

University of Otago Council | 14 July 2026 Part one



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

14 July 2026 09:00 AM - 05:00 PM

Agenda Topic	Presenter	Page
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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		3
The meeting will begin with a karakia tīmatanga led by the Pro-Chancellor.		
Apologies		
To receive and note apologies.		
1. Commemorations	Information	
Acknowledging the passing of members of the University community.		
2. Disclosure of Interests	Information	4
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.		
3. University Council Minutes	Confirmation	8
To confirm Part 1 of the Minutes of the meetings of the University Council held on 9 June 2026.		
4. Communications from the Senate	Decision	13
To receive communications from the University Senate from its meeting on 24 June 2026.		
4.1 Senate Communications 27 May 2026	Decision	13
To approval the recommendations proposed by the University Senate.		
4.2 Senate Communications 24 June 2026	Decision	14
To approval the recommendations proposed by the University Senate.		
4.3 Limitations of Enrolment and Specified International Places for 2027	Decision	16
To endorse and approve the recommendations by Senate in regard to enrolment limit requests for 2027.		
5. Finance and Budget		23
5.1 Council Financial Report	Information	23
To receive the Council Financial Report for May 2026		

6.	Vice-Chancellor's Business		25
6.1	Vice-Chancellor's Report	Information	25
	To receive a report from the Vice-Chancellor.		
7.	Exclusion of the Public	Decision	29
	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.		

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]

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

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

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



Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the University Council

9 June 2026

- Present:** The Chancellor (in the Chair), the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor, Mr. M A Brunton, Ms. S L Ellison, Mr D. Leamy, Mr. R D Jackson, Mr. C Hopkins, Ms. N Riordan, Mr. F Barton, Professor D M Eyers.
- Apologies** Dr. P Bramley.
- In attendance** The Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Māori), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Pacific), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement), the Director Strategy and Analytics and Reporting, Head of Risk, Assurance, and Compliance, the Acting Director Human Resources, the Head of Transformation and Improvement, the Manager Internal Communications and Channels, the Director Student Services, the Registrar and Secretary to the Council, and the Deputy Secretary to the Council.

Part One

Karakia timatanga led by the Vice-Chancellor. The new karakia shared has been specifically composed for use across Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka.

1. Commemorations

The Chancellor acknowledged the passing of Professor Paul Smith, Emeritus Professor David Bell, Associate Professor Peter Larsen, and Dr. Jane McCabe. On behalf of colleagues and friends of the Otago community, the Council extended its sympathies to whānau.

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. Minutes

The Council

APPROVED

Part 1 of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30 April 2026.

4. Communication from the Senate

The Council

APPROVED

the recommendations proposed by the University of Otago Senate from the meeting held on 29 April 2026, to establish, amend, or delete the following programmes:

New Programmes

- Bachelor of Sustainability (BSust)
- Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MTESOL), including new papers LING 501, LING 502, and LING 503
- Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology (MCEP)

Amended Programmes

- Wildlife Management programmes, to be renamed Wildlife Conservation, with WILM paper codes also amended to WILD
- Foundation Studies Certificate (FSC), including amending FOUN paper codes to FNSC
- Graduate category admission criteria for Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (BMLSc)

Deleted Programmes

- Graduate Diploma in Bioethics and Health Law (GDipBHL)
- Family and Systems Therapies endorsement for the Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences (PGCertHealSci)

5. Finance and Budget Report

The Council

RECEIVED

the report presented by the Chief Financial Officer. The Council were informed that the projected budget deficit is reducing.

The meeting was briefly interrupted by a group of students handing over a petition to the Vice-Chancellor.

6. Vice-Chancellor's Update

The Council

RECEIVED

the report presented by the Vice-Chancellor dated 12 June 2026, and noted the following highlights in the report:

- ***Government Budget 2026***
The budget provided funding to meet 99% of Treasury's forecast demand in the tertiary sector over 2026 and 2027; however there was no increase in funding rates. The proposed fee maxima of 6% signals the Government's intention for students to bear a greater proportion of the cost of their education.
- ***Statement of Intent – Southern Institute of Technology (SIT) and University of Otago***
The Statement of Intent between the Southern Institute of Technology and the University of Otago has been signed.
- ***Centre of Creation Care***
The new Centre for Creation Care was launched within the Theology Programme; this was only possible due to generous philanthropic donations.
- ***Staff Use of AI Systems Policy and Procedures***
The new policy has been published; staff are encouraged to familiarise themselves. The policy will be reviewed later in the year.
- ***The King's Birthday Honours***
Several alumni received an honour in the recent list. The following were highlighted:

Officers of the New Zealand Order of Merit

- Associate Professor Nicola Boston, for services to children's health
- Miss Suzannah Bates, for services to cricket and basketball

Members of the New Zealand Order of Merit

- Emeritus Professor Peter Adams, for services to music and music education
- Emeritus Professor Gilbert Barbezat, for services to gastroenterology.

A full report on the honour recipients will be delivered in the next Vice-Chancellor update, in July.

7. Exclusion of the Public

The Council

APPROVED a motion, under Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, that the public be excluded from the remaining parts of the proceedings of the meeting as appended to the Minutes.

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 8 SLT Register of Interests
- Item 9 Part 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 Vice-Chancellor's Business
- Item 12 Campus Development
- Item 13 Digital Technologies Committee
- Item 14 Finance and Budget
- Item 15 Audit and Risk
- Item 16 Health, Safety and Wellbeing
- Item 17 People and Culture
- Item 18 Delegation sought for conferment of degrees and other awards
- Item 19 Reappointment of the University of Otago Public Orator
- Item 20 Strategy Day
- Item 21 Council Only Business
- Item 22 Late Papers
- Item 23 Diligent Update

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), (i), and (k)
Item 9	Part 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	Vice-Chancellor's Business	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 12	Campus Development	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 13	Digital Technologies Committee	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)(i) and (k)
Item 16	Health, Safety and Wellbeing	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 17	People and Culture	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 18	Delegation sought for conferment of degrees and other awards	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 19	Reappointment of the University of Otago Public Orator	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 20	Strategy Day	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 21	Council Only Business	ss 9(2)(a), (i), (j) and (k)
Item 22	Late Papers	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 23	Diligent Update	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)

AND THAT for Items 8-16 Emeritus Professor J Maclaren, Professors G Cook, J Palmer, J Ruru, D Sika-Paotonu, Mr S Willis, 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. Mr R Tomlinson (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.



COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE
27 May 2026

The Senate recommends for approval:

Academic Proposal

A proposal for the following amended programme to be submitted to the Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP):

Amended programme

- To add a papers-only pathway for completing the Master of Indigenous Studies (MIndS), including new papers INDS 501, MAOR 504, and MAOR 507

Matters approved by Senate under delegation through University Statute, for noting:

Academic Proposals

In addition to minor and consequential changes to papers and programmes, the Senate approved the following, as recommended by the University's Academic Committee:

Commerce

- ACFI 369/469 Special Topic: Real Estate Markets and Investments (approved special topic)

Humanities

- MUSI 260 Special Topic: Taylor Swift: Popular Music, Fandom, Culture (approved special topic)

Sciences

- PSYC 332 Personality and Measurement (new paper)
- CHEM 199 The Chemical Basis of Biology and Human Health (new paper)
- COMP 428 High Performance Scientific Computing (new paper)
- PSYC 441 Personality and Measurement (deleted paper)

Interdivisional

- PHPE 101 Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (new paper)



COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SENATE
24 June 2026

The Senate recommends for approval:

Academic Proposal

A proposal for the following amended programme to be submitted to the Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP):

Amended programme

- Master of Archaeological Practice (MArchP), to be renamed the Master of Archaeology and Heritage Practice (MArcHP)

2027 Limitations of Enrolment

Requests to limit enrolments for specified papers and programmes for the 2027 academic year be approved, as outlined in a manatu from the Secretary to Senate dated 19 June 2026 (attached).

Matters approved by Senate under delegation through University Statute, for noting:

Academic Proposals

In addition to minor and consequential changes to papers and programmes, the Senate approved the following, as recommended by the University's Academic Committee:

Commerce

- BDBA 914 Leveraging Knowledge for Practice (new paper)
- BDBA 909 Marketing Theory and Practice (deleted paper)

Humanities

- CRIM 308 / SOCI 308 Abolition in the 21st Century (new paper)
- RELS 237/337 Buddhist Thought (deleted paper)

Sciences

- PSYC 206 Psychology of Religion (new paper)

Division of Health Sciences Constitution

The Senate approved amendments to the Constitution for the Division of Health Sciences, reflecting recent changes in the structure of the Division and of the wider University.



Manatu *Memorandum*

Ki a To Senate and Council

Nā From Matt Angel, Secretary to Senate

Te rā Date 19 June 2026

Te Kaupapa Re **Limitations of Enrolment and Specified International Places for 2027**

Please find attached, in accordance with the [Limitation of Enrolment for Specific Papers and Programmes Procedure](#), a list of papers and programmes for which enrolment limits are requested for 2027*. Limits have been endorsed by relevant Heads of Department, Heads of Programme, or equivalent and by Pro-Vice-Chancellors (or their nominees). Brief summaries of the resource-related reasons for the limitations are included, including an indication of which insufficiency referenced under the Education and Training Act 2020 applies for each justification. (Please note that these justifications are for the information of Senate and Council; they will not be included in published forms of this list.) For reference, enrolment limits for 2026 and headcount data for 2024, 2025, and 2026 – provided by the Strategy, Analytics and Reporting Office (SARO) – have also been included for papers and programmes with existing limits. (Please note that the headcount numbers include both distance and on-campus offerings for all campuses on which a paper is offered, which may affect the interpretation of these numbers for limits that apply only to a distance offering or to a particular campus.)

**Enrolment limits for the Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology and Postgraduate Diploma in Psychological Assessment and Intervention may be revised upward over the next few months if additional resource capacity is confirmed, and any such amendment would be noted to Senate and Council.*

Consistent with recent years, departments and programmes were advised that limits are discouraged and should be removed wherever feasible due to the administrative burden of limits for areas like Student Experience and due to the perception that limits deter students from enrolling, and as such, any existing limit would be removed unless renewal was specifically requested.

For the 2026 academic year, 40 papers and 25 programmes had approved limits, compared to requested limits for 45 papers and 27 programmes in 2027. The increase in papers with limits represents five new limits and no removed limits. The increase in programmes requesting a limit represents three new limits and one removed limit.

Additionally, for a small number of programmes as listed, the establishment of specified international places is recommended. In all cases, in accordance with the Education and Training Act 2020, the relevant departments have confirmed that the continued availability of the

specified international places is dependent on the fees payable by international students who enrol in them.

It is noted that except where Council establishes specific places for international students, qualified domestic applicants will be given preference over international applicants; however, where more places are available than can be filled by qualified domestic students, those places may be offered to qualified international applicants.

Further to the overall enrolment limit requests, specified international places have been requested for 12 programmes in 2027:

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) 40 international places[†]
- Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours (BDS(Hons)) 4 international places
- Bachelor of Dental Technology (BDentTech) 2 international places
- Bachelor of Oral Health (BOH) 2 international places
- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (BMLSc) 10 international places
- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science with Honours (BMLSc(Hons)) 2 international places
- Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) 25 international places[‡]
- Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) 20 international places
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPhy) 10 international places
- Master of Nursing Science (MNSc) 10 international places
- Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology 2 international places
- Master of Wildlife Management (MWLM)/
Postgraduate Diploma in Wildlife Management (PGDipWLM) 2 international places

[†]*Not all places may be allocated in the initial intake year.*

[‡]*Students from IMU University will be allocated places in year four of the MB ChB programme beyond the international places and overall enrolment limit for MB ChB second-year entry specified in this manatu and accompanying attachment.*

Please note that these requests represent an increase of four programmes requesting specified international places compared to 2026.

Recommendation 1: Senate is asked to endorse and Council to approve the attached list of enrolment limit requests for 2027.

Recommendation 2: Senate is asked to endorse and Council to establish international places for 2027, as specified above.

Division	Status	Justification for Limit	Justification indicates an insufficiency of:			TOTAL intake limit for 2026 (all available places)	TOTAL intake limit for 2027 (all available places)	Specified international places within total limit (if applicable; please update for 2027)*	If amending a limit from 2026, provide a justification for the new 2027 limit	2024 Headcount at 31 December	2025 Headcount at 31 December	2026 Headcount at 30 April
			Staff (Yes/No)	Accommodation (Yes/No)	Equipment (Yes/No)							
Division of Commerce												
BMBA 501 - Business Law	Continuing Limit	Resource related Justification - limited staffing	Yes	No	No	28 students per distance paper occurrence of BMBA 501	28 students per distance paper occurrence of BMBA 501	N/A	N/A	19 - N2, 21 - N5	17 - N2, 16 - N5	2 - N1, 6 - N4
BMBA 502 - 513	Continuing Limit	Resource related Justification - limited staffing	Yes	No	No	28 students per distance paper occurrence of BMBA 502 - 513	28 students per distance paper occurrence of BMBA 502 - 513	N/A	N/A	see BMBA data tab	see BMBA data tab	see BMBA data tab
BSNS 351 Special Topic: Learning Through Experience	Continuing Limit	This paper is being offered on a trial basis with the intention of becoming a permanent offering, and it involves a high level of interaction between students and academic staff. Limiting enrolment during this initial phase will ensure meaningful engagement, close academic support, and the ability to carefully evaluate and refine the course content, delivery, and assessment before scaling up. A smaller cohort will enable responsive adjustments based on feedback and observed outcomes, helping to ensure the paper is well-designed, sustainable, and capable of maintaining quality if introduced permanently.	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A			
MANT543 - Special Topic: Global Sustainable Business Study Tour	New Limit (subject to further information being provided to the Commerce Divisional Board)		Yes	Yes	No	N/A - Paper is NEW from 2027	15	N/A	N/A			
MART 333 - Creative Marketing Communication	Continuing Limit	Involves the teaching of hands-on media production techniques for students to produce a creative digital portfolio focused on video and podcast production. The department provides necessary filmmaking equipment and resources to support students. Hence, we need to limit student numbers to ensure that we can provide sufficient resources. LoE Form provided.	Yes	No	Yes	96	96	N/A	N/A	95	92	93
MART449 - Creative Marketing for Behaviour Change, Sustainability and Social Good	New Limit	As a fully online, asynchronous postgraduate paper, MART449 requires individual supervision of independent behaviour change projects, personalised feedback, and one-on-one student consultations across multiple international time zones — workload elements that scale directly with enrolment. With the paper having grown from 14 students (2023) to 54 students (2025), and further growth anticipated through the new Master of Communication programme, a cap of 60 establishes a sustainable ceiling that protects teaching quality, the integrity of individual student support, and the standard of assessment feedback that postgraduate delivery demands.	Yes	No	No	N/A	60	N/A	N/A			
TOUR330/430 - Adventure Tourism	New Limit	The fieldwork component of the paper will take place in Queenstown where accommodation options and teaching facilities are currently limited.	No	Yes	No	N/A - Paper is NEW from 2027	50 (10 at 400-level and 40 at 300-level, with unfilled places at each level reallocated)	N/A	N/A			
Division of Health Sciences												
Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)	Continuing Limit	Government-funded places	Yes	Yes	Yes	100	100	40	N/A	90 (60 domestic)	93 (60 domestic)	100 (59 domestic)
Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours (BDS(Hons))	New Limit	Constrained availability of teaching staff	Yes	No	No	N/A	10	4	N/A			
Bachelor of Dental Technology	Amended Limit	Hands-on laboratory programme with limited specialist staff to teach on programme, current availability of laboratory stations.	Yes	Yes	No	32	34	2	Availability of two additional places for international students dependent on international fees.	23	31	30

Bachelor of Oral Health	Amended Limit	Hands-on clinical programme with limited specialist staff to teach on programme, limited patient pool in Dunedin/Otago area, contractual obligations with the DHB re patient base, and limitations on clinical placements	Yes	No	No	55	60	2	Availability of two additional places for international students dependent on international fees.	53	56	55
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science	Continuing Limit	Limitations on clinical placements	Yes	Yes	Yes	70	70	10	N/A	29 (23 domestic)	30 (28 domestic)	46 (42 domestic)
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science with Honours	Continuing Limit		Yes	Yes	Yes	12	12	2	N/A	10 (10 domestic)	12 (11 domestic)	12 (9 domestic)
Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours	Continuing Limit	Related to limitations in MB ChB (BMedSc(Hons) students drawn from MB ChB class) - need to manage year-to-year fluctuations in MB ChB class sizes	Yes	Yes	Yes	20	20	N/A	N/A	11	9	10
Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB)	Continuing Limit	Government-funded places	Yes	Yes	Yes	347	347	25	N/A	321 (301 domestic)	338 (313 domestic)	347 (322 domestic)
Bachelor of Pharmacy	Continuing Limit	Government-funded places and capacity of teaching facilities	No	Yes	No	150	150	20	N/A	97 (83 domestic)	132 (125 domestic)	151 (125 domestic)
Bachelor of Physiotherapy	Amended Limit	Limitations on clinical placements	Yes	Yes	No	130	135	10	Increase in line with student admissions in the last 2 years and availability of clinical placements	131 (121 domestic)	137 (135 domestic)	133 (126 domestic)
Bachelor of Physiotherapy with Honours	Continuing Limit	Availability of supervision/limitations on clinical placements	Yes	No	No	10	12	N/A	N/A	9	8	11
Bachelor of Radiation Therapy	Continuing Limit	Limitations on clinical placements as determined by DHBs	Yes	Yes	Yes	40	40	N/A	N/A	23	38	36
Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Dental Technology (PGDipCDTech)	New Limit	Limited laboratory space to meet health and safety requirements	No	Yes	No	N/A	12	N/A	N/A			
Postgraduate Certificate in Clinician-Performed Ultrasound	Continuing Limit	Limited availability of tutors and equipment	Yes	No	Yes	30	30	N/A	N/A	30	22	27
Postgraduate Diploma in Neuropsychology	Continuing Limit		Yes	No	No	25	25	N/A	N/A	21	21	20
Postgraduate Diploma in Obstetrics and Medical Gynaecology	Continuing Limit	Flow-on from limitation on OBGY 717, which is a required paper for this programme	Yes	No	No	40	40	N/A	N/A	34	34	29
Postgraduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy	Continuing Limit	Limitations on available cadavers for teaching	No	Yes	Yes	48	48	N/A	N/A	36	39	42
Master of Nursing Science (MNSc)	Continuing Limit	Limitations on clinical placements	Yes	Yes	No	60	60	10	N/A	49 (41 domestic)	36 (30 domestic)	52 (47 domestic)
DEOH 401 - Adult Restorative Dental Care	Continuing Limit	Limitations on appropriately qualified and registered staff	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	21	22	0
GENA 713 - Travel Medicine 1: Introductory Concepts (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limited specialist teaching resources	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	21	25	24
GENA 714 - Travel Medicine 3: Applied Concepts (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limited specialist teaching resources	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	16	17	17
GENA 717 - Generalist Medical Echocardiography (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Access to specialised equipment & practical nature of course	Yes	No	Yes	30	30	N/A	N/A	30	23	29
GENA 718 - Generalist Medical Ultrasound (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Access to specialised equipment & practical nature of course	Yes	No	Yes	30	30	N/A	N/A	30	23	29
GENA 719 - Tropical Infectious Disease (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limited specialist teaching resources	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	0	17	0
GENA 725 Reflections in Rural Clinical Practice	Continuing Limit	Accommodation constraints related to the noho marae and staff constraints	Yes	Yes	No	15	15	N/A	N/A	8	8	7
MSME 701 - Clinical Diagnosis on-campus course	Amended Limit	Limited teaching space and teaching staff	Yes	Yes	No	14	16	N/A	Bigger teaching space available	7 (all on-campus)	12 (all on-campus)	16 (all on-campus)
MSME 709 - Clinical Therapeutics on-campus course	Amended Limit	Limited teaching space and teaching staff	Yes	Yes	No	14	16	N/A	Bigger teaching space available	5 (all on-campus)	12 (all on-campus)	12 (all on-campus)
OBGY 712 - Pre and Early Pregnancy Care (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to audio-conference teaching	Yes	No	No	60	60	N/A	N/A	49	41	36
OBGY 713 - Pregnancy Care in the Community (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to audio-conference teaching	Yes	No	No	60	60	N/A	N/A	48	38	38
OBGY 715 - Medical Gynaecology I (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to audio-conference teaching	Yes	No	No	60	60	N/A	N/A	59	44	43
OBGY 716 - Medical Gynaecology II (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to audio-conference teaching	Yes	No	No	60	60	N/A	N/A	48	38	42
OBGY 717 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Training (Distance)	Continuing Limit	OSCE-examination limitations (outside Otago control)	Yes	No	No	40	40	N/A	N/A	32	30	29
OBGY 718 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology Residential Course 1 (Distance)	Amended Limit	Limited space and teaching staff	Yes	Yes	No	63	72	N/A	Due to bigger teaching space becoming available	52	44	41
OBGY 719 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology Residential Course 2 (Distance)	Amended Limit	Limited space and teaching staff	Yes	Yes	No	42	48	N/A	Due to bigger teaching space becoming available	34	30	29
PRHC 702 - Wilderness and Expedition Medicine (Distance)	Continuing Limit	Students undertake field intervention scenarios - limited specialised teaching staff available.	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	19	0	11
Division of Humanities												
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (Second Year)	Continuing Limit	Staffing and other resource limitations	Yes	Yes	No	300	300	N/A	N/A	281	283	301

Graduate Diploma of Teaching	Remove Limit	25 is the number we think we can ensure that we can run the programme in its first year, while not putting additional strain on placement sites across our other programmes. Unlike the MTchgLn we do not propose this to be a long-term limitation of enrolment.	No	Yes	No	25	None	N/A	N/A			15
Master of Creative Writing	Continuing Limit	Pedagogical requirements of the creative writing workshop model	Yes	No	No	15	15	N/A	N/A		8	10
Master of Teaching and Learning	Amended Limit	Student placements in educational settings (especially in ECE and Secondary environments)	No	Yes	No	129	120	N/A	ECE endorsement in MTchgLn has been cancelled.	102	104	105
CRIM 320/520 - Criminal Justice, Representation and the News	New Limit	Limited space at teaching venue in Otago Corrections Facility.	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	12	N/A	N/A			
LAWS 464 - Advocacy	Continuing Limit	Practical nature of classes (practice of trial skills)	Yes	No	No	16	16	N/A	N/A	0	16	17
POLS 399 - Political Actors in Action	New Limit	Limite staffing due to intensive requirements	Yes	No	No	N/A	60	N/A	N/A			
THEA 152 - Theatre Technology (offered in S1 & S2 2022)	Continuing Limit	Available staff to provide small group teaching for practical class	Yes	Yes	Yes	25 (each semester)	25 (each semester)	N/A	N/A	13 - S1, 16 - S2	19 - S1, 21 - S2	19 - S1, 14 - S2
Division of Sciences												
Bachelor of Surveying	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to compulsory field trip paper (equipment, beds, available teaching staff, etc.)	Yes	Yes	Yes	70	70	N/A	N/A	54	57	77
Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology	Continuing Limit	Limitations on internship placements and/or available supervision for such placements	Yes	No	No	14	14	N/A	N/A	11	11	15
Postgraduate Diploma in Psychological Assessment and Intervention (PGDipPAI)	Continuing Limit	Availability of student placements for practicum training with WellSouth Primary Health Network has been limited to 10 for 2026	Yes	No	No	10	14	N/A	Additional capacity identified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology	New Limit	The MCEP requires completion of a two 40-point papers that include a significant practicum component. Whilst we are initiating the programme, and developing relationships with external placement providers, we will limit enrolment to ensure we can meet these requirements. The limit of 25 is set in accordance with SARO projections of maximum enrolments. We also acknowledge the recent challenges the University of Canterbury have had with initiating a new Masters degree in this field, and having too many students and inadequate placement opportunities for them all. We propose an application deadline of November 30th to enable the alignment of placements with students' skills and career goals. Further enrolments may be accepted if additional practicums become available at this time.	Yes	No	No	N/A	27	2	N/A			
Master of Sport Development and Management	Continuing Limit	Limitations relating to availability of placement providers	Yes	No	No	7	7	N/A	N/A	6	3	3
Master of Wildlife Conservation/Postgraduate Diploma in Wildlife Conservation	Continuing Limit	Restrictions relating to fieldwork aspects (restrictions on site access, availability of staff and vehicles)	Yes	No	Yes	16	16	2	N/A	13 (11 domestic)	13 (13 domestic)	15 (14 domestic)
ANAT 335 Neurobiology	Continuing Limit	Limited availability of specialised laboratory space	No	Yes	Yes	160	160	N/A	N/A	139	136	133
AQFI 301 - Field Methods in Applied Marine Science	Continuing Limit	Constraints around accommodation and boat use in the residential field course	No	Yes	Yes	40 (per Occurrence)	40 (per Occurrence)	N/A	N/A	24 - N1, 21 - N2, 37 - N4	11 - N1, 29 - N2, 43 - N4	8 - N1, 26 - N2, 19 - N4
ECOL 314 Pacific Field Ecology	Continuing Limit	Limited accomodation and vehicle capacity during field course	No	Yes	No	18	18	N/A	N/A	18	18	17
NEUR 301 - Current Topics in Neuroscience	Continuing Limit	Staffing limitations	Yes	No	No	20	20	N/A	N/A	18	20	19
PSYC310	Continuing Limit	PSYC310 provides an individualised opportunity for a year-3 student to conduct research with a staff member and to develop skills in research design, execution, data analysis and report writing. Given that all our labs are oversubscribed with 4th-year, MSc, and PhD students, we must limit the number of PSYC310 students that we can take.	Yes	No	Yes	30	30	N/A	N/A	36	34	20
SURV 322 - Hydrographic Surveying	Continuing Limit	Laboratory capacity and boat size limitations	No	Yes	Yes	30	30	N/A	N/A	17	18	0

Notes

The main criteria for selection of students for available places in papers and programmes with limitations on enrolment shall be academic merit and suitability for the paper or programme. The following criteria have been deemed not to require special approval:

1. Additional selection criteria and processes as outlined in programme regulations (which have previously been approved by Senate).
2. Additional selection criteria falling under the standing approval provisions of clause 3(d) in the Limitation of Enrolment for Specific Papers and Programmes Procedure
3. Additional selection criteria which fall under suitability for the course, including:
 - Enrolment or intended Enrolment in a type of programme where relevant (e.g. preference for students enrolled in a research programme for a limited Enrolment research methods paper)
 - Enrolment in specific relevant qualification(s) and/or major(s) (e.g. preference for Theatre Studies majors for a limited enrolment Theatre Studies paper)
 - Motivation and likelihood to pursue a career in a relevant profession for professional programmes
 - Additional skills relevant to success in a programme or paper (e.g. demonstrated poetry writing skills for a poetry writing paper).

* Specified international limits may only be requested where the continued availability of these places is dependent on the fees payable by the international students that enrol in them.



University
of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

Council Financial Report

31 MAY 2026

Financial Summary

Profit & Loss

FULL YEAR FORECAST

SURPLUS / DEFICIT -\$6.7m Budget: -\$9.0m ↗25.3%	SURPLUS % -0.73% Budget Target: -0.97% ↗0.24% FMF Target: 3.0% ↘3.73%	STUDENT RELATED INCOME \$542.0m Budget: \$539.6m ↗0.46%	EFTS 20.1k Budget: 19.8k ↗1.5%
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The **forecast deficit** was \$6.7m which was \$2.3m favourable to budget largely due to higher student related and college income, lower computing costs, net gains on sales of assets, lower interest on borrowings, and higher research surpluses received, offset in part by lower-than-expected salary and overhead recoveries, lower than budgeted salaries capitalised to projects, higher energy costs, lower Uniflats income and higher scholarships.

While the **surplus %** of (0.73%) remains a concern, it is favourable to the budget target of (0.97%) and still within the staged progress towards the surplus FMF target of 3.0%. Work is ongoing to find opportunities for improvement.

Student Related Income is forecast to be \$2.4m favourable. For further detail, refer to University Forecast Analysis.

EFTS are well ahead of 2025 and comfortably ahead of 2026 budget. However, we have softened our expectations regarding the extent to which the Government will support the domestic component of that growth with additional funding.

Balance Sheet

YTD ACTUALS

CAPITAL SPEND \$48.2m Budget: \$85.6m ↘43.7%	BORROWINGS -\$151.5m Budget: -\$207.1m ↗26.8%	WORKING CAPITAL -\$149.5m Budget: -\$150.5m Ratio: ↗0.02%	DEFERRED REVENUE -\$194.0m Budget: -\$187.4m ↗3.5%
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Capital spend is \$37.4m less than budget largely in buildings, equipment and computers.

Borrowings are \$55.6m favourable which is 26.8% less than budgeted largely due to lower than budgeted spend on asset purchases in 2026, and lower closing bank borrowings in 2025.

Working capital is (\$149.5m) which is \$1.0m favourable to the budget of (\$150.5m), largely due to higher trade receivables, lower trade payables and lower derivatives, offset in part by higher deferred revenue and employee entitlements. The overall working capital ratio is (0.52%) which is (0.02%) higher budget.

Deferred Revenue is \$6.6m higher than budgeted due to the timing of income; \$5.9m increase in research funding in advance, \$1.6m increase in student fees in advance, \$0.3m increase in accommodation income in advance, offset in part by \$1.2m decrease in other deferred revenue.

Cash Flows

YTD ACTUALS

OPERATING CASH FLOWS \$136.9m Budget: \$148.9m ↘8.1%	INVESTING CASH FLOWS -\$51.3m Budget: -\$94.5m ↗45.8%	FINANCING CASH FLOWS -\$85.7m Budget: -\$54.8m ↗57.4%	CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS \$2.9m Budget: \$2.8m ↗2.7%
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Operating cash flows were (\$12.0m) lower than budget, largely due to timing on lower student fee income, lower DQ funding which reflects our current assumption that the University may not be fully funded for its domestic enrolments in 2026, and lower receipts from research and University trusts, offset in part by lower than budgeted payments to suppliers and employees.

Investing cash flows were \$54.3m or 45.8% favourable to budget due to lower than budgeted spend on asset purchases.

Financing cash inflows are (\$31.2m or 57.4%) unfavourable to budget due to lower spend on asset purchases enabling more than budgeted repayments of borrowing.

Cash & cash equivalents are close to budget.

Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council Part 1

For the Council meeting on : 14 July 2026



Date: 7 July 2026
Submitted by: Hon Grant Robertson, Vice-Chancellor

Recommendation

That Council note the Vice-Chancellor's Report.

Key Recent Developments

University QS Ranking remains in Top 200

The University of Otago is ranked 198 in the top 200 universities worldwide in the latest QS World University Rankings. This is in part due to our rise in four performance indicators – international research networks, academic reputation, employer reputation, and employment outcomes. [Read more here.](#)

King's Birthday Honours

The University of Otago – Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka proudly celebrated more than 20 alumni and staff recognised in this year's [King's Birthday Honours](#). The Otago recipients span a wide range of fields – health, sport, medicine, business, community service and the arts – demonstrating the breadth of impact and contributions made across Aotearoa.

Prime Minister's Science Communication Prize

Associate Professor Nic Rawlence, a University of Otago palaeogeneticist, has won the prestigious Prime Minister's Science Communication Prize for his contributions to science education and his proactive and reactive communications. The prize, which was presented at Parliament at the end of June, recognises Associate Professor Rawlence's research, which has made significant contributions to public understanding of how climate change and human activity shape the natural world. [Read more here.](#)

Otago Business School

The Otago Business School has achieved 'triple crown' accreditation, with both its MBA and DBA programmes recently awarded the Association of MBAs (AMBA) accreditation. The 'triple crown' of AACSB, EQUIS, and AMBA are considered the most well-known and prestigious international accreditations, with only top (1%) business schools worldwide holding this distinction.

Health Research Council Funding

Funding for 17 University projects, with a combined total of \$18.2m, has been awarded to University of Otago – Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka researchers in the latest Health Research Council (HRC) funding round. Otago has secured \$23.2m from the HRC for 2026 to date; an increase on the total HRC funding received in 2025.

Vice-Chancellor's All-Staff Forum

To mark my anniversary of two years in the role of Vice-Chancellor, I held an all-staff forum on 1 July, recognising events, challenges and opportunities that have arisen over the past two

years; and looking forward as we continue to navigate the choppy seas that shape being a university in the world we live in today. I take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all staff for their ongoing mahi and support as we together strive to achieve the best outcomes for our taura, graduates and communities, and continue to lead the way in research, teaching and national and global impact.

Operational Performance Highlights

- The Wai Ora project in Christchurch is nearing completion after several years of planning and construction. Once opened, the facility will consolidate staff and students previously spread across multiple buildings, significantly expanding teaching and research capacity, and enabling closer collaboration between researchers, clinicians, and students. Official opening ceremonies are due to take place on 17-18 September.
- The [60th Otago Foreign Policy School](#) hosted a distinguished group of international and national specialists to examine how New Zealand should respond to numerous global pressures and challenges.
- We warmly welcome the newly appointed Chief People Officer Katie McEwan who started in her new role on Monday 22 June.
- The 2026 Harraways Visiting Professor is international food researcher Dr André Brodkorb who is truly committed to science. Not only does he use simulated models and real-life research participants to understand the digestion of various foods, but he also experiments on himself. [Read more here](#).
- The Geology Museum has become the first in New Zealand and fourth in the southern hemisphere to be designated an International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Geo-collection of International Significance. The Museum attracts a constant stream of international researchers, from visitors such as The Smithsonian's Dr Nick Pyenson, who calls it "one of my favourite places on the planet".
- Mahi to normalize, use, respect and value Te Reo Māori in every aspect of University life continues. A leading example is the mahi of Kiringāua Cassidy (Kāi Tahu, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Mutunga, Te Ātiawa), who was appointed as a Professional Practice Fellow within Te Tumu School of Māori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies earlier this year to support the Te Reo Māori Academic Assist Service. The service was created in collaboration between Te Tumu and the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori in response to a growing number of taura choosing to do their oral or written assessments and exams in te reo Māori across a wide range of subjects.
- A pilot Māori and Pacific leadership programme has commenced in the Division of Health Sciences, alongside progress on proposed Postgraduate programmes in Indigenous Health, Māori student hubs, the Māori dental clinic and expanded Pacific student and research initiatives.
- The Christchurch campus hosted four Indigenous health academics from the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra, marking an important step in developing a long-term partnership focused on Indigenous health education, social accountability and academic excellence. The ANU delegation spent a day at the Ōtautahi campus, providing an opportunity to share knowledge, strengthen relationships, and explore future Indigenous teaching and research collaboration. Together, the group is working towards establishing a sustainable and reciprocal partnership between the universities' medical programmes. Read more [here](#).
- A Pacific Trade delegation from Papua New Guinea visited the University of Otago in May and was hosted in the Otago Business School. The delegation included His Excellency Mr Sakias Tameo, PNG High Commissioner to New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, Niue and the Cook Islands.

- The University of Otago welcomed representatives from Australia Institute of Future Education (AIFE) and Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine (NJUCM) as part of ongoing discussions to establish the proposed NJUCM- Otago Smart Health College. The visit provided an opportunity to progress programme development, curriculum alignment, and future student recruitment planning across four proposed collaborative programmes in Data Science, Biomedical Sciences, Artificial Intelligence, and Public Health.
- The Chief Operating Officer, Stephen Willis has been appointed to the Board of the Association for Tertiary Education Management – a professional body that provides services and support for the tertiary sector across the Australasian region.

Sustainability

- In June, the University of Otago UniCrew were involved with Sports Reconnect, a Dream South D event to rehome pre-loved sporting goods for free, aimed at helping children stay active when equipment is a hurdle.
- The University of Otago Sustainability Office has launched its very own podcast, [Spilling the Ti](#), now available on Spotify. Hosted by Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa Ben Sommerville and Tumuaki Head of Sustainability Ray O'Brien, the podcast celebrates staff and students working on initiatives inspired by [Ti Kōuka: University of Otago Sustainability Framework 2030](#).
- The Faculty of Dentistry has established a sustainability framework and cross-functional working group, with initial initiatives focused on reducing clinical waste, embedding sustainability in the curriculum, improving sterilisation practices and supporting circular-use programmes.

Celebrating Excellence – awards and recognition

This is not an exhaustive list of the achievements of our staff, students and alumni. We recognise that our staff in particular are working hard every day, producing outstanding results and achievements at all levels. This represents a sample of some of their recent achievements.

Long Service Recognition

- Andrea McMillan will retire as Director of Health, Safety, and Wellbeing in September after 25 years of service to the University. Andrea has been a tireless advocate for the health, safety, and wellbeing of university staff, students, and the wider community. Her dedication, expertise, and leadership have been invaluable, especially as the University has continued to become more complex and navigate an ever-evolving regulatory and legal environment. Recruitment for a new Director will commence in due course.

Awards

- Fulbright NZ Graduate Awards, presented in Wellington on 24 June: Fulbright Science and Innovation Graduate Awards went to Otago Graduates **Thomas Marsland**, who will undertake research into artificial intelligence methods for antibiotic discovery; and **Niamh Orr-Walker**, who will conduct research into health psychology and breast cancer survivorship: both at Harvard University in Boston. Fulbright NZ General Graduate Awards went to **Hansaka Ranaweera**, who will complete a Master of Laws at Harvard Law School, Boston; and **Flynn Struckmann**, who will complete a Master of Arts in Security Policy Studies at the George Washington University in Washington DC.
- **Tiffany Lott**, an Otago University PhD student has become one of only 16 people internationally to receive the prestigious Zonta Women in Stem Award for her research into endometrial cancer. [Read more here.](#)

- Otago research project **Ngā Kōrero Pono** (The True and Honest Stories) has won the inaugural Hei Āhuru Mōwai Whānau Voice Award at the World Indigenous Cancer Conference held in Auckland in April. The project features 12 short videos in which whānau share their cancer journeys and is a collaboration between the University's Pōneke campus and Tū Kotahi Māori Asthma Trust at Kōkiri Marae in Wellington. Lead researcher Cheryl Davies (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Mutunga ki Te Wharekauri, Ngāti Pikiao), from the Department of Public Health and manager of Tū Kotahi, says sharing the voices of whānau affected by cancer in an international Indigenous space felt incredibly meaningful. Read more [here](#).
- The Capital Works team received a Merit Award in the Heritage and Adaptive Reuses category for the Annie Stevenson Building at the recent **Property Industry Awards**. The building has been seismically strengthened and reimaged as a modern, open-plan and flexible workspace.

Upcoming Events

Inaugural Professorial Lectures

- 21 July 2026 Professor Jeremiah Deng, School of Computing
- 22 July 2026 Professor Dawn Coates, Faculty of Dentistry

A **Student Services Expo** is to be held Thursday, 23 July, from 11.30 am in the Link, showcasing all teams in Student Services as well as allied services across the University, including OUSA.

Graduations – Saturday 22 August

- 1 pm: Arts, Education, Music, Teaching, Theology, Commerce, Law, BAsC, BACom, BComSc
Speaker: Professor Emerita Jocelyn Harris, English and Linguistics Programme
- 4 pm: Science, Applied Science, Biomedical Sciences, Surveying, Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine, Medical Laboratory Science, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Radiation Therapy
Speaker: Mrs Aseta Redican, first Pacific NZ-qualified physiotherapist

7. 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 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 Vice-Chancellor's Business
- Item 12 Digital Technologies
- Item 13 Campus Development
- Item 14 Finance and Budget
- Item 15 Foundation Trust
- Item 16 Health, Safety and Wellbeing
- Item 17 Wellcome Trust
- Item 18 Delegation for Conferment of Degrees and other Awards
- Item 19 Information pack
- Item 20 Meeting Reflections
- Item 21 Council-Only Business
- Item 22 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	Pt 2 of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the University Council	ss 9(2)(a), (i), and (k)
Item 9	University Council Work Plan and Action Follow-Register	ss 9(2)(i), and (k)
Item 10	Vice-Chancellor's Business	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 11	Audit and Risk	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 12	Finance and Budget	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 13	Campus Development	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 14	Digital Technologies	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 15	Health, Safety and Wellbeing	ss 9(2)(a), (ba) and (c)
Item 16	Kāhui Kāwanataka	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 17	Council Information Pack	ss 9(2)(a), (i), and (k)
Item 18	Meeting Reflections	ss 9(2)(i) and (k)
Item 19	Council-Only Business	ss 9(2)(a), (i), (j) and (k)

AND THAT for Items 8-16 Emeritus Professor J Maclaren, 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. Mr R Tomlinson (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.