



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF
WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA



ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING
5 NOVEMBER 2024

PART A AND PART B

Academic Board Meeting, 5 November 2024

05 November 2024 01:00 PM - 03:00 PM



Agenda Topic	Presenter	Page
Part A		
The meeting will start with a Karakia: Mauri oho (Awaken the spirit) Mauri tū (Engage the spirit) Mauri ora ki a tātou (The spirit of life amongst us) Haumi e, hui e, tāiki e! (Be united in purpose!)		
1. Welcome to new members / farewells	Chair	
2. Part B of the agenda - to consider requests from members to transfer items from Part B to Part A of the agenda	Chair	
3. Vice-Chancellor's Oral Report	Vice-Chancellor - To receive	
4. AB24-75 - DVC Written Report	Chair / DVCs - To receive	4
5. AB24-76 - CUAP Deletions: notifications out-of-round AB24-76a - Bachelor of Tourism Management AB24-76b - Master of Innovation and Commercialisation	Chair	15
6. AB24-77 - Draft Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Policy (DVCR)	Margaret Hyland to lead discussion	21
7. AB24-78 - Treaty Principles Bill (DVCM)	Rawinia Higgins to lead discussion	22
8. AB24-79 - Work Programme - Speaking Truth to Power	Rebecca Priestley - To receive	
9. Resolution concerning exclusion of non-members	Chair - To resolve	
Part B		
10. AB24-80 - Minutes of the last meeting (24 September 2024)	Chair - To confirm	23
11. AB24-81 - Report of the Academic Programmes Committee - October/November	DVCA - To approve	31
12. General Business	Chair	
PART C - MEMBERS ONLY		

13. [AB24-82 - Confidential minutes of Academic Board Meeting of 24 September 2024](#)

Chair - To approve

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MEMORANDUM

To	Academic Board
From	Professor Robyn Longhurst, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic); Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Engagement); Dr Logan Bannister, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students); and Professor Margaret Hyland, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Date	5 November 2024
Subject	Written Reports to the Academic Board for November 2024

Executive Summary

The following report is provided to Academic Board as an update on the portfolios of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Engagement), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students).

It is requested that the Academic Board:

Receive: the November 2024 reports from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Engagement), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students).

DVC ACADEMIC PORTFOLIO

The following update is provided to Academic Board as an update on the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic:

CUAP Proposals Round 3

- All Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington's CUAP 2024 Round 3 proposals have been approved. Sincere appreciation was given to everyone involved in helping achieve this success. The exciting work of bringing these proposals to life now begins.

Graduating Year Reviews (GYRs)

- The GYRs for 2024 have been submitted to CUAP and are in the final stages of the scrutineering process. Victoria's GYRs were reviewed by Lincoln and Otago. Overall, their report of our GYRs was positive. Next year we are likely to bring the submission date forward to the August Academic Programme Committee to allow for more time to finalise the final draft versions.

First Year Retention Project

- CAD have been designing and re-developing 1st year/1st trimester courses for 2025 to focus on student retention and embedding student support services into learning and teaching. Courses include seven current large gatekeeper courses and two new programmes.
- CAD have also been co-designing a series of 1st year curriculum principles. Workshops have been completed and information analysed to inform the first draft of a document.

VicStart

- CAD have also been developing a T1 and T2 VicStart programme with Future Students and course coordinators. Currently there are approximately 14 courses that will be reviewed and developed where appropriate for the Year 13 student cohort.

Work-Integrated Learning

- One of the projects approved by Te Hiwa for this year is a review of the current academic promotions process. As the first step, 10 focus group discussions including more than 100 staff were facilitated.
- Following this, an online survey was designed based on feedback from the focus groups. It is open until Friday 1 November 2024. Teachers and researchers at various points in their careers, line managers of academic staff, and staff who support academic promotions processes are encouraged to participate in the survey.

CAD Learning Design and Development Work

- Initial discussions with Engineering for Mechatronics proposal.
- Course design and development for SCIS101, FHSS103, LAWS111 and SAMO101 fully online courses, and supporting student success in mathematical teaching for WUPL.
- Redesign of MAOR126 to scale for significantly more students, 66 to 350 in T2 and 700+ in T1 2025. T2 included redesign of content, learner activities, assessment, and support structures.
- Development of Wellington Uni-professional micro-credentials - 'Supporting student success in mathematical learning', Spring into Maths, and MOE/PPTA capability awareness.

Academic Office Activities

- The Course Administration and Timetabling team are working through changes to majors, minors, quals, and courses for 2025.
- Curriculum Quality team are working with colleagues on the Subjects, Qualifications and Courses (SQC) project on timing for release of new course pages and switching to Mata for course outlines; and for the new subject and qual pages next year.
- UAT testing on Mata – our new curriculum management system - went well and we are getting closer to signing off on the Mata functionality upgrade.
- 2025 Wall Calendars are almost ready to go to the printers, orders are being taken at present via the intranet.
- 2025 Calendar is being updated throughout October, to be released asap in late November onto the website.

DVC MĀORI AND ENGAGEMENT PORTFOLIO

The following update is provided to Academic Board as an update on the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori and Engagement:

DVC Māori Portfolio

- As at 17 October, Māori EFTS stand at 1,793, an increase of 37 EFTS compared to the same time last year.
- Professor Bev Lawton, the founder and director of Te Tātai Hauora o Hine—National Centre of Women’s Health Research Aotearoa, was presented with the Maarire Goodall Award at the Te Ora Hui ā-Tau and Scientific Conference in Rotorua on 28 September. The award recognises excellence in leadership and long service commitment in advancing Māori health.
- Planning is proceeding for the reopening of Te Tumu Herenga Waka and the opening of the new Living Building. An invitation has gone out to all staff for the 4.30am opening ceremony but for those who missed it, attendance can be registered at <https://vuw.eventsair.com/living-pa-opening/register>.

DVC Engagement Portfolio

- In September a number of alumni and engagement events were held in Washington, New York and London by Rawinia Higgings. While in Washington, Rawinia hosted an alumni reception at the New Zealand Embassy and met with representatives at partner universities George Mason University, American University and Howard University, as well as with the Director of the Centre for Australian, New Zealand and Pacific Studies at Georgetown University. In New York she met with Sarah Mason-Banks, Trade Commissioner and Consul General, before hosting an alumni reception in New York and meeting with several alumni the following day. In London she met with various alumni and donors including a group of women established in leadership positions, Sir Crawford Falconer, Second Permanent Secretary and Chief Trade Negotiation Adviser for the UK’s Department for Business and Trade, London-based Law alumni, and Mel Smith, CEO of Blackstone Company. She also travelled to Cambridge to meet with alumni Dr Theresa Pankhurst, the inaugural Te Urungi Churchill College By-Fellow, a fellowship established by the Malaghan Institute’s Māori advisory group Te Urungi that aims to strengthen relationships between the Malaghan Institute and Māori communities to ultimately improve health outcomes for Māori. Theresa is currently seconded to the Babraham Institute at the University of Cambridge.

Media and events summary: 11 September to 18 October 2024

- Four media releases/advisories issued on research and events
- 15 opinion pieces published on Newsroom and The Conversation
- Two inaugural lectures given.

Media commentary on public interest issues included:

- Dr Alex Beattie on research surveying Kiwis about their use of news media.
- Dr Nessa Lynch on planned roll-out of GovGPT and pitfalls of relying on AI for providing access to public information.
- Dr Stephen Blumenfeld on the use of non-disclosure agreements in the workplace; as well as commentary on government's announcement it wants public servants back in the office.
- Dr Awanui Te Huia on Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and using te reo in everyday life.
- Professor James Bell on marine animal forests found in Wellington harbour; and commentary on marine pollution risks from sinking of HMNZS Manawanui.
- Dr Iati Iati on sinking of HMNZS Manawanui.
- Professor David Capie on sinking of HMNZS Manawanui; and commentary on PM's trip to East Asia Summit.
- Dr Lynzi Armstrong on her research on prostitution law reform.
- Dr Rebecca Downes on working from home policies.
- Dr Jenni Hopkins on discovery of possible remnants of the Taupō super-eruption found in Tasmania.

DVC RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

The following update is provided to Academic Board as an update on the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research:

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Diversifying External Research Income

- The Research Office is working with Deans and Associate Deans on a bidding strategy which will move us from mostly reactive work around major funding rounds, to setting targets around the scale and diversity of our external research funding (including international funding). This will be supported by quarterly reporting showing progress towards the targets that will be considered by University Research Committee.
- *Horizon EU* – this is a focus for increasing our international research income and reducing dependency on the reducing national contestable funds.
 - RO is working with HR to ensure that our diversity and equity policies align with Horizon Europe requirements.
 - The RO is developing its capability to support Horizon Europe bids. We have submitted 12 bids, 3 of which have been approved, two are pending and two on the reserve list.
 - On 21 October, the VUW Research Office and MBIE co-hosted the Wellington stop of the Horizon Europe Roadshow 2024, followed by a Reception co-hosted with the EU Delegation. We were privileged to be able to work with the Ambassador of the European Union to New Zealand H.E. Mr Lawrence Meredith, the EU Delegation, and EURAXESS on these highly successful and illuminating events showcasing New Zealand as the first global partner of Horizon Europe.

Commercialisation

- Paihau Robinson Research Institute, UniVentures and UK-based HyFlux have signed a term sheet (agreement) enabling HyFlux to access RRI's IP and know-how to develop a 3 megawatt electric powertrain for aviation, developing zero-emission aircraft. In return RRI will receive significant research contract and Victoria University, via UniVentures, will have a small shareholding into HyFlux. <https://www.hyflux.aero/>
<https://www.hyflux.aero/post/hyflux-partners-with-researchers-to-develop-zero-emission-aircraft-engine>
- MBIE announced that the Pre-seed accelerator fund (PSAF) managed by KiwiNet will be extended for two years (until 27 June) whilst the government finalise its review of commercialisation for universities and CRIs. PSAF is a co-funding mechanism supporting all commercialisation projects led by UniVentures.
- Bontia Bio is Wellington UniVentures first spin-out in 18 months. Backed by Sprout, a Callaghan pre-incubator investor, Bontia Bio is focussing on animal health based on Professor Emily Parker's lab and work on "fungal factories".
<https://www.bontiabio.com/>

Growing Research Momentum

- The Dean FGR travelled to Latin America to grow the number of externally funded PhD scholarships. Meetings in Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Chile were aimed at activating existing MOUs with PhD scholarship funding agencies and securing new ones and raising the University's profile amongst scholarship applicants.
- Researcher Development Framework. The Working Group has completed focus groups and an analysis of the Your Voice response to the research questions which is informing the needs analysis. An online portal to readily identify and access training is progressing well and is expected to be launched before the end of the year.

DVC STUDENTS' PORTFOLIO

The following update is provided to Academic Board as an update on the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Students:

Future Students

Domestic EFTS Update

- As at 22 October, 6,632 admission applications have been received from domestic students for 2025. This is an increase of just over 12% compared to the same time last year.
- A total of 5,396 of these applicants have received Offers and can proceed to selecting their courses.
- A total of 4,079 new and returning domestic students have selected their courses and submitted their enrolment application for 2025. This is an increase of nearly 21% compared to the same time last year.

Scholarships

School-leaver

- This year was the first year a two-week acceptance date for school-leaver scholarship offers was implemented. The duration and acceptance date is now in line with other New Zealand universities.
- The shortened time period has provided more budget certainty and aligned better with Accommodation Offers and enrolment.
- Acceptance rates have increased across nearly all categories of scholarship including Equity and Excellence scholarships, which has meant we have approximately 40 additional scholarship students to study in 2025 than we had this year.

Masters Thesis

- These are now open and include several Strategic scholarships additional to the original allocated amount. The office has received positive interest from students with this change higher applications are expected. Scholarships close on 1 November 2024. More information about the scholarships and how to apply can be found [here](#).

Summer Research

- These closed with just under 40 projects. The Scholarships office team are currently completing the contracts and students will be able to begin working on projects from 4 November 2024.

International

Admissions

- T3 enrolment: nearly 200 new international students, mainly in English Language and Professional programmes (WSBG).
- Forecasting 15% growth in enrolments for T1 2025.
- Application volume has increased by 45% compared to last year.

International Experience Grant

- A total of 186 offers to prospective Year 13 students were made for an international experience grant.

- This is a pilot project, being utilised as a domestic student recruitment tool, and is projected to increase student exchange participation by 50% by 2026.
- The grant covers tuition fees for a one-trimester global exchange for domestic students after they complete their first year of study.
- As at 22 October, 86 students have accepted their offer, one declined. Of these students, more than 50% indicated that receiving the grant was a significant or moderate factor in making their decision to study at VUW.

Highlights

- Diplomatic Dialogue with Mexican Ambassador.
- Seminar with Mayor of Sakai, Japan in celebration of the 30-years Wellington-Sakai sister-city relationship.
- The annual WILP and Wellington Plus Awards Ceremony will be held on 28 November 2024. Members of Academic Board are warmly invited to attend the ceremony to celebrate the students' achievements in co-curricular leadership programmes.
- A total of 21 VUW students have received [Prime Minister's Scholarships](#) (PMS) in 2024 which will fully fund their 2025 academic exchanges or international internships. Five are Te Kawa a Māui students selected to join an indigenous studies programme in Taiwan.

Partnership Activities

- September China trip with the VC:
 1. The official launch of VUW's first joint institute - Wellington Institute of Zhengzhou University, welcoming 169 students: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/news/2024/10/wellington-institute-at-zhengzhou-university>
 - A friends and alumni reception co-hosted by the VC and the NZ Ambassador to China Grahame Morton with nearly 70 attendees.
 - Institution visits in Xi'an.
- Hosted seven international delegations from China (4), the Philippines (1), the USA (1), and Indonesia (1).
- There are seven newly signed agreements: China (5), India (1), Malaysia (1).

Student Experience and Wellbeing | Te Pūrengi

Ki te rā

- Te Pūrengi Student Equity and Wellbeing team launched the first module of a new [Wellbeing Kete](#) – Developing Strong, Supportive Friendships. The Wellbeing Kete brings together academic, professional and student wellbeing expertise to empower students to thrive during their study. This is a [Ki te rā-Student Wellbeing Outcomes Framework](#) initiative.
- The implementation of Ki te rā is in full swing with presentations and implementation discussions held with over 20 CSUs, Faculty Boards, Teaching and Learning Committees.
- A tremendous response to our Mental Health Awareness Week programme from staff and students recognising the value of connection and community.
- New [Health, Safety and Wellbeing](#) web pages for students. The University has quality health, safety and wellbeing services and self-help tools. We've redesigned the web pages that introduce this support to make it easier for students to find, and easier for staff to connect students with the information. We have taken a Ki te rā approach to this

by highlighting the preventative wellbeing self-help tools and ensuring the way we talk about safety concerns is matter of fact.

Careers

- FADI Careers Week (30 September to 4 October 2024) was a big success with approximately 200 students engaging in seven events during the week, including the Careers in Focus panel discussion and Industry Speed Networking.
- Our Senior Adviser Work Integrated Learning and Career Development is part of the organisation for the WIL (Work Integrated Learning) Staff Showcase at Te Aro campus on 14 November 2024.

Leadership

- The Leadership Programmes Project has moved into the new programme development phase – this project is to better align our two-leadership programme; Wellington Plus and Wellington International Leadership Programme. An advisory group made up of student representatives, academic and professional staff will advise and inform the project.

Te Haumiri

- The team has held orientation and information events for new students in trimester 3. An orientation for 30 English for Academic Purposes Students was held on 25th September. A pre-Arrival session was held on 15th October for 49 new T3 students.
- Trimester 3 International Orientation will be held 5 to 7 November 2024, [timetable is live](#): 120 new students are expected to start.
- The team has been meeting with various faculties, including Health, Engineering, and Wellington School of Business and Government to gather information around preparing international students for the classroom. The team hosted an International Student Feedback Session and Morning Tea for FOH students on 27 September to add to the information gathering.
- Coordinating with WUI-IC team for a Trimester 1, 2025 pre-departure session on 1st Nov, focused on visa, fees, and enrolment.
- Completion Ceremony for 11 students from the Manaaki New Zealand Scholarship team was held 15th October and attended by the Tuvaluan High Commission, ENZ and MFAT.

Student Success I Titoko

First-year student experience

- Titoko - Student Success teams are working with Accommodation, Āwhina, Pasifika Student Success, Faculties and Te Pūrengi, planning is underway to transition students into study at Te Herenga Waka. For 2025, this will include a six-week programme, starting with New Student Orientation (NSO) week, aimed at enhancing the first-year student experience. This initiative is designed to better support first-year undergraduate students as they transition into university life by providing ongoing guidance and resources throughout their critical first six weeks of study.

Graduation

- The logistics of accommodating over 1400 students, an increase of 300 students from last year, to attend December graduation ceremonies is well underway. This includes Tri-2 International students who have indicated they wish to participate in a ceremony and two Te Hui Whakapūmau ceremonies at [The Living Pā](#).

Wellington Secondary Schools Teachers' Grant

As part of our Wellington Schools Partnership initiatives that look to strengthen relationships with our local schools, we have offered Wellington teachers the opportunity to complete a course with the University in Trimester 3, or a Wellington Uni-Professional education microcredential (student success in mathematics learning). The grant closed 25 October, and archived information can be found [here](#).



Notification deletion of qualifications

Date of submission	5 July 2024
Name of qualifications deleted	Bachelor of Tourism Management (BTM) Bachelor of Tourism Management with Honours BTM(Hons) Master of Tourism Management (MTM)
Name of Faculty	Wellington School of Business and Government
Name of submitter	Prof John Randal
Page reference in Calendar of year of notification	2024 Calendar pp 274
URL of Calendar on University website	University Calendar About us Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington (wqtn.ac.nz)

Section A – CUAP information

CUAP notification category 6.2.4: the deletion of an entire academic qualification.

A1 Purpose of proposal

1. To delete the Bachelor of Tourism Management
2. To delete the Bachelor of Tourism Management with Honours
3. To delete the Master of Tourism Management

A2 Justification

The proposal VUW/22 MCom/1, BCom(Hons)/1, BTM(Hons)/1, MTM/1 closed the BTM(Hons) and MTM to new students from 2023. The BTM has been closed to new students since 2019. Since the closures, there have been no new admissions to these qualifications. Any current students have either graduated with the original qualification or withdrawn from the programme. As there will be no further graduates, the BTM, BTM(Hons) and MTM can now be deleted.

A3 Calendar amendments to be made

On page 274 of the 2024 Calendar, remove the entries as follows:

Bachelor of Tourism Management BTM (360 points)

Note: The BTM is closed to new students from 2019. Refer to the ~~2018 Calendar for the regulations and schedule.~~

**~~Bachelor of Tourism Management with Honours
BTM(Hons) (120 points)~~**

Note: The BTM(Hons) is closed to new students from 2023. Refer to the 2022 Calendar for details.

**~~Master of Tourism Management
MTM (120 points/180 points)~~**

Note: The MTM is closed to new students from 2023. Refer to the 2022 Calendar for details.

A4 Transitional arrangements

If required, students are able to complete under the Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Commerce with Honours or Master of Commerce with a major in Tourism Management.

Section B – Administration and reporting
Deletion of qualification

Closure of qualification to take effect from:	2025
Deletion of qualification to take effect from:	2025

I confirm that there are no more students registered in the qualifications named in this notification.

Name: Professor John Randal

Approval / notification process

Approval / notification	Date	Recorded by
Faculty Mgmt Team	5/8/24	Kim Hann
Faculty Board	21/8/24	Kim Hann
Academic Programmes Committee		
Academic Board		
CUAP		
Banner (notification)		

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Records management	Date	Recorded by
Banner confirmation of nil registered students:		
STEO updated:		
Comms & Mktg informed:		
Student Recruitment informed:		
NZQF website amended:		
CUAP deletion process complete:		
SOACURR:		



Notification deletion of qualifications

Date of submission	1 August 2024
Name of qualifications deleted	Master of Innovation and Commercialisation
Name of Faculty	Wellington School of Business and Government
Name of submitter	Prof John Randal
Page reference in Calendar of year of notification	2024 Calendar pp 273
URL of Calendar on University website	University Calendar About us Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington (wqtn.ac.nz)

Section A – CUAP information

CUAP notification category 6.2.4: the deletion of an entire academic qualification.

A1 Purpose of proposal

To delete the Master of Innovation and Commercialisation (MInnComl).

A2 Justification

The MInnComl has been closed to new students since 2019 and there will be no further graduates. The MInnComl can be deleted effective from 2025.

A3 Calendar amendments to be made

On page 273 of the 2024 Calendar, remove the entry for MInnComl as follows:

~~Master of Innovation and Commercialisation~~

~~MInnComl (180 points)~~

~~Note: The Master of Innovation and Commercialisation will not be taking applications for the 2023 intake.~~

~~These regulations are to be read in conjunction with the General Programmes of Study Regulations.~~

~~Entry requirements~~

- ~~1. (a) Before enrolment, a candidate for the MInnComl degree shall have:

 - ~~(i) completed a Bachelor's degree of a New Zealand university to an appropriate standard, or another university at the discretion of the Associate Dean (Students) of the Wellington School of Business and Government, normally with a B+ average grade or higher; and~~
 - ~~(ii) been accepted by the programme director and the MInnComl Board of Studies as capable of proceeding with the proposed programme of study.~~~~
- ~~(b) Requirement (a)(i) may be waived by the associate dean, for a candidate who has had extensive practical, professional, or scholarly experience of an appropriate kind.~~

General requirements

2. (a) The course of study for the MinnComl shall consist of courses worth at least 180 points, comprising:

Part 1: ATEN 504

Part 2: ATEN 502, 503, 591.

(b) Entry to Part 2 requires the successful completion of Part 1 with at least a B+ grade and acceptance by the programme director and Board of Studies.

3. (a) Candidates must:

(i) enrol full time for Part 1 and Part 2; and

(ii) complete Part 1 and enrol in Part 2 in consecutive trimesters.

(b) The minimum and maximum periods of enrolment for ATEN 591 are specified in the Master's Thesis Regulations.

Award of Distinction or Merit

4. A candidate may be awarded the MinnComl with Distinction or Merit as described in the *Assessment Handbook*.

Schedule to the MinnComl Regulations

Course	Title	Pts	Prerequisites (P)
ATEN 502	Strategy and Validation	30	P-ATEN 504
ATEN 503	Development and Commercialisation	15	P-ATEN 502
ATEN 504	Introduction to Innovation and Commercialisation	15	
ATEN 591	Innovation and Commercialisation Research Portfolio	12	P-ATEN 504
		0	

Note: Enrolment in the courses listed in this schedule requires a formal interview and the approval of the MinnComl Programme Director.

A4 Transitional arrangements

Transitional arrangements are not required as there are no current students affected.

Section B – Administration and reporting
Deletion of qualification

Closure of qualification to take effect from:	2025
Deletion of qualification to take effect from:	2025

I confirm that there are no more students registered in the qualifications named in this notification.

Name: Professor John Randal

Approval / notification process

Approval / notification	Date	Recorded by
Faculty Mgmt Team	2/9/24	Kim Hann
Faculty Board	18/9/24	Kim Hann
Academic Programmes Committee		
Academic Board		
CUAP		
Banner (notification)		

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Records management	Date	Recorded by
Banner confirmation of nil registered students:		
STEO updated:		
Comms & Mktg informed:		
Student Recruitment informed:		
NZQF website amended:		
CUAP deletion process complete:		
SOACURR:		

MEMORANDUM

To	Academic Board
From	Professor Margaret Hyland, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Date	5 November 2024
Subject	Draft Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Policy (DVCR)

Executive Summary

An opportunity for Academic Board to provide feedback on the Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Policy that is out for consultation. The document can be found [here](#).

It is requested that the Academic Board:

Discuss: The Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Policy.

MEMORANDUM

To	Academic Board
From	Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori
Date	5 November 2024
Subject	Treaty Principles Bill (DVCM):

Executive Summary

Signalling a future discussion on how the proposed bill could impact on our University Tiriti o Waitangi Statute.

It is requested that the Academic Board:

Discuss: How the proposed bill could impact on our University Tiriti o Waitangi Statute.



Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington Minutes of the Academic Board meeting held at 1.00 pm on 24 September 2024

The meeting was held face-to-face in the Kelburn Council Chamber and was convened by Professor Bryony James (Provost, Vice-Chancellor's Office), on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nic Smith (who was an apology). The meeting was opened with a karakia and everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

PART A

52.24 Apologies, acknowledgements and welcomes

The apologies were taken as read (see appendix 1). The Convenor advised there were no new members or welcomes.

53.24 Part B of the agenda – items brought forward

No items were brought forward to Part A from Part B.

54.24 Vice-Chancellor Oral Report

The Vice-Chancellor was an apology for this meeting.

55.24 Written Report

AB24/69

The September 2024 written reports from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Engagement), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students were **received**.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor - Academic Report

Professor Robyn Longhurst spoke to her report taking it as read.

The report format now focusses on strategic initiatives associated with academic office portfolios. Robyn led the Academic Promotions Process Review together with Bryony James. There have been 10 focus groups and more than 100 staff involved. Specific focus groups held with the research institutes has gone well and included Māori and Pasifika staff. Special thanks was given to Derek White who attended most focus groups, and to the group involved in the academic programme approvals process. The next step is seeking feedback on a revised set of principles, which will be circulated with preferred outcomes shared in a survey in November.

Themes included whether so many barriers are needed, the importance of transparency and fairness in the process, and whether we need to review the whole career when assessing for accomplishments that have been in train since the last promotion. People are encouraged to complete the online survey.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor - Research Report

Professor Margaret Hyland spoke to her report taking it as read.

Those who participated the inaugural research showcase in Matira were thanked. The event provided an opportunity to showcase the ways researchers are mobilising their work to make meaningful contributions and to celebrate collective achievements. Learnings included the prospect of doing various versions of the future showcases, with some focused on particular themes, and with bespoke external community engagement.

The Postgraduate Students Association (PGSA) has not been functional for over a year. It was suggested that in the absence of a PGSA that we need a student voice, so looking at setting up a reference group of postgraduate students that meet on a regular basis.

Coordination of the development of the academic freedom and expression of freedom policy has taken place and academics and professional staff were thanked for their ideas. The policy will go out for consultation mid-November for feedback.

Positive feedback was received in relation to the engagement from internal and external people including Local Government, community groups, professional organisations/people, investors, as well as people who have been donors to the university.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students Report

The report was taken as read. An apology was received from Dr Logan Bannister.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori and Engagement Report

The report was taken as read. An apology was received from Professor Rawinia Higgins.

56.24 Work Programmes

AP24/70

A discussion took place in relation to the topic *A new vision for first year experience – reduced expectations/assessments* by Dr Stuart Marshall, Faculty of Engineering. This is the first of five presentations over the next six months.

This topic looks at first-year experience and habits, covering assessment, timetables and workload hours, and identifying different times, schedules for people to be able to meet, and the transitions from school to university. This shows that it is more than course offerings and is looking to increase first year enjoyment and retention. Discussion was around first-year experiences and how we can improve this. Thanks was given to those involved.

The question was asked: should the university impose a structure and/or purpose for 100-level and not leave it up to individual majors/programmes to do.

Responses included:

- No, because each subject area has its own pedagogical reasons on how to teach and how many assessments there should be.
- Need to consider the context on how students are learning and that there is a real push in terms of needing to work/financial pressures. Cost of living implications.
- Question whether it is better to have lots of smaller papers, or a smaller number of slightly bigger papers.

- Student voice component is essential.
- Would not want to see an environment where students are interacting less often and need to look for the opportunity to move away from content overload and focus on foundational skills and relationships.
- Student Voice very successful and the timing was ideal to plan for 2025 students who started trimester 1. Need to focus on relationships over content.
- Think about purpose and challenges of the first year of university, and how to manage transition from school to university.
- Consider the experience students have at school and university - encourage people to take risks and trust people's judgment.
- Retention is important. First year has the highest dropout rate for students and is when they decide it's not the course they thought it would be.
- Need to reflect on students knowing what to expect in the first year. Standardization defers that and students can make mature choices.
- NZ universities have structures that are flexible, and the consequence is we don't specify what the university could look like. Big picture isn't given fast enough. Need less about structure and more about content in degree structures. One-size-fits-all doesn't work.
- BCom has a single course trying to give students study in business and government and understanding how that goes out re societal functions. Help students make better choices beyond that course and teach them how to be successful.
- Connection of disciplines to the outside world is one of our design features and shows students how to succeed.
- Feedback transition in helping students prepare. Our optimism and care is amazing so doing good things now and in future.
- Challenging facilities/facilitation and clarify what faculties are doing. Staff valued the opportunity to get together to discuss what worked/what didn't. Get a sense of what barriers students face.
- Moving forward, consider whether a pan-university course and skills are needed within a particular faculty with different subjects and different needs.
- Teaching 101 - consistency and how to get approved by CUAP.
- Be careful not to undermine trust in individual academics and schools, identify problems and inspire one another with the best and most exciting practices that we can find and share across the university.

Appreciation was given to everyone for their feedback, and it was noted it is good to get communities together to talk about the joy of teaching.

57.24 Faculty Realignment

AP24/71

At 1.58 pm Robyn Longhurst chaired the meeting.

Bryony James gave an update on the Faculty Realignment. The discussion echoed and expanded on key themes from previous feedback from the consultation on Faculty Realignment. It emphasised the need for support for:

- maintaining the academic identities of affected programmes and staff while building a shared culture for the new Faculties

- transitioning to new structures and roles and ensuring adequate academic, technical and comms support
- growing opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Ensuring equitable representation and a strong academic voice in key decisions.

The Academic Board proposed to forward to Council the points raised for consideration, and noted the responses of the Provost, summarised below.

1. **Academic identity and Faculty culture**

- Members of the Board directly affected by the proposed realignment expressed goodwill and a willingness to work together in the new structures, but also some sadness about losing ties with current Faculties. There was concern about a potential reduction of opportunities for collaboration for disciplines currently sharing a Faculty, and about possible differences in Faculty culture i.e. allocation of research funding to postgraduate students. Concerns were also voiced about how the public and students may perceive the different disciplines (for example with Psychology being separate from Science), and about how partners in the alignment might need to adjust their understandings of the identities of their counterparts.
- The Provost replied that while Faculty restructuring does not in itself solve barriers to cross-disciplinary collaboration, it does offer an opportunity to think about how to reduce them across the University. The planned new financial model will incentivize collaboration across faculties, reducing competition for resources and focusing on growing collective opportunities. Workload and promotion models will also change to encourage cross-disciplinary work and incentivise behaviours aligned with academic values. It was also noted that public/student perceptions of different disciplines are often more closely related to how they are marketed and recruited for, rather than their position within a particular Faculty, and that the realignment also offers opportunities to tell new and engaging stories.

2. **Iho Option and Faculty Support**

- There was support for the Iho option, but concern was expressed about how academic support structures like Associate Deans will be managed for Te Kawa a Māui when it is outside a traditional faculty structure.
- The Provost responded that the Iho option does not have the same timeframe as the other elements of the realignment. It will gradually transition, with time to ensure appropriate support. It will not follow a typical university faculty structure but will still interface with university processes and roles.

3. **Faculty Realignment Impact on AD Roles**

- Concern was expressed about how the restructuring will affect the size and workload of AD roles, given the number of stakeholders, students, and programmes.

- The Provost responded that flexibility in AD roles is needed, understanding that different faculties may need different ADs. ADs are seen as crucial academic leaders, and their roles will be supported and refined over time.

4. **Education, Health and Psychology Faculty concerns**

- Some apprehension was expressed about Psychology overshadowing smaller areas in the new structure. It was also noted that staff in Psychology had unanimously voted for an option different to the one that is being recommended, and this needs to be kept in mind, especially given the size of the Psychology major across multiple degrees. The discussion suggested that there may be challenges in forging an identity and working model for this proposed faculty, although plenty of good will has been expressed by staff in all three areas.
- The Provost replied that these issues have been acknowledged and efforts will be made to ensure balanced governance across disciplines within the new faculty and support will be given in building a shared culture.

5. **Support for technical systems and communications**

- Concerns were raised about the technical challenges associated with faculty realignment, especially around existing systems like Banner. A request was made that any technical or other concerns be raised with staff as early as possible so that they can face any challenges with eyes open and be prepared.
- The Provost acknowledged the technical challenges and the institution's history of sometimes awkward transitions, but replied that she believes we will address them over time and mitigate in the meantime. She also noted the potential to share positive new stories in connection with the realignment.

6. **Importance of maintaining strong academic voices**

- Concerns were expressed about reducing the number of faculties (and therefore Deans and Associate Deans) potentially diluting academic voices in key decision-making bodies.
- The Provost replied that time will be taken to ensure representation is fair, with a possibility of having dual ADs during the transition to maintain academic input. The Provost expressed confidence in the ability of academic leadership and faculty members to navigate the changes.

Robyn Longhurst, as chair, brought this part of the meeting to a close, and acknowledged that it is not going to be easy but that other institutions like our own have successfully done this and come out the other side, and is sure we will too.

Bryony James resumed chairing at 1.45pm.

Part C of the agenda

The Resolution concerning exclusion of non-members was not relevant for this meeting.

PART B OF THE AGENDA

The following items, not having been brought forward, were confirmed.

The minutes of the Academic Board meeting held 20 August 2024 (Numbers 40.24 to 50.24) were confirmed. AB24/72

Note: Part C of meetings are excluded for reasons of confidentiality where applicable.

58.24 Report of the Academic Programmes Committee

The September Academic Programmes Committee report was noted. AB24/73

59.24 Graduating Year Reviews (GYRs)

AB24/74

The following Graduating Year Reviews were approved.

- Communication – FHSS
- Intercultural Communication and Applied Translation – FHSS
- TESOL - FHSS
- Animation and Visual Effects – FADI
- Designed Environments – FADI
- Doctor in Education – Education
- Tourism Management – WSBG
- Science in Society – Science
- Geographic Information Science – Science

General Business

Marcail Parkinson reminded people that the student representative celebrations are being held on Wednesday 25 September at 3.30pm in the Hunter Lounge. There is an award for outstanding lecturer and she requested people attend as it is a good opportunity to recognise the hard work that student representatives do.

60.24 Part C members only

The meeting closed at 2.48 pm as there were no confidential matters to discuss.

Appendix 1: Academic Board attendance 24 September 2024

Professor Bryony James		
Professor Richard Arnold	Professor Anne Goulding	Professor Stephen Marshall
Professor Graeme Austin	Dr Monica Handler	Professor Jim McAloon
Professor Brigitte Bonisch-Brednich	Monika Hanson	Professor Geoff McLay
Associate Professor Diana Burton	Professor Dave Harper	Professor Simon Mackenzie
Professor Jane Bryson	Dr John Haywood	Professor Nicola Nelson
Associate Professor Sasha Calhoun	Professor Nikki Hessel	Professor Rewi Newnham
Dr Luke Chu	Professor Sally Hill	Marcail Parkinson
Professor Stephen Cummings	Associated Professor Val Hooper	Associate Professor Janet Pitman
Professor Carmen Dalli	Professor Margaret Hyland	Professor John Randal
Dr Nathaniel Davis	Dr Nigel Isaacs	Dr Helen Rook
Dr Noelle Donnelly	Professor Annemarie Jutel	Dr Mike Ross
Dr Eli Elinoff	Professor Simon Keller	Professor Paul Teesdale-Spittle
Professor Alejandro Frey	Professor Sarah Leggott	Amandie Weerasundara
Associate Professor Robin Fulton	Associate Professor Spencer Lilley	Trish Wilson
Dr Nicola Gilmour	Jian Liu	
Professor Vanessa Green	Professor Karl Lofgren	
	Professor Nick Long	
	Professor Robyn Longhurst	

Non-members in attendance

Vicki Bee
Anita Brady
Toby Dalglish
Gina Grimshaw
Lynn Grindell
Joseph Habgood
Angela Joe
Dr Stuart Marshall
R Mckee – Acting Head of School
attending for Averil Coxhead
Reece Moors
Carol Morris
Cathy Powley
Kate Schollum
Dr Robert Stratford
Anna Rogers
Linda Roberts
Varsha Narasimhan
Diane Ormsby
Elena Louverdis
Valentina Tikhonova
Andrew Wilks

Apologies

Dr Barbara Allen
Professor Siah Hwee Ang
Dr Logan Bannister
Professor Daniel Brown
Associate Professor Sue Cherrington
Dr Tim Corballis
Professor Alberto Costi
Professor Averil Coxhead
Professor Joanne Crawford
Professor Neil Dodgson
Professor Nicholas Golledge
Associate Professor Meegan Hall
Dr Caz Hales
Asst Vice-Chancellor, Matauranga Māori,
Megan Hall
Professor Rawinia Higgins
Professor Linda Hogg
Associate Professor Kathy Holloway
Professor Kate Hunter
Professor Dean Knight
Associate Professor Winnie Laban
Professor Karin Lasthuizen
Professor Catherine Iorns Magallanes
Christine McCarthy
Kirsty McClure
Stella McIntosh
Dr Bruno Marques
Professor Robyn Phipps
Professor James Renwick
Professor Sarah Ross
Professor John Townend
Professor Marc Wilson (part-attendance)



**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
ACADEMIC BOARD**

Date 5 November 2024
Proposer Professor Robyn Longhurst, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

DOCUMENT RECORD

Reference AB24-79
Title Report of the Academic Programmes Committee
Author (memorandum) Carol Morris, Secretary Academic Governance

It is requested that the Academic Board:

- Approve:** For submission- the 2 CUAP deletions summarised in the report
- Approve:** The 4 non-CUAP proposals; and
- Note:** the other items discussed and/or approved by the Academic Programmes Committee at its 15 October 2024 meeting.

Note: Items that are included in this report are available from the Academic Office upon request.



Memorandum

To	Academic Board
From	Carol Morris, Secretary Academic Governance
Date	5 November 2024
Subject	Report of the Academic Programmes Committee (APC)

This section of the report covers the 15 October 2024 meeting of the Academic Programmes Committee.

A. Academic deletions endorsed by APC for Academic Board (for notification to CUAP)

The deletions below were endorsed by APC for submission to the Academic Board. Refer to Part A agenda item AB24-76 for approval, to submit to CUAP, these deletions:

1. WSBG Bachelor of Tourism Management (APC24/76)
2. WSBG Master of Innovation and Commercialisation (APC24/77)

B. Academic proposals for Academic Board approval (non-CUAP)

1. FOS Amend the SCIS minor (APC24-73)
2. FHSS Recode 3 courses and amend requirements (APC24-74)
3. FOH Amend the MNursPrac Programme (APC24-75)
4. FHSS Make Special Topic RELI 310 permanent as RELI 312 (APC24-82)

C. Academic proposals approved by APC

There were six proposals for approval by APC for submission to the Academic Board for this period:

1. FOS Amend requisites on CHEM 122 (APC24-78)
2. ENG Update the requisites of MATH 161 and 177 (APC24-79)
3. WSBG INFO 101 course amendments (APC24-80)
4. FHSS Make CLAS 306 Animals and Monsters (APC24-81)
5. FOH Amend the Prerequisites of MIDW 305 and MIDW 307 (APC24-83)

D. Other matters (for noting)

There were no other papers on the agenda for approval.