



COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 17 June 2024
in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Hunter Building and via Zoom
from 9.00 am to 3.15 pm**

PRESENT:

Mr John Allen (Chancellor)
Professor Richard Arnold *via Zoom until 10.45 am*
Mr William Bell-Purchas
Ms Pania Gray
Mr Alan Judge
Mr David McLean *via Zoom*
Ms Cath Nesus
Professor Nic Smith (Vice-Chancellor)
Hon Maryan Street (Pro-Chancellor)
Mr James Te Puni *from 9.45 am to 2.10 pm*
Ms Caroline Ward (Secretary to Council)

APOLOGIES:

Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich
Ms Kelly Michell

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Jackie Anderson, Acting General Counsel
Dr Logan Bannister, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students
Mr Will Barber, Associate Director, Commercial and Finance/Acting Associate
Director, Campus Living
Ms Rachel Bruce, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Mark Daldorf, Director, People & Capability
Ms Katherine Edmond, Director, Communications
Ms Leanne Gibson, Chief Information Officer
Professor Rawinia Higgins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori and Engagement
Professor Margaret Hyland, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research
Professor Bryony James, Provost
Professor Robyn Longhurst, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic
Mr Reece Moors, Director, Office of the Vice-Chancellor
Ms Marianna Nicolaou, Associate Director, Financial Operations
Ms Marvail Parkinson, VUWSA President
Ms Te Waikamihī Lambert, Ngāi Taurira Co-President
Ms Kate Schollum, Engagement Manager, Academic
Mrs Rachel Scott, Risk & Assurance Lead
Ms Tina Wakefield, Chief Operating Officer

INVITED GUESTS:

Mr Ben Creet, Unit Manager, Cyber Resilience, National Cyber Security Centre
Mr James Price, Cyber Security Advisor, National Cyber Security Centre

24.80 WELCOME / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / APOLOGIES

- Noted:**
- 1 that Hon Maryan Street led the Karakia.
 - 2 that Mr Allen welcomed all to the meeting including those in the packed public galleries of the Council Chamber. He acknowledged Council members attending via Zoom from Birmingham (Richard Arnold), and Melbourne (David Mclean). He welcomed Rachel Bruce, the new Chief Financial Officer, attending her first meeting of Council.
 - 3 that the Chancellor thanked Ms Cath Nesus for her four and a half years' service on Council. He confirmed that an afternoon tea would take place after the meeting to farewell and thank her.
 - 4 that apologies were received from Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, and Ms Kelly Mitchell, as well as an apology from Mr Te Puni for his late arrival.

- Resolved:**
- 1 **that the apologies from Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich and Ms Kelly Mitchell be sustained.**
 - 2 **that the apology from Mr James Te Puni for lateness be sustained.**

Allen/Street
Carried
240077

24.81 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Received: declarations and disclosure of interests by members of Council.

- Noted:**
- 1 that there were no further disclosures of interest since the release of the meeting documentation.
 - 2 that Council members were reminded to advise the Secretary to Council of any changes to their disclosure of interests listing between meetings.
 - 3 that for item-specific disclosures, the Chancellor asked that Council members alert him at the time, and he confirmed that he would make a disclosure at the time of the National Music Centre item.

24.82 COUNCIL MINUTES, MEETING HELD 6 MAY 2024

Received: the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held 6 May 2024.

Resolved: **that the public Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 6 May 2024.**

Gray/Judge
Carried
240078

24.83 REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 10 June 2024 (document VUWC 24/59).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
 - 2 that the Chancellor again recognised that this was the final Council meeting for Cath Nesus. He drew attention to the significant attributes and impact Cath has brought to Council, particularly her leadership as Chair of the Te Aka Matua Committee. On behalf of Council, he sincerely thanked Cath for her efforts and time.

- 3 that the appointment of Mr David Smol by the Minister to a four-year term commencing 18 June was acknowledged. David was the inaugural Chief Executive of MBIE, and he is already associated with Te Herenga Waka as Chair of Wellington UniVentures.
- 4 that despite the controversy that surrounded it, the forum on *the Role of Universities in Freedom of Speech* was a success. It demonstrated that Te Herenga Waka can take a leadership role in such a debate, and is a place where a respectful discussion can be held on challenging issues.
- 5 that the May graduation celebrations had been a real triumph highlighting the success of the University's students. The graduate speakers had inspired great hope for the future with their polished and inspiring addresses.
- 6 that the wider conversation on the importance of the government investing in Universities so that they can deliver on their aspirations was discussed. The importance of this cannot be overstated as society faces increasingly complex issues.

Resolved: that the Chancellor's report be noted.

Street/Nesus
Carried
240079

24.84

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Received: a report from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nic Smith, dated 10 June 2024 (document VUWC 24/60).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that the Vice-Chancellor commented on the success of the recent Freedom of Speech event and the importance of this in an increasingly polarised world. The event was respectful, evidence-based, and allowed people with widely different views to speak. It provided an opportunity for all participants to carefully listen to each other, and learn something from the collective wisdom of the panel members and group of academics. All who participated including the public, alumni, students, staff, VUWSA and Council members were thanked.
- 3 that the recent 2024 Budget had been disappointing for the University, with the responsibility for a university education moving more disproportionately to students.
- 4 that updates on work to refresh the University's strategy, the opening of the Innovation Hub at Rutherford House, and a recent U.S. engagement trip to meet with alumni and donors were provided.
- 5 that work continues on the operating model with the aim to empower staff and increase their effective work time by removing unnecessary administration processes.
- 6 that the results of the staff survey will be discussed in staff forums across all campuses next week.

Resolved: that the report from the Vice-Chancellor be noted.

Judge/Bell-Purchas
Carried
240080

24.85 FINANCIAL REPORT TO 30 APRIL 2024

Received: the Financial report to 30 April 2024 from the Chief Financial Officer, Ms Rachel Bruce (document VUWC 24/61).

Noted:

- 1 that the report was taken as read.
- 2 that although the report only covers the first four months of the year, the University remains on target for a break-even result.
- 3 that the strong focus on maintaining long-term financial sustainability continues.

Resolved: that the Financial report to 30 April 2024 be noted.

Judge/Mclean
Carried
240081

24.86 CONFERMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Received: the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates granted on 17 June 2024 (document VUWC 24/62).

Resolved:

- 1 that Council grants the degrees, diplomas and certificates in this University on the persons listed in document VUWC 24/62, and that their names be entered on the Roll of Graduates on 17 June 2024.
- 2 that a motion of congratulations to the Graduates be recorded.

Bell-Purchas/Nesus
Carried
240082

24.87 FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES REAPPOINTMENTS

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, dated 10 June 2024, regarding the reappointment of Foundation Trustees (document VUWC 24/63).

Noted:

- 1 that the Council paper was taken as read.
Action:
- 2 that Council agreed to the reappointments, but asked that the terms be staggered to avoid three trustees concluding at the same time. The Chancellor agreed to take an action item to amend the terms and advise the conclusion dates at the next meeting.

Resolved:

- 1 that Raphael Hilbron be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed commencing 1 July 2024 for up to three years. The end date of this term to be advised as per noting point 2.
- 2 that Souella Cumming be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed commencing 1 July 2024 for up to 3 years. The end date of this term to be advised as per noting point 2.
- 3 that Tricia Walbridge be reappointed as a Trustee of the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation under rules 2.4 and 7.2 of the First Schedule to the Trust Deed commencing 1 July 2024 for up to 3 years. The exact end date of this term to be advised as per noting point 2.

Street/Arnold
Carried
240083

24.88 **APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE U.S. FRIENDS OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON, INC.**

Received: a Council paper from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, regarding appointments to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Friends of Victoria University of Wellington (document VUWC 24/64).

- Resolved:**
- 1 that Peter Bryant be appointed to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Friends of Victoria University of Wellington, Inc. for a term of three years commencing on 1 July 2024.
 - 2 that Monique Davey be appointed to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Friends of Victoria University of Wellington, Inc. for a term of three years commencing on 1 July 2024.

McLean/Street
Carried
240084

24.89 **2025 COUNCIL DATES**

Received: a Council paper dated 10 June 2024 from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, regarding 2025 Council dates (document VUWC 24/65).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the Council paper was taken as read.
 - 2 that the proposed dates had been discussed with Council members prior to preparation of the Council paper. Following two rounds of consideration, the proposed dates suit most Council members the majority of the time.

Resolved: that the Council dates for 2025, as set out in document VUWC 24/65, be approved.

Allen/Gray
Carried
240085

24.90 **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Received: a Council paper dated 10 June 2024 from the Chancellor, Mr John Allen, regarding Committee appointments (document VUWC 24/66).

- Noted:**
- 1 that the paper was taken as read.
 - 2 that the need for Committee appointments was due to the non-reappointment of Cath Nesus, and the appointment of Mr Smol to the ministerial vacancy.
 - 3 that the proposal to appoint Mr James Te Puni to the People & Culture Committee recognised the need to have a Māori perspective on this body. Subject to a conversation this recommendation will return to the next meeting.

Resolved: that Mr David Smol be appointed to the Victoria Honours Committee, and the Audit & Risk Committee.

Allen/Street
Carried
240086

24.91 2023 PASTORAL CARE CODE SELF-ATTESTATION REPORT

Received: a Council paper dated 10 June 2024 from Dr Logan Bannister, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students providing the 2023 Pastoral Care Code Self-Attestation report (document VUWC 24/67).

- Noted:**
- 1 that Ms Gray declared a potential conflict as Acting Chair of NZQA. The Chancellor thanked Ms Gray for raising this and for recording it on the Council's Interests Register. It was agreed that there was no need for Ms Gray to recuse herself.
 - 2 that the Council paper was taken as read and the report was positively received.
 - 3 that the report verifies compliance with the Pastoral Care Code and provides the first reporting on student complaints and critical incidents. It also includes a selection of highlights and good practice from key focus areas across student service teams.
 - 4 that the considerable work being done to support the safety and wellbeing, and mental health of the University's students was acknowledged.

Resolved: that the 2023 Pastoral Care Code Self-Attestation report be noted.

Gray/Street
Carried
240087

at 9.45 am Mr Te Puni joined the meeting

24.92 STUDENT PRESIDENT REPORTS

- Received:**
- 1 a report from Ms Marcail Parkinson, VUWSA President (document VUWC 24/68a)
 - 2 a report from Ms Te Waikamihī Lambert and Ms Sterling Maxwell, Ngāi Tauira Co-Presidents (document VUWC 24/68b)
 - 3 a motion from Council member, Mr William Bell-Purchas, that the large number of people in the public gallery showing their support for the campaign to pay a Living Wage at Te Herenga Waka be acknowledged for their attendance at today's meeting.

Noted: 1 that Mr Bell-Purchas spoke to his motion and the Chancellor agreed to second it. He thanked everyone for their attendance in support of the campaign to pay the Living Wage at VUW. The motion was put:

Resolved: that the large number of attendees in the Council Chamber supporting the call for a Living Wage at Te Herenga Waka be acknowledged and thanked for their attendance at today's meeting.

Bell-Purchas/Allen
Carried
240088

Noted: 2 that the Student President reports were taken as read and the Chancellor welcomed Ms Marcail Parkinson and Ms Te Waikamihī Lambert to the meeting.

3 that the Student Presidents spoke eloquently with a particular focus on calls for the University to become an Accredited Living Wage Employer. The challenges faced by those on the University's lowest wage, particularly given the cost of living in Wellington, were articulated.

4 that a number of Council members expressed support for the campaign and Chancellor John Allen thanked everybody for attending, stressed the importance of the issue, and said it will remain front of mind for Council. It was recognised that the issue is likely to be formally discussed in the upcoming collective bargaining round.

5 that the Chancellor thanked the Student Presidents for their comments and acknowledged the quality and clarity of their written reports.

Resolved: 1 that the report from the VUWSA President be noted.
2 that the report from the Ngāi Tauira Co-Presidents be noted.

Bell-Purchas/Nesus
Carried
240089

24.93 COMMITTEE AND ACADEMIC BOARD MINUTES

Received: the following minutes:

- Audit & Risk Committee, 20 May 2024
- Finance Committee, 27 May 2024

Resolved: that the Committee minutes be noted.

Allen/Te Puni
Carried
240090

24.94 FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Received: a Council paper from the Secretary to Council, Ms Caroline Ward, dated 10 June 2024 regarding Forthcoming Events and the date and details of the next Council meeting (document VUWC 24/69).

Resolved: that the Council paper on Forthcoming Events and the date and details of the next Council meeting on Monday, 29 July 2024 be noted.

Bell-Purchas/Nesus
Carried
240091

24.95 SPEAKER : PROFESSOR MARGARET HYLAND RESEARCH

Received: an oral report from Professor Margaret Hyland as a follow up to the Research reports presented at the 6 May 2024 Council meeting.

Noted: 1 that Professor Hyland was thanked for returning to speak further on the Research reports considered at the last Council meeting.
2 that she outlined a number of challenges and initiatives in the area of research, particularly the uncertain environment.
3 that significant changes have occurred including the cancellation of the Wellington Science City project, PBRF no longer continuing and a Government

review taking place into the effectiveness of the science and the university sectors in New Zealand.

4 that contestable funding for science, along with other factors, will make it challenging for the University to match its outstanding 2023 result in securing external research funding.

5 that the University has a number of initiatives underway to secure new funding through Wellington UniVentures, international contracts and by aligning our research with Government priorities.

6 that a showcase of Te Herenga Waka research is planned for later this year.

7 that Council members acknowledged the work of the University's researchers, in an increasingly challenging and uncertain environment and asked that Professor Hyland report back regularly.

Resolved: that the oral report on Research from Professor Margaret Hyland be noted.
Judge/Gray
Carried
240092

24.96

**SPEAKER : PROFESSOR BRYONY JAMES, PROVOST
WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP**

Received: an oral report from Professor Bryony James, Provost on Women in Leadership.

Noted:

1 that Whaipua, a new Women in Leadership programme, was detailed by Professor James.

2 that the programme starts in July and runs for 12 months. It is expected to have 10 professional staff and 10 academic staff taking part. It involves one-on-one mentoring, peer mentoring and a series of workshops. For the first year, the programme sponsors are the seven women (out of a total of nine) on the Senior Leadership Team, Te Hiwa.

3 that there is clear demand from women in mid-tier management roles and it will be beneficial to them and to the University, generating an active network of senior supportive women.

4 that over time the programme becomes self-perpetuating as participants become sponsors in the future.

5 that Council expressed its support of the programme and thanked Professor James for her update.

Resolved: that the oral report from Professor Bryony James on Women in Leadership be noted.
Nesus/Gray
Carried
240093

24.97

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE EXCLUSION OF THE
PUBLIC**

Received: a recommendation that certain items be taken with the public excluded (document VUWC 24/70).

Resolved: 1 that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely agenda items 18-29.

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	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter		Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
19. Minutes of previous meeting held 6 May 2024	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
20. Health, Safety, and Wellbeing report	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
21. Vice-Chancellor's report	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
22. Financial report to 30 April 2024	Commercial prejudice, commercial activities.	s9(2)(b)(ii) and s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
23. Potential Faculty realignment	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
24. Exit survey report	Privacy, confidential basis.	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
25. Kaikoura Insurance Claim proceeds – leased buildings	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
26. National Music Centre update	Privacy, commercial	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii),	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)

	prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(i),and s9(2)(ba)(i)	
27. Committee reports and minutes	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i),and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
28. Cyber Security briefing	Privacy, confidential basis	s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i)	LGOIMA s48(1)(a)(ii)
29. Council only time	Privacy, commercial prejudice, commercial activities, confidential basis.	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), and s9(2)(ba)(i)	LGOIMA, s48(1)(a)(ii)

In relation to each of the above items, no public interest consideration has been identified favouring disclosure of the particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are set out above.

- 2 that such members of the senior leadership as the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor request be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, with the exception of agenda item 29, because of their knowledge of the relevant matters identified above which will be of assistance in relation to those matters.**

**Allen/Arnold
Carried
240094**

*the meeting adjourned at 10.40 am
Professor Richard Arnold left the meeting at 10.45 am*