Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council

October 2023

Introduction

The year-end examination period began on 30 October and runs through to 11 November. About 13 000 students take part in at least one of over 400 exams across that period. Exams are conducted in a range of modes from online to face-to-face and remain an important milestone in the academic year.

October was a busy month of 150th anniversary celebration events with the Alumni and Community Weekend offering a range of options as summarised in the section below.

Engagement

UC hosted a Multifaith celebration on campus on 24 October to recognise 150th Year, as well as the importance religion plays in present-day UC. Congregants from various faith groups attended the event in the spirit of peace and unity.

Over 50 former senior staff and Emeritus Professors attended a cocktail function at the Staff Club on 24 October, arranged by UC to recognise their contribution to the University. It was great to see previous colleagues and we thanked everyone for contributing to 150 successful years of UC.

I welcomed our alumni to campus for our 150th Anniversary Alumni and Community Weekend 27-29 October. Over 40 events were hosted by faculties, the Advancement and 150th teams. Key events included:

- The Welcome Function on Friday night where we welcomed guests from around New Zealand and the world to the reunion weekend. Alumni then attended dinners with their relevant cohorts.
- Saturday was a faculty and university engagement day to showcase what the University has on offer, as well as an opportunity for alumni to see how UChas changed. Saturday began with a Golden Graduates Morning Tea, where they reunited with old friends, reminisced, and explored t(ents)-35(tak)8(e)-36(p)3(art)-3



:h Impact on a Changing World

rchers were recently recognised at the national annual Kwinet Research Commercialisation or their roles and impact in research commercialisation. Congratulations to Sean Feast, OEO and of Precision Chroma, for winning the Sprout Agritech Breakthrough Innovator Award. Sean is a PhD of UC and is commercialising a new method of chromatography based on 3D printing for efficient effective purification of biological therapeutics which was developed here at UC.

Lau, founder of Endosoothe, was the winner of the Momentum Student Entrepreneur of the Year er company is developing a range of natural anti-inflammatory and pain relief products for women. started the idea as part of her undergraduate study and is now doing a Master's degree in Product livia Ogilvie, postdoctoral fellow at UC, was also a finalist in the Breakthrough Innovator Award for s co-founder and CEO of Opo Bio, which develops cells for cultivated 'meat' development.

tly hosted the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Workshop on campus, Connecting Researchers ymakers. The focal point of this event was to bridge the gap between evidence and policy by grobust relationships and fostering enduring collaborations. Attendees from Wellington included Dame Juliet Gerrard, together with the Chief Science Advisors for the Ministry of Social nent, the Department of Conservation, the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, the of Health, the National Emergency Management Agency and the Ministry of Transport (UCs Smon Kingham). Professor Michael Plank, together with representatives from ChristchurchNZ and rch City Council, were also speakers at the event. Over 150 researchers and support professionals so the South Island attended the event.

Participants in Run72 raised more than \$35 000 for free counselling for UC students. Run72 was organised by student group Lads Without Labels and was a running relay of about 18 000 laps of campus over 72 hours.

Over the past four years we have seen an improvement in the performance of the dubs associated with our service level agreement (rugby, netball, hockey, basketball, netball, and football). This has provided additional support, assisting the clubs to thrive. A few highlights of their achievements are:

- 1st
- 1st UC

Blues Coach of the Year)

- 1st Bascik Transport Premiere Winners, UCRugby Team of the Year, UCBlues Awards Team of the Year
- 1st

Blues Award, Overall Contribution to Sport)

3rd

25 student athletes have been named in top representative teams, including the Mainland Tactix, Slver

terbury Futsal Dragons.

Staff are currently completing the latest in the series of online core training modules *Introduction to the Pastoral Care Code*. Core training modules cover specific requirements outlined in UC Policy, legislation and regulation and are designed to give staff information to help them in their daily work.

After another busy year, regular reminders about annual leave over the summer break have been provided to managers and staff, emphasising the need to plan time off with family and friends. The last day at work for most staff at UCin 2023 will be Friday 15 December. We are encouraging as many staff as possible to take four days annual leave during 18-21 December. UCopens in the new year on Wednesday 3 January, and staff are also encouraged to take annual leave for 3-5 January. Arrangements will be made for the small numbers of staff who past experience suggests may be needed to work through the holiday period.

Internationalisation Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

Following a significant break during border disruptions, in October UC finalised planning to restart our Summer international short-

learning environment to prospective students from global partner universities.

On 7 October it was announced UC will host the 8th Adaptation Futures Conference (AF2025) in 2025, as part of the United Nations World Adaptation Science Programme. The conference will convene 1500 world