIAL REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Received: the Financial report to 30 September 2023 from the Chief Financial Officer, Mr Les Montgomery (document VUWC 23/117).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that Mr Jenkins spoke to the report in Mr Montgomery's absence explaining that revenue was unfavourable to budget by \$21.8m mainly due to fewer EFTS enrolled in 2023.

- 3 that the Foundation YTD surplus was \$4.9m which was favourable to budget by \$3.8m.
- 4 that the full year forecast for the University Group is currently predicted to be a deficit in a range from \$30m to \$34m. The financial sustainability programme of work to reduce costs and increase revenue will improve the underlying result in future years.

Resolved: that the Financial report to 30 September 2023 be noted.

Te Puni/Mitchell
Carried
230143

23.167

CONFERMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 30 October 2023 (document VUWC 23/118).

Noted: that Council member, Ms Kelly Mitchell, was congratulated on the conferral of her conjoint LLB/BA degree. There was a round of applause in acknowledgement of Ms Mitchell's achievement.

- Resolved:**
- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on the persons listed in document VUWC 23/118, and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 30 October 2023.
 - 2 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates be recorded.

Street/Finau
Carried
230144

23.168

APPOINTMENT OF FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 24 October 2023 regarding the appointment of Foundation Trustees (document VUWC 23/119).

Resolved: that Mr Tim Pankhurst and Dr Ruth Harley be appointed as Trustees 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 commencing on 1 November 2023 and concluding on 30 June 2026.

Street/McLean
Carried
230145

23.169

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE AND INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

Received: a Council paper dated 24 October 2023 from Hon Maryan Street, Chair, Audit & Risk Committee and Ms Tina Wakefield, Chief Operating Officer, presenting an updated Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter for the Audit & Risk Committee (document VUWC 23/120).

Noted:

- 1 that the Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter have been under review via the Audit & Risk Committee's usual process for some time. The versions presented today are supported by all members of the Committee acknowledging that further refinement will be required and for the Charter

this will be captured in its annual review around the same time in 2024. Some open questions remain on the Terms of Reference, but these are for the 2024 Committee to consider.

- 2 that it was confirmed that the Terms of Reference are the 'what' and the Internal Audit Charter is the 'how' and both are good practice guiding documents to have in place.

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

the revised Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter be approved.

Street/Gray
Carried
230146

23.170

AQA CYCLE 6 ACADEMIC AUDIT - UPDATE

Received: a Council paper dated 18 October 2023 from Professor Stuart Brock, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), providing an update on the AQA Cycle 6 Academic Audit progress against recommendations, affirmations and the Panel's 2024 follow up visit (document VUWC 23/121).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
 - 2 that Professor Brock provided an update on progress towards implementing recommendations from the AQA Cycle 6 Academic Audit. He confirmed that the University is on track to implement the most urgent recommendations before the one year review in March 2024, with remaining recommendations to be comfortably implemented within the seven-year timeframe.
 - 3 that the Chancellor thanked Professor Brock for the report and wished him every success as he takes up his new position at the University of Otago in the New Year.

Resolved: that the AQA Cycle 6 Academic Audit update report be noted.

Bönisch-Brednich/Mitchell
Carried
230147

23.171

COMMITTEE MINUTES / ACADEMIC BOARD REPORT

Received: the Academic Board report covering the meetings held on 22 August, 14 September 2023 and 26 September 2023 (document VUWC 23/122).

Noted: that there was nothing to report in public following the Te Aka Matua Committee Workshop held on 9 October 2023.

Resolved: that the Academic Board report covering meetings held in August and September 2023 be noted.

Arnold/Finau
Carried
230148

23.172

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Received: a Council paper from the Secretary to Council, Ms Caroline Ward, dated 13 October 2023 regarding Forthcoming Events and the next Council meeting (document VUWC 23/123).

Noted:

- 1 that Council members were encouraged to attend December graduation celebrations, associated events and the parade further to the invitation circulated since the last meeting.
- 2 that the next meeting of Council will take place on Monday, 4 December 2023, at 9am in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building, Kelburn Campus, Wellington.

Resolved: that the Council paper on Forthcoming Events and the date and details of the next Council meeting on Monday, 4 December be noted.

McLean/Street
Carried
230149

23.173

SPEAKERS : WELLINGTON SCIENCE CITY

Received: an oral report from Professor Gary Evans, Director, Ferrier Research Institute, and Professor Graham Le Gros, Director (Chief Executive), Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, with a particular focus on the Wellington Science City initiative.

Noted:

- 1 that the Chancellor warmly welcomed Professors' Evans and Le Gros to the meeting.
- 2 that Professor Le Gros expressed delight at being invited to address Council, particularly as the 20th anniversary of the Malaghan Institute is soon to be celebrated.
- 3 that the highly successful and productive partnership between the two Institutes, which has led to a number of ground-breaking vaccines and treatments, was highlighted.
- 4 that both Institute directors discussed the proposal to establish Wellington as a science city, pointing to the strong science capability in the region and the potential for the University to be at the heart of the new science city initiative.
- 5 that the profile and research reputation of Te Herenga Waka and the role that plays in the Institutes being able to recruit top quality staff was acknowledged.
- 6 that in response to questions about how Council can support the work of the Institutes, both directors said Council members can use their connections, the resources of Te Herenga Waka and their vision and leadership to progress science success in the Wellington region. They also extended an open invitation for Council members to visit their respective institutes.
- 7 that the Chancellor thanked Professors Le Gros and Evans and wished them every success in both their individual and collective efforts. He also extended a vote of congratulations to the Malaghan Institute on their 20th anniversary.

Resolved: that the oral report from Professor Gray Evans and Professor Graham Le Gros on the Wellington Science City initiative be noted.

Allen/Gray
Carried
230150

23.174

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Received: a recommendation that certain items be taken with the public excluded (document VUWC 23/124).

Resolved: 1 that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely agenda items 15-24.

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
15. Minutes of previous meeting held on 18 September 2023	s9(2)(a), s 9(2)(b)(ii), and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
16. Safety, Health & Wellbeing report 1-30 September 2023	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
17. Vice-Chancellor's report	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
18. Financial report to 30 September 2023	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
19. Quarterly report: National Music Centre	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
20. Honorary Doctorate Nominations	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. Lease approval	s 9(2)(b)(ii) and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Rescindment of PhD	s 9(2)(a)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. Committee and Academic Board minutes	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(h), and s 9(2)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. Council only time	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)

In relation to each of the above items, no public interest consideration has been identified favouring disclosure of the particular information in

public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.

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 24, because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.

Te Puni/Arnold
Carried
230151

the meeting adjourned at 10.30 am for morning tea
the meeting reconvened at 10.50 am