



## **Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington Academic Board**

**Minutes of the meeting held at 1.00 pm on  
27 February 2024**

*The meeting was held in Lecture Theatre KKL301 and Convened by Professor Stephen Marshall, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nic Smith*

*The meeting was conducted face-to-face and opened with a karakia*

### **01.24 Apologies, acknowledgements and welcomes**

The apologies were taken as read (see appendix 1)

The Convenor gave welcomes and acknowledgements, in particular:

*Acknowledgement of staff promoted to Professor:*

Professor Susan Ballard, School of English, Film, Theatre, Media and Communication, and Art History

Professor Dean Knight, Faculty of Law

Professor Markus Luczak-Roesch, School of Information Management

Professor Wayne Patrick, School of Biological Sciences

Professor Marco Sonzogni, School of Languages and Culture

*Welcome to student member representatives for 2024:*

Marcail Parkinson, VUWSA President

Amandie Weerasumdera, Acting Academic Vice-President

Mairangi Campbell, Ngāi Tauira

Di Bao, PGSA President

Mesepa Faasau, V-ISA President

Porita Fruean, Pasifika Student Council

A sincere thank you and farewell was recorded to the large number of colleagues who have left the University over recent months. Their contribution was acknowledged and best wishes extended for whatever the future may hold.

### **02.24 Part B of the agenda – items brought forward**

One item was brought forward from Part B to Part A being agenda item 11, Academic Year Dates 2025, 2026 and 2027 (see minute 06.24).

### **03.24 Vice-Chancellor Oral Report**

The Convenor advised that there was no oral report from the Vice-Chancellor as he was an apology for the meeting. Professor Smith had asked the Convenor let the Board know that

the ideas generated and considered at the 7 November 2023 meeting had not been forgotten and he was committed to ensuring that the top ideas will be included and form part of the conversation as the University's new strategic plan is developed.

#### **04.24 Written Reports**

*AB24/01*

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

Professor Hyland's report was taken as read. She apologised for the omission of two important grants that been awarded to the Faculty of Education as follows:

Dr. Cherie Chu-Fuluifaga & Dr. Martyn Reynolds for their three-year project partnering with Kāhui Ako Kapiti North, Kāhui Ako Dunedin Catholic Schools, Beyond the classroom: Pacific-School partnership, leadership development and structural change. (\$299,630 over 2 years);

Ass. Prof. Sue Cherrington, Dr Ali Glasgow, Ass. Prof Taumoepeau (School of Psychology), Prof. Claire McLachlan (University of Waikato), Ass. Prof. Tara McLaughlin (Massey) and Dr Karyn Aspden (Massey), for their two year project partnering with A'oga Amata EFKS Newtown, Te Punanga o te Reo Kuki Airani, Moera and Waiwhetu Kindergartens (Hutt City Kindergartens) and Te Herenga Waka- Victoria University, Early childhood teacher practices for supporting oral language acquisition and competency for children from Pacific heritages. (\$444,110 over 3 years).

Professor Hyland noted that real reductions in research funding were of concern and things are in a state of flux as the new government settles in. Although nothing is certain, signals have been received that there is an expectation of research funding via multinational corporations and industry with an underlying message that research has to drive the economy. Regarding the Royal Society and Research funding no specifics were available.

In response to a question on recent visits to Faculties by the Provost and whether or not this signalled future restructuring the answer was no, the only driver of these visits was sensible synergies and it had nothing to do with plans or not around restructuring.

Regarding PBRF this was shrouded in a degree of uncertainty, although the TEC CEO had commented at a recent Select Committee on the associated compliance costs for Universities. The new Minister of Education, Hon. Penny Simmons, had asked questions about PBRF before Christmas.

Professor Hyland agreed to add grants received by schools and programmes to her report.

The reports of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori & Engagement, and the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, were taken as read and there were no questions.

The inaugural report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students was taken as read and Dr Logan Bannister was welcomed by the Board. Her focus was on enrolments and while the situation remains tight, a lot of late enrolments are currently being processed. Numbers for Māori and

Pasifika students are strong and have exceeded T1 2023. A slight risk around international EFTS was explained due to the visa status of some students. An intensive workaround is underway to enrol approximately 180 students with a waiver which allows an extra two weeks to confirm their visas. Half of the team have been struck by Covid so this has created additional pressure. Some students are confused about their enrolment status and they are being directed to the 0800 number and info email.

Board members raised concerns with the website still showing cut off dates for enrolment that have passed. Dr Bannister confirmed that we do need to publish a cutoff date but outside of this it was possible to process late enrolments using a manual system. Professor Higgins further advised that as final cut off dates are approached, proactive communications via social media channels are pushed out and there is demonstrable evidence of this working via the spike in activity this creates.

#### **05.24 CUAP ROUND ONE PROPOSALS 2024**

*AB24/02*

The Board was asked to approve 1) for submission to CUAP four proposals (see below) and 2) the request for access to Student Allowances, the Student Loan Scheme and applicable funding for new programmes and associated double-degree programmes.

The Board approved the request for access to Student Allowances, the Student Loan Scheme and applicable funding for new programmes and associated double-degree programmes.

*S. Marshall (majority)*

#### **BHlth/1 – New Major/minor in Physical Activity and Hauora for the Bachelor of Health**

*AB24/02a*

There was discussion on 'lectorials' and how these fit into the lecture recording policy. The board was reminded by the Convenor that the lecture recording policy covers things that can 'sensibly be recorded'. It was confirmed that no standard definition of 'lectorial' exists, however it describes a teaching/learning experience that involves active engagement. It was confirmed that lectorials are recorded, however the recording is a poor substitute for in person attendance and students are supported if they need additional catch up. Te Hiwa is seeing a business case regularly which includes EFTS projections.

The Board approved BHlth/1 – a new Major/minor in Physical Activity and Hauora for the Bachelor of Health.

*S. Marshall (majority)*

#### **MAppLing/1, MTESOL/1 Amendments to entry and general requirements for Master of Applied Linguistics and Master of TESOL**

*AB24/02b*

This proposal is to amend the entry and general requirements of the Master of Applied Linguistics and the Master of TESOL and their nested qualifications. It also introduces a new course, LALS 560 *Language Teaching Practice*.

The Board approved MAppLing/1, MTESOL/1 Amendments to entry and general requirements for Master of Applied Linguistics and Master of TESOL.

*S. Marshall (majority)*

**BA/28, BA(Hons)/1, MA/1, PGDipArts/1 - Changing the name of the Religious Studies major**

AB24/02c

This proposal changes all references of 'Religious Studies' to 'Study of Religion' in the Victoria Calendar, including the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Master of Arts and Postgraduate Diploma of Arts.

The Board approved BA/28, BA(Hons)/1, MA/1, PGDipArts/1 - Changing the name of the Religious Studies major.

*S. Marshall (majority)*

**BA/14 – Amendments to the Māori Resource Management major**

AB24/02d

This proposal replaces the Māori Resource Management (MREM) major and minor name with a new name, Kaitiakitanga and a new subject code (KAIT).

There was discussion on the proposed weekend wananga and if there would be flexibility for students who may not be able to attend for the entire duration. It was confirmed that this change in format had been led by students and that if a student was unable to attend accommodations would be made on a case by case basis. There was further discussion on the challenges students might face sitting a two hour assessment on course objectives and the team agreed to check this against other courses taking this approach.

The Board approved BA/14 – Amendments to the Māori Resource Management major

*S. Marshall (majority)*

**06.24 Item brought forward from Part B to Part A**

AB24/07

**Academic Year Dates 2025, 2026 and 2027**

The memo from the Provost, Professor Bryony James notified the Academic Board of decisions *still to be made* on Academic Year dates. In regard to 2025 she asked members to provide written feedback on the draft calendar to the Academic Office by 6 March 2024.

The board was asked to note that the 2026 and 2027 Academic Year Dates will be discussed at the April Academic Board meeting, and that an update to the Course Scheduling and Constraints Policy is currently being reviewed.

A long discussion is summarised as follows.

Concern was expressed that the date setting does not take into account school holidays, and ideally these would be aligned with breaks between University trimesters and that proposed grade entry timing will put extreme pressure on staff with an associated negative impact on wellbeing. The Convenor observed that the ability to line up the breaks between University Trimesters with the school holidays was virtually impossible, particularly as schools have moved to four terms for many years, and statutory holidays shift around each year, e.g. Easter.

The preference of some members was that there be a decent break in the middle of the year. A question was raised as to whether the University would consider assisting staff with children

in the school holidays, and suggesting that a number of creative solutions might be possible. The proposal to shorten T3 from the current 12 weeks to 10 weeks was welcomed by some members of the board acknowledging that it is not the same as Trimesters 1 and 2. Concerns were expressed that T3 could be seen as not quite as robust as T1 and T2, that things could get lost along the way, and that it could revert to being more of a 'summer school'. Professor Marshall emphasised that repurposing courses to fit T3 parameters needed very careful consideration and CAD advised care to ensure academic integrity and provides support in designing courses for this context. For specific post graduate courses, there was already a degree of flexibility around T3.

Professor Marshall reassured Board members that Te Hiwa is well aware of staff wellbeing issues stemming from workload, and that this is one of their 14 priorities to be addressed during 2024. He noted that the detailed notes of the discussion would be provided to the Provost, Professor Bryony James, and members were reminded to convey email feedback on the proposed 2025 calendar to the Academic Office by 5pm on 6 March 2024.

#### **07.24 Part C of the agenda**

It was **resolved** that non-members be excluded from this meeting for consideration of agenda items 14, 15, and 16 in accordance with s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i) of the Official Information Act.

*S. Marshall*

#### **08.24 Part B of the agenda**

The following items, not having been brought forward —

The minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 7 November 2023 (Nos. 66.23-76.23) and 12 December 2023 (No. 78.23) were **confirmed**. *AB24/03/3a*

*Note: Part C of the 7 November 2023 meeting was excluded for reasons of confidentiality*

Report of the Academic Programmes Committee

The 2 non-CUAP proposals were **approved**, the 2 notifications **were endorsed**, and the other items discussed and/or approved by the Committee at its 21 November 2023 and 13 February 2024 meetings were **noted**. *AB24/04*

Doctoral Regulations and Doctoral Procedures

Combining Doctoral Regulations and Doctoral Procedures into a single regulatory document with some minor amendments **was approved**. *AB24/05*

Honorary Doctorates and Hunter Fellowships Statute

The redraft of the Honorary Degrees and Hunter Fellowships Statute was **noted**. *AB24/06*

2024 Academic Programme Review Schedule

The 2024 Academic Programme Review schedule for 2024 and indicative schedule for 2025 and 2026 were **noted**. *AB24/08*

### **09.24 Part C members only**

At 2:00 pm, non-members, except Caroline Ward (minute taker), left the meeting to allow members to discuss confidential items.

#### *Attendance*

74 members attended; 14 non-members attended; 20 apologies were received (refer to Appendix 1 for the detailed record).

## Appendix 1: Academic Board attendance 27 February 2024

Professor Stephen Marshall	Professor Anne Goulding Associate Professor Meegan Hall	Dr Geoff McLay Professor Karen McBride-Henry
Professor Richard Arnold	Dr Monica Handler	Professor Markus Melloh
Professor Susan Ballard Di Bao	Monika Hanson	Professor Rewi Newnham
Professor Ema Maria Bargh	Dr John Haywood	Professor Sally-Jane Norman
Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich	Professor Nikki Hessel	Marcail Parkinson
Professor Todd Bridgman	Professor Sally Hill	Associate Professor Janet Pitman
Professor Daniel Brown	Dr Linda Hogg	Professor Emily Parker
Professor Jane Bryson	Associate Professor Val Hooper	Professor Wayne Patrick
Mairangi Campbell	Professor Margaret Hyland	Professor Rebecca Priestley
Professor Juan Canales	Associate Professor Kathy Holloway	Professor John Randal
Dr Luke Chu	Professor Annemarie Jutel	Dr Ina Richenberger
Dr Tim Corballis	Professor Simon Keller	Associate Professor Jenny Ritchie
Professor Albert Costi	Associate Professor Robert Keyzers	Dr Helen Rook
Professor Averil Coxhead	Professor Sarah Leggott	Dr Mike Ross
Professor Joanne Crawford	Dr Andrew Lensen	Professor Martha Savage
Professor Carmen Dalli	Dr Giacomo Lichtner	Professor Marco Sonzogni
Dr Nathaniel Davis	Associate Professor Spencer Lilley	Professor Karen Smith
Professor Neil Dodgson	Professor Hai Lin	Professor Paul Teesdale-Spittle
Dr Ben Egerton	Professor Karl Lofgren	Amandie Weerasundara
Mesepa Faasau	Professor Nick Long	Trish Wilson
Associate Professor Robin Fulton	Professor Markus Luczak-Roesch	Professor Marc Wilson
Professor Alejandro Frery	Professor Simon Mackenzie	Professor Michael Winikoff
Porita Fruean	Christine McCarthy	
Dr Nicola Gilmour		
Professor Lee Godden		

### 14 Non-members present

Pam Green	Varsha Narasimhan
Melanie Gibson	Toshiyuki Shiga
Joseph Habgood	Associate Professor Kathryn Sutherland
Dr Angela Joe	Okan Tan
Cathy Powley	Caroline Ward
Bruno Marques	Andrew Wilks
Robert Stratford	
Natalie Lindsay	

## **Apologies**

Dr Barbara Allen  
Professor Jim McAloon  
Associate Professor Sue  
Cherrington  
Professor James Crampton  
Dr Noelle Donnelly  
Professor Claire Freeman  
Professor Nicholas Golledge  
Dr Caz Hales  
Professor Kate Hunter  
Dr Nigel Isaacs  
Professor Bryony James  
Professor Dean Knight  
Associate Professor Dame  
Hon. Winnie Laban  
Professor Catherin Iorns  
Magallanes  
Professor Robyn Phipps  
Professor Nic Smith  
Professor John Townend  
Professor Mengjie Zhang  
Stella McIntosh