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**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT TO  
UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY COUNCIL APRIL 2019**

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|             |  |           |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| <b>1.</b>   | <b>INTRODUCTION/ UPDATE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR</b> ..... | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>2.</b>   | <b>STRATEGIC MATTERS</b> .....                             | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>2.1</b>  | <b>UC Futures Programme UC Kia Mua</b> .....               | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>2.2</b>  | <b>Graduate Profile</b> .....                              | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>2.3</b>  | <b>International Growth</b> .....                          | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>3.</b>   | <b>STUDENT RECRUITMENT</b> .....                           | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>3.1</b>  | <b>Recruitment – International</b> .....                   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>3.2</b>  | <b>Recruitment – Domestic</b> .....                        | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>4.</b>   | <b>STUDENT EXPERIENCE</b> .....                            | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4.1</b>  | <b>Student Support Services</b> .....                      | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4.2</b>  | <b>Student Wellbeing</b> .....                             | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4.3</b>  | <b>Careers, Internships &amp; Employment</b> .....         | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4.4</b>  | <b>Equity and Disability Service</b> .....                 | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4.5</b>  | <b>Student Experience Team</b> .....                       | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>5.</b>   | <b>PEOPLE AND CULTURE</b> .....                            | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>6.</b>   | <b>LEARNING AND TEACHING</b> .....                         | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>6.1</b>  | <b>Children's University Canterbury Partnership</b> .....  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>7.</b>   | <b>RESEARCH</b> .....                                      | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>7.1</b>  | <b>Postgraduate Research</b> .....                         | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>7.2</b>  | <b>Student First Programme</b> .....                       | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>8.</b>   | <b>BICULTURALISM</b> .....                                 | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>9.</b>   | <b>FINANCES</b> .....                                      | <b>10</b> |
| <b>9.1</b>  | <b>Major Projects &amp; Facilities</b> .....               | <b>11</b> |
| <b>9.2</b>  | <b>Library</b> .....                                       | <b>12</b> |
| <b>9.3</b>  | <b>IT Services</b> .....                                   | <b>12</b> |
| <b>10.</b>  | <b>COMMUNICATIONS</b> .....                                | <b>12</b> |
| <b>10.1</b> | <b>Communications and Stakeholder Relations</b> .....      | <b>12</b> |
| <b>10.2</b> | <b>UC media releases/news</b> .....                        | <b>13</b> |
| <b>10.3</b> | <b>Stakeholders/Alumni</b> .....                           | <b>14</b> |
| <b>11.</b>  | <b>COLLEGE SUMMARIES (PROVIDED BY PVCs)</b> .....          | <b>14</b> |
| <b>11.1</b> | <b>Appendix 2: VC Activities</b> .....                     | <b>16</b> |
| <b>11.1</b> | <b>Appendix 3: Events Calendar</b> .....                   | <b>16</b> |

## **1. INTRODUCTION/ UPDATE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The end of the first term brought the opportunity of a well-earned break for students and many staff. Although there were several achievements in the first term, the tragic events at two mosques in Christchurch have impacted the University in many respects. Extensive support has been provided to many students and their families. The Band Together event on campus on 18 March saw nearly 5000 people unite in aroha and manaakitanga, to mourn those who lost their lives and to show sympathy and support for all affected families and for the wider community of Christchurch. At separate events UC hosted representatives of the Malaysian and Chinese governments as part of an extensive outreach programme to our international community.

Numerous messages of sympathy

UC staff pedalled their way to first place in the 500-1999 staff category of the Aotearoa Bike Challenge this year. The Aotearoa Bike Challenge is a free competition to see which organisation can get the most people to ride bikes. UC's cycling success in the challenge was demonstrated in many ways: 262 out of 1918 staff cycled, 14% participated, registering 13,566 cycle trips during the challenge, equivalent to 179,472 kilometres cycled, saving 15,746kg CO<sup>2</sup>.

The Ernest Rutherford building has been nominated for a Property Council Award in the Education category. The winner will be announced at the New Zealand Property Council Awards Dinner in June.

On the international front, I hosted a visit to UC by the Vice-Chancellor and a delegation from the University of the South Pacific. We identified a number of opportunities to progress student and staff exchanges, research collaboration, and the potential to work together to secure international investment and funding to progress projects of mutual interest. This will be followed up during my upcoming visit to Fiji at the end of May. Internationalisation is one of the key priorities coming through strongly in our academic strategy review process so I expect to see UC's commitment and activity in this area to grow significantly in coming months and years.

Navitas Limited (the Australian international education business) that is UC's partner in the UC International College (UCIC) has accepted a purchase offer by the BGH Consortium (led by the original founder of Navitas). The University was asked to confirm that we would not terminate our agreement with Navitas as a result of this acquisition. This was provided on the assumption that



The CEO of IES Abroad visited UC and expressed her satisfaction with the offering, citing 5/5 in overall programme satisfaction and programme recommendation ratings for the 2018-2019 year. The scheduled ISB benchmark survey has been deferred.

In terms of future assessments, India led 'incomplete,' 'being assessed,' 'full Offers of Place' and 'Offer of Place accepted' while China led 'Conditional Offers of Place' – this includes direct applications and applications via agents.

On campus, the team has begun a range of promotional activities for 2020 outbound exchanges, including the annual outbound exchange fair which was held on 14 March and was well attended. Visits from Cardiff University, Howard University and the State University of New York at Geneseo, as well as from local agents, have also been hosted by the International Relationships Office.

## **3.2 Recruitment – Domestic**

### **3.2.1 Liaison**

First Round visits to schools continue with Nelson, Otago, South Canterbury, New Plymouth and the Bay of Plenty, alongside Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch-based visits. Visits to Hawkes

6

Work is progressing with the development of a reporting tool and educational initiatives for release during Term 2. These actions are important to ensure that any ripple effects of 15 March are responded to, and that UC maintains its commitment to an inclusive and supportive environment for all students.

#### **4.2 Academic Skills Centre**

ASC is piloting a limited Extended Hours of Service from 6.30pm-8.30pm during term time, Mon-Thurs for one-on-one appointments. Distance students are given top priority for these appointments. To date the extra service has been well used.

#### **4.3 Careers, Internships & Employment**

A new 2019 initiative, the UC Careers lunchtime talks, has been featuring guest speakers who have

## **6. LEARNING AND TEACHING**

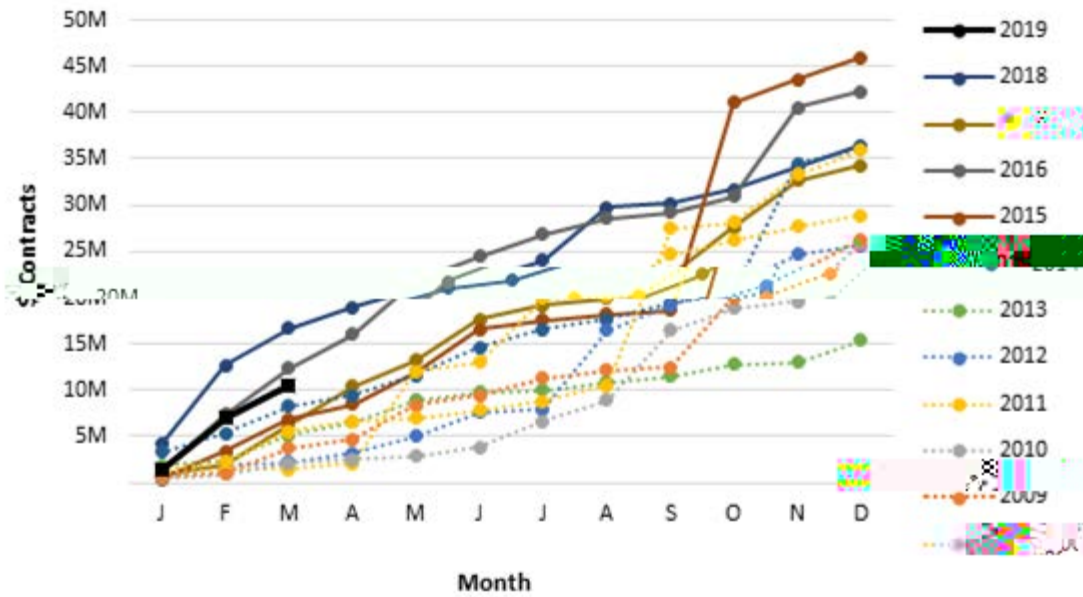
Work is continuing on the Learning and Teaching Strategy as we refine the inclusion of principles of biculturalism into strategy and learning environment. The LTC's valuable feedback to earlier drafts is being incorporated. The Academic Vision will be helpful in further informing and shaping the strategy.

Planning is under way for teaching month, which is set for July 2019. I will deliver the keynote address followed by presentation of the UC teaching awards. There will be a showcase of the teaching development grants, and a number of sessions have been designed to focus on aspects of the learning and teaching strategy.

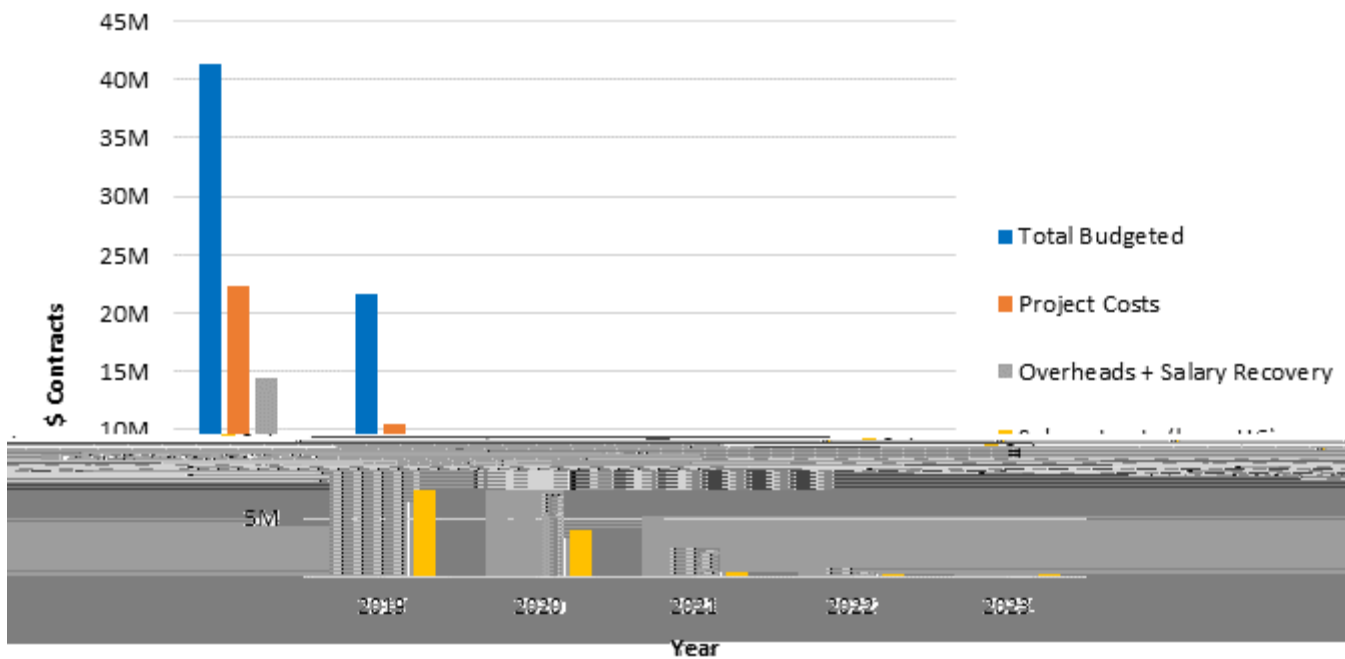
Curriculum developments are under way for the first round of Council of Academic University Programmes (CUAP). New programmes are being proposed at an undergraduate and postgraduate level, building on developing areas at UC. Proposals were presented to Academic Board on 12 April before progressing to Council.

A range of processes were put in place following 15 March. With help from the Registrar's Office and IT, a simplified Special Considerations (SC) process was implemented for students affected by 15 March events. SC on compassionate grounds allows students to make a submission for a missed

## Value of Research Contracts Executed By Month



## Value of Budgeted Research Income by Year



### 7.1 Postgraduate Research

PhD and Master's research student numbers continue to track as expected – currently 915 doctoral students compared with 899 in 2018, and 730 enrolled Master's research students compared with 724 research masters students in 2018.







Capital expenditure is \$22.098 million below budget. \$5.965 million of the expenditure incurred to date is UC Futures related (RRSIC, Rehua, and CETF) against a year to date budget of \$25.791 million.

|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|  | 5,002  | 5,029  | 5,510  | 3,399  | 3,508  | 3,262  | 3,662  |        |        |
|  | 9,195  | 9,460  | 10,075 | 8,096  | 8,703  | 8,409  | 8,704  |        |        |
|  | 14,197 | 14,489 | 15,585 | 11,495 | 12,210 | 11,671 | 12,366 | 13,089 | 12,972 |
|  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|  | 3,312  | 3,614  | 5,007  | 720    | 735    | 744    | 922    |        |        |
|  | 799    | 943    | 1,112  | 727    | 854    | 674    | 781    |        |        |
|  | 4,111  | 4,557  | 6,119  | 1,447  | 1,589  | 1,418  | 1,704  | 1,879  | 2,019  |

The March 2019 cash position of \$357.211 million is higher than budget by \$30.191 million due largely to higher than expected balances at 31 December 2018, and lower capital spend.

For further details please refer to the latest monthly financial report.

NB: 2018/9 Budget and Forecast is not calculated down to year at UC. Enrolment data is based on the same date across years (i.e. 6 Jan vs 6 Jan). ATE data is based on student headcount and based on the student's citizenship status rather than fee type. Enrolment data is based on EFTS and the student fee type (domestic or international). 'International' refers to the student's NZ citizen/residency status rather than their fee-paying status. Most international students will pay international fees but not all. As PhD students generally pay domestic fees this table groups them with domestic students.

## 9.1 Major Projects & Facilities

RRSIC programme: works continue in Ernest Rutherford to complete fit-out of lab spaces and conclusion of remaining defects as the contract 'defects period' ends mid-year. Beatrice Tinsley programme remains at August 2019.

Canterbury Engineering the Future: CAPE gas line repair will be completed by end of April and Fire Lab (ECU) design, minor modifications and testing continue into May.

Rehua: Code Compliance Certificate approved by the Christchurch City Council, practical completion and submission of final account to follow over the next quarter. Defect list is being tightly managed to ensure a quality outcome.

Haere-roa (UCSA building): Remains on budget with completion 9 July. Current key risk being completion of the bore consent process to facilitate commissioning to programme.

New Hall (Homestead Lane): The builder has commenced on site. Screw piling has been completed. Project is on target, no key risks to report.

Logie and Locke: Contractor retains the overall programme within the dates agreed with the College of Arts after allowing for discovery of asbestos and PCBs. Budget contingency is under pressure as a result of these discoveries but final impact will not be known until discovery processes complete in September 2019.

School of Product Design growth: On budget and programme for Semester 2.

Communications Disorders: Clearing site of buildings will be complete by mid-April to lift section 77 to clear the property title for the sale of the land to FENZ.



### 10.3 Stakeholders/Alumni

|                  | Income       | Distribution  |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2019 Target      | \$12,500,000 | \$6,500,000   |
| 2019 to 31 March | \$950,225    | \$424,981     |
| 2019 to 31 March | Donors 273   | Donations 404 |

Alumni has worked with the School of Business to secure five senior alumni to join the Business International Advisory Board. There have been six visits from overseas alumni to campus in the last month as part of cultivation and engagement activities, particularly around UCSA fundraising.

The recent Asian visit, led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, engaged with over 220 alumni/donors in Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong where engagement is the highest it has ever been.

Philanthropic Bond holders (800+) have been contacted about the options of supporting the University when the bonds mature in November 2019. There are now 34 confirmed legacy pledgers totalling \$17m in support of the University.

### 11. COLLEGE SUMMARIES (PROVIDED BY PVCs)

#### College of Arts (7 H 5 — Q J D L 7 R L 7 D Q J D W D)

The first quarterly forecast shows the College slightly ahead of budget and on target to meet projected EFTS, though much of this is in domestic returning students. The management team have produced additional College guidelines around sabbaticals. We are planning a short internal review of the EURA programme within the NCRE. Possible revisions to the BA degree, including the introduction of core courses, are working through the College approvals process, aiming for a decision in May, along with work on a combined 400-level research methods course which might inform a new 180-point MA. The College is supporting UC's movement towards obtaining the Rainbow tick, and encouraging participation in upcoming workshops. For our many cultural and scholarly events see our regular newsletter, Arts Update <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/arts-news/archive/arts-update/>.

#### College of Business and Law (7 H 5 — Q J D L 8 P D Q R D P H Te)

Associate Professor Ekant Veer recently visited Melbourne to speak about how the Christchurch All Right? campaign has helped to destigmatising mental wellbeing. This research is based on Ekant's experience as an advisory board member and advocate for the All Right? campaign since 2013 and his engagement with members of the CDHB and the Mental Health Foundation. On 29-30 March, 25 students from across UC spent two days competing in the UCE Future of Digital Travel Challenge based at Christchurch Airport, developing innovative strategies for the airport to address digital disruption in both retail and ground transportation. Highlights included augmented reality hyper-personalised storefronts, artificially intelligent holographic interfaces and a blockchain-enabled retail data sharing platform. UCE also hosted its first Community Kai event, bringing together club executives, student founders, and engaged innovators to meet and grow their networks. The Business School hosted the well-attended 2019 Condliffe Memorial public lecture on 1 April. Professor Steve Tadelis, the James and Marianne Lowrey Chair in Business and Professor of Economics, Business and Public Policy at UB Berkeley. Drawing on his experience of working with e-Bay and Amazon Steve talked about using Economics to Engineer Trust in Online markets.

## College of Engineering (7 H 5 — Q J D L 3 Ì N D K D)

Electrical Engineering lecturer Kim Rutter has taken on the role of Director of the MEM degree for the remainder of 2019 after the current director retired early. Kim is working with the Business School to discuss possible joint delivery of the MEM in future. Cardiff University, highly ranked in QS, asked us about setting up a student exchange programme. Cardiff wishes to send 30% of its undergraduate students abroad by 2023 and a meeting was held with CNRE and CSSE to discuss exchange possibilities. CNRE is looking for more exchange partners so this is being explored further. Y g"jcxg"cjki jgt"vjcp"gzrgevfg"rgtegpvcig"qh"O qtk"uvwfgpvu"kp"vjg"Eqmngig"uvwf {kpi" engineering; a recent meeting with other university engineering Deans confirms that we are doing better than most in this area. We also have record numbers of female students (20%) in our Engineering Intermediate year.

## College of Education, Health and Human Development (7 H 5 — Q J D L \$ N R P H Te Hauora)

On 14 March the College hosted the Learning City Christchurch Microcredentials Meet Up in the Community Engagement Hub. A diverse group of about 35 people from non-profit, government, education sector and UC engaged in some rich conversations about microcredentialling, facilitated by Dr Cheryl Doig. The Child Wellbeing Research Institute initiated a new series to support the research development of the initial cohort of 12 PhD students. Topics this term included Vision O vewticip."gpici kpi"kp"ewnwvtcmn {"tgurqpukxg"yc {u with communities, theoretical frames and research methods, and PhD students' own well-being. We are focused on realising the benefits of the collaborative learning, teaching and work spaces in Rehua. A highlight has been the morning karakia and waiata led by Te Hurinui Clarke in the atrium each morning. We are also embarking on our three-year retest of the culture survey in May, and will weave this into our wider strategic conversations about priorities and leadership development.

## College of Science (7 H 5 — Q J D L 3 Ì W D L D R)

In the last month, and after lively discussion at the College meeting at the end of March, a decision was made to pause the progress of the joint (with Lincoln University) Bachelor of Science Society and Innovation through our internal approval systems. This decision was made in light of a range of factors, including the nature of discussion and balance of support for the degree at the College meeting and the nature of progress of the degree through the Lincoln University approval processes, and after consultation with the VC. In other programme-related updates, our work continues in responding to the recent BSc review, and we also plan to launch a new major in the BSc in Medicinal Chemistry. International recruitment is in progress for professors and heads of school for the new School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing Te Kura Ocjk" -Hirikapo, and the School of Earth and Environment Te Kura Aronukurangi. These new schools, which are the final two to be created in the restructure of the College of Science, will come into existence in a staged way over the next few months.

## **11.1 Appendix 2: VC Activities**

## **11.1 Appendix 3: Events Calendar**

Event calendar: [www.canterbury.ac.nz/events](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/events)