

# Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council

## August 2023

### Introduction

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August has been an eventful month filled with UC 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations, graduation ceremonies, hosting of important visitors, and continuing to forge strong relationships within the community.

A highlight of the past month was the Noteworthy event, when about 600 people attended - a concert by UC Music in collaboration with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra on 26<sup>th</sup> August at the Christchurch Town Hall, including works by John Ritchie, LA Mitchell, Gareth Farr, Rakuto Kurano, Reuben de Lautour and Mahina-Ina Kingi-Kauī. Chancellor Amy Adams addressed the audience, noting the importance of Arts in a thriving society.

Congratulations to our 621 graduates who achieved their special milestones during the Spring Graduations

In support of the WORD Festival, the University hosted a panel on the 150<sup>th</sup> book. Associate Professor Chris Jones (editor of the book) was the convenor, and Dr. John Wilson (author of the 150<sup>th</sup> book), Professor Te Maire Tau, Margaret Lovell-Smith, and I were panel members discussing the forthcoming book as well as Lovell-Smith's new volume on attitudes towards WWI, published by Canterbury University Press. The book will be launched in mid-December.

Students were very appreciative of the birthday cupcakes, popcorn and ice creams handed out on August 23<sup>rd</sup> as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations. It was good timing as we approached the end of Term 3.

UC Senior Film lecturer, John Christoffells's film premiered in Auckland as part of the New Zealand International Film Festival on 26 August. The film also screened at the Rotterdam Peace Festival and locally at the Lumière Cinema, and the film was also included by Limelight for release around Aotearoa. John has been appointed as the Academic Director of UC's Digital Screen programme.

## Education Accessible, Flexible Future Focussed

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We were pleased to receive official confirmation of the Business School's AMBA reaccreditation for a further 5 years. UC received the reaccreditation with no conditions and only minor recommendations.

This month saw recognition of teaching success, with seven scholars being awarded a fellowship under the Distributed Teaching and Learning Programme. This year, in addition to the general category, fellowships were awarded for specific teaching and learning innovation in Work Integrated Learning (WIL). Focus on Artificial Intelligence, adaptive learning, problem-solving and resilience in students and



# Internationalisation Locally Engaged, Globally Networked

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On 31 August UC colleagues