



# Vice Chancellor's Report to Council

February 2022

Introduction

---

This month

on campus. The move to Phase 2 with the Red Light setting continuing places greater responsibility on individual institutions in determining how they respond to evolving situations.

Professor Catherine Moran is working with the Academic Liaison Group and the Executive Deans to implement flexible delivery modes while following the public health measures, such as mask wearing and vaccination, as well as TEC guidance. Each faculty is focused on flexibility in delivering its teaching programme, acknowledging that all our staff and students will need to work remotely.



- x WKH SURM Jeremy, Geoffrey and Sian authored an article in The Conversation on New Zealand's evolving position on AWS, which attracted considerable public interest (over 70,000 reads)
- x Jeremy as featured on 1NEWS on New Zealand's position on AWS on 20 December 2021
- x tKH SURMHFW WHDP Based on Individual Rights and Wdg Scts for the Public and other scholars in the field.

For their part, Jeremy Mose, Geoffrey Ford and Sian Troath discussed the potential for autonomous drones in warfare at the 2022 New Zealand Political Studies Association online conference

Education –

Several students also have the opportunity to get involved outside the classroom. The Mechanical Engineering Department, led by Bill Mohs, is sponsoring a student team competing in the United States Department of Energy Soar Decathlon. This competition challenges entrants to design a Net Zero Energy building, with the aim of improving the energy efficiency and sustainability of a building.

Jessica Stone, an MSc Part II student in the Marine Ecology Research Group, was awarded a Postgraduate Scholarship from Te Papa Atawhai. Her research focuses on the cultural and ecological value of native species and their interactions with habitat. Her experimental work involves testing the interactions of habitat and the effects of climate change on native species. The scholarship has a value of \$15,000.

identifying and purchasing appropriate information resources. Staff are also busy designing and creating their online and face-to-face teaching for the start of term.

The following are viewing statistics for Open Access [LW OHV SXEOLVKHG E\ & 8 3](#)

- x Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process: Comparing adult rape trials with those in the Aotearoa Sexual Violence Court Pilot (2020) brought 66 total visits to UC's research repository page this month. Top country United Kingdom, Canada.
- x [1J— .ÀUHUR D 0RKL 5XDWDSX 7\(CHP, 2003; DA factsmile digital R KL 5\)](#) (1st edition 2020) brought 39 total visits to UC's research repository page this month. Top country YLHZV 1HZ =HDODQG 8QLWHG 6WDWHV 8QLWHG .LQJG
- x [1J— .ÀUHUR D 3LWD .—SLWL 7\(CUP, 1997; DAFK Studio digital 3LWD](#) (1st edition 2020) brought 22 total visits to UC's research repository page this month. Top country YLHZV 1HZ =HDODQG 8QLWHG 6WDWHV &DQDGD 8QLW

## People—Nurturing Staff, Thriving Students

As detailed at the start of this report, most of our efforts with and for staff so far in 2022 have been in planning and preparation for the advent of COVID with a focus on health and safety and business continuity.

Nevertheless, we have been able to celebrate over the summer, the achievements and efforts of our staff in a range of areas.

[7KH \)DFXOW\ RI 6FLHQFH DZDUGV ZLQQHUV ZHUH DQQR](#)

- x Emerging Researcher Award, Senior Lecturer Sarah Flanagan of the School of Biological Sciences
- x Innovation in Teaching Award, Postdoctoral Fellow Rodrigo Martinez Gazoni of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences
- x Excellence in Research Linkages Award, Professor Brett Robinson of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, working in collaboration with Environmental Science and Research (ESR)
- x [.DXSDSD 0—RUL %LFXOWXUDO &RPSHWHQFH DQG &RQ](#) Phoebe Macrae of the School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing
- x Health and Safety Champion Award, Chemical Compliance Team Tom Davison of the School of Biological Sciences
- x Outstanding General Staff Award, Senior Specialist Technician Stephen Hemmingsen of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences
- x Culture Champion Award, Technician Brigitta Kurenbach of the School of Biological Sciences.

UC has appointed four new Distinguished Professors [WKH\ DUH](#)

- x Distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva, was recognised for his global leadership in pioneering interdisciplinary research in a range of fields including ethnicity, security, politics,





For their Engineering New Zealand fellowships, congratulations to Professor Geoff Chase (Distinguished Fellow) and Professor Mathieu Sellier (Fellow).

Suzi Hall and the team in the Pukemanu Centre have been awarded \$150,000 from the Wylie Foundation, via UC Foundation. This funding has been provided over the next years specifically for work with children and their families on anxiety. Funding is to cover staffing as well as training via FearLessTriple P and parent workbooks. Postgraduate students in the Child and Family Psychology programme will benefit from engagement in this work

2021 Computational Fluid Dynamics graduate Holly Millar made headlines in the New Zealand Herald for the continued success of her final H D U Scholarship to take part in the UCE Summer Startup programme where she's creating her safe sex prototype.

EPE Centre has supported in minute endeavours of some of the Power Engineering Excellence Trust (PEET) members to secure summer interns (at Edison, PowerCo, Horizon Network, MainPower, EEA) and Engineering graduates (at MainPower, Wellington Electricity, Orion) by advertising

p (i).i vac4 (i) u (a) 350 4aw 4.6w 11.72b0 Tc 0 T14.63ypew 11.104 Tw 4.6fro 0 Td [f 26.11 Or U4 Tw h 0 T

(SSO) and to validate these against the Government's vaccine register. Once code is validated it is disposed of. The data from 10 Td 8yJTJ 0

Biodiversity improvements will be advanced in 2022 through the employment of a fixed term Biodiversity 3 U R M H F W V . This Role is currently being advertised.

The procurement plan for the Climate Change Infrastructure Assessment (flagged in the Climate Change Risk Register) is being finalised. We intend to go to market in quarter two to start work by quarter three.

UC, Z L W K : D L N D W R 8 Q L Y H U V L W \ D Q G is developing a DPA for the O O E H L Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Declaration roundtable. This online event aims to provide