



University of Canterbury

Annual Report 2001



Annual Report 2001 Contents

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Audit Office **report**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 18 to 84. The financial statements provide information about the past financial and service performance and financial position of University of Canterbury and group as at 31 December 2001. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 50 to 52 and 66.

Responsibilities of the Council

The Public Finance Act 1989 requires the Council to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand that fairly reflect the financial position of University of Canterbury and Group as at 31 December 2001, the results of operations and cash flows and the service performance achievements for the year ended on that date.

Auditor's responsibilities

Section 15 of the Public Audit Act 2001 and section 43(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989 require the Auditor-General to audit the financial statements presented by the Council. It is the responsibility of the Auditor-General to express an independent opinion on the financial statements and report that opinion to you.

The Auditor-General has appointed Bede Kearney, of Audit New Zealand, to undertake the audit.

Basis of opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to University of Canterbury and Group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Auditing Standards published by the Auditor-General, which incorporate the Auditing Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

During the period we provided taxation compliance advice, temporary accounting assistance and carried out an assurance related review on behalf of the University of Canterbury. Other than these assignments, and in our capacity as auditor acting on behalf of the Auditor-General, we have no relationship with or interests in University of Canterbury or any of its subsidiaries.

Unqualified opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion the financial statements of University of Canterbury and Group on pages 18 to 84:

- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and



The University's goals

The University's goals are to have:

- a distinctive University identity and spirit;
- internationally recognised excellence in research which contributes to knowledge and learning;
 - academic programmes which are informed by research, are of international standard, and which are developed, administered and reviewed in accordance with nationally-recognised quality assurance standards;
 - excellence in teaching and learning to a standard befitting an international research university;
 - maximum effectiveness of staff;
- a community that attracts and values students, encourages and supports them in their progress through the University and fosters in them a sense of the University community;
 - a community that encourages and supports graduates as they progress beyond the University and fosters in them a sense of the University community;
 - a community that maintains the principles of academic freedom and maintains and vigorously defends institutional autonomy, and that contributes to the betterment of society and is responsive to its needs;
 - an ongoing commitment to the policy that all persons should have equality of opportunity in employment and education;
 - the reflection of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and the implementation of equal partnership between Māori and non-Māori;
 - effective quality assurance processes that assure the University of its international standing and of the implementation of values to which the University subscribes;
 - effective and accountable organisation and management structures that are supportive of a critical and participatory academic community;
 - high-quality, responsible and cost-effective support services for research, learning and teaching;
- a high reputation internationally through the quality of its international activities in teaching and research, and the recruitment of and support for international students;
- a high reputation for its good relations with the community, its liaison with schools, and its educational and professional links with industry and commerce;
- a suitable and sustainable environment for teaching, research and scholarship and for the community and social life of the University; and
- the management and development of financial resources for the University which ensure long-term strength and viability in the achievement of the University's vision, goals and objectives.





Statement of responsibility

In terms of Section 42 of the Public Finance Act 1989 we hereby certify that:

1. We have been responsible for the preparation of these financial statements and the judgements used therein; and
2. We have been responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting; and
3. We are of the opinion that these financial statements reflect fairly the financial position and operations of this University for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Chancellor



Vice-Chancellor



Director of Business and Finance



May 6, 2002

2001 University Council membership

The composition of the 2001 University Council was:

Council members	First appointed	Current term	
		Appointed	Ending
Four persons appointed by the Minister			
Dr Susan N Bagshaw	2001	2001	2004
Mr John C Simpson	2001	2001	2004
Sir Dr Angus Tait	1996	2000	2004
Ms Rangimarie Parata Takurua	2001	2001	2004
Vice-Chancellor			
Professor Daryl Le Grew	1998		
Three members of the academic staff			
Professor Jim M Coxon	2001	2001	2002
Professor John F Burrows	1999	1999	2002
Mr Alan J Robb	2001	2001	2004
One member of the general staff			
Mrs Carolyn J Robertson	1995	1999	2002
Two students			
Mr Jarrod Gilbert	2001	2001	2001
Mr Richard Neal	2001	2001	2001
One appointee in consultation with the Employers' Federation			
Mr Colin D McInnes	1991	1999	2002
One appointee in consultation with the Combined Trade Unions			
Dr Jane Chetwynd	1999	1999	2002
Three members appointed by the Council			
His Honour Judge Stephen G Erber	1993	2001	2004
Professor Robert (Bob) Kirk	2001	2001	2004
Dr B Robin Mann	2001	2001	2004
Four graduates elected by the Court of Convocation			
Dr Colin J Burrows	1999	1999	2002
Dame Phyllis Guthardt	1981/1991	1997	2004
Dr W Roy Holmes	1978/1991	1997	2004
Ms Diana R Shand	1986/1991	1999	2002



Staff movements and academic visitor numbers

In 2001, a record 35 Canterbury academic staff were awarded Erskine Grants to research and teach at overseas universities, while a number of others travelled internationally on study leave.

The number of overseas academics visiting Canterbury continued at an impressive level, with 59 Visiting Erskine and Canterbury Fellows, as well as other academic visitors hosted by departments.

Academic staff here and overseas say the opportunity to interact is valuable in keeping Canterbury staff up to date and ensuring the calibre of teaching and research at the University is known widely elsewhere.

The foundation stone for the visitor programme is an extremely generous bequest from John Angus Erskine, a Canterbury College graduate from the 1890s. The \$580,000 bequest made in 1960 is now worth about \$37 million. Under the terms of the bequest, the interest is used to fund visits to Canterbury for teachers in science, engineering and commerce, and to send Canterbury academic staff to top institutions overseas.

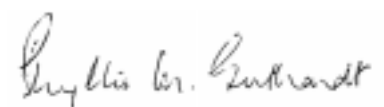
The year was also busy in terms of academic staff movements, with 33 new academics taking up their appointments and five retirements.

2001 ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Dr Anne Scott	Sociology and Anthropology	January 15
Dr Seamus Hogan	Economics	January 22
Edith Salzmänn	Music	January 30
Yvonne Crichton-Hill	Social Work	February 1
Dr Verna Schofield	Social Work	February 1
Dr Peter Field	History	February 1
Shuri Kumagai	Asian Studies	February 12
Dr Der-Thanq Chen	Educational Research and Advisory Unit	March 15
Dr Victoria Hanna	Management	March 28
Dr Simon Kingham	Geography	April 2
Dr Lianne Woodward	Education	April 5

Electrical and Electronic Engineering, departments to hear about the exciting nanotechnology research under way. She then visited the Civil Engineering Department, observing and discussing projects, and watched a presentation by PhD student Jeff Matthews into the safety of buildings during earthquakes.

On a sadder note, 2001 was a year of losses for the University of Canterbury, with the deaths of

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sylvia W. Gerhardt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Vice-Chancellor's report



The year

In recent times I have been drawing attention to the importance of our relationship with the

and collaborative research. New teaching programmes were also established and it is worthy of note that now around 100 of our courses are available to students using new web-based technologies. Once again, the University benefited from our Erskine and Canterbury fellowships, with 59 incoming fellows and 35 of our own staff teaching in other international centres.

Academic organisational structure

The University has had a uniquely flat structure for a considerable time, with the heads of 38 academic departments, as individual and largely autonomous resource/cost centres, responsible directly to me. The Vice-Chancellor's Office, as the University's executive, has been reorganised to ensure that all service departments have clear reporting lines to their respective members on the executive team.

The scale and complexity of the University's operations have given rise to structural and leadership problems. Of particular concern is the need for stronger academic leadership at various levels and the need for increased operating efficiencies and accountabilities. To that end, I have been working with the Committee for the Review of University Structures on an academic organisational restructuring exercise, looking at organising the University's academic structure into a smaller number of larger units, within which the departments would be clustered.

A discussion paper in the second half of 2001 was vigorously debated by the University community and the comments and feedback received are being worked with to produce a revised structure, with a view to putting structural changes which are necessary in place for 2003. The aim is to provide for better management of the educational process, larger and more flexible resource/cost centres for budget purposes and a simplified management structure. The structure will facilitate the offering of multi-degree pathways within the University's current generic degree programmes and the growth of interdisciplinary degrees, and will allow for wider research opportunities and further research centres. The leadership of larger academic groupings will give more focus to attracting students and lift the overall quality of students and departmental research performance.

Canterbury Tertiary Alliance

I was greatly heartened during the year by the establishment of the Canterbury Tertiary Alliance, with the formal signing of a deed of co-operation

between the University, the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology (CPIT) and the Christchurch College of Education (CCE). The creation of the alliance is a local Christchurch initiative that fits well with the Government's desire to see greater collaboration between tertiary institutions.

The new alliance cements the constructive working relationships that exist between us. Prior to the alliance, formal memoranda of understanding had been signed with the University. The new deed of co-operation provides a clear and agreed framework for enhanced collaboration and co-operation, while continuing to safeguard bilateral exchanges between us.

The members of the alliance meet regularly. While each member of the alliance will retain its autonomy, there is a joint commitment to openness and collegiality that will benefit both staff and students.

The local institutions will be working hard to ensure that our charters and profiles, as they develop under the new Government Tertiary Education Strategy, reflect not only what is best for Canterbury and the South Island, but also for New Zealand, nationally and internationally.

We have also worked with Lincoln University, during the course of the year, on a number of teaching and research fronts, particularly on the establishment of a memorandum of understanding on the teaching of natural resources engineering. Discussions in areas of strategic development impacting on both universities will continue.

Tertiary Education Commission

The University made submissions on the four Tertiary Education Advisory Commission reports and on the proposed Tertiary Education Strategy

2002-2007. The establishment of the Tertiary Education Commission, and the associated structural reforms, will bring significant changes for the University, notably in the area of research. We have considerable reservations about the proposed new performance-based research fund being planned, but welcome the opportunity of working with Government and the research agencies in developing this area. We are also looking forward to being able to engage Government in discussion on charters and profiles, and – as indicated above – are working strongly in planning our own strategic direction.

Academic audit

The Academic Audit Report on the University, carried out by the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit in 2000, was released in March. The report included positive comment and no less than 11 commendations on the University's research, postgraduate student support and research/teaching links, the Library and all its activities, and information technology across the University.

This reflects well on the general revamp of our quality assurance framework during the past three years. The framework is now well-established and rapidly becoming systemic in all Canterbury's systems.

In August, the University reported back to the Academic Audit Unit on progress made in various areas identified in the report.



Bicultural progress

The University has entered into an agreement with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu and I have joined the Board of Directors of Te Tapuae o Rehua, Te Runanga's tertiary education arm. Regular meetings were also held during the year with Nga Maata Waka, representative of tribes other than Ngai Tahu resident in the Canterbury area.

We have made real progress in the course of the year on a number of issues, particularly with the finalisation of the terms of appointment for the position of kaiarahi, or director of bicultural development. We hope to make an appointment to this position in the first half of 2002.

I'd like to pay tribute to Jeanne Kerr, who resigned as our third Maori liaison officer during the year. Her contribution to working with secondary schools throughout New Zealand and providing support to our enrolled Maori students has been very significant. In wishing her well for her future career, we also look forward to the appointment of our fourth Maori liaison officer shortly.

Pacific Island students

With the assistance of the Special Supplementary Grant funding from the Ministry of Education, we were delighted to be able to appoint our first Pacific Islands Liaison Officer, Liz Keneti, towards the end of the year. In the short time that Liz has been with us, she has been building up support networks with the local Pacific Islands community, organising the first Pacific Islands Orientation celebration for new students coming to the University in 2002 and establishing important links with the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, established here in 1987.

Senior staff movements

Professor Philip Butler finished his three-year term as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Services) at the end of the year and returned to the Headship of the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

Meanwhile, Dr Jan Cameron was reappointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) for a further three years.

Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor

Dame Phyllis Guthardt was re-elected as Chancellor for a further year and we were pleased to welcome Dr Robin Mann as Pro-Chancellor, with effect from the start of 2002. The contribution of Mr Colin McInnes as pro-chancellor during the past three years is gratefully acknowledged.

Other

The year was also successful on a number of other fronts, including:

- the establishment of an Erskine Society, to maintain links with our distinguished Erskine visitors from around the world after they have visited the University;
- the concluding of memoranda of agreement with a number of international universities, the University of Auckland and the Canterbury Museum, to facilitate future collaborative arrangements and ensure the continuing development of strong teaching and research links and benchmarks;
- the establishment of the University of Canterbury Foundation, to co-ordinate the University's fundraising activities. In June, we were pleased to welcome Shelagh Murray as the University's first Development Manager;
- the improved co-ordination of the University's offering of summer programmes and courses, resulting in a marked increase in the number of courses available and the numbers of students enrolling. The 2001/2 Summer Programme ended up with 753 enrolments and 26 courses on offer, with excellent feedback from both students and staff involved.

Quality assurance facilitator

I cannot end my report without extending congratulations to Mr John Jennings, who has been appointed as Director of the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit for a two-year period. Mr Jennings' contribution here as quality assurance facilitator has been very significant for

