Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council

April 2022

Introduction

April signalled the end of Term 1, bringing a well-deserved break for many students and staff. It was good to be able to mark the end of term and the Easter/Anzac break by offering staff buns and chocolate in acknowledgement of their efforts during Term 1.

As the April graduation ceremonies had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, UC looked for creative

Professor Bronwyn Hayward presented a public lecture on livestream, "What does the new Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) climate report mean for our cities?".

O qtk"jgcnvj"tgugctejgt"Dr Annabel Ahuriri-Driscoll presented a deeply personal public lecture on "Who should be caring for our tamariki?"0"Ujg urqmg"qp"vjg"enqugf"cfqrvkqp"qh"O qtk"ejknftgp." highlighting the thinking that led to the Adoption Act 1955 and its amendments, as well as the qwveqoogu"hqt"cfqrvggu"cpf"vjgkt"yj pcw0

Professor Deirftg"Jctv"cpf"Ft"Ujcpg"Qtejctf"urqmg"cv"vjg"Cwuvtcncukcp"Eqcuvu"cpf"Rqtvu"Eqphgtgpeg" about understanding tides and predicting tidal heights in an extreme environment. They also discussed natural disaster recovery and resilience-building. Deirdre co-chaired the conference with Dr Tom Ujcnd from Tonkin & Taylor.

MBA Director Elsamari Botha recently presented to members of the Institute of Directors on why co (T)16r6 (n)2 64bn w-à   dre

Forum. The Challenge supports participating industry representatives, researchers and students to bring to life and commercialise their innovative ideas in Waitaha Canterbury. The top 24 ventures have now been selected to move into the Accelerator programme. Participants are developing ideas that will solve problems in the food, fibre and agritech sector, making a positive contribution to the future of Aotearoa New Zealand as they support a cleaner and greener environment, more efficient production and the sustainable prosperity of the region.

Four Professors of Practice were introduced at a special event for vcwvcjk‟Christchurch business leaders that drew

and quizzes that can help students understand basic health and safety requirements in laboratories. Design Engineer Dr Jonathan Davidson showed examples from two departments where remote learning can reduce pressure on laboratory time and space, reduce travel time to the campus and also present simulations of events that are too risky to show in physical situations. The new tools will be embedded in Learn when complete.

Finally, as students across all year levels become settled into the academic year, it is important to hear from them about their gzrgtkgpegu0"Vjg"cppwcn"WE"Uvwfgpv"Gzrgtkgpeg"uwtxg{."vjg"WCount, was launched in April. This year's uptake of the survey has been slow, likely a result of increased callouts to students around COVID-19 welfare; however, the results provide important information from students and, since an extension to the deadline, participation has improved. UCount results are expected to be widely available next month.

Research – Impact on a Changing World

Vjg" Rwdnke" Dcugf" Tgugctej" Htcogyqtm" *RDTH+" Ugevqt" Tghgtgpeg" Itqwr." yjkej" vjg" Vgtvkct{" Education Commission convened to advise on the operational design of the 2025 PBRF Quality Evaluation, is currently consulting widely on a range of topics. Consultation on the design of evidence portfolios, as well as on the roles and person specifications for the Moderation Team, is underway.

PhD students who began their studies from overseas have recently been nominated as part of the third and fourth dqtfgt"gzgorvkqp"eqjqtvu0"Uqog of these students have been conducting their research from their home country for nearly two years. They will now start the process of applying to come to Aotearoa New Zealand, with the aim of gaining approval and arriving in UC by July. Approximately 40 PhD students will remain in their home country until 'regular' visa processing resumes.

The first of three 2022 doctoral supervision workshops for new or new-to-UC supervisors was completed during March. Twenty-four academic staff, representing all UC faculties, participated in this delivery. Following some revisions to the kaupapa, future workshops will incorporate a bicultural contextual model with a focus on pedagogy and principles of effective supervision, in conjunction with the policies and practices associated with roles and responsibilities of supervisors and students.

example, mask wearing in lectures and tutorials – our community has been able to stay connected and engaged.

The annual influenza vaccination, paid for by UC, is currently being made available to all students and staff, starting with higher-risk groups. Alongside this service is an ongoing education programme, focused in large part on students, about the value of all vaccinations.

Term 2, starting on 2 May, goes for five weeks. We have retained the same programme of preventative measures in teaching and research spaces, including mask wearing by all.

UniLqfig."qwt"pgy"Ceeqoqfcvkqp"Ugtxkegu"rctvpgt."jcu"ygneqogf"ugxgtcn"pgy"uvchh"vq"kvu"vcwvcjk" Christchurch operations. UC has been involved in their orientation programme, to ensure that they are familiar with the various services UC provides to students.

It has been a pleasure to welcome Professor John Page, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Law, to UC. John started in his new role at the beginning of April. Additionally, we were delighted to announced that Professor Kevin Watson has been appointed as the new Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts. Kevin will start in his role in May.

On 27 April UC celebrated Administrative Professionals Day to acknowledge the pivotal contribution of our colleagues who have a range of administrative roles essential for the well-functioning of the University.

Internationalisation – Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

Work continues towards receiving offshore students in the fourth border exemption cohort from mid-2022. UC has been allocated 116 places within this cohort.

UC has already welcomed 34 Malaysian students back with the recent third cohort.

Work to protect UC people, assets and data continues with the development of a new cybersecurity strategy for UC. It will be delivered through a supporting programme to lift UC's cyber resilience significantly over the next three years. This programme will not only invest in technologies to protect UC but develop cyberculture awareness in our people. As part of that programme, the roll-out of multi-factor authentication (MFA) for Microsoft services to staff continues, with all faculties and service departments now enrolled. Implementation of MFA for all students is envisaged for 17 May 2022, which will be a crucial step in protecting UC.

Another focus of the UC cyber programme is to keep secure all remote methods that UC staff and students use to access non-Oketquqhv"ugtxkegu0"Vjg"Fkikvcn"Ugtxkegu"vgco"ku"ewttgpvn{"gpicikpi"ykvj" different faculties to leverage virtual desktops and labs (both Microsoft and Linux) as an alternative option for accessing physical labs and workrooms. This initiative will enable students and staff to use more modern capabilities in the future, avoiding the need to remote desktop onto on-premise physical machines, providing more flexibility and better experiences, while also strengthening UC's cybersecurity.

Another key project this year to improve communication and collaboration is the launch of the new UC Intranet. In March, Fkikvcn"Ugtxkegu"ncwnched its new example of a departmental intranet site on Ujctgrqkpv"Qpnkpg"yjkne its team is busyUWorking across UC engaging with content administratorontm{opt)-mMn

VC Activities

Events for April 2022	
5 April 2022	Meeting with Joanna Newman from Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) via Zoom
7 and 8 April 2022	Universities New Zealand meeting in Wellington
12 April 2022	Attending a Regulatory Masterclass for Board members via Microsoft Teams
20 April 2022	Meeting with John Holt, founder of All Things Considered
26 April 2022	Chairing an ACU Executive Board Meeting via Zoom
27 April 2022	Upeaker at the Administrative Professionals Day celebration
27 April 2022	Hosting a xkukv" d{" Jqp" Ft" Ogicp" Yqqfu" tgictfkpi" vjg" Fkikvcn" Uetggp" Campus

VC Activities