

**Council Minutes Part A
(Open Minutes)**

09.12.2024

Eden Park – South Suite 540 | Kia Mau!

4:00pm



PRESENT:	Ms Tarrant (Chair), Professor Freshwater (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Quinn, Professor Tolmie, Ms Kinser, Mr Mason, Mr McDonald, Mr Paitai, Ms Arnott-Neenee, Ms Skipper and Mr Fia	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mrs Cleland, Professors Linton, Professor Tiatia-Siau, Mr Bluett, Mr Lithander, Ms Kool, Ms Moss, Ms Catanach, Mr Stanley (Propero Consulting Limited), and Ms Dharmawardana	
COUNCIL BRIEFINGS	The briefings took place prior to the meeting.	
KARAKIA	The meeting started with a karakia.	
1. APOLOGIES	None.	
2. WELCOME	The Chancellor welcomed Mr Fa Afuhia Fia to his first meeting of Council.	
3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS	<p>The attention of Members was drawn to the Conflicts of Interest Policy and the need to disclose any interest in an item on the Agenda of the meeting as set out in Schedule 11, Clause 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>Mr FaAfuhia Fia disclosed a conflict of interest concerning agenda item 11.1. All council members declared their conflicts of interest regarding the council fees item in Part B 4.4.1. No further disclosures were made.</p>	
4. COUNCIL MEETINGS	<p>4.1 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), 09.10.2024</p> <p>Professor Tolmie expressed that the minutes may not accurately reflect the actual process followed and that it is unclear whether Section 18 of the Council Appointments Procedures was followed when the Council reappointed the current Alumni member. Mrs Cleland noted that the actual process steps were being reviewed and an update would be available in the New Year and will be addressed as matters arising at the next meeting.</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Professor Freshwater): that the Minutes (Part A), 09.10.2024 be taken as read and confirmed, subject to clarifying the use of section 11 of the Council Appointments Procedures for the reappointment of the current Alumni member.</p>

	<p>4.2 Council, Draft Minutes (Part A), November e-meeting via email</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Professor Tolmie): that the Minutes (Part A), November 2024 e-meeting be taken as read and confirmed.</p>
	<p>4.3 Matters arising from the Minutes (Part A), 09.10.2024 or the Minutes of the November e-meeting not elsewhere on the Agenda</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>5. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT</p>	<p>5.1 Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council 9 December 2024</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Freshwater, presented this item. Key points addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on two external reviews (Science System Advisory Group (SSAG) and University Advisory Group (UAG), including challenges ahead of these reviews. • The shift in funding within the Marsden Fund has implications for humanities and social sciences. • Policy decisions regarding the discipline mix and how that mix will be funded in the future are still to be understood. • Future research funding will be directed more toward disciplines that have economic benefits for New Zealand. • Confirmation has been received not to factor the 4% temporary funding boost from TEC into the base beyond 2025. • Despite challenges, the university has maintained stable progress due to early actions. • The priorities include maintaining the university's status as a comprehensive, research-intensive institution, dedicated to excellence and relevance for students both nationally and globally. • Investment in enhancing the student experience was also underscored, including the successful launch of the REC centre. • 2024 has been a highly successful year in many ways, including in teaching and research excellence. 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Kinser): that the Vice-Chancellor's Report be noted.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It was also noted that the recent Global AI Summit in Hong Kong focused on reaching a consensus on how to work together collaboratively on AI to ensure optimal outcomes for the university community. <p>Professor Freshwater commended the academic colleagues, professional staff, and the entire university community for their contributions to significant achievements during the year. The Chancellor thanked Professor Freshwater and her team for their efforts in enabling the university to achieve many successes.</p>	
6. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES	<p>6.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>6.1.1 Minutes, (Part A), 20.11.2024</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr McDonald): that the Finance Committee Minutes (Part A) 20.11.2024 be received .
	<p>6.2 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE</p> <p>6.2.1 Minutes, (Part A), 15.11.2024</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Mason): that the Audit and Risk Committee Minutes (Part A) 15.11.2024 be received .
	<p>6.3 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE</p> <p>6.3.1 Minutes (Part A), 06.11.2024</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Fia): that the Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes (Part A) 06.11.2024 be received .
	<p>6.4 UNIVERSITY EQUITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE</p> <p>6.4.1 December 2024 Report</p> <p>The Committee noted Ms Skipper's question/comment regarding work on the gender pay gap, and Ms Stinear provided a briefing on the initiatives taken in 2024 and those planned for 2025.</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Ms Skipper): that the Equity leadership Report – December 2024 be received .

7. SENATE MATTERS

- 7.1 **REPORT OF SENATE MEETING 11.11.2024**
 - Part A1: Policy and other matters requiring to be considered/received by Council
 - Part A2, 1-5: Policy and other matters requiring Council **approval**
 - Part B, 1-5: Items to note by Council
 - Part C, 1-6: Matters handled under Delegated Authority

The Vice-Chancellor introduced this item.

The Vice-Chancellor briefed that there is a commitment to return to the Senate Meeting on the 03rd of March 2025 with two key pieces of work. The first involves revisiting Waipapa Taumata Rau (WTR) and Transdisciplinary (TD) courses, with plans to have an extended Senate meeting in March, to gain a better understanding of these matters. The second focuses on the Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom Policy, considering the Government's new draft free speech legislation and its implications for the university's policy on free speech.

The Council also acknowledged the names of the new faculties as the "Faculty of Arts and Education (A&ED)" and the "Faculty of Engineering and Design".

RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Quinn): that that the recommendations in Part A of the Report of Senate, 11.11.2024 be **adopted** and Parts B and C be **noted**.

<p>8. DELEGATIONS TO THE PVC GLOBAL AND GRADUATE RESEARCH</p>	<p>8.1 DELEGATIONS TO THE PVC GLOBAL AND GRADUATE RESEARCH</p> <p>8.1.1 Memorandum, 27.11.2024 from the Vice-Chancellor</p>	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Ms Arnott-Neenee): that, with effect from 1 January 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. All powers vested in the Dean of Graduate Studies (Dean) as of 31 December 2024 in statutes and regulations made by Council, and in policies, procedures, and standards approved by Council, will be vested in the Pro-Vice Chancellor Global and Graduate Research (PVC GGR). Council delegates to the Vice-Chancellor the power to approve the amendment of all such statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards to give effect to this resolution; and ii. The subdelegation by the Board of Graduate Studies (Board) to the PVC GGR of all powers delegated by Council to the Board and subdelegated by the Board to the Dean on 31 December 2024, be approved.
<p>9. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED BY THE CHANCELLOR</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>10. OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION OR NOTING</p>	<p>10.1 SEAL</p> <p>Since the Council meeting on 09.10.2024 the seal has been applied to the following documents in accordance with the Council resolution of 18.02.1991:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed of Variation and Novation, ARC Research Hub for Sustainable Lobster Aquaculture, University of Tasmania, Ornatas Pty Ltd, University of Auckland, University of Sunshine Coast, Ornatas Research & Development Pty Ltd & PFG Group Pty Ltd • Deed of Renewal and Variation of Lease, B617 – L12 – 7 City Road, Grafton, Auckland, Sipka Properties Symonds St Ltd (Landlord) & The University of Auckland (Tenant) • Deed of Lease, L3, 93 Grafton Rd, Auckland, Littleton Ltd (Landlord) & University of Auckland (Tenant) 	<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Professor Tolmie): that the affixing of the seal to the listed document be noted.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Deed of Novation, The Evolution of Complex Vocalisations in Male and Female Songbirds: The Effect of Morphology, Ecology and Life-History Traits on Vocal Complexity, HSFT Pty Ltd, Massey University & The University of Auckland 	
11. ELECTIONS - APPOINTMENTS	<p>11.1 ELECTION OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON COUNCIL</p> <p>11.1.1 Memorandum, 14.11.2024 from the Returning Officer, Mrs Adrienne Cleland</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Paitai): that Mr FaAfuhia Fia be appointed as the student representative on Council for a one-year term (1 November 2024 – 31 October 2025).
12. GENERAL BUSINESS	<p>12.1 MEETING AND GRADUATION DATES 2025</p> <p>Council meeting dates: 17.03.2025, 28.04.2025, 11.06.2025, 27.08.2025, 15.10.2025 & 10.12.2025</p> <p>Finance Committee meeting dates: 26.02.2025, 19.05.2025, 11.08.2025, 19.09.2025 & 19.11.2025</p> <p>Audit and Risk Committee meeting dates: 03.03.2025, 30.04.2025, 17.09.2025 & 10.11.2025</p> <p>Capital Expenditure Committee meeting dates: 12.05.2025, 14.08.2025 & 04.11.2025</p> <p>Graduation: Autumn: 12, 13, 14, 15.05.2025 Spark Arena Spring: 08, 09, 10.09.2025 Auckland Town Hall FMHS: TBC Tai Tokerau: 26.03.2025</p> <p>12.2 The Chancellor thanked the Vice-Chancellor and all of her team for all the work done over the year and hoped that they would take a good break over Xmas and the New Year to recharge their batteries for the year ahead.</p>	RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Mason): that the Council note the meeting and graduation dates 2025.
13. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	<p>(for the meeting of 17.03.2025)</p> <p>The Chancellor suggested that leave of absence notices for the next meeting be submitted to both the Committee Secretary, Wendy</p>	

	Verschaeren, and Ruwani Dharmawardana, who will be covering for Verschaeren on the Council due to medical reasons.	
<p>14. PART B ACCESS TO REPRESENTATIVES FROM PROPERO CONSULTING LIMITED</p>		<p>RESOLVED (Chancellor/Mr Mason): that Due to the role of Propero Consulting Limited in providing independent advice to the Council, Mr Matt Stanley representative from Propero Consulting Limited be permitted to remain in Part B of the meeting.</p>

PUBLIC EXCLUSIONS

FURTHER RESOLVED (Chancellor/ Mr Mason): that the public be excluded from Part B of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered:

Item No. 1.1	Council Minutes Part B 09.10.2024
Item No. 2.1.1	Membership of Human Participants Ethics Committee (UAHPEC) and Biological Safety Committee (BSC)
Item No. 2.2.1	Finance Committee – Minutes Part B, 20.11.2024
Item No. 2.2.2	Budget Report 2025
Item No. 2.3.1	Audit and Risk Committee Minutes Part B 15.11.2024
Item No. 2.3.2	Compliance with new Charities Act requirements and review of governance documents
Item No. 2.4.1	Capital Expenditure Committee Minutes Part B 06.11.2024
Item No. 2.4.2	Hono Human Connections Programme Update
Item No. 2.5.1	Honours Committee – Professor Emeritus proposal
Item No. 3.1.1	Correspondence related to the case of Siouxsie Wiles v. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Auckland
Item No. 4.2.1	Memorandum Young Scholars Programme Fees
Item No. 4.2.2	Memorandum Fees Proposals for the University of Auckland Certificate in Foundation Studies taught by UP Education
Item No. 4.3.1	Pacific Strategy
Item No.4.4.1	Payment of Fees to Lay and Student Council Members
Item No. 4.5.1	Council Committee Membership for 2025

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:

The protection of the interests mentioned below.

Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution:

Those in Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 namely:

- i) To protect the privacy of the persons referred to in the recommendations and to maintain the confidentiality of those recommendations;
- ii) To enable the University to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations; and
- iii) To prevent the disclosure or use of Official Information for improper gain or advantage.

AND THAT Adrienne Cleland, Professor Valerie Linton, Professor Jemaima Tiatia-Siau, Tim Bluett, Pamela Moss, Helen Cattanach, Matt Stanley, and Ruwani Dharmawardana be permitted to remain for this part of the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of, or need to be briefed about, the matters to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they relate to aspects of the administration of The University of Auckland for which those persons are responsible.