

University of Otago Council | 13 October Part One



Venue - Council Chamber, L01.06, First Floor, Clocktower Building

13 October 2026 10:00 AM

Agenda Topic	Presenter	Page
Agenda		1
Council Briefings A Council-only session will take place prior to the public Council meeting, which begins at 10am.		
Part 1 - Open Committee		
Opening karakia The meeting will begin with a karakia tīmatanga led by the Ms Nicola Riordan.		3
Apologies To receive and note apologies.		
1. Commemorations Acknowledging the passing of members of the University community.	Information	
2. Appointments To receive and note the memorandum from the Registrar and Secretary to the Council, on 2027 Council Appointments.	Information	4
3. Pro-Chancellor Elections To receive a verbal update on the Pro-Chancellor election, from the Registrar and Secretary to the Council.	Information	
4. Disclosure of Interests To receive the current Register of Interests for members of the University of Otago Council including the Independent Chair and the Independent Members. Members are referred to Section 10 of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Disclosure of Interests and reminded to advise of any conflicts that might arise in relation to any items on this agenda.	Information	6
5. University Council Minutes To confirm Part 1 of the Minutes of the meeting of the University Council held on 8 September 2026.	Confirmation	10
6. Finance and Budget		14
6.1 Council Financial Report To receive the Council Financial Report for 31 August 2026.	Information	14
7. Vice-Chancellor's Business		16
7.1 Vice-Chancellor's Report To receive a report from the Vice-Chancellor.	Information	16
8. Exclusion of the Public To approve a motion under Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, that the public be excluded from the specified parts of the proceedings of this meeting.	Decision	20

Karakia

This karakia has been composed for use across Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka | the University of Otago as a means of opening and/or closing hui, meetings, and everyday gatherings.

Kupu	Translation
Tau mai te mauri	Let the mauri settle
Te mauri tū	The mauri that stands firm
Te mauri ora	The mauri of wellbeing
Te mauri o tēnei kaupapa	The mauri of this purpose
e whakaū nei i kā uara ki Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka	affirming the values at the University of Otago
Te mana	Mana
Te tapu	Tapu
Te whakapapa	Whakapapa
me te mauri	and mauri
Puritia kia ū, puritia kia mau	Hold fast, hold firmly
Haumi e	Let us be united
Hui e	Let us come together
Tāiki e	It is complete

Purpose:

The primary purpose of this karakia is to whakatau the mauri — to settle, ground, and bring into balance the mauri of those who recite it. It is intended to help people arrive fully, be present with one another, and move forward collectively in a calm way.

Notes:

This karakia is grounded in the context of Ōtākou and acknowledges the importance of place and relationship. It has been composed in the Kāi Tahu dialect¹ to reflect the mana whenua of Ōtākou and the local context of Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka.

This karakia has been carefully shaped for use across a diverse institution, incorporating the values of mana whenua at Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka². It respects a wide range of belief systems within the University community while upholding Māori values, language, and tikaka.

¹ Kāi Tahu dialect uses 'k' in place of the more widely used 'ng' (e.g., kā instead of ngā, manaakitaka instead of manaakitanga).

² [insert link to values here]

Memorandum | Manatu

Office of the Registrar and Secretary to the Council
Te Tari o Te Pouroki me te Kaituhi ki te Kaunihera



To Kia:	Council
c.c. He kapa mā:	
From Nā:	Registrar and Secretary to the Council
Date Te Rā:	7 October 2026
Subject Te Kaupapa:	2027 Council Appointments

Context

The purpose of this memo is to invite Council to formally note changes to Council membership.

Chancellor

An election process has been run in accordance with Section 3 of Council Standing Orders and Council is invited to note the appointment for 2027 of:

- Ms Trish A Oakley as Chancellor

Pro-Chancellor

The Registrar will provide an update at the meeting on the outcome of the election process being run in accordance with Section 3 of Council Standing Orders for the appointment of Pro-Chancellor from 1 November 2026 (at the conclusion of Mr Boyle's term).

Council Membership Changes

Council is invited to note the retirement, at the conclusion of his term on 31 October 2026 of

- Mr Brendan J Boyle (currently Pro-Chancellor)

Council is invited to note the retirement, at the conclusion of his term on 31 December 2026 of

- Mr Daniel M Leamy (President of the Otago University Students' Association for 2026)

Council is invited to note the appointment from 1 November 2026 of:

- Dr Doug Hill (Term from 1 November 2026 to 31 October 2029)

Council is invited to note the appointment from 1 January 2027 of

- Mr Troy Gibbons (President of the Otago University Students' Association for 2027) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2027.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council note the following changes to its membership:

Note the appointment for the 2027 year of Ms Trish A Oakley as Chancellor

Note the retirement from Council on 31 October 2026 of Mr Brendan J Boyle

Note the appointment of Dr Doug Hill to Council from 1 November 2026 to 31 October 2029

Note the retirement from Council on 31 December 2026 of Mr Daniel M Leamy as the Student Representative to Council

Note the appointment for the 2027 year of Mr Troy Gibbons as the Student Representative to Council.

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO COUNCIL REGISTER OF INTERESTS

(As disclosed on appointment to the Council and updated as necessary)

All University of Otago Council members are Trustees of The Hocken Collection

Suri Bartlett (Independent Member)

Entity	Nature of Interest
Tenzing Limited	Director
Save the Children NZ	Director
World Netball	Director
Department of Conservation – Risk and Assurance Committee	Member

Frazer B Barton

Entity	Nature of Interest
Naseby Development Trust	Trustee
Runway Noyers Ltd	Director / Shareholder
Otago Law Practitioners Benevolent Fund	Trustee
S M Barton Family Trust	Trustee
TCP Holdings Limited	Director / Shareholder
University of Otago Foundation Trust	Trustee
Waipuna Trust	Trustee
N/A	Sole Barrister
New Zealand Law Society	President and Board Member
New Zealand Law Society – CLT Ltd	Director

Brendan J Boyle

Entity	Nature of Interest
Brendan Boyle Limited	Director / Shareholder
Fairway Resolution Holdings Limited	Director
Fairway Resolution Limited	Director

Peter Bramley

Entity	Nature of Interest
PHARMAC	Deputy Chair
Emerge Aotearoa	Director
Health NZ	Independent Chair of HSAAP Programme
Health NZ	Independent Chair of Funding Board
Health NZ	Independent Chair of Regional Investment Committee
Nelson Hospital Build	Senior Responsible Owner

Mark A Brunton

Entity	Nature of Interest
University of Otago	Employee
Edgar Diabetes and Obesity Research Centre	Board Member

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO COUNCIL REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Suzanne L Ellison

Entity	Nature of Interest
Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki	Runaka Manager
Karitane Māori Tours Limited	Director
Te Pae Māori - DCC Mana Whenua: Mana to Mana	KHRKP Representative
City Table	KHRKiP Representative

Allan H Dawson (Independent Chair)

Entity	Nature of Interest
University of Otago Holdings Limited	Chair
Arlo Software Limited	Chair
Connexionz Limited	Chair and Shareholder
Winnow Software Limited	Director and Shareholder
Onfarm Solution Limited	Advisory Board Chair
Image Analyser Limited (UK)	Board Observer
SC Oscar Fund Management Pte Ltd (Singapore)	Advisory Board Member
Ranui Generation Limited	Advisory Board Member
Tarbotton Lan & Civil	Advisory Board Member

Professor David M Eyers

Entity	Nature of Interest
University of Otago	Employee
Research and Education Advanced Network New Zealand (REANNZ) – Strategy Advisory Group	Member
Roundtable of University-Elected Academic Councillors	Member

Chris C Hopkins

Entity	Nature of Interest
Port Otago Ltd	Director
Chalmers Properties Ltd	Director
Te Papa Gateway Ltd	Director
Fiordland Pilot Services Ltd	Director
Port Chalmers Container Terminal Ltd	Director
inMR Measure Ltd	Director/Shareholder
Mimeo Industries Ltd	Director/Shareholder
Spade Work Ltd	Director/Shareholder
Our Planit Ltd	Director/Shareholder
CompanyHQ Ltd and CompanyHQ NZ Ltd	Director/Shareholder
SouthMED Ltd	Director
Veritide Ltd	Director
Bletsoe Securities Ltd	Director
GW Batts Terrace Ltd	Director
Dunedin International Airport Ltd	Director
Farra Engineering Ltd	Director
Oakwood Group Ltd (excluding Group companies Oakwood Properties Ltd, Oakwood Securities Ltd, Oakwood Motor Group including Cooke Howlison Ltd)	Director

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO COUNCIL REGISTER OF INTERESTS

and Blackwell Motors Ltd and Condell Retirement Village Ltd	
Silveracres Trust	Trustee
Callaghan Innovation	Director

Ross D Jackson

Entity	Nature of Interest
McCulloch and Partners	Consultant
Ross Jackson Family Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
Great Southern Property Holdings Limited	Director/Shareholder
Invercargill City Council Risk and Assurance Committee	Independent Chair
Mackersy Five Mile GP Limited	Director and Shareholder
Invest South Limited	Director
Blue Hole Trustee Company	Director and Corporate Trustee
Pacific Tristar Limited	Director
Villas 1-36 Management Limited	Director and Chairman
University of Otago Holdings Limited	Director

Daniel M Leamy

Entity	Nature of Interest
University of Otago	Student
Otago University Students' Association	President
Aotearoa Tertiary Students' Association (ATSA)	Member of National Conference

Patricia (Trish) A Oakley

Entity	Nature of Interest
Forsyth Barr Limited	Shareholder
Institute of Directors NZ - Board	Observer
Institute of Directors NZ – National Council	President
Institute of Directors NZ – Otago Southland Branch	Committee Member
New Zealand Lotteries Commission - Board	Member
Global Women	Member and Regional Lead
The Food Club Limited	Shareholder
University of Otago Holdings Limited	Director
University of Otago Foundation Trust	Board of Trustees (as Chancellor)
Pomegranate Trust	Trustee and Beneficiary
New Zealand Chancellors' Group	Chair
City Table	Member

Nicola E Riordan

Entity	Nature of Interest
Riordan Family Trust	Trustee
Kordia Limited	Director
Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ)	Director
Realestate.co.nz	Director
Loan Market Group (Australia)	Director
New Zealand Financial Services Group (NZFSG)	Director
Nua Limited	Shareholder
NZQA Information Systems Committee	Independent member

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO COUNCIL REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Hon Grant M Robertson

Entity	Nature of Interest
University of Otago	Employee
University of Otago Foundation Trust	Ex officio Trustee
University of Otago Holdings Limited	Ex officio Director
NZ Vice-Chancellors' Committee (Universities NZ)	Committee Member
Alexander McMillan Trust	Trustee
AAW Jones Charitable Trust	Trustee
KMKT Trust (Family Trust)	Non-beneficial Trustee
Otago Cricket Association	Director



COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the University Council

08 September 2026

Present	The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. R Jackson, Dr. P Bramley, Mr. M Brunton, Mr. C Hopkins, Ms. S Ellison, Ms. N Riordan (video conference), Mr. D Leamy, Professor D Eyers.
Apologies	Mr. F Barton
In attendance	Deputy Vice-Chancellor Maori, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Pacific, Deputy Vice-Chancellor External Engagement, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Director of Strategy, Analytics and Reporting, Head of Risk, Assurance and Compliance, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer (video conference), Manager Copyright and Open Access, Registrar and Secretary to the Council, Deputy Secretary to the Council.

Part One – via Video-Conference

The meeting opened with karakia tīmatanga led by Mr D/ Leamy.

1. Commemorations

The Chancellor acknowledged the passing on 29 July 2026 of Professor Emeritus Erik Olssen, internationally-respected historian and long-serving member of the University of Otago's academic staff. As a distinguished scholar of New Zealand social history, and an inspiring teacher and generous mentor, Professor Olssen made an outstanding contribution to the University and the historical profession through his decades of academic leadership and service.

2. Disclosure of Interests

The Council received the current Register of Interests for members of the University of Otago Council including the Independent Chair and the Independent Member. Members were referred to Section 10 of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Disclosure of Interests and reminded to advise of any conflicts that might arise in relation to any items on this agenda.

3. Council Minutes | Part One

The Council

APPROVED the minutes from Part One of the Council meeting held 14 July 2026.

4. Communications from Senate

The Council received communications from the Senate from its meeting held on 29 July 2026 and

APPROVED

the following recommendations:

- Limitation of Enrolment - BPharm(Hons) to ten placements
- Dates for the Academic Year 2028

5. Finance and budget

5.1 Council Financial Report

The Council

RECEIVED

the Financial Report to the end of July 2026.

6. Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Council

RECEIVED

a report from the Vice-Chancellor. In speaking to the report, the Vice-Chancellor noted the following highlights:

- the forthcoming opening of Wai Ora, the University's new Ōtautahi Christchurch campus building, acknowledging the Council's support and the work of countless people over the last decade;
- the University's continuing success in Health Research Council funding in a challenging research funding environment; and
- acknowledged Professor John Reynolds and Neumic Therapeutics Limited who have won the New Zealand leg of the Start-Up World Cup.

7. Exclusion of the Public

The Chancellor moved that the public be excluded from the whole of the proceeding of this meeting/the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, —

Item 8	SLT Register of Interests
Item 9	Pt 2 of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the University Council
Item 10	University Council Work Plan and Action Follow-up Register
Item 11	Health, Safety and Wellbeing
Item 12	Vice-Chancellor's Business
Item 13	Strategy
Item 14	Finance and Budget
Item 15	Audit and Risk
Item 16	People and Culture
Item 17	Campus Development Committee
Item 18	Proposed Council and Committee Meeting dates
Item 19	Emeritus Professors
Item 20	Court of Benefactors
Item 21	Information Pack
Item 22	Meeting Reflections
Item 23	Council-Only Business
Item 24	Late Papers

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	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground under Section 48(1)(a) for the passing of this resolution
Items (as listed) Confidential Minutes and Reports	Good reason for withholding information under the Official Information Act	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Sections 6,7 and/or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 (except Section 9(2)(g)(i)) as the case may require. The interests which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows (all references are to Section 9 of the Official Information Act):

Item 8	SLT Register of Interests	ss 9(2)(a)
Item 9	Pt 2 of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the University Council	ss 9(2)(i), and (k)
Item 10	University Council Work Plan and Action Follow-up Register	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 11	Health, Safety and Wellbeing	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 12	Vice-Chancellor's Business	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 13	Strategy	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 14	Finance and Budget	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 15	Audit and Risk	ss 9(2)(a), (ba) and (c)
Item 16	People and Culture	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 17	Campus Development Committee	ss 9(2)(a), (i), and (k)
Item 18	Proposed Council and Committee Meeting dates	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 19	Emeritus Professors	ss 9(2)(a), (i), (j) and (k)
Item 20	Court of Benefactors	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 21	Information Pack	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 22	Meeting Reflections	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 23	Council-Only Business	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 24	Late Papers	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)

AND THAT for Items 8-16 Emeritus Professor J Maclauren, Professors G Cook, J Palmer, J Ruru, D Sika-Paotonu, Mr S Willis, Dr. J Hayes, Mr D Thomson, Mr B Trott – along with, for particular items, Ms D Peach (Head, Risk, Assurance and Compliance), Mr K Maley and Mr C Hale (Strategy Analytics and Reporting Office) – be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of 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 it relates to aspects of the administration and/or knowledge of specific capital projects of the University of Otago for which these people are responsible. Audit New Zealand will be permitted to join for items relating to the 2025 Audit exercise. The Registrar and Secretary to the Council and Deputy Secretary to the Council are also permitted to remain at the meeting to provide secretarial support and advice.

The Council suspended the meeting at 10:15am.



University
of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

Council Financial Report

31 AUGUST 2026

Executive Commentary

The August 2026 full year forecast shows a materially improved year-end position, with the University now forecasting a \$5.8m deficit against a \$9.0m budgeted deficit. This is \$3.2m favourable to budget and \$0.1m favourable to the prior month forecast.

The improvement is principally driven by stronger student-related income, higher college fee income, donations and other sundry income, lower computing and finance costs, lower scholarships spend and delayed capital expenditure reducing borrowing requirements. These favourable movements are offset by unfavourable academic and professional salaries, subcontracted services, occupancy costs and net research unfavourability.

The forecast remains a deficit and is still materially below the Financial Management Framework surplus target.

Year-to-date cash flows are \$58 million stronger than budget, due to increased student related income, reductions in supplier payments and delays in capital spend.

Borrowings are \$82.5m below budget, primarily due to lower capital spend and lower opening debt.

Summary of University results

	Year to Date			Full Year			Forecast Movement		
	Actual \$000s	Budget \$000s	Variance \$000s	Forecast \$000s	Budget \$000s	Variance \$000s	Current \$000s	Previous \$000s	Variance \$000s
Surplus / (Loss)	180,805	164,505	16,300 ↗	(5,828)	(9,021)	3,193 ↗	(5,828)	(5,918)	90 ↗

Changes from previous month

The full year forecast as of August 2026 is \$5.8m deficit, this is \$0.1m favourable to last month's forecast as a result of the following forecast changes this month:

Revenue	
Favourable sundry and commercial income and donations	\$0.5
Unfavourable international tuition fee rebates	(\$0.3m)
Unfavourable net research movement	(\$0.6m)
Expenditure	
Favourable sundry expenditure	\$0.6
Favourable depreciation and finance costs (Wai Ora) due to delay	\$0.7
Favourable scholarships spend due to less scholarships awarded than budgeted for	\$0.8
Favourable professional fees and computer savings in projects	\$0.8
Unfavourable academic salaries including casuals and annual leave movements	(\$0.8)
Unfavourable professional salaries largely related to the change in accounting treatment of DLE project, and increases in casual staff and annual leave movements	(\$1.6)
Net change	\$0.1m

Vice Chancellor's Report to Council Part 1

For the Council: 13 October 2026



Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council Part 1

For the Council meeting on: 13 October 2026

Date: October 2026

Submitted by: Hon Grant Robertson, Vice-Chancellor

Recommendation:

That Council note the Vice-Chancellor's Report.

Key Recent Developments

Passing of Emeritus Professor John Broughton

Emeritus Professor John Broughton CNZM passed away on 15 September. John was a much-loved member of the University community for more than 40 years. He made an enormous contribution to Hauora Māori, dental health, and staff and student success. He was also deeply immersed in the cultural life of the campus, welcoming students at graduation ceremonies for 30 years, serving as Secretary of the OURFC, and speaking at the annual ANZAC service. He was also an award-winning playwright and territorial soldier. Moe mai rā e te rangatira.

Announcement of Arts Fellows for 2027

Four of the University's prestigious Arts Fellowships have been announced for 2027. In addition, Creative New Zealand funding has been confirmed to offer a Children's Writer in Residence fellowship for the next three years.

- The Frances Hodgkins Fellow is Simon Kaan
- The Caroline Plummer Fellowship in Community Dance goes to Tess Hazelhurst
- The Robert Burns Fellow is Emma Hislop
- The Mozart Fellow is Glen Downie

Research Awards

The 2026 Otago Research Awards recognised nine researchers and one research group whose work is advancing knowledge and making a meaningful difference in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally. Spanning health, communities, public debate, science, and technology, the awards showcased the breadth and impact of research excellence across the University. From emerging scholars to internationally recognised researchers, this year's recipients demonstrated the depth and breadth of research at Otago. Professor Anna Ranta, of the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine – Wellington, is this year's recipient of the Distinguished Research Medal, and Associate Professor Christina Ergler, of the School of Geography, has been awarded the Rowheath Trust Award and Carl Smith Medal. You can find out more about the award recipients [here](#).

Matariki Network of Universities (MNU)

The University hosted the Matariki Network of Universities annual meeting in Dunedin from 20–22 September, bringing together senior representatives from the six member universities. The meeting provided an opportunity to review the Network's work and consider its future direction.

Opening of Wai-Ora

Wai-Ora was officially opened in Christchurch on 17–18 September. The eight-storey facility brings together biomedical research, clinical trials, teaching and healthcare expertise, increasing the University's capacity for collaborative health research and clinical education.

Other Performance Highlights

Students

- An Otago team won the 2026 Indigenous Case Competition, competing against universities across Aotearoa.
- The University of Otago's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Grand Final on 2 September was a great success, sharing the discoveries of our PhD candidates and research master's students with the wider community. Jim Davies won the PhD category, and Yuki Teh was the PhD runner-up. Krystle Mikaere won the master's category, and Jenna Gawn received the People's Choice Award. Jim will represent Otago in the Asia-Pacific 3MT competition. [Relive the Grand Final here](#)
- Otago received the Te Kaitiaki award at the 2026 University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand, National Tertiary Championships, recognising the sportsmanship, leadership and unity demonstrated by its students.
- The annual Blues and Golds Awards, coordinated by the Otago University Students' Association in partnership with the University, celebrated students' outstanding sporting, arts and cultural achievements on 28 September. Award recipients included Alexa Duff, named Sportsperson of the Year, and Hannah Hogg, recipient of the Outstanding Member of the University of Otago Community award. [View the full list of award recipients here](#).
- Supported by Recreation Services, the Inter-College Battle of the Bands returned after a three-year hiatus, with 12 bands from colleges and two bands from the Locals programme. An enthusiastic audience of 300 supported the participants, with BUG, from Te Rangihiroa College, winning for its cover of 'Something' by the Beatles.

Academic

- The AI in Higher Education Symposium attracted 130 participants and supported practical exploration of AI agents and educational technologies in teaching and learning.

Partnerships and international engagement

- Joint education programmes in China continued to grow, with a second Pharmacy intake of 120 students at Southwest University and 108 students confirmed for Drugs and Human Health at Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine.
- University representatives visited Samoa and American Samoa to explore a potential relationship with Kananu Fou Theological College and formally sign an MOU with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), creating opportunities for collaboration in climate resilience and marine science.
- Toitū te Taiao established a student sustainability exchange programme with the University of Tasmania, with the first exchange scheduled for Semester One 2027.
- Associate Professor Greg Walker (School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology), Professor Peter Dearden (Department of Biochemistry) and Dr Karyn MacLennan (Department of Public Health (Dunedin)) went to the Solomon Islands to share a range of interactive science experiences with local schools. Read more [here](#).

Māori development and equity

- A Tertiary Education Commission Māori Equity Funding showcase highlighted Māori-led staff initiatives supporting Māori student success.

Research and innovation

- An Otago research group joined a US\$50 million international Wellcome Leap programme focused on antimicrobial resistance.
- The University's Educational Assessment Research Unit, in partnership with the New Zealand Council for Educational Research, secured a further \$16.2 million in Ministry of Education funding for the Curriculum Insights and Progress Study, extending the programme to June 2028.
- Based in Ōtautahi Christchurch, Dr Rachel Purcell is one of only two New Zealand scientists to be named a finalist for the 2026 Marie Krogh Young Women in Science Prize.

Campus and community

- A celebration of 100 years of Music at Otago took place on 25 and 26 September. It included the launch of a book on the programme's history by Dr Ian Chapman, as well as multiple concerts and social events. It was very well supported by the music community on and off campus.
- The Hākitekura project reached a milestone with completion of the new manager's house, marked by a whakawātea conducted in partnership with mana whenua.
- A campus activation event delivered with local business Pattis & Cream attracted approximately 400 members of the University community.

Sustainability

- The University's campus sustainability thrift shop, Te Oraka, welcomed more than 12,500 visitors in Semester One, exceeding its target of 10,000 visits by 25%.

Celebrating Excellence – awards and recognition

This is not an exhaustive list of the achievements of our staff, students and alumni. It represents a selection of recent achievements that demonstrate the breadth and impact of the University community.

Appointments

- Emeritus Professor James Maclaurin was appointed as Establishment Provost on a fixed-term basis from 1 October. Recruitment for a permanent Provost is planned for 2028.
- Professor William Levack was welcomed as the Head of the Faculty of Dentistry.
- Associate Professor Peter Cathro was appointed Director of Executive Programmes.

Awards

- The Aoroa learning management system team received the Excellence Award at the Tertiary ICT Conference for its focus on inclusion and accessibility.
- Professor Paul Trebilco was appointed President of the Society of New Testament Studies and honoured with a Festschrift recognising his research.
- Startup Dunedin, founded and funded by the University, Dunedin City Council and Otago Polytechnic, was named Entrepreneur Support Organisation of the Year at the Global Entrepreneurship Network New Zealand Awards.
- Associate Professor Viktoria Kahui received the 2026 NZIER Ed Hearnshaw Environmental Economics Award.
- Professor Tim Stokes received the Charles Bridges-Webb Medal for leadership in primary care research.
- Dr Iki Mafi Uele received the inaugural Inspiring Minds Award at the AFAANZ Conference for excellence and innovation in first-year accounting education.

Upcoming Significant Events

- 17 November Professor Anna Carr, Department of Tourism
- 19 November Professor Ting Wang, Mathematics & Statistics
- 25 November Professor Peter Mei, Oral Sciences
- 26 November Professor Haizal Mohd Hussaini, Oral Diagnostics & Surgical Sciences

- 3 December Professor Tim Hore, Department of Anatomy

8. Exclusion of the Public

The Chancellor moves that the public be excluded from the whole of the proceeding of this meeting/the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, —

- Item 9 SLT Register of Interests
- Item 10 Pt 2 of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the University Council
- Item 11 University Council Work Plan and Action Follow-up Register
- Item 12 Health, Safety and Wellbeing
- Item 13 Vice-Chancellor's Business
- Item 14 Strategy
- Item 15 Finance and Budget
- Item 16 Audit and Risk
- Item 17 People and Culture
- Item 18 Campus Development Committee
- Item 19 Audit and Risk
- Item 20 Debt Funding Position
- Item 21 Council and Committee Dates 2027
- Item 22 University Contracts
- Item 23 Emeritus Professors
- Item 24 Emeritus Professor Policy Update
- Item 25 Naming and Donations Policy Update
- Item 26 Information Pack
- Item 27 Meeting Reflections
- Item 28 Council-Only Business
- Item 29 Late Papers

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Item 20	Debt Funding Position	ss 9(2)(a), (i), (j) and (k)
Item 21	Council and Committee Dates 2027	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 22	University Contracts	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 23	Emeritus Professors	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 24	Emeritus Professor Policy Update	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 25	Naming and Donations Policy Update	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 26	Information Pack	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 27	Meeting Reflections	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)

Item 28	Council-Only Business	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 29	Late Papers	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)

AND THAT for Items 8-16 Emeritus Professor J Maclauren, Professors G Cook, J Palmer, J Ruru, D Sika-Paotonu, Mr S Willis, Dr. J Hayes, Mr D Thomson, Mr B Trott – along with, for particular items, Ms D Peach (Head, Risk, Assurance and Compliance), Mr K Maley and Mr C Hale (Strategy Analytics and Reporting Office) – be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of 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 it relates to aspects of the administration and/or knowledge of specific capital projects of the University of Otago for which these people are responsible. Audit New Zealand will be permitted to join for items relating to the 2025 Audit exercise. The Registrar and Secretary to the Council and Deputy Secretary to the Council are also permitted to remain at the meeting to provide secretarial support and advice.