



# Vice Chancellors Report to Council

March 2021

## Introduction

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At this time, we are approaching the end of the first term of the 2021

## Engagement

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Increase our presence and impact

Building on the success of the December 2020 graduations UC is working to ensure April graduation ceremonies are fully celebrated as city events. Christchurch International Airport is celebrating UC Graduates in April by lighting up the terminal and tower 'red' for graduation week. The Knowledge Commons team has been looking to support local businesses and UC graduates as many people in the city as possible know that we have graduation coming up in April, with UC themed specials and graduation deals.

UC's presence has been enhanced with items from the Macmillan Brown's Library featured in the exhibition *quake tautahi Christchurch* at the School

RI )LQH \$UWV \*DOOHU\ &XUDWHG E\ 'U %DUEDUD \*DUULH V used for teaching and learning including VHULHV RI WDONV DQG WXWRULDO Sociology classes.

The Knowledge Commons continues to build partnerships between the University and our rangatira in the city. The team have been supporting the Greater Christchurch Partnership 2050 to embed academic knowledge into the strategic planning for region by not only embedding experts into the leadership team but also supporting connections between research clusters on campus and of need in the city. The Knowledge Commons has welcomed Katie Mills as South Liaison to elevate the voice of rangatahi at UC and incorporate their ideas into city strategic planning. Katie is proDFWLYHO\ PHHWLQJ ZLWK PDQ\ \R &Wskh D G and R from Jan R X S V engagement with people who would like support their work ([Katie.mills@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:Katie.mills@canterbury.ac.nz)) The Knowledge Commons team has a draft strategy that will be socialising with the wider UC community to outline its goals for the coming years.

7KH &ROOHJH hosted the regional launch of the national high school electric vehicle GHVLJQ DQG EXLOG FRPSHWLWLRQen 7ukning for 5 year olds and RiQ (Y sponsored by a number of companies, including Orion.

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changing practice in new school builds.

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Commerce Reserve Bank Governance presentation. Reserve Bank Governor, Adrian Orr discussed the  
factors impacting Aotearoa New Zealand's economy from both domestic and international  
perspectives and what to expect in the year ahead. The event was well attended and provided a great  
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to 10% in 2021.

Retain and grow the flxgtukv{ of talent kp" vewvcjk"Ejtkuvejwtej"cpf"Yckvcjc"Ecpvgtdwt{0

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change in alert level led to

## Education – Academic Development and Innovation

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Stimulate and support academic development and innovation

As part of our commitment to becoming the best educators in Aotearoa, improving transition and retention is a critical aspect of our work. We are currently working on a case management system to support student advising (academic, pastoral and skills) across campus. This will have significant impact on the way our student facing services share information in holistic support for students' success.

Nine UCx branded massive open online courses (MOOCs), two are Professional Certificates and one (Smart Cities) is a standalone MOOC, were launched on 15 March 2021, 19,460 students are enrolled in UCx courses. The Health and Nutrition MOOC has generated almost half of the current enrolments. Planning is underway for the development of another 10 MOOCs for a 2021 launch, including a number of professional certificates and UC's first micro-masters course.

Online offerings have also included Future Learning and Development courses that will go live later in 2021, through a new design workshop series titled Aropapaki. The Pasifika advisors and educational technologists. While many of the courses are at postgraduate level, some disciplines will have undergraduate courses in order to support the delivery of on-campus courses

The Library continues to support the Aropapaki workshop series. Subject librarians are contributing to the development of each online course and using this opportunity to encourage the use of information competencies in UC's online teaching, and address issues of open access resources for online learning.

The Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science is being offered both online and in-person. The enrolment of over 1,000 students in the course this year represents the







, Q Q R Y D W L R Q D Q G a d ( R S O H A P t o t a l 4 1 6 E n d ) Ideas concepts (an increase of 35%

students and develop the research project. With that in mind, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Research and Dean of Postgraduate Research recently indicated that the programme will be run again, for UC students starting their PhD studies in 2022. The uptake of this programme this year is a clear signal that UC students are willing to stay on for doctoral studies if they are well supported financially to work on a world-leading project with a top supervisory team.

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The RNZ documentary featuring Dr Toni COILQV DQG 3URIHVVRU UsignRd4@ +RSN  
memEHUV RI /(\$' RQ WKH VxWentHofar onRr ChungidVWWh on Thursday  
February and is available online.

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Year of Disasters in Review: Legal Assessments under International Disaster Law”, set up jointly by  
the editors of the *Yearbook of International Disaster Law* in cooperation with the American Society  
of international Law's Disaster Law Interest Group and with the support of the Jean Monnet  
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disaster law judgments in New Zealand and the Pacific region This will pay for a postgraduate  
researcher to work with the wider QWHUQDWLRQDO Cross and UREDC Reso Sci Soc  
project (managed by University College Cork) aiming to build a global database of disaster case law.  
In March at tKH ,QWHUQDWLRQDO 'LVDVWHU DQG (PHUJHQF\ 1HW  
currently chaired by John) hoVWHG DQ LQWHUQDWLRQDO VHPLQDU RQ  
Disasters, with speakers from the United Kingdom and Ireland.

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Similarly, UC has concluded a Licenc H WR 2FFXS\ \$JUHHPHQW ZLWK 7UDQ  
for lab and desk space in the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences.

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Research are working with Mars Bio Imaging (a UC spin out company) in developing a multi year  
lease agreement for office and lab access to house up to 50 staff and students on campus.

Improve strategic nqecn."regional and international research cqmcdqtcvkppwq" kpetgcug"tgugcte j" k o rcev0

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\$LND RI 71 J-K and the event hosted by Director Professor Jason Tylanakis. Work is

notebooks run and publish software code that supports research outputs, and are excellent for teaching research-focused programming. A number of research clusters and postgraduate courses in digital humanities, engineering and maths are using this resource supported by the Research Computing Cluster and library.

## People— Pwtvwtkpi"Uvchh. Vj tkxkpi"Uvwfgpvu

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Over the past few months a range of resources has been written that both signpost and provide  
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list of bilingual terms for subjects, role titles, departments, schools and colleges across the  
University. The most recent development is the ~~about~~ UHOHD\_VHG 8 & 0—RUL 'HVLJ

Alert Level 1, which attracted more than 75 students and their families. UC's formal Welcome Day for Pasifika students and their families was held on 10 March. UC celebrated Pasifika scholarship winners 2021, as well as the highest performing Pasifika students from 2020 with the Pasifika Achievers prizes. A team check-in event on 10 March attracted more than 85 students and their families, headed from UC Careers and the University of Canterbury Student Association (UCSA). UC also had a strong presence at Christchurch's biggest Pasifika community event, the SPACPAC Polyfest held on 18 March. The event attracted 21 secondary schools and an estimated 4000+ community members in attendance.

In addition to the initiatives above, we are in the process of completing phone callouts to all Pasifika UC students to support their transition to study and the campus environment. We concluded calling the Pasifika student cohort on 15 March, and achieved a good uptake, with the majority of students reporting few concerns or issues during their first weeks.

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and pending international intakes have been developed. Campus Living Villages and the University.

#### Organisational design

After feedback from recent Academic Board and other staff workshops on organisation design, a number of projects are beginning or underway to ensure that the key University processes are best. GHVLJQHGRWRVXSSRUW WKHLPSOHPHQWDWLRQRIWKH6W are under discussion, to ensure that they are student centric. Another example is the work of a group of academic staff working with Keith Longden, looking at the University's resource allocation model. Process improvement will in turn determine the best organisational structures needed for the future of the University.

The main People and Culture processes are also under review to ensure they best recruit and develop the workforce needed for implementation of the plan.





The following figures show our current enrolments in relation to budget:

- x EXGJHW H[SHFWV GRPHVWLF ()76 WR LQ for end of 2021 is now 12% above 2020.
- x Draft figures indicate that UC had a positive Term 1 intake with total student numbers increasing by 40% compared Term 1 2020 (a total of 17 additional ()76
- x :KHQ FRPSDULQJ )HEUXDU\ to total international student numbers WKH are tracking (3%) down, which is on budget.

**Hkpcpegu**

The first official forecast for 2021 will be completed in the next few weeks and reported in the next month's financials. +RZH YHU the following early indications of some positive developments:

- x The University is forecasting higher revenue than budgeted for 2021, with the most significant change relating to our allocation of tertiary (education CRPPLVLR Qnded (Student Achievement Component (SAC).
- x UC is currently forecasting to be \$17 million or 6.7% ahead of budget this year. This is driven by a strong increase in domestic students following the national COVID related recession.
- x There are also some positive variances in actual vs budget year to date that may result in lower operating expenditure for 2021 than forecast.

**Recruitment for 2022**

Recruitment kicked off for 2022 with school visits in Canterbury, Wellington, Auckland, Southland, 6RXWK & DQWHUEXU\ %D\ RI 3OHQW\ 1HOVRQ 0DUOERURXJH Auckland Queen Street office we were able to make significant savings by relocating to a shared office space in Parnell, which is more central to our priority school recruitment areas.

At the end of March WKH UHFUXLWPHQW FDPSDLJQ 8&0( ZLOO EI 0—RUL DQG 3DVLILND VWXGHQWV WKH provided by international students from Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe, Malaysia, Samoa, Germany and the USA. The diverse group includes adult students. As a next generation of this campaign is 38 & : ( ' , where students are photographed and profiled with significant others who have helped them on their journey. This is aimed at showing students who first in family DQG RU from lower decile schools that university is for them too.

A new "News" area of the website has gone live, which enhances searchability by topic on our research and latest news. The homepage of the website has also been further developed to incorporate topical interest banners that change mobile HTX, with WKH through to more information on the website. These changing images help enhance the <003A>-10 <0028>-u6w (e)4 (d a(or)3 (m)-21

Philanthropic and sponsorship income to UC at the end of the year, (\$320,000 from 8 & DQG WKH UH & D L T O University has also drawn down \$230,000 from 8 &.) New Zealand education benefited from an \$1.5 million legacy from 'U (OPDQ Pool) UC has received \$1.5 million of that legacy and made a joint press release with Otago University about it

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Grow and leverage our international and indigenous practices to help improve the quality of life for all people and to share our practice

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VC Activities

Past Events

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