

# Vice Chancellor's Report to Council

January 2022

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## Move to Red COVID -19 Protection Framework Setting

Following the Government announcement on 23 January 2022 that all of New Zealand would move to the Red setting of the COVID-19 Protection Framework, UC briefly stood up the Incident Management Team to ensure that the University moved seamlessly to the Ministry of Education (MOE) [Tertiary Education at Red](#) directive. The directive mandates vaccinations for all staff, students and visitors on campus, mask wearing within all buildings and the social distancing. UC moved to this status on Monday, 24 January. Preparations for operating at the Red setting have been well developed by UC's Health and Safety Improvement and Emergency and Business Continuity Managers, supported by a Steering Group from late 2021.

The move to the Red setting in January has produced minimal disruption to University operations thus far, and is providing additional time to plan for full teaching at the Red setting from the beginning of Semester 1 in late February. The intention is for the University to operate at the Red setting in a prudent and cautious 'business as usual' way, wherever possible, while complying with MOE public health measures.

## 2022 Applications and New Education Initiatives

Enrolments in the UC Summer School are higher than ever before, over 2,100 students. The 110 courses offered over summer include a range of core compulsory courses for the third semester, well as elective or interest courses.

(A) founded a few years ago. A Summer School course on Understanding Emotions attracted Kirito enrol at UC. On achieving an A+, she decided to explore this topic for her doctorate. She won a UC Matariki Doctoral Scholarship and began her PhD in 2018. Her passion for her work, in which she focuses on the emotional literacy of her adult students, led her to complete her PhD late last year.

Progress with 50 enrolments as planned.

Applications is to be 6% up for domestic students and 10% for international students next year. This makes an estimated total growth of 4.8%.

Applications have been received for the first 2022 Better Start Literacy Approach micro-credential suite. This suite is an integrated classroom literacy programme for Year 0/1 that includes credentials for facilitators, teachers and teacher aides.

## Research – Impact on a Changing World

Late last year, 2022’s finalists for the Strategic Research Capital round were chosen after a rigorous selection process run by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research. Ten initial expressions of interest were received for this \$1.5 million fund.

One of the successful proposals received a \$1 million investment spread over three years for “Dynamic Testing and Earthquake Simulation” equipment to be housed in the Structural Engineering Laboratory building. It will advance UC earthquake engineering research (across both civil and mechanical engineering) and potentially leverage industry interest in construction materials testing. Also successful was a proposal for an \$850,000 investment in a state-of-the-art “Atomic Force Microscopy Platform”, which will have applications across solid state physics, molecular

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**Ms Frian Percy Wadia**, of Auckland. Member of the New Zealand Order of **MANZM** for services to disability and education.

**Mrs Jennifer Agnew** of Christchurch. Queen's Service Medal **QSM** for services to historical research and the Chinese community.

**Mr Trevor Gordon Agnew** of Christchurch. QSM for services to children's literacy and historical research.

**Mr Aart Brusse** of Dunedin. QSM for services to music.

**Mr David Dennis Hinman**, of Christchurch. QSM for services to tramways and heritage.

**Mrs Jillian Meryl Lord** of Christchurch. QSM for services to genealogy.

**Mrs Jane Painte** of Whangarei. QSM for services to the community.

**Dr Kathleen Gaye Irwin** RI 2WDNL 01=0 IRU VHUYLFHV WR 0—RUL HGX

**Mr John Bowden Mackintosh**, of Napier (also alumni). ONZM for services to the legal profession.