

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 25 March 2025 at 10:15am in Memorial Hall, Lincoln University and online via MS Teams

Meeting Minutes

Present: Bruce Gemmell (Chancellor), Prof. Grant Edwards (Vice Chancellor), Michelle Ash, Janice Fredric, Prof. Derrick Moot, James Parsons, Dr Marjan van den Belt, Liz Hill-Taiaroa, David Jensen, Puamiria Parata-Goodall, Gabrielle Thompson, and Zara Weissenstein (each a Council Member).

Via MS Teams:

In attendance: Mrs S Roulston (Chief Operating Officer)
Mr N Heslop (Council Secretary)
Prof C Hewitt (Provost)
Mrs K McEwan (Executive Director People, Culture, & Wellbeing)
Mr Damian Lodge (DVC, Student Life)
Mrs M Kawharu (DVC, Māori)
Mr G Ryan (Proctor, Item 10)
Mr S Hunter (Health & Safety Manager, Item 11)
Ms G Hallett (Te Awhioraki Tumuaki)

Meeting started at 10.17am.

1. Welcome/Karakia/Apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Councillors to the meeting and invited Mr David Jensen to open the meeting with karakia.

Resolution

That Council:

RESOLVE to receive an apology for lateness from Mr J Parsons.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

2. Disclosures of interests

The Register of Interests was NOTED.

3. Confirmation of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Council RESOLVED:

To confirm the minutes from the Council meetings held on 25th February 2025 as a true and correct record.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

The action register was NOTED.

5. Notice of items of General Business

There were no items of general business.

6. Chancellors Report

The report was taken as read.

The Chancellor noted that Lincoln University awards are visible to other institutions citing correspondence from Prof John Walker of the University of Cambridge, who congratulated Lincoln University for recognising the efforts of this years Global Science Award recipient.

Resolution

That Council:

Resolution

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Chancellor's Report.

MOTION CARRIED

Puamiria Parata-Goodall arrived at 10.22am during consideration of Chancellors Report.

7. Proposal to establish People and Culture Committee

The Council Secretary spoke to the report.

Council discussed the pro's and con's of establishing a People and Culture Committee.

Janice advocated for improvement in interrogation at Committee level. Suggested inclusion of People, Culture, and Remuneration Committee.

Council reflected that a concentration on its capital asset program benefitted from a focussed interrogation, and this may also be the case for people and culture.

Council noted that the People and Culture Committee may stand separate to the existing Appointments and Remuneration Committee.

Staff Recommendation not accepted

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in this report.
2. **ENDORSE** the proposal to incorporate people and culture functions into a Committee of Council.
3. **APPROVE** renaming the Appointment and Remuneration Committee to the People, Culture, & Remuneration Committee, effective immediately.

4. **REFER** the draft terms of reference in Appendix A to the newly named People, Culture, & Remuneration Committee for further review.
5. **NOTE** that the People and Culture Committee will bring a recommendation to Council on the terms of reference and membership at a future Council meeting.

Council did not accept the recommendation outlined in the report. Council agreed to stand up a working group of interested parties, including Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Chair of Audit, Risk, and Assurance Committee, Marjan van den Belt, and Liz Hill-Taiaoroa to further consider the purpose and terms of reference for a prospective People and Culture Committee.

Action: Council Secretary

Resolution

That Council:

1. **ESTABLISH** a working group of interested parties to consider the purpose and proposed terms of reference for a People and Culture Committee. The working group will report back to Council on its findings.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

James Parsons arrived at 10:54am during discussion of the Vice Chancellor's Report.

8. Vice Chancellors Report

The report was taken as read.

- TEC guidance is that there is limited funding.
- Council noted the visit of ELLS to Lincoln University and the wonderful opportunity this was to strengthen strategic partnerships with eleven universities in Europe to enhance student mobility between partner universities.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Vice Chancellor's Report.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

9. LUSA Report

The report was taken as read. The LUSA President highlighted the following:

- Aotearoa Students Association has been established and made up of most of NZ University student associations.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the LUSA Report.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

10. Academic Board Report

The report was taken as read.

The Vice Chancellor welcomed Prof. Greg Ryan, Proctor, one of two Proctors at Lincoln University.

The Proctor's report noted an increase in academic integrity breach numbers, largely due to AI. A significant number of these are at the light infringement end. The university and students are adapting to the changing landscape and tools available to them.

Proctor confirmed attendance at several symposiums about online learning and AI use.

The Proctor assured Council that he has had conversations with the Vice Chancellor addressing workload.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Academic Board report.
2. **APPROVE** the modifications to the Academic Board Terms of Reference as outlined in Appendix Three.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

11. Health and Safety Report

The report was taken as read.

Two Improvement Notices have been lifted and Lincoln learned a good amount through those processes.

Council Resolution

That Council **NOTE**:

1. The Health and Safety team continues to focus on maintaining and improving hazard identification and risk assessments, reviewing and establishing clear safety policies and procedures, align training requirements relevant to roles and work collaboratively with the University community in all areas of health and safety.
2. Identifying trends in the health and safety performance of the University and measures taken to improve the robustness of the data.
3. The actions being taken to improve the culture of health and safety across the University.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

12. General Business

There were no items of general business.

13. Motion by the Chancellor for Resolution to Exclude the Public Pursuant to s48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

General Subject Matter	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under section
Lincoln Agritech Limited Deep Dive	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
Executive Committee 1. Report – appointing co-chair HEC	To protect the privacy of natural persons	7(2)(a)
Farms Committee 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 14 March 2025		
Audit, Risk, & Assurance Committee Report to Council 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 18 March 2025 3. Investment Plan (proposed content framework) 4. 2024 Annual Report 5. Strategic Risk Register	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage To maintain legal professional privilege	7(2)(h) 7(2)(j) 7(2)(g)
HZAU Update	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
Monthly Recruitment Report	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	7(2)(h) 7(2)(j)
Finance Report	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	7(2)(h) 7(2)(j)

I move also that: Prof Chad Hewitt (Provost), Mr S Hunter (Health, Safety & Wellbeing Manager), Prof Merata Kawharu (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Māori and Pasifika), Mr Travis Glare (CEO, Lincoln Agritech Limited), Mrs E Rooney (Finance Director), Mrs S Roulston (Chief Operating Officer), Mr D Lodge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Life), Tumuaki-Takirua Te Awhioraki, and Mr Nathaniel Heslop (Council Secretary), be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of the various matters being discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of their involvement in the development of reports to Council on these matters.

MOTION CARRIED

14. Closure and next Meeting

The Chancellor invited Mr David Jensen to give a closing karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:00pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 29th April 2025 at 9:00am and will be held in Memorial Hall at Lincoln Campus.

CONFIRMED THIS 29th DAY OF April 2025

BRUCE GEMMELL
CHANCELLOR