



## Overview

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The start of Semester 2 has brought with it an air of excitement as the students return to campus for lectures, labs and a range of other learning and social activities. While UC has returned to our regular timetable of activities, teaching staff are continuing to provide online support to individual students w





***Ensure students are provided with lifelong learning opportunities through flexible degree and delivery options to allow a UC education to respond to the current and future needs of work and society.***

In collaboration with the Community Law Centre and UC School of Law, the Office of Ethnic Communities (Department of Internal Affairs) ran a four-hour session on “Navigating the New Zealand Legal System” at T ranga Library on 8 July. A number of School of Law colleagues were involved in this event

tuition (at the domestic rate). Full details and application criteria will be available at the end of August.

The 2020 UC Thesis in 3 (3MT) competition was recently announced. This year, the format of the finals for New Zealand and other Asia-Pacific universities will be virtual so, to give our students the best chance of success, the UC final (8 September 2020) will follow the same format. Here, the student finalists from each college will be introduced and their videos shown to the audience, followed by live voting for a people's choice award and the announcement of the UC competition winners.

On 9 July the DVC (Research) and Professor Ekant Veer (Associate Dean of Postgraduate Research – Scholarships) spoke at an event for postgraduate research students, University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA) Re-Ori. It was an opportunity to welcome students back to full-time postgraduate research, as well as to share experiences of being a postgraduate student and how to develop a research career.

The College of Engineering has repurposed some small scholarship funding that was originally targeted at supporting academics who were impacted by other domestic circumstances (such as home schooling) during the COVID-19 lockdown. Now the funds are being used to support students and postdoctoral researchers to accelerate their paper preparation, which was delayed due to other circumstances related to COVID-19. So far approximately 10 staff have applied and been given this short-term support.

### **Canterbury University Press (CUP)**

Canterbury University Press has developed Open Access titles to improve the international reach of UC research. We are starting to see some good levels of engagement through this new channel:

*Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process: Comparing adult rape trials with those in the Aotearoa Sexual Violence Court Pilot* (2020) brought 210 total visits to UC's research repository page in June. Top country views: New Zealand, China, United States, Australia, United Kingdom.

*he writings of Mohi Ruatapu* (CUP, 1993; OA facsimile digital edition 2020) brought 50 total visits to UC's research repository page in June. Top country views: New Zealand, United States, China, Australia, Germany.

*(CUP, 1997; OA facsimile digital edition 2020)* brought 54 total visits to UC's research repository page in June. Top country views: United States, New Zealand, China, Germany, Australia.

CUP published three books in June. *Merchant, Miner, Mandarin: The life and times of the remarkable Choie Sew Hoy* by Jenny Sew Hoy Agnew and Trevor Agnew was launched at the University Bookshop on 11 June by Julia Bradshaw, Canterbury Museum Senior Curator Human History. The other new releases were: *From Gondwana to the Ice Age: The geological development of New Zealand over the last 100 million years* by Malcolm Laird and John Bradshaw; and *Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process: Comparing adult rape trials with those in the Aotearoa Sexual Violence Court Pilot* (print edition) by Elisabeth McDonald.

### ***Increase and diversify funding sources for the University's research portfolio including for research institutes, centres and clusters.***

Funding for the current Centres of Research Excellence (CoREs) was due to wind up at the end of the year. However, because COVID-19 has delayed the CoRE bidding process to award funding for CoREs due to start in 2021, funding for the current CoREs has been extended for six months. As a

result, QuakeCoRE | Te Hiranga R , hosted at UC and led by Professor Brendon Bradley, has received an additional \$2.1 million in funding for further research up to 30 June 2021.

***Develop and support transdisciplinary research to better impact local and global challenges.***

To support new interdisciplinary research groups, the College of Business and Law established a new contestable research fund this year, specifically to support interdisciplinary research groups and projects. As a consequence, three new groups have been established: the Social Impact Group, led by Dr Ann-Marie Kennedy and Professor Ekant Veer (both from UC Business – Market4 12 TuzJ

Thriving Students component and show how those actions deliver against UC's wellbeing framework Te Pae M hutonga.

With a more operational **focus** based on the demand at peak times at the RecCentre and the level of awareness our community now has for ongoing safe distancing, the RecCentre team has reallocated spaces within the existing facility to provide for greater distancing between fitness equipment. In this way, more people can access the facility during peak times, which will increase participation levels and encourage more student and community engagement through the better distribution and use of space.

The UC Sports team, as part of UC's level of support to its premier sporting clubs (rugby, netball, hockey,





***Expand the nationalities and cultures represented in our student body.***

Now that SLT has discussed the International Equivalent Full-time Student (EFTS) Recovery Group's proposed recovery and diversification plan, further work is underway focused on creating sustainable long-

stimulus from our digital campaign, the mid-year recruitment numbers are strong with new domestic student enrolment currently tracking 28% up on the same time last year.

Our domestic school-leaver campaign UCMe is in market currently, with a multi-channel approach of targeting priority schools (including our lower-decile schools) with



expenditure are partially offset by improved interest revenue and forecast reductions in expenses in relation to personnel and operating expenses.

Capital expenditure is \$12.782 million below budget. Most projects are under budget but expenditure related to the UC Futures projects is \$8.480 million over the year-to-date budget of \$0.731 million, largely as a result of making the final Rehua payment of \$9.184 million in March, which was not considered in the budget

services. Michael Oulsham has now been appointed to this role and will start in October. Michael was previously at Air NZ and based in Silicon Valley in the US.

## **Environmentally Sustainable**

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To enable the sustainability projects defined in the Strategy for 2020, and to prioritise projects from 2021–2030, we are setting up a new Programme Board, chaired by Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Engineering, and supported by staff in the Sustainability Office. The Board will meet three to four times a year to oversee implementation plans and guide direction throughout the coming years. There is a diverse range of expertise on the Board,



which was passed last year,

17 July 2020	Met with Ambassador of Mexico, HE Mr Alfredo Rogerio Perez
27 July 2020	Met with Gabrielle Moore and delegates, TEU Attended UC School of Music Gala Concert
28 July 2020	Met with Director of Research First, Carl Davidson
29 July 2020	Spoke at Student Forum at UC

<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
30 July 2020	Attending Powhiri in Auckland for VC of University of Auckland, Dawn Freshwater
31 July 2020	Meeting with CE of Waimakariri District Council, Jim Palmer, and Mayor Dan Gordon
3 August 2020	Meeting with James Stringer, Box 112
4 August 2020	Meeting with Nuha Fathina, UCSA - Commerce
5 August 2020	Hosting a Christchurch Knowledge Commons meeting
6 August 2020	Attending a Zoom meeting hosted by Universities NZ Attending a meeting with ANZ's Chief Economist, Sharon Zollner
7 August 2020	Attending an orientation day for NZQA
11 August 2020	Attending a formal dinner at UC's College House
12 August	Attending a Learner Success meeting with TEC Attending a meeting of the Canterbury Tertiary Education Chaplaincy Committee
14 August 2020	Attending Academic Board
21 August 2020	Attending a Zoom meeting hosted by Universities NZ
24 August 2020	Attending UC's Early and Emerging Career Researcher Award ceremony
25 August 2020	Speaking at Rongo o te W at UC