

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO  
TE WHARE WĀNANGA O WAIKATO**

**ACADEMIC BOARD**

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2024

**Present:** Professor N Quigley (Chair), Dr A Alvarez-Jimenez, Ms M Arif, Professor M Barbour, Professor M Berryman, Ms M Blake, Associate Professor T Bowell, Associate Professor J Bowen, Professor K Bryan, Ms J Campion, Professor B Cowie, Professor T Daya-Winterbottom, Mr C De Zwart, Associate Professor S Dillon, Professor M Duke, Dr K Edmonds, Professor M Garry, Professor M Harcourt, Associate Professor K Hébert-Losier, Dr K Hemi, Professor G Holmes, Professor M Holmes, Mr Z Isaac, Professor A Jones, M Jordan-Tong, Dr J Kingsbury, Professor J Lane, Professor P Leman, Mr G Liu, Professor R Longhurst, Associate Professor M Low, Dr F McCormack, Professor C McLachlan, Professor M Parsons, Professor S Peters, Prof V Reid, Professor T Rewi, Professor F Scrimgeour, Mr T Smith, Professor N Starkey, Dr A Stewart, Dr S Tiakiwai, Professor G Wilson and Mr F Yazici.

**In attendance:** Mr B McGibbon

**Secretariat:** Mr T O'Brien, Ms A Beardsmore

**24.01 APOLOGIES**

**Received**

Apologies for absence from Mr M Bolger, Associate Professor W Fox-Turnbull, Dr J Gibb, Ms K Kaur, Associate Professor T Keegan, Associate Professor J Mullarney, Dr S Peel, Professor K Perszyk, Associate Professor K Petrie, Professor A Roy, Ms M Scaletti, and Professor A Strutt.

**24.02 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING (PART 1) HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2023**

**Confirmed**

The minutes of the meeting (Part 1) held on 6 December 2023, as set out in document 24/51a.

**24.03 REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (PART 1)**

**Received**

The report of the Vice-Chancellor (Part 1), as set out in document 24/52a.

#### **24.04 REPORT FROM STUDENT MEMBERS**

##### **Noted in discussion**

1. That feedback from students about the migration to Microsoft 365 was being addressed satisfactorily by ITS.
2. That issues with student visas were being worked through with Student Services. The University continued to have discussions with Immigration NZ and government officials about slow visa processing times and how this situation might be improved.

#### **24.05 REPORT OF COUNCIL**

##### **Received**

1. The report of the 5 December 2023 meeting of Council, as set out in document 24/66.
2. An oral report from the elected staff member to Council.

##### **Noted in discussion**

That Council had approved the University budget at their December meeting, acknowledging that it would be a challenging budget for 2024.

#### **24.06 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

##### **Received**

The report of the Education Committee meeting held on 13 February 2024, as set out in document 24/53.

##### **Noted in discussion**

That thanks were expressed to everyone involved in the recent implementation of Phase Four of the Ōritetanga Learner Success Project. The move to using the CRM system as the primary tool for Study Advising was an exciting advancement in this project. There would continue to be a strong focus on improving the retention and success rates of first year Māori and Pacific students.

#### **24.07 REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONAL BOARDS**

##### **Received**

The reports of the Divisional Board meetings held on 25 – 29 November 2023, as set out in documents 24/54 - 24/57.

#### **24.08 REPORT OF THE MĀORI ACADEMIC BOARD OF STUDIES**

##### **Received**

The report of the Māori Academic Board of Studies meeting held on 14 December 2023, as set out in document 24/58.

## 24.09 REPORT OF THE PACIFIC STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

### **Received**

The report of the Pacific Strategic Committee meeting held on 7 December 2023, as set out in document 24/59.

## 24.10 ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENTS – ROUND ONE 2024

### **Received**

The current list of Academic Development Proposals and Reviewers for 2024, as set out in document 23/269 (revised 14 February 2024).

### **Noted in discussion**

#### Master of Pharmacy Practice (23/397)

1. That this programme would provide new pathways from undergraduate Science programmes, particularly Chemistry.
2. That the proposal had good stakeholder support and there had been input into the proposal from representatives of the Māori Pharmacist Association and Te Aka Whai Ora.

### **Resolved**

1. To approve the following Round One 2024, Category 1-5 proposal:
  - a. Introduction of a Master of Pharmacy Practice, as set out in document 23/397.
2. To approve the following Round One 2024, Category 6-9 proposals:
  - a. To amend the Admission Regulations for the Master of Environmental Planning, as set out in document 23/55b.
  - b. To replace the title 'International Relations and Security Studies' with 'International Relations' for the Master of Arts, Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma, as set out in document 23/346a.
  - c. To lower the entry requirements for the Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in the specified programme of Chemical and Biological Engineering, as set out in document 23/346b.

## 24.11 CATEGORY C AND SPECIALISATION PROPOSALS

### **Received**

The list of Category C proposals signalled to date for 2024, as set out in document 24/01 (revised 14 February 2024).

### **Noted in discussion**

#### Master of Legal Studies (24/02f)

That additional papers, such as Foreign Investment Law, may be added to this qualification at a later stage.

**Resolved**

1. To approve the seven Category C proposals signalled to date for 2024, as set out in documents 24/02a-f and 24/02h.
2. To approve the Specialisation proposal, as set out in document 24/03.

**24.12 AMENDMENT TO THE ADMISSIONS STATUTE****Reported**

That this proposal had been considered by the Divisional Boards, the Māori Academic Board of Studies, the Pacific Strategic Committee, the University of Waikato College Academic Committee, the Postgraduate Research Committee, Curriculum Committee and Education Committee.

**Noted in discussion**

That this amendment would help support the University's THE ranking. It also aligned with our other University plans and our Treaty Statement, as it reflected the University's desire to promote inclusivity, diversity and equitable access to learning.

**Resolved**

To approve the proposal to amend the Admission Statute, as set out in document 23/407.

**24.13 CYCLE 6 ACADEMIC AUDIT****Reported**

1. That the Academic Quality Agency for New Zealand Universities (AQA) released its [report of the University of Waikato's Cycle 6 Audit](#) on 14 December 2023.
2. That the Audit Panel made 19 commendations, 15 affirmations and 11 recommendations supporting the strategic direction of the University, recognising the University's leadership and management of teaching and learning as an area of strength, and commending our strategic framework, our commitment to using data to inform planning and reporting, and our mature approach to managing risks to the quality and continuity of teaching and learning. The report positively highlights the support for our diverse student body, and specifically the transition support for first-year students, along with our work-integrated learning programme.
3. That the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Academic Office would work with relevant staff to develop an action plan for the affirmations and recommendations made in the report.

**Received**

1. The AQA summary of the University of Waikato Cycle 6 Academic Audit report, as set out in document 24/32.
2. The summary and allocation of lead responsibilities of recommendations and affirmations, as set out in document 24/33.

**Noted in discussion**

That the positive audit report was a credit to those who had inputted into the audit process, as well as to all the work the University had undertaken to support our students. Work needed to continue on the affirmations and recommendations of the report, with a progress update required by the AQA in 12 months.

**24.14 GRADUATING YEAR REVIEWS****Reported**

1. That six University of Waikato 2023 Graduating Year Reviews were submitted to CUAP on 1 October 2023. They were scrutinised by Massey University and Victoria University of Wellington prior to CUAP considering and supporting the recommendations for continuation/discontinuation outlined in the GYR reports.
2. That a list of GYRs due from 2023 – 2026, a copy of the GYR timeline, handbook and other relevant information is available on the [Academic Office webpage](#).

**Received**

The list of GYRs due in 2024, as set out in document 23/315.

**24.15 INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC AGREEMENTS****Reported**

1. That the Chair of the Education Committee executively approved the following international Guaranteed Credit Agreements (GCA) between:
  - a. National Economics University, Vietnam and Waikato Management School (WMS).
  - b. Zhengzhou University, China and Te Piringa Faculty of Law.
  - c. Rajagiri College of Socials Sciences, India and the Division of Arts, Law, Psychology & Social Sciences.
  - d. Chandigarh University, India and Division of Health, Engineering, Computing and Science (DHECS).
  - e. Lovely Professional University, India and DHECS.
  - f. Parul University, India and DHECS.
2. That copies of these agreements would be made available on Raiser's Edge and MyWaikato, or by contacting the Partnerships team at [global@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:global@waikato.ac.nz).

**24.16 DOMESTIC ACADEMIC AGREEMENTS****Reported**

That, at its meeting on 13 February 2024, the Education Committee approved a GCA between Talent International Institute and DHECS. A copy of this agreement would be made available on the Academic Office [Agreements webpage](#).

#### **24.17 ANNUAL REPORT**

##### **Received**

The Academic Quality Committee 2023 Annual Report, as set out in document 24/35.

#### **24.18 EXECUTIVE APPROVALS**

##### **Reported**

That the Chair of the Academic Board executively approved the following:

1. A Category C proposal to replace a required paper for the BMS(Hons).
2. The nomination of Dr Shaoqun Wu to the Special Consideration Committee for a term of three years.

#### **24.19 GENERAL**

##### **Noted in discussion**

1. That thanks were expressed to Professor Karin Bryan for her work as Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Research over the last five months.
2. That the outgoing DVC Academic, Professor Robyn Longhurst, was warmly acknowledged for her significant contribution to the Board and the University.

#### **24.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

##### **Reported**

That the next meeting of the Academic Board would be held on Wednesday 24 April 2024 at 2.10pm.

#### **PROCEEDINGS WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

##### **Resolved**

That the public be excluded from this meeting to allow consideration of the following items:

1. Minutes (Part 2) of the Academic Board meeting of 6 December 2023
2. Report of the Vice-Chancellor (Part 2)
3. Divisional change proposal

**The interests protected under the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 and/or the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the public conduct of these proceedings are:**

Item 1 affected material previously dealt with in a meeting from which the public was excluded. Items 2 and 3 affected the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage and to protect the commercial interests of the University and/or the privacy of natural persons.

Tim O'Brien  
Alison Beardsmore  
**Academic Office**